



# 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.)  
39th Year of continuous publication

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### NEXT MEETING.

The next regular monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, 28th MAY, 1985. at the Gallipoli Memorial Club, 12 Loftus St, Sydney. The Committee meets at 1130 hrs followed by the General Meeting at 1430 hrs. Lunch is available in the Dining Room 1200-1400 hrs.

### ANZAC DAY 1985.

As the dawn of this 1985 Anzac Day appeared, it did not look too promising and our thoughts centred on whether it would be wet or would the good Lord above look after us. As it turned out, He did more. He smiled upon those participating in the wreath-laying ceremony at the Cenotaph during the early morning and later, during the main march through the city. Anzac Day this year had a deal of significance to those members who served in Greece and Crete. Fortyfour years ago Anzac Day saw the commencement of the evacuation of Greece by Australian soldiers to the Island of Crete. Our members of the 2/4th Australian Infantry Battalion Association will always remember, as long as they live, the many that were killed and those who were made Prisoners of War. So to those two sentences which are so indelibly ingrained on our hearts and minds:-

"WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

----- LEST WE FORGET!"

Editor.

### Wreath-laying Ceremony 1985.

Some twenty-seven members, plus some of the ladies, turned out to attend the 41st year of the wreath-laying ceremony of the Association. The march was led, as usual, by that particular group of men, who have become such an integral part of our Association - the Parramatta Caledonian Pipe Band; resplendent as ever. Sir Ivan Dougherty, our Patron and former Commanding Officer, along with President Alf Carpenter, led the marchers to the Cenotaph, where they laid the wreath, which was in the form of a floral 2/4th Infantry Battalion Colour Patch; in memory of those who fell in battle and those who have departed since the war ended. In front of the Battalion, and in keeping with tradition, the flag of the old 4th Aust. Infantry Battalion, 1914-18, was carried by a young soldier from the Support Company of the 4th Battalion, Royal NSW Regiment. He was accompanied by a member of that great unit - George Ribot, who is well over eighty years of age. To me this ceremony, our very own, is a most solemn one and should be better attended. I know it is most difficult for us to make the effort as we are not getting any younger, however I think that we who live in the Metropolitan Area should show an example. When you see Sir Ivan and members from as far afield as Lismore, Young, Wagga, etc, attending it makes you wonder if we are becoming a little apathetic.



### The Main March Anzac Day 1985.

After a lengthy wait and many an anxious moment, weatherwise, our unit moved off to the stirring music of the Pipes and Drums of the Parramatta Caledonian Pipe Band. One hundred and six members reported on parade, which was a very satisfactory attendance considering the uncertain state of the weather. Our Banner Party, which consisted of 8 troops from Support Company 4RNSWR, turned out in true Parade Ground manner. These young soldiers of the Citizen Forces must be complimented on their dress, bearing and especially their marching. Shades of you and I yesteryear.

We were led by President Alf Carpenter, flanked by Senior Vice-President Allen Lindsay and Past President Ted Fox. Marshal for the wreath-laying ceremony and the main march was John Hawkins. As the 2/4th moved down George Street past Lowes' and opposite the Queen Victoria Building, President Alf gave the command "Eyes Left!" thus saluting that fine body of women folk who belong to the members of the Association, the wives, the relatives, the widows of departed members, and these days, the daughters and lady friends of the sons. To give members a true picture of the march, I quote a stranger to the Association, but a friend of my wife:- "The 2/4th Battalion marched with an erect and straight bearing, especially those in the forefront. Looking tall and broad of shoulder, heads held high, knowing that they had served their country well."

Editor.

