

**Dear Nyasaland Police Officers & Their Ladies.**

I am Geof, only son of Les & Rona Acton, (Nyasaland & Malawi Police 1949 - 1966.) I have just been reading of your forthcoming final reunion and wished to send all of you my very best wishes from Mackay, Queensland.

My elder sister, Tina, is resident in Weymouth, Dorset now, having enjoyed periodic spells of residence in Hong Kong, New Jersey, Kenya and Zambia.

I guess Mum & Dad instilled the urge to travel in both of us, as I arrived at Limbe Railway Station in 1949, age 6 weeks. Since returning to Malawi to work with former Nyasaland Police Officer John Burdon at Johnston Duckworth (Contracts) Ltd. in 1968, I have sojourned in Rhodesia, the U. K. to do my Land Surveying degree, then Papua New Guinea, Lesotho, the Cayman Islands, (bumped into Kevin McCann, recently retired from the Royal Cayman Islands Police), St. Lucia, and Qatar, before coming to Western Australia in '95 then Queensland in '01.

At the end of my contract in Qatar as the most Senior Professional Land Surveyor, i/c the Survey Dept in the Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Agriculture, and a Fellow of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, I DROVE back to the U. K. from Qatar via Saudi Arabia, & the Arab countries to Turkey then eastern Europe to the Channel. An exhilarating month long drive of some thousands of kilometres. A true adventure!

Sadly, we lost my younger sister, Nyasaland born Nicola, (Nikki), to breast cancer in Perth, W. A. in 2020.

Do you know, I still regard Nyasaland / Malawi as my true home? It was a wonderful place to grow up in security under the protection of the gentlemen of the Nyasaland Police Force, wasn't it? I was last there, briefly, in 1985 after completing my M o D contract in Lesotho and hope to return in the future.

God Bless and keep safe all you wonderful officers. With your final reunion now imminent, a page in history is being turned. Your like will not be seen again.

With my most sincere regards to all of you.

Geoffrey (Geof) N. Acton  
Nyasaland & Malawi Resident 1949-1971.