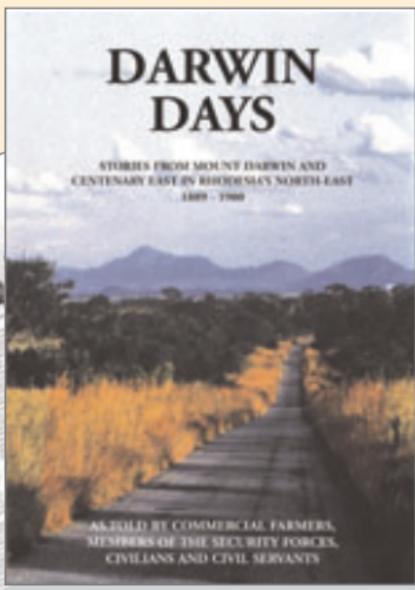


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## STORIES FROM MOUNT DARWIN AND CENTENARY EAST IN RHODESIA'S NORTH-EAST 1889 – 1980



### Foreword from the Hon. Ian Douglas Smith

"For more than 60 years, hardy pioneers lived in great deprivation and made huge sacrifices to establish farms and settlements in Rhodesia's north-east.

These areas eventually became the bread baskets of our homeland and there is no doubt that, without the efforts of these folk — and their counterparts around the country — Rhodesia could not have prospered in the magnificent way that it did.

The farmers and civilians, both black and white, and security force members who served in north-east Rhodesia, later bore much of the brunt of the terrorist

war in the 1970s, particularly in Mount Darwin and Centenary East.

It was my privilege as Prime Minister to visit these districts many times. I was, and still am, enormously proud of these courageous people and their fighting spirit which epitomises everything that Rhodesia stood for.

I commend the publishers of *Darwin Days*, Chris Whitehead and Nick Russell, for their efforts to tell the story of the area, and I encourage others in the diaspora to record theirs and their country's history, while they have the opportunity to do so." Cape Town 2005

# DARWIN DAYS

The long awaited compilation of stories from the farmers, members of the security forces, civilians and civil servants who made the Mount Darwin and Centenary East farming areas some of the most productive in Rhodesia.

More than 65 personal stories are contained in 98 pages, with black and white pictures interspersed throughout the text, and a centre section of eight pages of full colour, glossy pictures. Approximately 125,000 words in a total of 108 pages. Hardback, spiral-bound. ISBN 1-59975-130-5.

## From the publisher's introduction

"It is poignant that these stories about Rhodesia's most productive farming community — in a country ever since known as the breadbasket of Africa — should be published almost exactly 25 years after Darwin and Centenary East effectively ceased to be, and its innovative farmers and other hardy folk scattered to the four corners of the earth. Even more ironic is that, as we write, Zimbabwe is in the grip of a devastating man-made calamity with two thirds of the population on the brink of starvation and the nation's fields barren and untended.

This modest book is the story of some extraordinary people. It is a story that needed to be told."

## About the publishers

**Chris Whitehead** is the son of a Mount Darwin farmer and currently publishes *Rhodesians Worldwide* — a 29 year-old not-for-profit quarterly magazine — read by people in more than 80 countries. He is a full time teacher and lives in Arizona, USA.

Rhodesians Worldwide magazine's aims are to keep Rhodesians and Zimbabweans in touch with each other and to raise funds for a number of non-political causes, including the plight of many elderly folk whose pensions are now worthless.

**Nick Russell** served in the BSAP from 1975 to 1980, including four years in Mount Darwin. He is a former publisher of *African Safari Magazine*; publisher of the best-selling book *The History of the British South Africa Police*, and is currently features editor and special projects manager for a major Australian daily newspaper. He lives in Victoria, Australia.

## How to order

Secure Internet orders via the online shop link at [www.rhodesia.org](http://www.rhodesia.org) or send a *Western Union* money order or personal cheque made out to:

### Rhodesians Worldwide

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