### The Dinner at the Gallipoli Memorial Club.

The Annual dinner was held, as usual, at the above-mentioned Club and attended by 125 members and our guests. The guest-list included Major-General Gordon Maitland, Lt-Col. Graham Fleaton CO of 4RNSWR and the Colour Party (mentioned above). There was quite a sprinkling of country members, coming from Lismore, Wagga, Temora, Young, Nowra, Blue Mountains, Central Coast and Newcastle Districts. From interstate we had Jack Lyons and Doug Christian of Victoria, Bruce Cork of Queensland and Graham Woodward all the way from England. Apologies were received from John Copland, Allan Kirk, Les Adams, Arthur Webb, Morrie Porter, Len Smith, Noel Ford, John Hyles, Roy Findlay, 'Bully' Hayes, Gordon Chrisp and Frank Gattenhoff. If I have missed any names I apologize, it was not intentional. President Alf formally opened the April meeting and called on Secretary Fred Staggs to read the Names appearing in our 'Last Post' column during the last twelve months. Two minutes silence was then observed after which John Meehan recited 'The Ode.' Secretary Fred Staggs, seconded by John Ringrose, proposed that the April meeting be closed. Carried. After the proposition of the Loyal Toast President Alf welcomed our guests, visitors and "long time - no see" members. Senior Vice-President Allen Lindsay proposed the toast to our guests, using as his theme in his speech the influence of the citizen-soldier, who has been the backbone of the Army, in general, and of our battalion, from past to present, in particular. Major-General Gordon Maitland responded, his interesting speech being received with acclamation. Lt.-Col. Graham Fleaton then proposed the toast to the Battalion to which President Alf suitably responded. At this stage Sir Ivan made his entry to the dinner and after taking some well-deserved nourishment made the presentation of Honorary Life Membership of the Association to 'Dagwood' Jackson, who, though a little overcome at first, managed to complete his response in true 'Dagwood' fashion. Senior Vice-President Allen then presented Sir Ivan with a copy of the battalion war history- "White over Green" to be presented, in turn, by Sir Ivan to the appropriate authorities in Israel during his forthcoming visit to that country. Sir Ivan is visiting Israel, Greece, Crete and Turkey at the request and as representative of, the RSL during the Israeli celebrations of the defeat of Nazi Germany. forty years ago. At the conclusion of this presentation President Alf thanked Secretary-Manager Harry Gjedsted and all the members of the staff of the Gallipoli Memorial Club for the use of the club during the year and for the cheerful and courteous attention our members always received from them. President Alf then declared the formalities completed and the members got down to the real business of the day, convivial comradeship and "remember whens". The ladies joined us later in the afternoon and the reunion was still in full swing when your Editor departed at approx 1730 hours.

### Ladies Anzac Day Luncheon.

The ladies, after giving their added morale and encouragement to the marchers, retired to the "Camelia" Restaurant for lunch and drinks and, no doubt, much 'natter', before they headed for the Gallipoli Club to join in "one for the road." (One?) This has become a regular outing for the girls, who seem to enjoy it more every year. Therefore let us hope they continue to keep it up for years to come. Those who attended the luncheon were:- Margaret Rae, Mary Partridge, Heather Mitchell, Jane Osbourne, Fiona Osbourne, Deirdre Milne, Enid Latimer, Doreen Manuel, Molly Irvine, Vera Walsh, Joan Hart, Gwen MacLennan(continued on page 3)



### Unfinancial Members.

The Treasurer reports that we have 529 subscribing members on our books, the break-up being:- Sydney Metropolitan Area 200; NSW Country 233; Interstate 92; and Overseas 4.

Sad to say 99 members are unfinancial, in that they are dragging the chain to the extent that they have not paid either their 1984 or 1985 subscriptions. If there is a red cross in this box



then you are one of them.

Please remit \$12 and all will be well (until 1986); or why not follow the example of many of our members and remit \$50 thereby entitling you to Paid-up Life Membership and relieving you of any future subscription worries.

(Don't be one of the few that the many carry!)

### Ladies Anzac Day Luncheon (cont).

Heather Fox, Molly Johnstone, Del Silver, Doreen Grant, Edith Turton, Joy Waterhouse, Olga Everson, Noni Bowman, Dawn Ivey, Sally Follington, Olene Follington, Angela Cork, Una Denyer, Beryl Poplin, Enid Jackson, Hilda Wright, Fi Kesteven, Betty Watts and Meagan Winsome. From what I heard, I believe the ladies had a great time. Thank you for your support, Ladies!

