



White Wood Green

MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE 2/4 INFANTRY BATTALION ASSOCIATION

PATRON: Major General Sir Ivan Dougherty, C.B.E., D.S.O. & Bar, E.D., B.Ec., LL.D (Hon.)
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President:	Alf Carpenter 66 Chatham Rd, Georgetown 2298	Ph. 049-671969
Vice-Presidents:		
Senior	Allen Lindsay 21a Mirral Rd, Caringbah 2229	02-5241937
Queensland	Laurie McCosker 60 Hillsdon Rd, Taringa 4068	07-3701395
Far Nth Coast	Allan Kirk 179 Dibbs St, Lismore 2480	066-214464
Northern NSW	Esca Riordan 111 Kemp St, Kempsey 2440	065-624671
Newcastle	George Mitchell 6 Verli Place Waratah 2298	049-672182
Southern NSW	Artie Kleem 3 Karabah Ave, Young 2594	063-822461
Victoria	Claude Raymond 92 Rose St, West Coburg 3058	03-3541145
Sth Australia	Peter Denver 15 Admiral Terrace Goolwa 5214	085-552252
West Australia	Doug Slinger 55 Hotham St Bayswater 6053	09-2717027
Committee:	Cec Chrystal, Ferd Pegg, Ken Kesteven MC, John Hawkins, Ted Fox, Harry Wright, Norm Auberson, George Stack.	
cretary:	Fred Staggs 13 Seven Hills Rd, Seven Hills 2147	02-6711765
asst. Secy:	John Meehan 5/23 Dine St, Randwick 2031	02-3999606
Treasurer:	Allen Lindsay 21a Mirral Rd, Caringbah 2229	02-5241937
Editor:	Laurie Waterhouse 34 Milford Rd, Miranda 2228	02-5242114
Welfare Officer	Harry Wright 3 Boundary Rd, Carlingford 2118	02-8715312
Pension Officer	John Hawkins 21 maloney St, Blacktown 2148	02-6220531
Liaison Officer	to the Gallipoli Memorial Club : Athol Heath	02-4514466

NEXT MEETING: Will be held on Tuesday, 22nd October, 1985 at the Gallipoli Memorial Club, 12 Loftus St, Sydney. The Committee Meeting will be held at 1130 hrs followed by the General Meeting at 1430hrs. Lunch will be available in the Dining Room from 1200 to 1400hrs.

SEPTEMBER MONTHLY MEETING.

With President Alf Carpenter in the chair, the meeting opened with a minute's silence for fallen and departed comrades. Apologies were received from Laurie Waterhouse, Frank Ivey, Alex Maxwell, Ferd Pegg, K 'Dasher' Deacon, Ken Kesteven, Dick Pinson, Ken Richardson, Dick Morris, George Mitchell, Cec Chrystal, Sir Ivan Dougherty and Rex Everson.

the general business of the meeting President Alf gave a run-down on the latest Sitrep from Dagwood Jackson regarding the Re-union in Wagga. There is no doubt about it, Dagwood and the local committee have completed all their staff work even down to press, and other media, releases. With the Editor absent from the meeting due to a lengthy session with Repat. news gathering was in the hands of Harry Wright and Peter Cade. The writing of this report is in the hands of the latter or which this scrappy presentation is proof in that the Treasurer's Report should have preceded this paragraph. Ho-Hum! Anyway Allen itemised the financial situation of the Association of almost \$13300. Pensions Officer, John Hawkins reported that he has several claims being processed and is preparing others. In the present financial fiddle-diddle regarding Veterans Affairs it is advised that any members who have matters in the pipe-line with Repat, or think they have claims, to get in touch with Johnny Hawkins before it is too late. John's address and phone number are above. President Alf showed the new Association Plaque for the benefit of those who had not already seen it. It is a very professional job, designed and made by Jim Forman. Jim is getting into production and they will soon be available to members at \$25 plus postage, if required. This is a pretty good price compared to so many other wall plaques that can be seen around with that mass production look about them. In Committee Athol Heath was requested to liaise with the Gallipoli Memorial Club (meaning Harry Gjedsted) regarding a suitable date for our Christmas Get-together. All was arranged and he reported to the General meeting that the date was Tuesday, 3rd December starting from 2.30pm. However he did state that the cher would like to know the approximate number that would be in for lunch prior to the get-together. Also, the President added, that for those who have them, name plates should be worn. This in turn prefaced the fact that John Meehan has in hand the procurement of more name plate blanks to equip those who do not have one. The President reported that the 6th Division Association were contemplating a

Re-union for February, 1986. Some eyebrows were raised at the shortness of time for preparation for such an event. Doubtless we will hear more anon.

Attending the meeting were: Alf Carpenter, Fred Staggs, Allen Lindsay, John Meehan, Ted Fox, George Stack, Athol Heath, 'Biscuits' Arnott, Gordon Chrisp, N Nicholson, N Campbell, Curley Gorman, Jim Forman, Norm Auberson, Dave Follington, Slim Powers, Ron Barber, Slim Venn, Lionel Clarke, Sid Buckley, Vic Forbes, John Ringrose, Jim Graham, A Phillips, Mick O'Regan, Bob Fergusson, John Hawkins, Pat Bruty, Harry Gjedsted, Les Jones (who got a "Welcome Stranger" from the Prezzo) Barney Turley, Nap Alavoine, Harry Wright and Peter Cade.

Of course there was the usual ear-bash after the meeting closed.

TED JACKSON. Subsequent to the meeting Bill Parry rang through to inform that Ted Jackson has been elected President of the Warringah Shire Council. Ted served the Council for many years as well as the Dee Why R.S.L. Sub-Branch and Club of which he is President and a Life Member. How he finds time to look after the garden is anyone's guess. Perhaps now the problem may be solved by the Council gardeners! Anyhow! Congratulations, Ted.

LISMORE CHRISTMAS GET-TOGETHER.

The word from Allan Kirk is that the above function is definitely ON. The venue, as usual:- the East Lismore Bowling Club. The time:- Saturday, 30th November Commencing at 6.30pm. Allan Says the chrg for the function will be no more than \$15 per head depending on the catering arrangements and will cover all items including drinks. This is THE social event of the year for the Far North Coast contingent so any 2/4th within 200 kilometers would be mad to miss this do. The fame of this event has so spread that Allan is expecting attendees from as far afield as Sydney, as well as our popular President, Alf Carpenter from Newcastle. Those intending to attend please contact Allan Kirk whose address and phone number appears on the front page of this issue, as soon as possible to enable him to organise catering e
SEE YOU IN LISMORE!

THE MAIL BAG.

Over the past three months the Association, through the Secretary, Treasurer and Editor, has received many letters from members dealing with matters such as applications for medals, purchase of ties and T shirts, subs and donations, plus information and requests pertaining to Association business. It is our policy to acknowledge these letters through the columns of this newsletter when possible. There has been instances of one or two queries about subs not being acknowledged promptly, members can rest assured our Treasurer is to the fore when space is available, in endeavouring to have an up to date list of all subs and donations received published. This has not been possible over the last three months, no issue in July and prior to that emphasis on the Wagga Re-union as well as in the August issue. However a list of subs and donations received during the period May to August was published in the September issue.

We now endeavour to answer most of the letters received in that period.

First of all a letter from Bruce Cork in July with a spot of news, quoting, " No matter where you go, you will find the comradeship and unity of the 2/4th Asso vation. Quite often nowadays it is our sons and daughters. Yesterday (29th July) Wally Honey's lovely sister, Eileen Brown, paired with Bruce Cork to win the Gold Coast Veterans mixed doubles, the Prestige tennis event of the year - The Gold Coast Annual Tennis Tournament, 1985." Bruce went on to say that he had known Eileen a long time before finding out that she was Wal's young sister. Thanks Bruce.

Mrs Dave Crossthwaite of Murwillumbah wrote in to say that the article that appeared in Jan 85 issue dealing with the "old Grand Piano" at the War Vets Home, Narrabeen brought back nostalgic memories to her mother, now 92 years old, and really made her day. Also notified us of the death of Bill Darrough, NX46765, his funeral being attended by her husband Chub and Bernie Shoebridge.

Allan Tobiason of Cooparoo Q. sent a cheque to the Welfare account asking that it be Channelled towards the work that the Welfare committee is doing. The Treasurer acknowledges receipt of this \$50 and has banked it direct into the Welfare account. Allan said he would contact Vera Provians in the near future. On behalf of the Welfare Team, our sincere thanks, Allan.

Cec Loughran of Salamander Bay sent in his subs, also notifying us that he is now a TPI pensioner and cannot walk.

Mrs Billie Conkey of Cootamundra sent the Association a letter of thanks, for our expressions of sympathy received when her late husband, Harold Conkey passed away several months ago.

Ken (Kit) Carson of Gibson W.A. sent in a letter plus a photostat of an article that appeared in the "Adelaide Advertiser" April 1985, dealing with his escape, along with eleven other Australians, during the Greek Campaign. Apparently a film is being made in Yugo-Slavia emphasising the part played by the Partisans. It will be, or was, shown on the Ethnic T.V. Mention of this particular incident or series of incidents is mentioned on page 191 in the Battalion War History. Thank you, Kit, for the article which we hope to use when space permits.

