

#### NATIONAL BOER WAR MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

National Patron: Air Chief Marshal Mark Binskin AC, Chief of the Defence Force

1899 1902

## Monumentally Speaking ~ Queensland Edition

Newsletter - Volume 8, No. 2 - August 2016

#### **Queensland Chairman's Report**

#### **NATIONAL NEWS**

#### The Sculptures

First Horseman: This is now complete. It is waiting in Melbourne before being transported to Canberra.

Second Horseman: The clay model is complete and the figure has been cast. The Bronze sections are waiting to be assembled.

Third Horseman: Work has commenced on the plasticine model. The foundry has advised it will be completed and delivered to Canberra in April 17.

Fourth Horseman: The Clay model is completed and is now at the foundry ready for pouring of the sections. It is anticipated that the 4th and the 2nd figures will be assembled at the same time.

#### The Design Development

95% Design complete – the Project Manager has forwarded 95% Design plus Tabulation of Responses to NCA. Email advice has been received from NZ Govt. re acceptance of pathway at Australian Monument. Now awaiting NZ's confirming response in writing. NCA happy to move forward with the design approval process. Architect has forwarded the drainage design/embankment detail from the hydraulic consultant to NCA. NCA have commenced the design approval process.

#### **Funding**

As at 20 Jun 2016 = \$3,918,353 (almost \$320,000 to go)

#### **QUEENSLAND NEWS**

We have just completed our second commemorative ceremony for 2015. The National Boer War Day commemorates the signing of the peace treaty at Melrose House Pretoria on 31st May, 1902. We held the ceremony in ANZAC Square Brisbane, approximately 80 attended with support from 2/14 LHR (QMI) which provided the Catafalque Party as well as a horseman in Boer War uniform from the Historic Troop. It was well attended by several Cavalry Associations, The Victoria League, South African Military Veterans of Australia, RSL sub-branches and the War Widows Guild.

The main speaker on the day was Major General Iain Spence CSC RFD who commands the Head Cadet, Reserve & Employer Support Division and is a member of the national Committee of Management for the Boer War Memorial. His speech is shown on page 3 of this newsletter. A highlight at the end of the ceremony was the presentation of a bayonet originally issued to Boer War Veteran Pvt Hugh Petherick during the Boer War and donated by his grandson, Mr. Ian Petherick from Kununurra, WA. The 2/14 LH (QMI) Representative who accepted the bayonet was MAJ Andrew Basingthwaight, OC A Sqn.

#### History from 100 Years ago

Recently on the 100th anniversary of the battle of Fromelles a ceremony was held at the Fromelles Cemetery to re-inter 6 WW1 KIAs from the battle. These men had recently been identified from DNA. Among those identified was James Benson 37 from Bundaberg, a Boer War Veteran. At the ceremony was his Grandson Bruce Lees (a real feel good story).

#### **INVITATION** ~ "Heroes of the Boer War"

You are invited to our "Heroes of the Boer War" presentation on Sunday 25th September at the Sherwood-Indooroopilly RSL Sub-Branch. Heroic actions from both sides will be discussed, the Australian perspective will be led by MAJGEN Iain Spence and the Boer perspective led by Pierre van Blommestein, the Padre of the South African Military Veterans Organisation of Australia (SAMVOA). Timing is 1.00pm to 5.00pm including an afternoon tea break. SEE BACK PAGE FOR DETAILS.

#### Finale for the Project

Preliminary planning has commenced for the dedication of the Memorial on the 31st May 2017 in Canberra.

#### Conclusion

We are now in the construction phase and we are still chasing funding. A Donation Form is included in this newsletter, please help if you can.

