



White Cedar Green

MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE 2/4 INFANTRY BATTALION ASSOCIATION

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NEXT MEETING.

The April meeting will be held concurrently with the ANZAC DAY RE-UNION DINNER.
The May meeting will be held on Tuesday, 22nd May, 1984, at 2.30 pm.
The venue as usual is the Gallipoli Memorial Club, 12 Loftus St., Sydney.
Committeemen Please Note. Committee meeting commences at 11.30 am.

ANZAC DAY ARRANGEMENTS 1984.

Arrangements are well in hand for Anzac Day. To start the day we have our wreath-laying ceremony at 8.15 am at the Cenotaph, Martin Place. We ask all members who can possibly attend to make an effort to support this, our own ceremony. As most of us know, we assemble at the corner of York and Erskine Streets from 7.30 am onwards. We march off at 8.10 am for the wreath-laying ceremony. After the ceremony we march up to our assembly area for the Main March. Designated area for the 2/4 Infantry Battalion is the corner of King and Phillip Streets. After the March, members are asked to make their way back to the Gallipoli Memorial Club for the Anzac Day Re-union Dinner commencing at 1 pm. Tickets for the dinner will be on sale during the waiting period at King and Phillip Streets, the price being \$8 per ticket. Every member is requested to wear the Battalion Tie and Service Medals. A presentation of a Life Membership Badge will take place during the Dinner.

ASSOCIATION MONTHLY MEETING.

The monthly meeting held on 27th March got under way with 30 members attending and the new President, Alf Carpenter, in the chair. Special mention was made of John Copland celebrating his 80th birthday on this day at a party given by Cec Chrystal and Ken Kesteven at Cec's home. At our meeting the President congratulated Slim Powers who was also celebrating a birthday on this day. Appropriate musical honours were rendered. The meeting was informed by the President that Lady Mackay celebrated her 93rd birthday on 26th March and that he had sent an appropriately worded card on behalf of the Association. Frank Ivey was elected into the position of Secretary at the Committee Meeting. Barney Turley was elected, by the Committee, to fill the vacancy created by Frank's appointment. The Treasurer presented the financial statement showing the Association to be in a sound financial situation. John Hawkins was appointed Marshal for the Anzac Day March.

Those attending the meeting were:- Alf Carpenter, Allen Lindsay, Frank Ivey, John Meehan, Laurie Waterhouse, Athol Heath, Norm Auberson, Bill Parry, Harry Wright, Alex Arnott, John Hawkins, Slim Powers, Ron Barber, Norrie McGregor, Slim Venn, Lionel Clarke, Fred Staggs, Harry (Jim) McLaughlin, Jim Sadler, Dave McGilivray, Dick Morris, Bill MacLennan, Peter Armstrong, Jim Graham, Harold Bowman, Trevor Richardson, Barney Turley, Dick Pinson, Rex Everson, Slim Pollock, Harry Gjedsted and John Ringrose turned up a little later on.

GOSFORD RE-UNION OCTOBER 1984.

President Alf has delegated the task of organising the Country Re-union for 1984 to a committee of Mid-Coast and Newcastle members headed by Jack Partridge. They say that they are leaving no stone unturned in their endeavours to make this re-union a memorable one. All they ask of our members, and others concerned, is a little co-operation, that is, Book your accommodation early to avoid disappointment later. All you have to do is send your booking fee (\$10 per person). The type of accommodation required (double room, single room or whatever) and the number of nights you will be staying. The Re-union will be held over the weekend 6/7th October. When sending your deposits, please make cheques or money orders payable to:- 2/4 Infantry Battalion Association and send them to Jack Partridge, 38 Serpentine Road, Erina Heights, Terrigal. 2260. Compliance with these instructions will make Jack happy.

The Battalion War History - WHITE OVER GREEN.