Newton Howard of Southport, Q. again writing in to request the address of John Analzark, with the view of corresponding. Can anyone help? Please write to us.



NX5833
NX31233
NX47094
NX68281

LAST

Ford
Healy
Hayes
Morris

POST

K.W.
S.
W. (Bully)
R.J. (Dick)



20 y 85.

WELFARE REPORT. (as at 23rd September, 1985)

Visited at Concord:

NX5162 Dawson, Tom. Ward 19. Treatment for ulcer on knee.
NX89809 Morgan S.L. Was in Don Coy. and lives at Yagoone. Discharged.
NX42700 Barnett, Aubrey. Ward 4. A Coy. Treatment for throat condition. Discharged.
NX71669 Bell George. Ward 410. Heart problem and now discharged.
NX79846 McArthur, Jack. Ward 520. Joined Tpt. Pltn. on Tablelands. Eye problem, now discharged.
NX4023 Sibilant, James. Ward 8. Respiratory problem. To have operation on lung.
NX5294 Roberts, Henry. Ward 12. Leg problem. Has ulcers on knees.
NX4048 Hyem, Ray(Mick). Ward 19. Extensive dermatitis on feet.
NX5850 Sadler, Jim. Ward 17. Having tests after slight heart attack. A subsequent message from Belle Sadler informs us that Jim had an alarming coronary on Tuesday 24th, the day of the meeting and at the time of the writing of this report is reported to be in a serious but stable condition in the intensive care ward.

World War 1 - 4 Bn.

38 Mullholland, Fitzgerald. Ward 630. Gallipoli Veteran. Skin cancer on the face.

A letter was received from Margaret Bennett, daughter of Donald Thornberry NX136475 informing that Donald was seriously ill, had a lengthy time in hospital and is now home recuperating. Roy Palmer visited and Don would appreciate a visit or a message from other members, particularly those in the Orange area. Thanks, Roy.
Don's address is 25 Kokoda St., Orange. 2800.

Dick Morris The shock news of Dick's death from a heart attack reached us as this issue was being typed. No further details are available at this time. The Editor will insert a 'Stop Press' at the end of page 4.

OBITUARY.

NX47094 W.G. (Bully) Hayes.

Bill (Bully) Hayes passed away 17th September after weeks of pain and suffering. His funeral service was held on the 21st at Broadmeadow and then at the Crematorium Beresfield. His popularity was evident by the large attendance of Ex-servicemen, members of the Association, relatives and friends.

The R.S.L. service was conducted jointly by President Alf Carpenter and the President of the Hamilton Sub-Branch. Association members attending from Newcastle were Alf Carpenter, George and Heather Mitchell, Joe and Gwen Bohle, Cliff and Aileen Curran, Dick Morris, John and Margaret Rae, Doug and Diedre Milne, Pat Bruty, Alec Dick, Jack and Mary Partridge, Yvonne Pearse, Mona Sherritt, Topsy Burgess and Doreen Manuel. Members from other areas were, John Hawkins, Ken and Fi Kesteven, "Biscuits" Arnott and Ricky Richardson. Members of the Hamilton R.S.L. Sub-Branch combined with the 2/4th members making a total of approximately 50 who paid their last respects by placing the traditional poppy on the casket. Bill is survived by his daughter Alicia and grandson Ricky and his brothers and sisters to whom we extend our deepest sympathy.
George Mitchell.

MAILBAG (continued).

Charlie Waller of Harrington wrote in to let us know that he was in receipt of two copies of White over Green and was a little perplexed. Don't worry, Charlie, it has all been fixed up and you should have no further trouble. The gremlins get in sometimes and funny things happen - don't mean the ones in the 'Cans', Charlie!

Dick (Pop) Williams writing to say that he was a starter in the 'Marriage Stakes' having been married 53 years. Love works in many strange ways - Hope you enjoy many more years of married bliss, Pop. Thanks for the letter.

Pat Bruty of Birmingham Gardens replied to John Kingrose's request for back copies and forwarded a June 1962 copy to me for John. Thanks, Pat!

Eileen Lynch wrote to President Alf, thanking him and the Association for the expression of sympathy sent to her from the Association members. She also said that she wanted to remain within touch of the Association and wanted to continue to receive 'White over Green'.

