



White Water Green

MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE 2/4 INFANTRY BATTALION ASSOCIATION

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NEXT MEETING

The SEPTEMBER MEETING will be held on Friday, 23rd September at the Gallipoli Memorial Club, Loftus Street, Sydney at 8 pm.

The OCTOBER MEETING : THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THE FOURTH TUESDAY IN OCTOBER AT THE GALLIPOLI MEMORIAL CLUB. THE MEETING WILL START AT 12 NOON. LUNCH WILL BE AVAILABLE AFTER THE MEETING. THE DATE IS 25TH OCTOBER AND THE TIME: MID-DAY.

BEFORE YOU READ ANY FURTHER

RE-READ THAT BIT ABOVE ABOUT THE OCTOBER MONTHLY MEETING!

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

There will be no October issue of W.O.G.

By and Laurie Waterhouse and Gloria and Allen Lindsay will be away during what would be the peak production period for that month, all taking a bit of a holiday prior to the Southport Re-Union. As we stand now, they represent four-fifths of the W.O.G. production team.

Meanwhile "back at the ranch" the Cades are yelling at the kids and, hopefully, waiting for copy from all which will allow some preparatory typing for a larger November issue following the Re-Union. Thank you contributors to W.O.G.

THE AUGUST MEETING.

There were 20 members in attendance. Not seen for some time was Les Whats-his-name (the bloke who still looks young).

The main to come out of the meeting is that after many years service in the welfare team Bill Parry has resigned his position as leader of the team. Biscuits Arnott moved a vote of thanks to Bill for his services and this was carried with acclamation. Harry Wright volunteered to accept the responsibilities as co-ordinator of the Welfare Team and was voted in accordingly, also with acclamation. Cec Chrystal presented a cheque to the Association (see letter later in this issue) for \$500 being proceeds from further sales of Sir Ivan's Biography. Cec reported that there have now been 1455 copies of the biography sold, triple the average sales for this type of publication. This has been achieved by the backing of the management of the Gallipoli Memorial Club with the use of the Club for committee meetings during the steering stages, final production and sales after the book was launched. The motive force behind this co-operation was Harry Gjedsted. Publicity in the Gallipoli Gazette has been constant and at no cost to the Association. Also, with the Biography a printed fact and the captains and the

kings of the committee disbanded and departed, one captain still remains. Captain Cec Chrystal, the Chairman of the Biography Committee, with Phyl's constant help, is still on the job as these regular reports, returns and donations testify. (Pardon the digression but credit where credit is due...Editor.)

The question was asked at the meeting about carrying on "Cock's Column". The answer is No! "Cock" had a folksy style all his own and attempts to imitate it by others would be a parody, unacceptable and possibly an insult to Cock. Laurie Waterhouse's "Secretary's Mailbag" is as close as we can get and that is O.K. without fiddling. (Editor)

It was stated by Harry Gjedsted that the communications of the Association are not what they should be, in that he, in a focal point of the Association's activities, was unaware of Jim Robin's death and even the funeral until it was over. We cannot hang this one on the Welfare Team or the fact that Harry missed it in the S.M.H. Some of us knew but not enough of us rang others to get the word around. There were about twenty 2/4thers at Cock's funeral and three other club visitors could have known too, had Harry known. The inference is that Paul Revere did better than us on an old nag without a desk telephone in sight! We think we have the message. If a member has a death to report or some Welfare news of equal importance, whoever else you phone, please ensure that Harry Wright and Harry Gjedsted (at the Gallipoli Club) know, so that they can spread the word. A convivial social was had after the meeting and on the train back to Caringbah your Secretary and Editor were able to enjoy the company of your Treasurer who ate liquorice sticks from Town Hall to Caringbah stations. Undoubtedly there would have been after effects, serve him right!

WELFARE REPORT.

At Concord R.G.H.