RJML Clurane
Ron McElwaine OAM RFD ED

Chairman
Queensland Committee of NBWMA

#### **Photos from Boer War Day**

Anzac Square, 31st May 2016



VIP Guests, Front Row L-R, Barry Dineen, The Victoria League; Ben Isaacs, DVA QId; Ron McElwaine, NBWM Assoc; MAJGEN Iain Spence, MAJ Andrew Basingthwaight, 2/14 LH (QMI)



Members of SAMVOA (South African Military Veterans Organisation Australia) with MAJGEN Ian Spence, Ron McElwaine and Bill Cross from the NBWM Association at the Qld Boer War Memorial.



MAJ Andrew Basingthwaight, 2/14 LH (QMI) is presented with a Boer War bayonet for the Regiment's museum by Qld Chairman, Ron McElwaine.



2/14 LH (QMI) Catafalque Party

BWM Association Qld Committee member, Kevin Alcock, passed on this Banjo Patterson poem.

# Johnny Boer

Men fight all shapes and sizes as the racing horses run,
And no man knows his courage till he stands before a gun.
At mixed-up fighting, hand to hand, and clawing men about
They reckon Fuzzy-wuzzy is the hottest fighter out.
But Fuzzy gives himself away — his style is out of date,
He charges like a driven grouse that rushes on its fate;
You've nothing in the world to do but pump him full of lead:
But when you're fighting Johnny Boer you have to use your head;
He don't believe in front attacks or charging at the run,
He fights you from a kopje with his little Maxim gun.

For when the Lord He made the earth, it seems uncommon clear, He gave the job of Africa to some good engineer, Who started building fortresses on fashions of his own — Lunettes, redoubts, and counterscarps all made of rock and stone. The Boer needs only bring a gun, for ready to his hand He finds these heaven-built fortresses all scattered through the land; And there he sits and winks his eye and wheels his gun about, And we must charge across the plain to hunt the beggar out. It ain't a game that grows on us, there's lots of better fun Than charging at old Johnny with his little Maxim gun.

On rocks a goat could scarcely climb, steep as the walls of Troy,
He wheels a four-point-seven about as easy as a toy;
With bullocks yoked and drag ropes manned, he lifts her up the rocks
And shifts her every now and then, as cunning as a fox.
At night you mark her right ahead, you see her clean and clear,
Next day at dawn — "What, ho! she bumps" — from somewhere
in the rear.

Or else the keenest-eyed patrol will miss him with the glass — He's lying hidden in the rocks to let the leaders pass; But when the main guard comes along he opens up the fun, There's lots of ammunition for the little Maxim gun.

But after all the job is sure, although the job is slow, We have to see the business through, the Boer has got to go. With Nordenfeldt and lyddite shell it's certain, soon or late, We'll hunt him from his kopjes and across the Orange State; And then across those open flats you'll see the beggar run, And we'll be running after with our little Maxim gun.



# Boer War Day Brisbane Address by Major General Iain Spence CSC RFD

Thank-you very much for the invitation to speak today. As you will see, the Boer war is a subject dear to my heart, I have been the Chief of the Defence Force's representative on the National Boer War Memorial Association since 2006. However, you will receive an eloquent reminder of the need for a national memorial from LTCOL McElwaine later in today's service, so I am going to focus on the war, not the memorial.

All wars are important and have a profound effect on all those touched by them, not only those who served but also their families, and non-combatants caught up in the conflict. However, this war has a special place in Australian history. We came into being as a nation during it, something pretty unusual for any country. Some became nations as a result of war, but few while actually fighting overseas in one.

Up until 1901 our contingents served not as Australians but as members of their colony's militia. In fact, there was some competition, especially between NSW and Queensland, over which colony would be the first to volunteer - in spite of opposition to the war (the vote in Queensland was only passed by one vote). Those early colonial contingents were envious of their Canadian counterparts, who already had a national symbol - the maple leaf - and a national song, and of Canada, which was already seen as a nation with its own identity.

Although, they joined up for a variety of motives, as young men do, including seeking adventure, wanting to see the world, economic pressures (largely from the drought), or even to escape an unhappy home life, patriotism almost always played a part. There is a common theme in many of the contemporary records of fighting to help the mother country, for empire, and also for Australia - to show we were worthy of nationhood in our own right.