Mrs Dorothy Cullen of Riverton, S.A. wrote in to let us know that her husband is now blind in both eyes (Retina Detachment) so cannot read or write and that she will have to be his eyes from now on. I'm sure Peter Denver and some of the boys from

down there will be only too pleased to help out in time of need, should it arise. Jack came in this year as a member of the Association.

WEST AUSTRALIAN NEWS.

There is never a week goes by without some news from the West. Our scribe over there must find time is a plentiful commodity judging by the continuous flow of letters from his pen. There has been three letters in the last three weeks. It appears September is the quarterly meeting time and Doug Slinger and wife Wilma, along with ten others made it to the Anzac Club for the social gathering. They hadn't got to the second glass of the day when who should walk in to break the peaceful solitude of the club - none other than Phil (Blah) Smith. (Now you know where he is, Dagwood!) He had driven over from N.S.W. in his car and must have been feeling very dry. Anyway it was handshakes all round and an extra glass for the barman to fill and then it was on for the day. The yarns fell thick and fast, Phil entertaining all and sundry in his usual style. I believe Dasher had to call for time out due to a fit of hysterics. Of course we ^{know} that Blah would have had a good time and will be very reluctant to leave when the time comes for his return. Doug mentioned that they have another 2/4th member now attending their meetings, Cec Smith who lives over in Fremantle. As a rule they did not see much of Cec due to transport problems but he is now making the effort to attend more regularly and informs Doug when he can't. The ladies, never to be outdone, provided the food, which never appears to distract the drinking, but seems to disappear, nevertheless, which shows the popularity of their catering. I think the same ladies are going to undertake the catering for the Picnic Luncheon to be held in Kings Park for the coach tourists next March. If so then it will be a very good outing. Doug mentioned having received greetings from Bob Griffiths of Mildura, Vic. also went on to say that John and Pam Storey are over in New Zealand enjoying a long awaited retirement holiday. He also mentioned that Fred Stanwell and Wally Evans are gearing up for the Mid-Week Bowls Pennants which commenced in Perth during September. Believe they are trying to 'trap' Stan Day in the game, but Stan says he is going to wait until he gets a 'bit older' before he gets as enthusiastic as Fred and Wally. Doug has even suggested that he might come in as a late starter. No doubt about this West Aussie bunch, they are great socializers. Another one of the Perth group who will be retiring this coming Christmas will be Jack Ward. Many of our Eastern States members will have met up with Doug Slinger at the Gosford Re-Union and are looking forward to seeing him again at Wagga. The Perth members who attended the quarterly get-together were:- Cec Smith, Ross Elliott, Dasher and Lily Deacon, Stan and June Day, Don and Mae Guthrie, Edna Ding, Doug and Wilma Slinger and their Sydney guest, Blah Smith. Thank you Doug for the letters and the up to date action of all concerned. We wish you and your fellow members good health and our best wishes.

SEPTEMBER EDITORIAL.

Further to the Editorial that appeared in September issue of 'White over Green' a "slip-in" letter is being put in this month's issue. If you remember we asked that each member write to his Federal member of Parliament. Well this letter is for you to use. You may use it as it is, you may copy it or use a condensed version. It is enclosed with this issue for your convenience should you wish to add your personal protest regarding the matters discussed in the September Editorial. EDITOR.

EULOGY

The death of DICK MORRIS on Saturday 28th September, 1985 was indeed a blow to the Association. His passing will be a loss to all who knew him as a friend and a worker for the 2/4th Aust. Inf. Battalion Association. Dick was one of our very active workers, he gave of his time, his energy and his expertise in the printing and graphic art field. He served the Association on the executive and on committees and sub-committees. His outstanding work was of course the Art work for the War History 'White Over Green'. He was also editor of the monthly newsletter for three or four years. His expertise in the art field is to be seen in our Battalion Tie, in the Battalion plaque and in recent years the Battalion blazer pocket badge as he was instrumental in their design. His wife predeceased him some fifteen years ago and about eight or nine years ago he suffered a mild stroke, after which he had to drop all activities. Dick left his mark on the Association and will always be remembered for his devotion and dedication to the ideals of the 2/4th Aust Inf. Battalion Association. To his family and relatives we send the deepest sympathy and condolences. Farewell to a good soldier, comrade and member.

'Lest We Forget'

Editor.

Forty Years Ago

September 30 1945. How many of us remember those hectic days, the grandiose plans we had in our minds for when we were discharged. The X-rays, the medical boards, the arguing with pay Sgts and leave clerks over entitlements to finally the acceptance of the discharge certificate. How many of us could see in the future what lay ahead, months of instability of not being able to settle down, like starting life all over again. Now here we are, those of us who are left, thinking I was one of the lucky ones. Was it all worth while, what our men think.