### Anzac Day Snippets.

Seen at the Dinner, Harold Silver, our auditor, with a couple of his Korea War mates. Harold had just returned from Hong Kong. Apparently he took our advice in last month's WOG to heart and got on the track of our "Travelling Treasurer". However Allen cunningly dodged him by heading for Western Australia on his return from Hong Kong and holing up with Dasher Deacon (see elsewhere this issue)

ed Staggs received a letter on Friday, 26th April from Peter Denver, our Vice President for South Australia. It should have been delivered earlier, but everyone knows that Australia Post operates at its own speed. His letter contained the message that Peter and Pat send their best wishes to the President and members for 1985 Anzac Day. A small group of the boys over there will be marching under the new banner and afterwards will assemble at the Duke of York Hotel for refreshments during which they will drink the same toast as we who are over here will drink. To our fallen comrades and to the Battalion, then afterwards enjoy the comradeship that the 2/4th Battalion fostered so well.

Seen in a huddle at the Dinner that 'dit happy' mob, the Signal Platoon, or a goodly portion thereof, namely; Brian Waring, Mac Wilson, Charlie Grandquist, John Meehan, Bruce Cork, Bill MacLennan, Allen Lindsay, Les Jones, Gary Hart and Bob Fergusson (ex-officio). They were celebrating the first appearance of Mac Wilson on Anzac Day for 15 years. Don't leave it so long next time, mac!

### Greek and Cretan Commemoration Week.

The President and Committee would like to see a good roll up on Saturday 18th May to the wreath-laying ceremony. Assemble at the corner of O'Connell and Hunter Sts, for a brief march to the Cenotaph. Medals to be worn. Also, on Sunday 19th May a Memorial Service at the Garrison Church, Millers Point. It is requested that those members attending be there before 11am. This service is being televised by the A.B.C. Channel 2. Medals and Battalion Ties to be worn. If you attended the Anzac Day Dinner you should have a programme for these functions as they were on the tables for each attendee.

### Association of 4th Infantry Battalions - Annual Church Parade.

The Church Parade this year will be held on Sunday 23rd June at 1500hrs, as usual at St. Anne's Church, Homebush, Strathfield. Form-up at 1430hrs in the park at Beresford Rd., West. Association ties, medals and decorations to be worn. After the service it is expected that the usual afternoon tea will be served in the adjoining Church Hall. The President particularly requests your attendance at this function.

### S.V.P. visits Western Australia.

During a recent visit Allen Lindsay attended at get together of 2/4th members organised by West Aust. v.P. Doug Slinger at the Double View Bowling Club (appropriately named after 2 or 3 hours on that Emu beer). Those who attended were Doug and Wilma Slinger, Jack and Kit Ward, Dasher and Lily Deacon, Wal and Thelma Evans, Don and Rayema Guthrie, John and Pam Storey, Stan and June Day, Allen and Gloria Lindsay and Fred Stanwell. Fred had to leave early as his wife was ill and unable to attend, we hope she is feeling better now, Fred. The boys from the West sent some messages as follows: Fred Stanwell wishes to be remembered to Bill MacLennan and the Mortar Mob. Jack Ward (A Coy Runner - Wewak) wishes to be remembered to Blah and all the A coy boys. Dasher wishes to be remembered to everyone and in particular, Peter Cook and wants to know when are you (Peter) going to pay back the quid he lent you in Tel-Aviv (at least he thinks it was you he lent it to), Stan Day C Coy wishes to be remembered to



S.V.P. Visits W.A. (cont)

Norm Auberson, John Storey and Don('Bluey')Guthrie both ex Sigs wish to be remembered to all the Sigs and John Storey also to Mick Grey and Bookie Rae (There is a very interesting story (sic) behind the Bookie Rae cheerio but the Official Secrets Act prohibit its publication.)

Allen and Gloria Lindsay wish to thank all the West. Aust. members for the trouble they took to make their stay an enjoyable one, particularly Wilma and Doug Slinger and Lily and Dasher Deacon. Many thanks for the enjoyable luncheon and visit. (Dasher will publish the results of the Snooker game - East v. West)

Latest Despatch from Dasher.