The Boer War of 1899-1902 was our very first war as a nation and engaged us as a nation. It was very common for letters written home by soldiers from the front to be published in local newspapers by proud relatives. In country towns especially, this was how people kept up with the news of familiar faces from the district serving overseas and how the war was going. All around Australia people avidly followed the course of the war, its reverses and victories—and especially the siege of Mafeking. The gallant defence was widely reported and when the town was relieved, by a contingent which included Australians, there were wild celebrations here. It even gave rise to the term 'Mafficking', meaning a boisterous celebration.

But, the importance of the Boer War goes beyond this. It is commonplace on Anzac Day to hear that Gallipoli was 'the crucible of the nation'. It is often portrayed as the baptism of fire which forged our national identity and created true selfawareness, re-defining our relationship with Great Britain. The British were a hidebound nation, with a military steeped in stiff and stultifying tradition while we were natural soldiers from a young and vigorous country.

There is a solid kernel of truth in this - as well as a lot of romance - and I do not for an instant want to diminish the significance of our Anzacs. But (and it's a big but) a large part of the mixture in that Gallipoli crucible came from the Boer War. We had fought as a nation before, and alongside our Kiwi brothers - in South Africa. We had also already defined our attitudes to the British military there.

While we desired their respect as professionals, we knew we were better. We knew this because during the Boer War we had begun the process of defining our military characteristics: toughness, good humour, compassion, and a healthy disregard for useless rules. We were fighters above spit and polish parade ground soldiers; men and women who kept on under all conditions

Importantly, though, we were not just legends in our own minds (although this can be a characteristic common to many soldiers) - our self-assessment was confirmed by the post-war Elgin Royal Commission in the UK. This singled us out, along with our New Zealand and Canadian colleagues, as being the best quality soldiers in the war, precisely because of these qualities and, of course, our experience in the bush and as riders.

These characteristics, which came to the forefront in the Boer War, and were reinforced in World War I and later conflicts, are characteristics our servicemen and servicewomen have maintained and acknowledged as their own since then. I am very proud to say that they still do.

But the Boer War of 1899-1902 also had a practical influence on World War I, especially on the Palestine campaign and our performance there. If you look at the typical Australian Light Horse Regiment in Palestine, you will see a significant sprinkling of Boer War veterans. If the Commanding Officer hadn't served in South Africa, then the Second-in-Command had. The Regimental Sergeant Major and Quartermaster probably had, along with several of the Squadron Commanders, or their Seconds-in-Command, along with some of the Squadron Sergeants Major and Senior Non-Commissioned Officers. Our remount system was run by Banjo Patterson, based on his experiences in the Boer War.

So, this war deserves special place in our history. It played an important, but often forgotten, role in establishing both our military ethos and our national identity. It is therefore very fitting that after a long break in the tradition Australia is once again commemorating this war - led by committees across Australia, such as your particularly active one here in Queensland. I thank them and all those who have contributed support for an impressive ceremony today.

Although in one sense the increasing recognition of the Boer war is a sign of greater sophistication in how we as a nation understand our military history, today of course has a much deeper significance. This is our chance to publicly acknowledge the debt to those who served, in whatever capacity, and their families, and to pay our profound respects to those who died in the service of our country - the very first to do so, and the very first of whom, on 1st January 1900 were Privates Jones and then McLeod of the Queensland Mounted Infantry. Both are fittingly commemorated along with the other Queensland dead on the memorial beside me. Thank you.

#### A Picture is Worth 1000 Words!

Bv NBWMA Historian, Mr Mick O'Mallon

#### **European Attitudes to the War - Postcards**

The European press was hostile to the British war against the Boers. It felt Britain started the war to get the gold in the Transvaal. In the days before telephones, radio etc, the postcard was by far the most common way of communicating between people. Hundreds of pictorial cards from the Boer War were published in Britain, Canada, France, Germany, and Russia, and all took sides. Continental European cards generally ridiculed British efforts for launching this unpopular war and praised Boer leaders and their accomplishments.