The Committee recently discussed a suggestion put forward by Noel Ford that known errors and omissions in the War History be rectified. After much discussion the committee appointed a sub-committee of two, Cec Chrystal and Ken Kesteven to look into this problem. Their main tasks being to study errors and omissions and to consider any further submissions sent in by members. This sub-committee will recommend the feasibility of having such material collected entered into the War History and what form the additions will take. Any member who is aware of any error or omission in the War History, or who wishes to supply additional information, is requested to supply this information, in writing, to the editor of this paper who will forward it to the sub-committee for their perusal.- Editor.

BATTALION "T" SHIRTS.

In a previous issue we ran a paragraph on Alf Carpenter and his project - Battalion "T" Shirts. As you may remember, the first batch of 20 shirts were donated by the Hamilton Diggers Swimming Club, of which Alf is a member. Those 20 shirts never hit the deck. Alf in his wisdom, decided to get some more, depending on how the orders continued to roll in, as a substantial number is required in order to make a re-run viable. To those people who have sent their orders and money and are awaiting a shirt we ask you to be patient. The orders will be filled as soon as our economic order quantity is reached. Therefore we ask all members to support Alf and his "T" Shirt Project.

WELFARE REPORT - 26th March, 1984.

Visited at R.G.H.

- NX9721 Stack, George Ward 24. In with nervous condition. Now home and progressing well.
 NX46898 Cox, Leslie Ward 630. Now discharged.
 NX68651 Ferguson, Robert Ward 34. Nervous condition. Now O.K. Expecting to go home.
 NX5114 Crook, D.L. Ward 7. Breathing problem. Seriously ill. Dave McGilivray visited Dan, however, unfortunately Dan died two days later.

Max Nernay contacted Vera Provians to say that John Hinnett was to be admitted to Greenslopes Hospital, Brisbane with throat problem.

Graham Woodward - Latest report from England, he is doing well. Athol Heath will be seeing him soon.

LAST POST.



NX39981 Vickers R
 NX5479 Ormiston Y.W.J.
 NX9681 Driscoll F.H.
 NX5114 Crook D.L.



Dick Vickers died last year. Information from Dick's brother to Laurie Waterhouse

VALE! - Jack Ormiston.

The funeral of the Late John Ormiston of Cowra, Better known as Captain John Ormiston to most of us, was held at Orange, where the body was privately cremated. The church service and R.S.L. rites were conducted at the Church of England, Cowra before a very large attendance of relatives and friends. The Cowra R.S.L. conducted the returned servicemen's rites at the Church. Jack had been ill for some time and passed away suddenly after a short bout of serious illness, on 12th March. He was a well liked and respected member of the Battalion and of the Association and had a large circle of friends, as was evident at the funeral. He was the last remaining of three brothers who were all members of the Battalion. The Association was represented by Jack Huston, John Hyles and Frank Crutchett from Canberra,



VALE - Jack Ormiston (cont)

Artie Kleem and Bruce Millard. Tim West sent his apologies as he had an unavoidable prior engagement. A sheath of flowers was sent to Mrs Phil Ormiston from the President and members of the Association. Artie Kleem called on Mrs Ormiston and conveyed our deepest sympathy. Additionally, a card was sent from Sydney by the Association. I believe a small wake was held, just as Jack would have liked. So we say - VALE! Jack Ormiston NX5970. Courtesy of Artie Kleem of Young.

VALE! - Doug Stebbings.

It is with great sadness that the Far North Coast members report the death on 3rd March of Douglas Stebbings, some eight weeks after major surgery in Lismore Base Hospital. Doug's place in the ranks of those of us who remain will be filled with the memories of the close friendship he shared with us all and our pride in having known him as a true soldier and good citizen of this great country. Vale! Doug Stebbings.

