



White Water Green

MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE 2/4 INFANTRY BATTALION ASSOCIATION

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NEXT MEETING: The January Meeting will be held on Friday, 28th January, 1983, at the Gallipoli Memorial Club at 8 p.m.

THE CHRISTMAS GET-TOGETHER

Attendance at last year's Get-together was not all that well attended. This year's WAS all that well attended and an enjoyable evening was had by all.

Full marks to Harry Wright who did a real "Cock Robin" deal in getting all the names of those present and they were: Les Fox, Phil and Cec. Chrystal, Jim Graham, Dave Endean, Johnny Hawkins, Gordon Chrisp, Peter Cade, Alf Carpenter, John Meehan, Joan and Gary Hart, Fi and Ken Kesteven, Vera Walsh, Enid Lattimer, Del and Harold Silver, Athol Heath, Laurie Waterhouse, Harry Gjedsted, Ken Richardson, Betty Watts, Bill Parry and Harry, Hilda and Nell Wright. An apology was received from Sir Ivan and Lady Dougherty. Full marks to Harry Gjedsted for the organisation and to Athol for his efforts.

DON'T FORGET THAT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING IS BEING HELD ON 25th FEBRUARY, 1983. ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

SEE ABOVE FOR THE JANUARY MEETING.

WELFARE REPORT

NX5177, Flay, F. (Sig. Ptn.) At Lady Davidson, Ward A. Will be moving from L.D.H. in the next few days to the Repat. Hospital for therapy in walking with an artificial leg.

NX68025, Tanko, K.C.S. Had gone home on week-end leave. Will be receiving a new right leg soon. Health good.

NX362600, Hudson Hubert, Ward 520, Concord. Bert is in for a throat operation. Feels O.K. and sends regards to all.

NX15534, Robberds, Rex. Ward 620 Concord. In for tests and operation for stomach troubles. Very serious. Harry Wright has also visited him.

NX7601, Chamberlain, R.H. I call to see Dick two or three times a month. Says Merry Christmas to all.

NX5145, Robin, J.J. Jim has been discharged from Royal North Shore Hospital following his third heart attack. Not feeling too well.

NX39590, Maloney, J. War Veterans' Home. Feeling fine and settled in O.K. Says he sees Dick Fenton.

NX1977, Waring Brian. W.V.H. Not had the best of health lately and not been able to attend meetings on account of chest trouble.

W.W.I:

1493, Ribot, G. Ward 310 Concord. George is in for head pains. Best of wishes, George from 2/4th.

7551, White, Eric. In for groin operation and has had a lot of pain. Sends best wishes to all.

LAST POST:

NX5219, C.K. Calver

NX160169, R.D. O'Keefe

NX5324, W.J. Reid.

NX38805, J.L. Cameron.

NX8662, Ben Connor

NX70266, C.W. (Bill) Parsons.)

(From Claude Raymond who with other 2/4, attended the funeral.)

W.W.I.:

Bede Heary, D.C.M.

Best wishes for 1983 from the Welfare Team.

Bill Parry.

THE SECRETARY'S MAILBAG

First of all may I hope everyone and their wives and families enjoyed the past festive season and now that we have entered another year, may I send you my sincere wish for a year of good health and happiness. May life in its passing treat you and your loved ones lightly and generously.

Well the mail bag for December was varied and interesting. Certainly a last minute rush to get applications in for the Battalion Medal. Also a fair response to the notice we published in W.O.G. that copies of the translation of the Greek Medallion scroll were available and still are. I will record the names of those who have sent in for the medal. They are Joan Chaseling on behalf of her late husband, Jack. Jim Cameron, (since died), Ron Burley, Eyvonne Pearse for her late husband, Harry. Nance Smith, also for her late husband, Bill and also from Brian Hill.

Must mention the Eureka Military Museum which is situated near Sovereign Hill, Ballarat. They want two "specimen" medals, one to show in obverse with all bars, the other to show in reverse. It is pleasing to know that our battalion medal has become so unique and well sort after. (For those who are uninformed, the medal is available to collectors and is inscribed "Specimen" around the periphery, where the recipient's name is normally inscribed. (The cost of a "Specimen" is proportionately priced to ensure that only serious collectors own even "Specimen"s". Ed.)

