

E. H. HUNTER

E H Hunter was awarded the Queen's South Africa Medal (state bars Rhodesia and Transvaal) (inscribed 1035 TPR. E.H. HUNTER, JOHANNESBURG M.R), King's South Africa Medal (date bars SA'01, SA'02) (inscribed GUIDE E.H. HUNTER. INT. DEPT.), British War Medal and Allied Victory Medal 1914-1919 (Bilingual) (inscribed CPL. E.H. HUNTER. A.G.B.).

Hunter's Queens South Africa Medal is a prime rarity to South African Units as it is an unskimmed First Striking ("ghost dates" with wreath pointing to R in AFRICA) or Type 3.



The Rhodesia bar was earned for service as a trooper in the British South Africa Police. He later saw service with the Imperial Military Railways. In World War I he was attached to the Adjutant General's Base.



In describing the four types of Queen South Africa medals, Robert Mitchell writes in a personal communication as follows :

There are of course 4 different QSA reverses.

Type 1. The reverse dated 1899-1900. The so called "raised dates" reverse was primarily issued to the Canadian unit Lord Strathcona's

Horse. An extreme rarity with a price of 2 000 to 2 500 Pounds in today's market.

Type 2. The same medal as above where the dates have been mechanically removed from the medal itself. Sometimes these were very skilfully done. Types 1 and 2 almost exclusively always to British Units and NOT South African Units.

Type 3. (The medal to Hunter). In this type the dates 1899-1900 were removed from the working and/or master die, thus "unskimmed". The striking of the medal (still with the wreath pointing to the R) often leaves the medal with "ghost" dates. Many of these were issued to British Units. Most of the issues of this type, when issued to South African Units, were skimmed and re-impressed medals. It is seldom that such a medal to an SA unit is found which is not re-impressed. A little pedantic perhaps. The modern collector does not seem to give much notice to these but for the old or perhaps old fashioned collector it was a particular point of note.

4. The master die was fully re-engraved as is the normal issue for all awards to South African Units.

JOHANNESBURG MOUNTED RIFLES

The Johannesburg Mounted Rifles was raised on 12th December 1900 with a strength of 600 men under the command of Lt.-Col. H.K. Stewart. In January 1901, a 2nd regiment was raised under Lt.-Col. M.A. Warren and both were amalgamated in July 1901. It served throughout the Transvaal, became a volunteer unit in 1902, received the King's Colour in 1904 and was disbanded in 1906.