My thanks to Fred Varley for writing the above obituary, how well he has expressed our feelings. I know how heavily I looked to Doug for support and guidance in things we did pertaining to the Association here in Lismore. The comradeship and respect Doug was held in, was expressed at the Church and at the cremation service by the attendance of twenty-nine members, whose names follow:-

Fred Varley, Lismore	Roy Andrews, Lismore
Leo Lynch, Grafton	Jack Hughes, Southport, Q.
Ian Wallwork, Iluka	Jack Lister, Kyogle
John Hughes, Lismore	Mel McGuinness, Lismore
Clive Brown, Copmanhurst	Bill Sheaffe, Goonengerry
rie Wilson, Mullumbimby	Tim Lamond, Kyogle
Dave Crossthwaite, Tweed Heads	Doug Grove, Ballina
Hugh Whittleton, Brisbane, Q.	Tommy Clarke, Lismore
Vic Slade, Lismore	Bill Facey, Evans Head
Bobby Gardiner, Kyogle	Max Nernay, Woodenbong
Eddie Miller, Lismore	Bernie Shoebridge, Tweed Heads
"Bluey" Soul, Lismore	Sid Young, MacLean
Mick Green, Grafton	Reg Murphy, Kyogle
Ron Ellem, Kyogle	Alf Graham, Lismore
Allan Kirk, Lismore	

My apologies, please, if I have missed anyone, Allan Kirk. Further to above report I must mention that "Pom" Wallace is in hospital here at Lismore, undergoing tests on the "old ticker", he may have to return to Sydney for further treatment. Also my eye operation was O.K. and can see much better now. Allan.

We are ever mindful of the work that has been carried out by the Northern Rivers branch of our Association and the stirring efforts by Allan and his band of workers. One has only to read the obituary by Fred Varley to realize the true spirit of comradeship that this Association engenders. (Editor).

Late news to hand from Jack Huston to-day 23rd March that he had heard from the "Griffith Grapevine" that Fred Driscoll had died and was being buried at Griffith that day (21st March). This report came as a complete surprise, because our Welfare Officer did not know neither did your Editor. Enquiries are being made re Fred's death and lack of news to the Welfare Officer. In the meantime Jack Huston and myself will be writing to Fred's sister living in England. Editor.

MAIL BAG.

MARCH - APRIL 1984.

This column should have appeared in the last issue of WOG, however, on account of having so much copy, it was decided to leave it for the April Issue. Having no Secretary to write up this column, your editor decided to keep it going until such time as a new Secretary is found. I think it is of great importance to all members to know that at least their letters will be acknowledged through this column, also it is a news outlet for those wanting to know how so and so is and what is he doing. So don't be bashful about picking up that pen or even the tar stick for that matter. That's what "White Over Green" is all about, communication!

First out of the bag is a letter from Ian Wallwork of Iluka, lovely spot, fishing is very good there, so I've been told. Ian was taken up with Alf Carpenter's T Shirt project, so decided to be in it and sent an order in for one, also sent in a spot of Welfare news. Alf has your order for the T Shirt, along with a few others. Thanks Ian for the other Welfare news.

"Dagwood Jackson" is our next correspondent. He wrote to let us know how Stan Blacksley is faring after his second abdominal operation. Dagwood is doing a great job there at Wagga, keeping a weather eye on the boys in the area. Anyone amiss

Mail Bag. (cont)

or not in the best of health, Dagwood is on the "blower" straight away to let us know here in Sydney. Treasurer Allen's eyes gleamed when he sighted your cheque. Once again thank you Dagwood Jackson of Wagga.

It is over to Western Australia for our next letter and it comes from Doug Slinger of Bayswater, out from Perth. Doug is turning out to be one of our keen correspondents and supporters, which is most encouraging for us here. He works for a printing firm in Perth and Doug has been good enough to send over some "profiles" to see if we could use them. These profiles put an outstanding mark to a paragraph or column. We are using them in this issue of WOG. Regarding Gosford, give it serious thought, as it looks like being a good one, we would like to see you there. Do appreciate your letters and news of you lot over there. Keep up the good work and keep a weather eye on your neighbour at Rockingham, we believe he has the urge for the surf and other local attractions at Bali.

Talking of Bali, brings us to the name of "Dasher Deacon" of Rockingham W.A. Dasher, in a good frame of mind, sent us a beer, or should we say a reasonable facsimile thereof, it being a postcard picture of a can of Swan Ale. Apparently he and his adjutant, Lily, have been over to Bali for a week, or was it ten days, amongst the "surflies". Personally I think he went on a Reconnaissance for a future operation. Alf can supply the uniform, very appropriate, too. Nice of you, Dasher, to send us that beer, but we'll stick to our Tooths and Toohey's.

Our next letter comes from Jack Eastham of Ryde NSW Jack wrote in to tell us that he made a special trip over to South Australia for the want of nothing better to do. Made the trip down to Adelaide to see his two sons who live down there. Whilst down there he found the time to phone Bill Black of Port MacDonnell only to learn that Bill was in hospital in Adelaide - St Andrews Hospital. So Jack was able to visit the hospital and give a little cheer to Bill who is on the way to recover and sends his best regards to everyone. After seeing Bill Black, Jack decided to keep on the move and so off to see another Battalion identity so well known to all of us. So off to the suburb of Myrtle Bank where Sgt-Maj W.S. Robbins lives. Jack informed us that he found "Robbie" to be looking fit and well from the waist up, he suffers with his legs now. However he was still the same in face and manner and Jack said he was able to tell him what he used to think of him in those far off days, but dare not. "Robbie" is 80 years old now and one must expect a change in him. Thank you Jack for taking the time to let us know the latest news on these two identities, I am sure readers will get some pleasure out of your account of your Adelaide visit.

From South Australia to Victoria for our next letter and it comes from Keith Taylor of Allansford. Quite a lengthy letter, dealing with the visit of myself to Victoria in March '83. My wife Joy and self called in to see Keith and Pat O'Keefe at Allansford whilst on our way to Port Fairy and Warrnambool. We missed Keith, but was able to see Pat O'Keefe and his good wife. All this happened after the big fires swept through the area. Keith tells me that Pat has retired now and is very busy painting the new home of his daughter and son-in-law, who lost theirs in the fires. Keith says he is booked on a trip to England and the continent this May. He pays a very high tribute to the Executive and Committee of the Association for their efforts in sending out W.O.G. He goes on to say, and I quote "It is the Affinity, the comradeship and the friendship that we look for, even though we talk of the war at times, but after all our memories are most cherished and precious in our old age." Never fear, Keith, next time we will make sure you are home and have that beer at the local hostelry. I enjoyed your letter immensely, good luck to you.

Artie Kleem of Young is our next correspondent, writing to let me know all about the late SGT. Rod Berick's funeral at West Wyalong and give me the address of his relatives. Thanks Artie, for a good job well done.

It is up to the Gold Coast in Q'land for our next letter and it is from Newton (Doc) Howard. He was writing in for the address of George Martin of Goulburn. Newton has a problem which is causing him some discomfort. After consultation with a specialist, he is of the opinion it may have been caused through his service in New Guinea. He would like to know if anyone from A Company, who was in the operation, "Big Carry", when all Q stores were carried per man's back from the Druinimor to Danmap rivers, suffered any disability. If so, and they have not done anything about it, they could well benefit from the results of his claim on Repat, hopefully. Newton would appreciate a letter or a call if possible so how about it you A Company fellas. His address can be had from the Editor. Alex Dick wrote enquiring about the Battalion medal and Tie. Informs me that he has been in touch with Doug Groves of Ballina, also Alf Carpenter and Bully Hayes of Georgetown. Alex, all relevant information and the form for the medal have been forwarded, so we expect to hear from you soon.

Out of the blue comes a letter from Charlie Waller of Crowdy Heads sending in a change of address. Says he intends building a home at Harrington at a later date. He gives the Committee of the Association a good wrap-up for the job being done



LEGACY

169 ELIZABETH STREET, SYDNEY, N.S.W. 2000 • 267 9155 • 267 9243

A VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION OF EX-SERVICEMEN CARING FOR THE WIDOWS AND CHILDREN OF COMRADES KILLED IN ACTION, OR WHO HAVE SUBSEQUENTLY DIED.

April, 1984

Dear Sir,

Anzac Day is the one day of the year set aside to remember those who served with us and have fallen, however, for many of us, those memories of comradeship come to mind far more often.

Legacy remembers our deceased returned ex-servicemen and their widows and children every day of the year.

Legacy was established in Hobart in 1923, originally to assist World War I veterans re-establish their lives, but it soon came to light that the real need lay with the wives and children of those who did not return. So for the past sixty years Legacy has offered medical, dental, educational, social, financial, welfare and housing assistance to the dependants of deceased returned ex-servicemen who served Australia overseas in Vietnam, Malaysia, Korea, World Wars I and II and the Boer War and have died through any cause whatsoever. In short, Legacy is an obligation and commitment which ensures a returned ex-serviceman's wife and children's well-being in the event of his death.

Currently Sydney Legacy alone cares for 20,889 widows and 1,945 children; with a nationwide figure of over 104,000 dependants and the number of widows in our care increases every day. The job will last well into the 21st century - to do its work effectively and to combat the effects of inflation, Legacy needs more than two million dollars this year.

By making a modest donation to Legacy's special Anzac Appeal, your acknowledgement of this memorable day and old comrades can be recognised in a very practical way; you will be helping us greatly to look after their dependants.

Yours sincerely,
SYDNEY LEGACY APPEALS FUND

Michael Moxey

Michael Moxey
DIRECTOR OF APPEALS

.....
LEGACY ANZAC APPEAL

Assoc. _____

Enclosed is a cheque for \$.....

Please charge \$ to my Bankcard Account No.....

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

POSTCODE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

PLEASE RETURN TO: SYDNEY LEGACY APPEALS FUND,
169 ELIZABETH STREET,
SYDNEY. N.S.W. 2000

Mail Bag (cont)

and goes on to say he hopes to see us all on Anzac Day. Thanks Charlie for your words of commendation.

We received from Past President Bill MacLennan ^{a letter} expressing his thanks to the Association for their letter of congratulations on the occasion of his recent award of the Medal in the Order of Australia.

Artie White of Orange wrote expressing his appreciation of the Association by sending along a cheque that will keep our Treasurer smiling all the way to the bank. Thank you Artie, we do appreciate your gesture very much. We wish you and yours good health and happiness.

Charlie Evans of Lidcombe another member of the clan who express their appreciation in a silent way and don't say much about it. Last time I saw Charlie, he was having one hell of a time with his hands and arms, hope things have improved since. Hope we will be seeing you on Anzac Day, Charlie.

Ken Richardson of Budgewoi sent a very short and sweet note, plus something for the Treasurer. Ken wishes to be remembered to one and all and says keep up the good work.

Norm Rogers of Narrandera, another of the silent ones, out to keep the Treasurer smiling. Thank you for your message of goodwill to all, I am sure the Committee reciprocates and trusts that you too, are fit and well. Thanks a lot Norm.

Des Loydell of Bathurst wrote in saying that he was looking forward to the forthcoming re-union, that he had been busy trying to talk to Billy Yeo and Ernie Dawes into accompanying him in the car for the trip to Gosford, unfortunately they cannot go. So now he is going to work on Jack Keane. Des joined the Association after having a good time at Orange Re-union. The information you seek should be with you by the time you are reading this.

George "King" Cole of Wallerawang, sent a note with his subs saying he hoped to see it for Anzac Day, sends his kind regards to all.

Our last letter comes from the pen of George Stack of Eastwood. George has not been enjoying good health of late and has spent some time in Concord. However he is now well again, hence this letter. The letter is to say "Thank you" to our Hospital Welfare Team. George says he was a member of this team for quite some time however he never quite realized the true value of the work done by them until he himself became a recipient of the pleasure and comfort this team of workers bring to hospitalised members. Thank you George, will pass on your message.

ANZAC DAY 1984.