So much for the general run of the mail, now to the Nitty-Gritty of others received. First of all I must acknowledge the receipt of donations made to the "Field Marshal Sir Thomas Blamey Memorial Fund". This letter will appear elsewhere in this W.O.G., space permitting.

Must mention the letter from Helen Martin in which she applied for the battalion medal for George. George apparently is a very sick man, having had a big internal operation and is very frail on it. Helen wrote that he has had three such operations within the last six months. Our good wishes to you both.

In the mail was a Notice of Motion from Slim Powers (published elsewhere in this issue) and this will be a matter for the Annual General Meeting in February.

A letter from Ric Carter of Urunga, sending in a cheque for W.O.G. Complains of not seeing 2/4 blokes around the area. Says he likes to keep up with the reports Dasher Deacon sends in occasionally.

A letter from Jin Wiaker of Harlin, Q., sending in a change of address. Writes he is moving into a new home he has just finished building and will be close to his daughter and grandchildren. Passed on the news that Harold Cox of Ipswich has been very sick, spending times at Greenslopes R.G.H. Says he will keep a check on him when he goes back to Ipswich. Jim is hoping he can make it down to Sydney for this year's Anzac Day. Thank you for your Christmas Greetings Jim.

Eileen Frances, widow of the late Vic., sent a Christmas Card with a special message of good-will for all members of 2/4 Bn. Association Thank you Eileen.

Next comes a letter from Bob (Kid) Rixon of Adelaide River, who is sending in a cheque for Life Membership. Writes in to tell us he saw Hugh Whittleton and wife at the Caravan Park whilst in Adelaide River, stayed there with them to catch up on the news of the Association. Bob was with "C" Coy. and said that Don Buck of "D" Coy is up the top end of the track and said there could be others. Bob sends out an open invitation to members to drop in on him if passing through Adelaide River or let him know if you are coming up that way. Once again, thank you Bob. We will get W.O.G. to you quickly.

A newsletter from 6 Div. Assn. giving news of various topics. One in particular that I feel I must acquaint our members with and that is the proposal to erect a memorial to 6th Aust. Div., 2nd. A.I.F. This memorial is all ready, all it needs is the "go ahead" to place it. However, the City Council and other bureaucrats can't make up their minds as to where it should be. It should be somewhere in the Rocks area, preferably Playfair Place. There will be more on this very soon I hope.

We received a card from Mrs.A. Cameron, widow of the late Jim Cameron in appreciation of the Association's message of sympathy and attendance at the funeral.

Also a letter from Henry Roberts of Wentworthville requesting a Greek Medallion scroll translation, plus Christmas greetings. Thank you Henry.

We also received a letter from Norm Rogers with the same greetings and the same request. Thank you too Norm.

Laurie Waterhouse.

FROM THE EDITOR

In what is normally a slack period regarding copy for W.O.G., is in fact a time of inundation of more copy than required, even for the new and enlarged W.O.G. Further: We wanted to keep this issue a little light for size too as Lynne, our typist, is still involved in a honeymoon somewhere. God bless her! Consequently several items will be left out of this issue and others cut short to take the load off the printing staff.

NOTICE OF MOTION TO THE CONSTITUTION OF 2/4 BN. ASSOCIATION

Proposed by Cec. (Slim) Powers

" AMENDMENT TO CLAUSE 5(B).

"i. Any member of the Association who is or should become incapacitated as a result of war service shall be entitled to Honorary Life Membership of the Association. T.P.I. members shall be void of Annual Subscriptions.

"ii. All widows of deceased service personnel who served with 2/4 A. Inf. Bn. shall be entitled to Honorary Life Membership of the Association.

"iii. Any person or persons recommended by the Committee and elected by the majority of members present at an Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting shall be entitled to Honorary Life Membership of the Association.

"iv. All Honorary Life Members shall be entitled to attend any Annual General Meeting, Extraordinary General Meeting or Monthly Meeting of the Association. Honorary Life Members (except T.P.I. Members) shall be void of voting powers.

" AMENDMENT TO CLAUSE 5(e)

"i. All members of 19Bde., 2/8 Inf. Bn. and 2/11 Inf. Bn. acceptable to the Executive Committee shall be entitled to Honorary Membership of the Association.