I have the sad task of informing you that the Ex-Privates Association is now FINITO in the West. All the ex-privates have joined the America's Cup Defence Crew. I was the only one not accepted, I failed the difficult entrance examination. I did pass the easy swimming test. We swam from Fremantle to Rottnest Is. and back, only stopping in Rotto to visit the P...O'Phone. I could not answer the difficult questions for the crew. Where is the location of the Bridge? I did not know if it was upstairs or downstairs. Where is the location of the Stern? Was not sure if you faced the back of the ship your backside would be stern. Alf Carpenter and Blah Smith would have passed the difficult questions alright but not the easy swimming test. Talking of swimming I get seasick in an aeroplane so will swim over for the next Reunion at Wagga. I want to join the ex-officers' Committee and speaking of ex-officers, have booked them into the Old Fremantle Gaol when they come over next year. There was a Snooker game here recently. East ( Allen Lindsay) v. West (me) We played under local rules round table, square balls and visitors use the thick end of the cue. I won by 148 points and at \$6 per point was able to pay my subs up to the year 2133.

From: Dasher WX21Y Ex NX24 President of SOS (Sandgroppers Oddfellows Soc. cy

West Australian News.

It had to happen, our new Vice-President for the West excelled himself in his capacity as correspondent. What a letter! Three foolscap pages of the activities they entered into on the occasion of Allen & Gloria Lindsay's visit to Perth to attend a relative's wedding. The 2/4th members really turned out in force to give them a hearty welcome. Stan Day, Wally Evans and Fred Stanwell, being members of the Double View Bowling Club were instrumental in giving Allen & Gloria a very pleasant surprise at the dinner they attended at the club on Saturday night, 13th April. Those who attended were (see S.V.P. visits W.A. page 3). Ross Elliot and Cec Smith phoned their apologies. Doug mentioned how Fred Stanwell, Wally Evans and Stan Day arranged for the Club Manager to announce Allen & Gloria's presence and present them with a bottle of champagne, which everyone present thought was a nice gesture. Apparently it did not take John Storey and Don Guthrie long to ambush Allen to talk over old times with the Sig. Platoon. In the meantime Dasher and Lily entertained them all with a number of complicated gyrations on the dance floor when the music was struck up, which brought much applause from all present in the club. The name badges that Fred Staggs and John Meehan so kindly arranged to send over arrived in time for the get-together and this was greatly appreciated by Doug. On Thursday, 18th April, Dasher & Lily Deacon, Wilma & Doug Slinger and Gloria & Allen Lindsay met for lunch at Anzac House, Perth. Much discussion took place regarding next year's bus tour. No doubt we shall hear all about it when the tourists arrive home. Doug says they are looking forward to Anzac Day and joining in with the 2/11th boys for the march and then afterwards joining them at their festive board.

South Australian News.

How pleasing it was to receive news of what is happening in Denver Country, especially as it came from the pen of none other than our old friend and (tor) mentor of days gone by:- 'Robbie.'

Yes, the dear old boy gave us a good write-up of the happenings at the recent 19th Brigade Association Bar B.Q. Following is Robbie's description which merits publication in its entirety.

"Once again our 19th Bde Ass. of S.A. made a frontal attack on Peter and Pat Denver's home at Goolwa, for a Bar B.Q. The attack was made on Sunday 31st March, by the 2/4, 2/8 and 2/11 Bns. A wild bunch of men. They, their wives, relations and friends sustained a frontal attack on the objective, which was, to have a wonderful get-together and an enjoyable time and really it was. The hospitality of our host and hostess was out of this world. We showed our appreciation in true spirit and boisterous acclaim. Of course we had a court jester, none other than our own Ron Maczkowiack, a very course type of fellow but very likeable. Like always he made our day glow with his merry patter and jokes. As for food, what more can I say than it was exquisite. All had plenty of drinks but not too much. Those personnel of the 2/4th who attended were:- Dr Fred Dibden, Bill Loy, Ron Maczkowiack, Jack Cullen, Betty Rungie and myself. A few of our 2/4th boys were interstate, reducing the numbers. My kind regards to all, Robbie."



LAST \*\*\*\*\* POST

NX2045  
NX5303  
NX42146  
VX135455

Bowman V.H. (Big Budda)  
Simms N.N.  
Cramp W.J.  
O'Keefe P.C.

WELFARE REPORT - APRIL 1985.

Visited at Concord.

NX1998 Barnett G.W. Ward 520. When called on had been discharged that morning.  
NX5165 Rhodes Sam Ward 430. Sam has been in for some weeks with back and leg problems. When last called on, was away in theatre for operation.  
NX13308 Rees Dudley Ward 12. P.O.W. in Greece, was in D Coy. Was to have surgery on hand.  
NX5162 Dawson Tom Ward 19. Ulcer on leg.  
NX2054 Ellicott Donald Ward 110. When called on was in the theatre having exploratory operation.  
NX11903 Callaghan Henry Ward 230. P.O.W. in Greece. B Coy. Has lung problems.

John Hawkins phoned news that Len Smith was a patient in Lady Davidson Hosp. Rang the hospital and spoke to Len. He is having physiotherapy for ligament problems on knee and arthritic hip. He was discharged on 9th April.

Cec Chrystal has been a patient in Hirondeille Private Hospital, Chatswood. Ted Fox visited him. Was discharged 19th April.

Henry Taylor - NX3981 is a patient in Elizabeth Drive Nursing Home, Liverpool.

Fred Varley of Lismore. Allan Kirk phoned to say Fred is very ill, enduring a lot of pain and his condition is very serious.

Jock Cummins of Wagga. Stan Blacksley reports Jock is a very sick man, with prostate problems, awaiting future surgery.

Joe Wells of Wagga. also reported sick, has had surgery, but is on the mend.

John Falla of Canberra. Jack Huston reports John has had hip operation, back to feeling reasonably well.

A late message to hand reports Ted Fox's mother, who is over 90 years of age is in hospital and not expected to rally back to good health.

Bob Lever has reported visiting Ted Barker at the Tregothan Nursing Home, Leura, and says he has been moved into a better room and seems much brighter.

WAGGA COUNTRY RE-UNION. 1985.

How the time flies! We are in the month of May which means that the Wagga Reunion is only just over five months away. Have you made your booking yet? If you have not then I advise you to do so straight away. There is still some good accommodation available within the close precincts of the city, handy to the RSL Club. Accommodation in Wagga at the beginning of October can be very scarce, due to the many sporting fixtures that take place there at that particular time of the year. If you are intending to book, then use the Green form that was enclosed in last month's WOG and send it to:-

Mr. Bob Jackson,  
14 The Boulevard,  
Koorringal,  
via Wagga. 2650 N.S.W.

One thing to remember is that there is an extra day included in this year's re-union activities (Monday 14th Oct) for members (who wish) to take the Coach Trip to Tumut and the Blowering Dam. Talking to Dagwood on Anzac Day re numbers already booked. He informs me that there are approx 140 booked to date. He expects to hear from members who have already indicated that they will attend but have yet to send him their confirmation form and booking fee. In next month's WOG there will be a complete list of those booked in, where they are booked and diagram map of the locations of the Motels, Motel-Hotels and Hotels involved, so that members may get an idea of how far away they will be from the R.S.L. Club and other assembly points.

1986 2/4th Battalion Association Coach Trip.

The coach trip to Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth return will be by Blue Ribbon Coaches, Newcastle in conjunction with the 2/4th Inf. Bn. Assn. committee. Date:- 9th to 31st March, 1986.

Tour will commence on Sunday 9th March, 1986 from Newcastle.

The proposed itinerary with estimated stopping places and times is printed on page 6 of this issue.

Other points of information.

Morning and afternoon tea breaks are at the discretion of the Coach Captain according to time available. These will be at your own expense. It is planned to carry Eskies on board for cool drinks. Sight seeing at appropriate places and overnight stops will be at the Coach Capt.'s discretion in accordance with the time available. Coaches to be available to transport members to official functions as required. All overnight stops will be at Motels or equivalent.



# Coach Tour (cont)

This itinerary has been drawn up to give members who anticipate going on the tour an idea of the route they will travel and the places they will see and stay at. In all probability there will be another drawn up later which will be official and binding.

The main object of this tour is to foster the comradeship and relationship with those interstate members who find it difficult to travel each year to the country reunions held in NSW. To promote the good fellowship that this Association is known for, thereby making new friends as we travel through the three states. To relax for twenty-two days, enjoying the fraternity of each others company, enjoying the scenery that, perhaps, some of us have not seen before and places whose names we have only read about. In all we are going to have a good time and a bit of fun, so be in it, life is too short to be worried about your every day cares and woes to miss out on such a trip. (I don't know who wrote this but they've sold me! The Typesetter)

If you feel you would like to participate in this trip, then I suggest you contact Alf Carpenter as soon as possible with your deposit. Don't dally as I believe there are enough bookings in already to fill the first coach. Make out your cheque or money order deposit (\$120 per head) to the following:- 2/4th Inf. Bn. Assn. W.A. Tour (see page No.1 for Alf's address). You won't be sorry!

## Proposed Tour Itinerary.

Day No.	Date (March)	Depart	Lunch Own Expense	Arrive Dinner, Bed and Breakfast.
1	Sun 9	Newcastle		
2	Mon 10	Sydney	Bathurst	Wagga
3	Tue 11	Wagga	Euroa (Vic)	Melbourne
4	Wed 12	Sight seeing Melbourne, Ferntree Gully Dandenong Ranges etc		
5	Thu 13	2/4th Bn. Dinner arranged by Vic. VP & members - own expense		
6	Fri 14	Melbourne	Warrnambool	Mount Gambier
7	Sat 15	Mount Gambier	Murray Bridge	Adelaide
8	Sun 16	Lunch and Dinner own expense - Night Tour of Adelaide Lights		
9	Mon 17	Lunch Bar B Q or Dinner as arranged by S.A. VP & members - own exp.		
10	Tue 18	Adelaide	to be arranged	Port Augusta
11	Wed 19	Pt. Aug.	ditto.	Ceduna
12	Thu 20	Ceduna	ditto.	Cocklebidy
13	Fri 21	C/biddy	Norseman	Esperance
14	Sat 22	Esperance	to be arranged	Albany (Tour Whaling Station)
15	Sun 23	Albany	ditto.	Perth
16	Mon 24	Free Day Dinner as arranged by W.A. VP & members - own expense		
17	Tue 25	Tour of Perth and surrounding Areas Bar B Q Lunch arranged by W.A. VP & members. Lunch and dinner - own expense.		
18	Wed 26	Perth	to be arranged	Kalgoorlie
19	Thu 27	Kalgoorlie	Balladonia	Eucla
20	Fri 28	Eucla	to be arranged	Ceduna
21	Sat 29	Ceduna	ditto.	Port Augusta
22	Sun 30	Tour Flinders Ranges - Lunch Wilpeena Pound - own expense		
23	Mon 31	Pt. Aug.	to be arranged	Broken Hill (mine visit if possible)
		Broken Hill	ditto.	Wagga
		Wagga	ditto.	Sydney/Newcastle. End of Tour.

## CASH REGISTER.

The Treasurer has received subscriptions and donations from the following:-			
\$6	R J Clarke	Pop Williams	Doug Rodda
	Jack Partridge	(Mrs) M G Perram	Tich Fordham
	Rex Everson	Vin Hallinan	Kenn Venn
	Don Guthrie	Stan Day	A (Blue Eyes) Scott
\$8	Bill Panter	Laura Wallace	Wal Evans
\$10	Les Jones	Wally Shaw	Lascar Roach
	Don Dimsey	Charlie Davies	Paul Tomlinson
	Jim Barrow	Alan Bohle	Kev King
	Geof Ings	Eric Toynton	Alex Dick
	Artie Kleem	Jack Dubber	Trevor Richardson
	Ron Williams	Rex Everson	Harold Conkey
\$12	Max McAillon	Frank Gattenhoff	
\$15	Norm Everson		
\$20	Wink Walker	Cliff Curran	Bookie Rae
	Dave Follington	Ewen Wood	Syd Zartman
\$25	R.H.Elder		
\$30	Roy Denyer		
\$50	Norm Johnstone	Tom Gorman	Mac Wilson
			R.E.Percy
The President and the Committee thank all of the above for their support.			

## Star Press

Bruce Cork Phoned John Meehan To say Jack Cork (1st Lt of 6th Div Sigs and Attached to 19th Bde H.Q. And frequent visitor to the Battalion Sigs) Died Whilst playing golf on Wednesday 1st May 1985. Jack was always in attendance When the country reunions were held in the northern areas.