Details of the scheduled activities of the Association appear earlier in this issue. However this paragraph is devoted to a call for attendance to those members who because of their prolonged absence have slipped into the "Long time - no see" category. For example, Russ McWilliam of Darwin (or allpoints North), Vince Quinn of Wodonga, Frank Sadler of Dubbo, Bernie O'Mara of Forbes (how about honouring that promise to attend at least one Anzac Day made at Kempsey, Bernie?) Chic Sleeman of Nelson's Bay, Pat Lahey of ? , Jim Donnelly of ? , Brian Hill of Blayney. Where are you, fellas?

The Committee feels that every member of the Association should make that little extra effort to attend this year as this year is a significant milestone in the ongoing saga of the Battalion and Association it being the fortyfifth year of our existence.

Irrelevant News Item. Your typesetter is in trouble this issue he being approx. 350 miles from the source of all additional copy and wisdom, namely our Editor. This issue is being typed in beautiful downtown Repton on the North Coast of New South Wales. Your typist has just returned from a fishing trip where the size of the catch reached almost unbelievable proportions, therefore details will not be supplied.

Stop Press. (Over to you, Laurie).

Further to Harry's Welfare report, I must advise readers that certain information has reached us concerning Jack Hinnet, Not pleasant reading by any means.

It appears that whilst Jack was waiting to get word to go to the R.G.H. Greenslopes, he was attacked and assaulted. He suffered a Stabbing in the back, his face was bashed with a brick or something similar, left to die more or less. From what I can learn he was lucky he didn't. A youth aged sixteen has been arrested and charged, for this unprovoked and cowardly attack, on a very sick man. Makes you wonder sometimes just where this country's heading.

Relevant to the Gosford RE Union, Anyone who wishes to contact our man on the spot, Jack Partridge - His phone number is as follows -

(043)677614.

THIS SPACE FOR:-

Sale?
Hire?
Anything!

WE WANT YOUR COPY! WE CAN'T TELLYOU WHAT IS HAPPENING UNLESS YOU TELL US FIRST!

To those members who have poetic minds and like to read verse to ease away the daily cares and woes, here is a couple of verses that have been submitted by our Poet Laureate, if I don't print them he will be on my back next meeting.

GOSFORD REVISITED.

Who of you can stand on this hill
And look down on Gosford without feeling a thrill;
Without seeing the beauty, the rhythm and beat
Of glorious countryside, sweeping down from your feet.
Below us the winding, imperturbable creek-
Natures beautiful hand everywhere- if you seek.
With eyes that see, and heart bred of this soil.
Refresh your soul, partake of this foil
To life's many problems and manifest ills-
You live anew, looking down from these hills.

Who will stand by the lapping shore
Of Brisbane Water and they need no more
Than water and hills, cloud, sunshine and rain;
Than willow and wattle, gum, farmland terrain;
Than charming townships and homely farms,
Peopled by friends who dwell midst these charms.
Feel you not the blood which flows in your veins,
That tells you you're home-and count it a gain
To stand in the rain and southerly wind
And sense that you're blessed; forget you e'er sinned.

Richard J. Morris.

All care taken but no responsibility accepted for the presentation of the above and how you will feel after reading it. (Editor L.W.)

We are enclosing a personal letter to all our members who receive W.O.G. This letter is from Legacy, It is an appeal to the members generosity towards Legacy. If you decide to send a donation, we ask you to mention the 2/4 Inf Bn Ass.

P.S. Don't forget to book early for the Gosford Re-union - see page 2 for details.

Seeing that Australia Post has increased the postage rate on all bulk mail (newspapers etc) under which 'White Over Green' is posted. We are checking to see that we do not post any to people who are no longer with us. To give you an example, on Monday 2nd April, Don Baxter's Widow rang to ask me to stop sending the W.O.G. to her as Don had been dead for nearly two years. So please if you hear of a similar case, will you kindly inform me. You will keep our twinkle fingers typist, come treasurer, come fisherman happy. Editor L.W.

FINAL EXTRA.

President Alf Carpenter would like to see a very good roll up for the Wreath laying and for the march. Don't forget medals and Bn ties to be worn.