"ii. Any person or persons nominated by a member of the Association and acceptable to the Executive Committee shall be entitled to Honorary Membership of the Association.

"iii. All Honorary Members shall be entitled to attend any Annual General Meeting, Extraordinary General Meeting or Monthly Meeting of the Association Void of voting powers."

Cecil (Slim) Powers.

THE ASSOCIATION OF 4TH INFANTRY BATTALIONS - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH 1983 - 1930 HRS
4RNSWR DEPOT, BURROWS ROAD, ARNCLIFFE

COCK'S COLUMN. (just arrived)

A letter from Roy Walker, Orange, thanking me for W.O.G. I sent him also wanting information re Greek and Battalion medals also info. for Battalion tie. Roy writes, "just starting to pick cherries but I am stuck with a sprained ankle." I rang Laurie Waterhouse and he is handling the enquiries.

Letter from Frank Sadler, Dubbo with two death notices of Ralph Gordon Richards. Frank writes, "To let you know that I attended the funeral of a former original member of 2/4, NX1975, Ralph Gordon Richards." Ralph enlisted in Narrabri, later moved to Gilgandra then retired to Bellingen. Approximately six months ago he moved to Dubbo for health reasons. Frank visited him at his home. Thanks Frank, keep up the good work.

Alex Veitch requested Slim Powers for a copy of October W.O.G. where I had mentioned him in the Column. Slim could not oblige but I could so a copy is on its way to you Alex via Powers Pony Express.

Received Christmas Cards from Marcia Crowe and family, Cootamundra, also from Wal and Mona Taylor, same place, John Copland, Slim Powers, Dick and Rene Pinson, Ron Barber. And from south of the border, Bob, Ada and Denise Griffith, Mildura. Michelle and Doris Jordan, Campbelltown and from overseas, Norwich, Norfolk a very nice card came from Frank Mallett. Then two lovely "Get Well" cards from Vera Walsh and Doris and Michelle Jordan. Thank you all sincerely for remembering me, I hope you got my cards.

Recently had phone calls from Dick Pinson, Des Finch, Cec Powers, Harry Wright and Laurie Waterhouse.

I wish to everyone a happy and prosperous New Year. Cock Robin.

SITREPS

Many Christmas Cards have been sent from one to another within the Association on a personal and on a family basis. There are others too addressed to members in general via an Association member. One such is from Frank Mallett, long time resident in the U.K. A man that is never out of touch with us. From Michelle and Doris Jordan, (the late Johnnie's daughter and wife respectively also comes best wishes to the Association members. A letter from Michelle informs change of abode, and the decor in the bathroom of the new place is white over green. Greetings to all from Doris and Michelle. From Sir Ivan and Lady Dougherty come greetings to all members. Due to early deadline, people on holidays etc. This is not the complete list. Catch up, later.

NOTICE

The Hon Sec has received the following from La Trobe University. In his covering letter, Dr. John Barrett who is Reader in History, writes, "There are no angles, political or otherwise. It's just what it appears to be: an attempt by two individuals to gather information from the men concerned and preserve a record of their background and opinions."

In other words chaps, Dr. Barrett and Professor Joyce have taken on a project similar to that of Patsy Adam Smith with her book "The Anzacs". Fortunately they have an advantage over her in that at least half their subject matter is still alive. Information and Application Form follows.

AUSTRALIAN SOLDIERS 1939-45

Men who served in the A.I.F. or Militia in 1939-45 are wanted to answer a set of questions on their lives and opinions around that time.

With apologies to former members of women's and other services -
it can be only the army at this time.

Two historians, Dr. John Barrett and Professor Roger Joyce hope to publish a book based on the soldiers' replies.

All confidences will be respected.

This ordinary people's history will be lost forever unless the background and experiences of many individuals are recorded now. Some men and their wives and families have already found answering the questions an enriching experience. Some have been able to put on paper thoughts they have never been able to talk about.

Many more replies are needed. Please fill in and send the coupon below.

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To: Army Project, History Department, La Trobe University,
Bundoora, Victoria. 3083

I am a MALE who served in the AUSTRALIAN ARMY at some time during 1939-45. Please send me a questionnaire.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode _____