

White over Green

MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE 2/4 INFANTRY BATTALION ASSOCIATION

PATRON: Major General, Sir Ivan DOUGHERTY, CBE., DSO & Bar., ED., BE., LL.D., (Hon.)

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NEXT MEETING: The next regular monthly meeting, being the Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held on Tuesday, 25th February, 1986 at the Gallipoli Memorial Club, 12 Loftus Street, Sydney. The Committee meets at 1130 hours, followed by the Annual Meeting at 1430 hrs. Lunch is available in the Dining room - 1200 to 1400 hours.

MONTHLY MEETING : - JANUARY, 1986.

Despite the heavy after-math of the Christmas - New Year festivities our first meeting for 1986 had a record attendance of fifty members, some having travelled long distances, South Australia, Canberra, Newcastle and Central Coast. This is quite remarkable for a January meeting and it could be an omen for the months ahead. This speaks well for the Association and its executive to see so many members turn up for a monthly meeting. It also reflects favourably on the hospitality of the Management and staff of the Gallipoli Memorial Club, to whom the Association owe a great deal for the services rendered to our members.

Those who attended were:- Ron Maczkowiak and Bill Loy (Sth Aust), Jack Huston (Canberra), Mick Gray, Les Jones, John Ringrose, Jim Forman, Bob Fergusson, Slim Venn, Alex Maxwell, Norrie McGregor, Lionel Clarke, Slim Pollock, Vic Forbes, Mick O'Regan, Bob Roach, Curly Gorman, Harold Bowman, Les Anderson, Ken Richardson, Bill Parry, Dick Pinson, Peter Cade, Pat Bruty, Jack Partridge, George Mitchell, Frank Ivey, Ron Barber, Biscuits Arnott, Trevor Richardson, Slim Powers, Bill Fogden, Tich Fordham, Barney Turley, Nap Alavoine, Sid Buckley, Dave Follington, Ray Campbell, Harry Gjedsted, Ted Fox, Ferd Pegg, Ken Kesteven, Norm Auberson, Laurie Waterhouse, Harry Wright, George Stack, Athol Heath, John Hawkins, John Meehan, Fred Staggs, Allen Lindsay, Alf Carpenter and a friend of "No change" O'Regan, Len Splite, a Vietnam veteran.

President Alf Carpenter opened the meeting, and after a big welcome to Bill Loy, Ron (Muscovey Duck) Maczkowiak, Jack Huston and all the other "Long time - No see" attendees, called for a minute's silence whilst we honoured the memories of our Fallen and Departed Comrades. Apologies were received from Sir Ivan, Cec Chrystal, Rex Everson, Brian Waring, Ted Jackson and Jim Graham.

Correspondence received (dealt with in committee) comprised of Christmas Cards from Sir Ivan, Dasher Deacon, Doug Slinger and others, 'Thank You' cards from

the family of the Late Dick Morris (including the last poem he wrote), Mrs Doreen Sibilent, also letters from Claude Raymond and Peter Denver regarding arrangements in Melbourne and Adelaide re the Bus Tour. Also a letter from the R.S.L HQ in reply to our letter regarding the Advert. in 'Reveille' travel section re. blooding of 6th Div (in Greece). Also usual correspondence dealing with subs, donations, medals etc. The reports of the President, Treasurer, Secretary, Editor, Welfare and Pension Officers followed. These, where applicable, will be published elsewhere in this issue. However I would like to elaborate on the Treasurer's remarks relating to our Annual Accounts. He mentioned that approx. \$1200 per annum is being earned on monies invested, which is, in effect, replacing the diminishing income from subs (due to gradual decline in membership and the increasing numbers of 'Paid-up' Life Members). It is only through the generosity of members sending in donations and the sales of ties, T-shirts, medals, etc., along with this interest, that the Association is able to maintain its present healthy financial situation.

The Editor also made the announcement of the 'New-Look' front page appearing in this issue. It is, in effect, the 'old-look' front page as it reverts back to the original colour used in the first issues printed in 1946.

General Business: brought forward quite a fair amount of discussion. First of all the Inverell committee for the 1986 Country Re-union looks like being right on the ball, they have 50 odd bookings already. They have requisitioned a further motel, just to be on the safe side, the tariff, as with the others, being reasonable. All bookings must be made on the form that appeared in January W.O.G. further copies are available on application to the Secretary.

It was decided to invite the President and Secretary of the Greek and Cretan R.S.L Sub-branch to attend our Annual General Meeting as a goodwill gesture. These people do quite a lot of work in endeavouring to foster the good relationship that existed during the campaign of Greece and Crete and is most evident during the Greece-Crete Commemoration Week in May, each year.

The Ladies Anzac Day function has been left in the capable hands of our Welfare Officer, Harry Wright, who has indicated that every thing is O.K. just a matter of receiving names of those who will attend.

The President and the Executive have received invitations to attend a function at the Sydney Showground celebrating the centenary of the presentation of medals to members of the New South Wales Contingent to the Soudan.

John Meehan has been authorised to go ahead and purchase a reliable machine for the printing of name tags. This he will do when he returns from his holiday in West Australia where his daughter lives.

Harry Wright read out press clippings on the recent controversy within the Hawkesbury Shire Council, re the recognition of a Jap city as a sister city and the resignation of a councillor who was a Jap POW. We all know that the policy of "forgive and forget" is a hard pill to swallow for the majority of our members, nevertheless we think it is better left to the individual to voice his opinion, rather than the Association being involved in this matter. However when considering this matter one is reminded of that old saying regarding leopards and spots.

Jim Forman spoke on the 2/4th Infantry Battalion Plaque and asked if these can be advertised from time to time in White over Green. Cost of Plaque is \$25 or \$30 for a personalized one in which your photograph is exhibited. The thing is to fix a suitable photo of oneself at the time we were in uniform, about passport size and type (ie head and shoulders only) and send it in with your \$30 to the Secretary and in due course a hand-made polished wooden plaque will be sent to you. P.S.

Enclose extra \$2 for postage unless you can personally pick it up from Jim Forman at one of our monthly meetings. The \$25 model is available at any meeting.

There being no further business President Alf closed the meeting at 1540 hours.

Then it was the hour or so of conviviality for those that lingered on into the evening.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 1986.

This is a reminder and a last-minute call to all members to attend the February Monthly Meeting, which is also the Annual General Meeting of the Association. This is the most important meeting of the year, because at this meeting, you, the rank and file members elect your President, executive and committee for 1986. These are the people who will administer the Association, guide it through the forthcoming twelve months, maintaining the policies and traditions established in the Battalion and since the early days of the Association. So it is most important that all members endeavour to give their full support to this meeting, if distance permits. This is the meeting that makes the major decisions, so come along and be part of the scene. Remember, there is always a welcome for any new (or old) face from way back that shows up, and of course, there is always the hour of conviviality after the meeting closes. A final reminder, this meeting is a DAYTIME one, lunch can be had in the Dining Room at reasonable cost, in plenty of time before the meeting starts. Last year, we had an attendance of fifty-seven members, many from far afield, to make the meeting one of the most successful ever held during the daytime. Lets see if we can equal or better last year's effort.

Editor.

STOP PRESS

Word has just been received that Joe Lowe's mother had passed away on Monday, 3rd February 1986. She was aged 102 years of age, a grand old age to live to. Funeral will take place at Young. Condolences have been sent on behalf of the Association.

Editor.

WEST AUSTRALIAN COACH TOUR.

This is a final reminder to all metropolitan Sydney members who will be travelling on the coach tour to Perth. You must be at the north side of Parramatta Railway Station before 8.30am on Sunday, 9th March. The coach will be leaving at 8.30 am. The north side of the station is the side where the interstate buses and coaches pick up and set down passengers. Don't get confused with the local bus terminal on the other side. Besides normal articles of clothing it is desirable that members bring Battalion T-Shirt and/or Blazer, Bn Tie (and white shirt) and medals (ie Anzac Day clobber). It is most advisable to bring along a wide-brimmed hat or protective head covering, for skin protection. Looking forward to seeing you on the coach and wishing everyone going a pleasant and enjoyable tour. Editor.

WEST AUSTRALIAN NEWS.

As usual, our Perth correspondent is living up to his reputation as a prolific letter writer. Not content with writing after Christmas he had to follow up with a long screed in January. Doug Slinger has been very busy and with the aid of some of his stalwarts. They have formed a committee to look after the functions they have planned for the Coach Tourists when they arrive in Perth. The members on this committee are:- Stan Day, Wally Evans, Don Guthrie, John Storey, Dasher Deacon and Doug Slinger and no doubt their lovely wives will be pushing them along to make sure everything is O.K. Reading between the lines of Doug's letter, the tourists and all who attend these functions are going to have a very good time, one that will be long remembered and talked of for many days.