NX1191 Laurie James, Ward 3. In for tests. Sends wishes.
 NX2048 Reg Cole, Ward 3. In for tests. Pleased to have Laurie James close by in the next bed.
 NX39890 Jack Maloney, Ward 430. A hip operation and doing well. Looks happy and writes regularly to Frank Frizell.
 NX67 Richard Waugh. Dick has been discharged.
 NX5866 Jack Pearce also discharged.
 NX1993 Slim Pollock, Ward 20. In for tests. Sends regards to all.
 NX53945 Harry Robertson has also been discharged.
 NX18572 Bill Burgis, Ward 311. In for pacemaker maintenance. Looks well and sends best wishes to all the boys.
 NX53929 Jim Graham. Was in for removal of old nylon stitches. Now discharged. Old 4Bn.

George Pearson, ninety-four years old. Not feeling too well. Sends best wishes. Lewis Graham, aged ninety-seven. Recovering after a successful operation. Sends regards to all.

And Elsewhere.

Vera Walsh. Cataract operation successful and is now home from Concord. Sends love to all.
 Bob Fergusson reported that Tom Mort is not too bad and working part time. Bill Newth also not too bad and sends regards to all.
 Pom Wallace is in Lismore Hospital with spinal trouble. Pom reports his vital statistics as still 11½. Not being into metrification yet we can only assume that this means 11½ feet around the waist but perhaps its 11½ something else somewhere else. Anyhow, get well soon Pom, see you in Southport?
 Harry Wright reports that Max Nernay has been discharged from Royal North Shore Hospital and is now in Kyogle Hospital. Bob Gardiner is visiting him. Late news is that while on tour in the West, Wink Walker was taken to Derby Hospital with a heart attack. We have heard nothing since.

LAST POST.

NX5145 Jim "Cock" Robin
 NX5939 Dick Parry
 NX11184 Charles "Punchy" Hood
 QX30777 G.P. Wilson (Reveille)
 Sir Eric Keith White. 4Bn 1914-18.

VALE JIM "COCK" ROBIN!

On August 5 1983, our well-known identity and comrade - James "Cock" Robin died after a series of heart attacks. His funeral took place on Tuesday, 9th August, with a service being held at the Roman Catholic Church, Star of the Sea, Kirribill

The service was well attended by members and their wives, plus many members of the community. The North Sydney Anzac Memorial Club President, Mr H.J. Sharpe conducted the R.S.L. portion of the service, and our Past President, Mr Bill MacLennan delivered an address on the life of the late Jim Robin. The "Last Post" and "Reveille" were played by tape lent by the North Sydney Sub-Branch R.S.L. A brief ceremony was conducted at the graveside, where several members of the Assn. had gathered, the "Ode" was recited by Laurie Waterhouse and the usual "poppy" laying took place. Amongst those members who attended the church service and/or the graveside were:- Bill MacLennan, Cec Chrystal, Ken Kesteven, Gordon Chrisp, Bob Fergusson, Cec Powers, Ron Barber, Bob Lane, Syd Buckley, Dick Pinson, Barney Turley, Rex Everson, Harry and Hilda Wright, Dave Endean and myself.

Laurie Waterhouse.

VALE DICK PARRY!

We said good-bye to Dick in the surroundings he loved ---- the bushland setting of the Heritage Funeral Parlours at Croydon in the foothills of the Blue Dandenong. From our arrival it was quite obvious that in civilian life, as well as his army sojourn, Dick was the same lovable, sincere, unassuming character who had made an indelible mark on the community. The chapel was packed with his family and friends for the service, which was followed by a private cremation at Springvale. Dick, who was 69, never really recovered from his recent operation at Heidelberg, but it was his wish to spend his remaining span of time with his family in his home, and the wish was fulfilled. His wife Marie, said the last few weeks were torrid for "the old bloke" but he passed on peacefully. The unit banner was unfurled behind the casket and those of the Association attending were:- Claude Raymond, Stan Pretty, Ken Williams, Doug Christian, Merv Hicks, Vic Hill, Ken Moses, Sid Valentine, Gordon Robins and Leo Dunn. Dick was an original of 9 Platoon, A Company and will be a great loss to the Association as a whole --- and most particularly to Victoria Ken Moses.