**Anti British Cards**. The following two postcards created in France found their way all over the world. Many of these cards are still prized and widely circulated by Collectors to this day.



Above: British Colonial Secretary Chamberlain depicted as a "Pickpocket" taking the gold in Paul Kruger's pocket, however Kruger has caught him and is about to give him a drubbing, drawing attention to the early Boer victories. The writer has turned the British Royal Family motto "Evil to him who thinks evil" on its head.



Above: "Stop, Stop, you idiot" shouts Victoria to Chamberlain, "Can't you see you're taking us into one devil of a mess?"

#### **Promotional Cards**

European companies made sets of Boer War cards with which promoted their products as well as the cause of the Boers. The Liebig Company, the maker of a meat extract in Germany, whose products had previously been used by the American Military 38 years previously during their 4 year Civil War of 1861-1865, issued a set of lyrical views of life in the Transvaal before the war began.





#### **Pro Boer Post Cards**

A German card stating "We are the Transvaal Boers. We live and die for our country", was not so far-fetched, given many 12 and 13 year old boys fought in the trenches with their relatives.

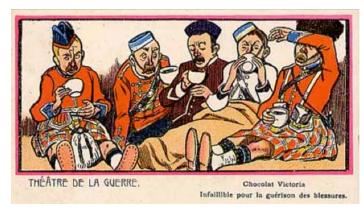




A card produced in the Russia of Tsar Nicholas II warning the British that Boer families, including the women, would be armed to defend their homeland and make a British victory hard to contemplate.

A (not so) risqué "French postcard" produced in Paris to take advantage of events in South Africa during the Anglo-Boer War. Simply captioned "Transvaal" it is hard to say which side of the conflict this comely young lady was supposed to appeal to ... in all likelihood both.





The Queen's Chocolate Gift Box, which Queen Victoria gave to all her soldiers in South Africa for Christmas 1900, was mocked by the Europeans. "Victoria's Chocolate: Infallible for curing wounds" drew attention to the horrendous casualties suffered by British soldiers in the opening months of the war.

#### Reference to Ladies Designated as Amazon Units

Curiously, whilst trawling hither & thither for information on this article, I consistently came across references for both South Africa and abroad in relation to females who would bear arms or devote themselves to the cause of the War during this time; as being referred to, or nominated as, Amazons or members of Amazon Units.



The 'Wellington Amazons' photographed with members of the Wellington Militia circa 1899-1902

The above photo is the "genteel" NZ Ladies Rifle Corps who were also known as the 'Wellington Amazons', indicating that the Group was made up of young society women established during the South African War who helped raise funds for the New Zealand contingents serving overseas.

The photo in no way reflected the former mental images that I'd had during the days of my winsome youth when I was much given to interests of the Ancient Histories, of a supposedly mythical race of horse mounted fierce warrior women who cut off and cauterized the area of their right breast in order to facilitate more accurate bow shots from the saddle or for the throwing of spears - which I am pleased to state tongue in cheek, has not seemed to have carried through as a criteria of entry onto the sports field for our modern day javelin throwing or archery participating female athletes.

Never-the-less, the NZ Ladies drilled with model rifles obtained from school cadet supplies, rode decorated bicycles, and wore a variety of khaki uniforms possibly inspired by the attire worn by Lady Sarah Wilson, a journalist in South Africa. Their popularity led to the creation of further female 'khaki corps' throughout the country, composed mainly of 'society women', that led to these khaki corps becoming a popular attraction at fundraising events.

The Wellington Ladies gained prominence after performing at a fête held by Lady Douglas at Government House in March 1900, at which they raised £100.00 for the War effort, being the cost in those days of equipping and transporting one soldier to South Africa. Given £100.00 back then would be the equivalent to \$17,000 in today's money. As NZ sent 6,500 men to the war, one would assume that any monies raised by the Young Ladies at these events would have been well received by the New Zealand Government.

