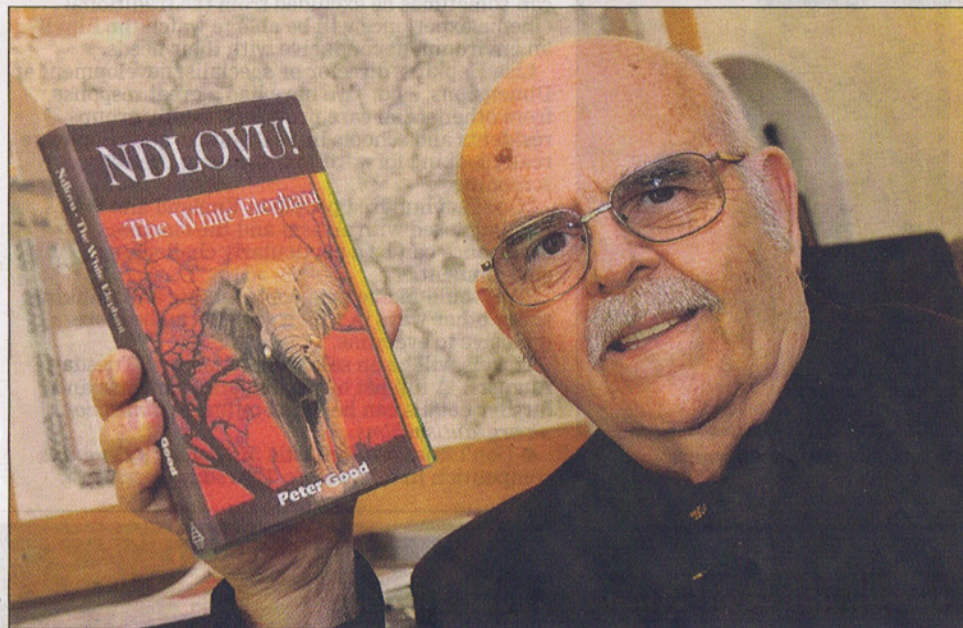


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Novel draws on 'horrific' experiences



● Author Peter Good with a copy of his novel

A FORMER policeman, who witnessed first-hand the atrocities in Rhodesia in the late 1960s, has drawn on his own experiences to pen a novel.

Kenyan-born Peter Good, 69, spent eight years in the Rhodesian police force, from 1959 to 1967. He saw "horrific" human suffering in that time, witnessing corruption, violence and even torture, particularly after the controversial Unilateral Declaration of Independence was signed in 1965.

The Sherborne St John man drew on these experiences for his first novel, *Ndlovu! The White Elephant* which is set in Rhodesia, now Zimbabwe, in the late 1960s.

Mr Good, who has six sons and six grandchildren, said that the book had taken nearly five years to complete.

He finished the 185-page book in 2000, but it has taken him 11

years to find a publisher who would print it for the right price.

He said: "It is a work of fiction but it draws on many real life events. I hope that I've managed to capture a feel for the place and the time.

"I can't even describe some of the things that were happening during that period. I kept a loaded rifle by my bed and each home had a safe room, as we were in a 'hot area'.

"I couldn't go back to Zimbabwe now – the reports you hear are just terrible. It would break my heart."

Ndlovu! The White Elephant is a cat and mouse tale of a rogue ex-police constable turned terrorist, who is hunted by a heroic police officer nicknamed Ndlovu, or the 'white elephant', after he kills a former colleague.

Mr Good, who moved to England in 1977 to work as an office manager, is now retired.