VALE CHARLES "PUNCHY" HOOD!

The death occurred on 30th July of Charles Hood, NX11184 at Kempsey. A memorial service was held at the Presbyterian Church at Kempsey, attended by a number of Assn. members, as follows:- Esca and Bev Riordan of Kempsey, Bill and Nancy Sherwin of Nambucca, Rick Carter from Urunga, "Bub" Graham from Bowraville, Geoff Galvin of Macksville, Jim Brown M.L.A. and Harry Dowling both of Kempsey. The boys at Lismore had been notified by myself to Alan Kirk. The late Charles Hood's remains were cremated at Beresford Crematorium.

Esca Riordan.

VALE Sir Eric Keith White!

On 1st August the death occurred of one of the old 4th Bn. 1914-18 members. Sir Eric Keith White was Adjutant of The 4th Battalion 1914-18. He was a member of the Association of 4th Infantry Battalions and a great family friend of Lady McKay and her family. He was also the founder and later President of the Liberal Party of N.S.W. His funeral took place on Thursday 4th August at the Northern Suburbs Cemetary. Noel Ford represented this Association.

Laurie Waterhouse.

SITREPS.

From Newcastle: In the absence of the Boss (Alf Carpenter) I thought I had better send in some Newcastle news.

Firstly, Bill Hayes has recently had a successful eye operation. He is home from hospital and is C.K. He has his daughter with him so is very happy. Heather and I both retired on 29th July and to celebrate we had a night out with our 2/4th friends. We went to dinner at the Wallsend R.S.L. Those present were our son Guy and his wife Kath, Yvonne Pearse, Joe and Gwen Bohle, Aileen Curran (Cliff was unable to attend owing to a back problem), Doreen Manual, Enid and Don Haggarty (ex Air Force) and Jack and Mary Partridge from Erina Heights who spent the week-end with us. We had a card from Alf, who at the time of posting was at Hall's Creek. They were having a good time and both are well.

George Mitchell.

Eileen Lynch is back home in Grafton and slowly recovering after her knee operation. Exercises and visits for therapy are the order of the day but it will be a few months before she is really mobile. Eileen appreciated the visitors she had during her stay in hospital in Sydney, particularly Gwen MacLennan, Enid Latimer and Heather Fox.

FLAGSTAFF DEDICATION.

On Armistice Day, Friday 11th November a flagstaff will be presented to the Country Women's Association Headquarters by 2/4 Bn. Association and dedicated to the memory of our comrades who enlisted in country areas. Complementing the flagstaff will be a bronze plaque set in a block of sandstone from the Gallipoli Memorial Club. The plaque, measuring 12" x 8" is suitably embellished with the Rising Sun badge and reads "This flag-pole was presented to the C.W.A. of N.S.W. by 2/4 Infantry Battalion Association in tribute to and in memory of our comrades who enlisted in the Country areas of N.S.W. and served in the Battalion during World War II, 1939-45." Owing to a lack of accommodation in their premises it is not possible for all who attend to be catered for at the morning tea at 10 a.m. However there is no limitation on members and their ladies attending the 11 a.m. ceremony. The address is:- C.W.A. Headquarters 11 Greenknowe Ave., Potts Point. (Kings Cross) Medals to be worn.

THE GRANDCHILDREN STAKES.