## Did Boer women bear arms against the British Empire?

Boervoiens in the Trenches / Policy on Ladies to Bear Arms / Women at or on Commando.

During the war there were many instances to prove that the Boer women of the end of the century inherited the bravery, and heroic fortitude of their ancestors who fell victims to the Zulu assegais in the Natal valley in 1838.



Comdt Gen Piet Joubert's wife Hendrina

The Boer women were as anxious to take an active part in the campaign as their grandmothers were at Weenen, and it was only in obedience to the rules formulated by the officers that Amazon corps were absent from the Commandos.

Instances were not rare of women ignoring these regulations, and scores of Boer women can claim the distinction of having taken part in many bloody battles. Many gave their life's blood on the altar of liberty, and many carried the scars of bullet wounds to the grave.

In the early part of the campaign there was no military rule which forbade women journeying to the front, consequently the laagers enjoyed the presence of many of the wives & daughters of the burghers.

The Boer leaders were often followed into battle by their wives, with Commandant General Piet Joubert's wife Hendrina in particular taking a lively interest in all matters military, and is even said to have given firing orders to the gunners on occasion.

When Louis Botha became Commandant-General of the army he issued an order that women would not be permitted to visit the laagers, and few if any took part in the engagements for some time thereafter; however, the Boer Policy of having women at the front seems to be for the most a particularly grey area, and given the fluid structure of the Boer Military Commando, left up to the discretion of the individual Commander.

Herman Mockford stated in the Cape Argus 13 April 1901 "Womenfolk (the Boers) are seldom seen in the saddle, though many of them are quite at home either bare backed or on a man's saddle. So also many of them are fearless and good rifle shots and can span-in a team of oxen as well as their husbands .....".

There are recorded cases of women following their husbands on Commando with an example being a Mrs P. J. Moll from around Pretoria, who followed her husband for 11 months before she and her baby were captured and sent to the concentration camp at Newcastle. General Badenhorst names a Mrs E. Lotz from the Boshof district, who accompanied his Commando as a nurse from January 1901 until the end of hostilities in 1902. This incident was also mentioned by professor Pretorius in his book "Komandolewe tydens die Anglo-Boereoorlog 1899-1902".

The question to be asked is if the two Boer republics actually condoned women physically fighting or following their husbands into battle, and the answer to that would have to be no. The Transvaal or ZAR Republic had expressly forbidden that women be present in laagers at the outbreak of the war, and there was a proclamation that Christiaan de Wet wanted his government to enforce after the battle of Paardeberg; due to some of the men in Cronje's laager having had their wives and children with them during the initial "digging in" phase, thence during the eventual bombardment and combined British and Canadian assaults.

It was reported by Hillegas that the women in the laager in no way hindered the men and many assisted in digging trenches, with some even using firearms as enthusiastically as their men folk. No other written or photographic evidence seems to exist to back up his statement that women did in fact fight at Paardeberg.

Ten months after the battle Philip Botha (an Orange Free State General) wrote to Kitchener that the reason the Boers had not complained about the bombardment of the laager with the women and children in it, was because "they should not have been there".

It is estimated that up to 50 women and children had been in the laager at Paardeberg, and after Cronje surrendered they were allowed to go back to their homes, however, some decided to accompany their men to Cape Town, with Cronje's wife and grandson being allowed to accompany him to St Helena.

While the Boer army was having its many early successes in Natal few of the women partook in the actual warfare from choice, or because they believed that it was necessary for them to fight. The majority of those who were in the engagements happened to be with their husbands when the battles began, and had no opportunity of escaping.

The burghers objected to the presence of women within the firing lines, and every effort was made to prevent them from being in dangerous localities, but when it was impossible to transfer them to places of safety during the heat of the battle there was no alternative but to provide them with rifles and bandoliers so that they might protect themselves.

While the greater part of the army lay around besieged Ladysmith large numbers of women were in the laagers, and they were continually busying themselves with the preparation of food for their relatives and with the care of the sick and wounded. Not infrequently did the women accompany their husbands to the trenches along the Tugela front, and it was asserted with every evidence of veracity, that many of them used the rifles against the enemy with even more ardour and precision than the men.

### Individual Instances of the Ladies near or Involved in Combat

One of the women who did received the Government's sanction to join a Commando was Mrs. M. Krantz, shown in this popular photo of the day dressed in sombre Victorian attire replete with slouch hat worn at a rakish angle, and disporting rifle and bandolier; who was the wife of a professional hunter Mr. Otto Krantz of the German corps, who in turn had been part of the Vryheid-Commando that took part in the siege of Ladysmith.



Mrs. Krantz accompanied her husband to Natal at the commencement of hostilities and remained in the field during almost the entire campaign in that colony. In the battle of Elandslaagte 21 October 1899, where some of the hardest hand-to-hand fighting of the war occurred; and again at the battles of Tugela thereafter, this Amazon was by the side of her husband in the thick of the engagement but escaped unscathed. When affairs in the Free State appeared to be threatening she was one of the first to go to the scene of action in that part of the country, and after the eventually captured of her husband she received permission to accompany him to the prisoner of war camp in Ceylon.



A further reference to Boer Amazons as shown from this photo, and in an article in a Hungarian Sunday Newspaper of the day (Vasárnapi Újság), listed the ladies names as Mrs. Eloff, Ms. Mira Gutmann, and Ms. Lanagan.

#### An example of just another day on the Veldt

It was purported that a Mrs. Steyl when the battle of Sannaspost was being fought a short distance from her house, was on one of the hills overlooking the battlefield, interspersing the watching of the progress of the battle with prayers for the success of the burghers' arms. As soon as she learned that the Boers had won the field she hastened home and prepared a sumptuous meal for her husband, her thirteen-year-old son, and all the generals who took part in the engagement.

Perhaps the most famous case of a woman who was on Commando for an extended period of time would be that of Sarah Raal\* (pic right), who together with 2 friends escaped from the Springfontein Concentration camp and were taken in by a Commando sheltering in the nearby hills.

Sarah joins a Corporalship of 20 men, but unlike other incidents of women

getting dressed as men Sarah always wore a dress. Sarah admits that she did use a rifle when necessary but in most instances hid during battles. Life on the Commando was very hard and she was captured again, spending the last part of the war in Kroonstad Concentration camp.

\* Susarah Frederika Johanna Magdalena Rall - Also Known As: "Sarah Raal" – DOB: 6 Nov 1873 "Olievenfontein", Edenburg, S.A – D.O.A: 4 Apr 1949. Age 76 Yrs.

#### Women Dressed in Men's Clothing

Throughout history there have been numerous cases of women disguising themselves as ordinary soldiers (or sailors) so that they could take up arms in defence of their country, and this ruse was copied by Boer Women also wanting to take a more active part in the war.

Among the prisoners who were captured by British forces in Colesberg were three Boer Women who wore men's clothes. It was only several weeks after they were placed in a Cape prison that it was discovered that they were women.

A further reference by Professor Pretorius in the Book "Kommandolewe tydens die Anglo-Boereoorlog 1899-1902", is where he writes about a lady who had dressed as a man and fought at the Natal front, where in November 1900 after it was discovered that the man was in fact a woman, she was sent back to Johannesburg. Apparently she was a one Ms Herbst.



This is probably the most famous photo that was used as proof of Boer women fighting against the British shoulder to shoulder with the men, was that of a man and a woman in men's clothing both armed with guns and bandoliers.

In a German publication they are named as a Mr and Mrs Wagner who fought together against the British. In a Dutch publication she is named

as a Mrs Berret that had fought with a Commando for 3 months and had been wounded at the battle of Spionkop. According to P.H.S van Zyl in his book she is identified as Mrs Berret and the gent as a Mr. Wagner.

#### SHERLOCK HOLMES

By LTCOL Miles Farmer (Retd) OAM

What has Sherlock Holmes got to do with the Boer War? Well his author, DR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE, was serving in South Africa during the Boer War as a medic for British troops. He wrote after the Siege of Elands River Post "When the ballad-makers of Australia seek a subject, let them turn to Elands River, for there was no finer fighting in the war." Fortunately the Australian poet George Essex Evans took up the challenge and the poem "Elands River" resulted. George was born in England but lived most of his life in Toowoomba, Queensland. The final lines of his poem read:

And we laughed, because we knew, in spite of hell-fire and delay

On Australia's page forever We had written Elands River -We had written it forever and a day!

Returning to Conan Doyle. On his return to England in 1902 he wrote a pamphlet called "The War in South Africa, its Causes and Conduct" which responded to all the charges against the British for their conduct during the war. He defended the British position, which led to his knighthood in October 1902.

He expanded on this publication in the "Great Boer War", the final edition published in 1904. It comprehensively covers the entire conflict, and includes useful campaign maps. The early chapters are, in my opinion, of special interest giving the background leading to the war. They start with "The Boer Nations"; "The Cause of the Quarrel"; "The Negotiations"; "The Eve of War".

Whilst he defended the British position his views are balanced and fair, in my opinion, to the Boer cause. I now quote from "The Eve of War".

"But if it was not the raid (Jameson), and if the Boers had no reason to fear the British Government, with whom the Transvaal might have been as friendly as the Orange Free State had been for forty years, why then should they arm? It was a difficult question, and one in which answering we find ourselves in a region of conjecture and suspicion rather than ascertained fact. But the fairest and most unbiased historians must confess that there is a large body of evidence to show that in the heads of some of the Dutch leaders, both in the northern republics and in the Cape, there had entered the conception of a single Dutch commonwealth extending from the Cape to the Zambesi, in which flag, speech and law should all be in Dutch. It is in this aspiration that many shrewd and well-informed judges see the true inner meaning of the persistent arming, of the constant hostility, of the forming of ties between the two republics ...... They all aimed at one end, and that end was the final expulsion of British power from South Africa and the formation of a single great Dutch republic."

This view is supported by Doyle with other information and quotes relating to the existence of the Afrikander Bond, the aim of which was "the overthrow of the British power and the expulsion of the British flag from South Africa". After the Boer War this organisation was thought to have disappeared but in reality traces remained underground and slowly grew in strength and effectiveness. It was a true secret society giving many benefits to its members. It gained control of South Africa until replaced by Nelson Mandela's government. It had been exposed in 1978 with publication of "The Super Afrikaners - Inside the Broederbond". The book contains a list of 7,500 names of members, about 60% of its membership.

What would Sir Arthur make of South Africa if he was alive today?

#### The Statues are nearly there!



First statue completed, ready for delivery to site



Second statue clay model completed, soon to be cast



Third statue clay model almost completed for casting

# YOUR INVITATION

# "Heroes of the Boer War"

#### A presentation on heroes and heroics from the Boer War

Sunday 25th September 2016

At Sherwood-Indooroopilly RSL Sub-Branch, 2 Clewley Street, Corinda 1.00pm - 5.00pm, including Afternoon Tea (a gold coin donation will be appreciated)

Guests Speakers including MAJGEN lain Spence CSC RFD and members of SAMVOA (South African Military Veterans Organisation Australia) will talk about heroes and heroic actions from the perspectives of

Australian Forces • Boer Forces • The Horses

All Descendants and Supporters of the Boer War Memorial Association are invited.

To assist with planning please RSVP by Mon 19th Sept to:

Bill Cross, Hon Secretary, National Boer War Memorial Association Qld P.O. Box 165, Fortitude Valley Qld 4006







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