Latest starters for the Grandchildren Stakes are Bill and Aimee Facey with one son and three daughters, ten grandsons and two grand-daughters from two to seventeen years old. Esca and Beb Riordan's grandchildren total two girls and nine noisy ones. However there may be a scratching here as Esca didn't know he was entered until he read this. A starter who wishes to remain anonymous until he is led into the starting gate (but who supplies his name?) entered with four children six grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. The latter put the Stewards into an emergency conference regarding their comparative point status. The same Stewards have announced that the late starters "Wait for Age" is a non-event as there was only one starter, the Cades with Peter becoming a father at 45. However as compensation the Cades have been given a dozen bottle of Guinnesses and a voucher for five dozen oysters on Chippy's Seafood Supplies plus a book on birds and bees and bunny-rabbits.

TINGHA PUBLIC SCHOOL PRESENTATION by 2/4th Bn. ASSOCIATION.

The presentation of the portrait of our ever popular Patron and former Commanding Officer, Sir Ivan Dougherty, along with the book, 'Dougherty! A man amongst men.' was carried out on Wednesday 17th August, during Education Week and was a very impressive ceremony despite the inclement weather. Here is a brief outline of the proceedings that took place. Owing to the heavy rain the presentation took place within the school library at 11.30 a.m. Those present were:- Mr Bert Candy, Headmaster; Mr Ross Smith, Pres. Inverell R.S.L.; Mr Bill Brooks, 2/4 member; Mr Selby Dean, 2/4 and Pres. of P & C Assn Mr Bill Hawkins, Pres Tingha R.S.L. and Mrs Hawkins; Mrs A McArdle, Sec. P & C NEN9 TV Crew; Mrs Hayden, teacher. Also present were the many parents who were visiting the school to participate in the Education Week programme. The school was assembled in the library, Kindergarten to 6th Form. The assembly was addressed by the Headmaster who suitably welcomed all the visitors. He gave a brief history of Major-General Sir Ivan Dougherty and then called on Mr Selby Dean to continue. Mr Dean traced the history of the 2/4th Bn. through the Middle East and New Guinea campaigns, he then called on Mr Ross Smith to make the Presentation to the Boy and Girl Captains of Tingha Public School. The Boy Captain, Aaron Cox responded on behalf of the school. The whole of the proceedings were filmed by NEN9 TV and were shown on that channel on Thursday, 18th August, 1983. The Inverell R.S.L. invited all taking part to be their guests at a dinner at the Club. Laurie, as President of the P & C I cannot express my pleasure enough to the 2/4th Assn. for the wonderful gifts given to the school. Please convey our very sincere thanks to the President, the committee and members of the Bn. Assn for their very thoughtful gesture in placing a piece of Australian history within the walls of the school. To all concerned, once again 'THANK YOU!' Selby Dean.

APPRECIATION TO WELFARE HOSPITAL VISITING TEAMS.

Vera Walsh phoned my wife recently to see if she could get a message published in W.O.G. Vera as we all know, has been visiting Concord every week with the R.S.L. Women's Auxilary and always made a point of visiting 2/4thers. As Vera was recently a patient at Concord the tables were turned and she had the experience of being on the receiving end of our welfare team's visits. She is very grateful to all who called, including Dave and Nan McGilivray, Harry and Hilda Wright and George Stack and the other members who visited her. She apologises to these people for her, at times, apparent confusion as she could not see very well at the time. To all those good people, thank you for the good work. Laurie Waterhouse.

THE SECRETARY'S MAIL BAG.

The mail delivery has been constant this month, people wanting bus bookings for the Re-Union and a few medal applications, thus making me chase paper and pen. Now to the business of who has been writing in to us. Our first letter received was from "Dagwood" Jackson of Wagga, with a report on Fred Driscoll. He has been to see Fred, but poor old Fred slipped over and broke a leg or hip-bone, the result being that he is now in Canberra Hospital. Some might say that Fred was carrying out some strategic manoeuvre to get away from Yass. Thanks Bob for the up-to-date report on Fred, will be in touch. Our next letter comes from Bayswater, West Aust. home of our latest recruited member - Doug Slinger was in C Coy. in New Guinea, participated in the Wewak boxing ring with Spanner O'Toole. This may ring a few bells in dormant minds. Anyway he feels he should be with us, so we sent many back copies of W.O.G. Doug, you will no doubt hear from "Dasher" Deacon of Rockingham as he is looking for recruits for his 2/4th Privates Association. Good luck to you Doug you will hear more from us.

Received a lovely letter and card from Miss Catherine Bowen, sister of the late Stan Bowen. She sends her sincere thanks to all who attended her brother's funeral and paid their last respects, especially Bob Lever.

Another sad thank you letter received from the sister of the late Jim Robin I think Mrs Cath Hockley was overwhelmed by the large attendance of members, as well as the general public, at her brother's funeral services, both at the church and graveside. She wishes to thank all those who attended.

Jack Pearce (Starvation Jack) wrote in saying he has finished living on the Central Coast area. After an operation (he did not say what for) he has come to live at Monash 16, War Veterans Home, Narrabeen. Thanks for letting us know your movements. Poor old Gordon Chrisp has been doing a big think (?) as to what and where your movements were.

Jim James of Narranderra, writing about his Battalion Medal and wondering how long it will be before it arrives. Have no fear Jim, it will be with you by the time you are reading this. Another applicant for the medal was Ian Dixon, son of the late Joe Dixon of Narranderra. Apparently Norm Rogers has been ear-bashing Ian, who was very keen to get the Greek Medal as well, to complete his late father's set of medals.

From Canberra a letter from Jack Huston giving the latest info. on Fred Driscoll who he has been to see in the Canberra Hospital. Jack is keeping an eye on Fred for us and is keeping us up-to-date. Jack has recently changed his address so anyone wishing to write to him should contact me first for his new address.

Our last letter comes from R.A.(Pommie) Cole of Padstow who wishes to have his thanks and best wishes conveyed to the Welfare Team for their welcome visit to him during his recent hospitalisation. He also mentioned that he was in the same ward as Laurie James so he was able to have a good old yarn.

Laurie Waterhouse.

THE 1983 COUNTRY RE-UNION - SOUTHPORT, QLD.

If you intend to attend the Re-union and have not yet booked you had better do so IMMEDIATELY otherwise you are going to miss out!

Contact Laurie McCosker (see address on front page) stating your times of arrival and departure, accommodation requirements and enclose a \$10 deposit.

We have printed on page 6 of this issue a locality map produced by the re-union committee for the benefit of attendees. The committee has requested us to notify those members who have paid a deposit and not received an answer to please contact them immediately as some members wrote enclosing a deposit but did not give a return address!

Jack Hughes, Re-union Organiser, has requested the following personal message to a well-known North Coast M.L.A. (no names - no pack drill) be passed on per this medium.

"Jim, due to lack of information relating to dates of arrival and departure we may have to book you in a Gold-Coast Penthouse for 12 months unless otherwise advised, Please respond."

LAST CALL FOR THE 1983 COUNTRY RE-UNION TO BE HELD AT SOUTHPORT, QLD.

OCTOBER 8th and 9th, 1983.

YOU ARE NOW HEADING NORTH FOR SUNSHINE AND PROSPERITY

To LABRADOR
and BRISBANE

Loder's Ck. Bridge

LODER'S CREEK CARAVAN PARK

MARINE PDE MOTEL

IMPERIAL
MOTEL

PACIFIC
HOTEL

March
F.U.P.

Sea World

Marine and

SOUTHPORT
YACHT CLUB

Tennis Courts &
Bowling Green

SOUTHPORT

Trotting Track

SHOPPING
CENTRE

R.S.L.

ANGLERS ARMS MOTEL

SUNDALE
MOTEL

SUNDALE CENTRE

SURFERS
PARADISE

Golf
Links

Race
Course

To:
BROAD BEACH
MERMAID BEACH
BURLEIGH HEADS
PALM BEACH
COOLANGATTA

AND SOUTH TO THE WILDERNESS