Doug has gone to a lot of trouble to round up as many of the 2/4th members living in Perth and the surrounding districts as possible. He has had a small column printed in the "Daily West Australian" in an attempt to attract attention of the many other 2/4thers who may be residing in W.A. Here it is as copied from the paper,

en of the 2/4th Aust Infantry Battalion Association! It is almost time to go on parade! There will be a big re-union in Perth during the month of March, 1986.

The 2/4th Infantry Battalion was raised in N.S.W. and was a unit of the 6th Aust Division in World War 2. The veterans have associations in most States and members in the parent State will visit Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth in March, 1986. 'Old soldiers never die, they only go on Coach Tours.' The coach will arrive in Perth on March 21st. Local Association Vice-President, Doug Slinger, says that the original West Australian contingent numbered 37, one was killed in action. He goes on to say that he has only 11 on the present W.A. Association Roll, that means a theoretical 25 are unaccounted for. If any of you 2/4th chaps are out there and want to parade (with or without medals) give Doug Slinger a ring on 2717027. He promises a river cruise with dinner, apicnic lunch and a grab-bag of memories." A similar column also appeared in "The Countryman" a newspaper circulating through the country areas of W.A. Good luck! Doug, with your round up. The editor and his better half are indeed looking forward to having a "Ball" so look out you Sandgroper

INVERELL COUNTRY RE-UNION. 1986.

Ross Smith has been in touch with me and he informs me that those people who get in early with their bookings will of course get the pick of the accommodation. A couple the motels are in close proximity, so get your booking in now and save yourselves some walking. In January's issue we printed a nomination form for your convenience use it and save yourselves the bother of writing a letter. However when you do fill out the form, make sure you put your signed cheque or Money Order in for the booking Fee of \$10 per person. This will make Ross and his committee happy and you will be assured of accommodation. If you are going by train, you cannot book before one month before departure date; meaning you cannot book before the 9th September, 1986. Up to date he has received approximately 50 bookings. So be in it, life is too short to dither with it. It was "be alive in '85" for the Wagga re-union: Why not - "Come to the sticks for your kicks! make Inverell your fix for 1986!"

SITREPS.

In January's issue we printed a paragraph on a member living at Beverly Hills who would opt out for Joh's Country quick smart if only he could chip away the concrete around his wife's feet. In reply to that par the member concerned informs me that he is not making any impression in whittling away the concrete, even a jack-hammer would not be any help. Did think of the idea of using a crane to lift her out, concrete and all, but thought the better of it, as he said he would only have to live with her one-eyed support for the Mother State. Bad enough as it is! she being a Canterbury supporter. I think I am treading on dangerous ground. Ed.

News has reached the Editorial Post that our Assistant Secretary - come Minute Secretary (and not so minute, at that!) has at last retired from his work bench at Davis Gelatine (who is going to manage the Sales now?). John Meehan will no doubt take a well-earned rest, to ready himself for the hazards of retirement now before him. Now he will have plenty of time to expound his views on the Australian cricket and Eastern Suburbs Rugby League teams, providing of course you don't mind listening and don't have any biased views (such as supporting any other teams). I am sure I speak for all the members, when, on behalf of the President and Committee I wish (continued on page 5)

LEST
WE
FORGET

Committee Blacktown Alderman Resign

LAST POST

NX68248

POLLOCK C. L.

LEST
WE
FORGET

WELFARE REPORT. 27th January, 1986.

As is usual this time of the year there has not been many in hospital. The only two visited were in Concord.

NX5508 Lowe, Joe in Ward 630 with bowel problem and in Royal Nth Shore Hospital
NX58 Chrystal, Cec still seriously ill. Cec has now been transferred to Greenwich Hospital, River Road, Greenwich.

Jim Sadler is at last home after his long struggle recovering from a serious heart attack.

NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of 2/4th INFANTRY BATTALION ASSOCIATION
to be held at THE GALLIPOLI MEMORIAL CLUB, 12 Loftus Street, SYDNEY, 2000.
on TUESDAY, 25th FEBRUARY, 1986 at 1430 hours.

AGENDA

1. President declare the meeting open and welcome distinguished guests and visitors
2. Apologies.
3. One Minute's Silence for Fallen and Departed Comrades.
4. Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting to be read, received and confirmed.
5. Any business arising out of those minutes.
6. Presentation and Acceptance of the Association's Financial Accounts for 1986.
7. Presentation and Acceptance of Reports for 1985.
8. Ratification by the meeting of the appointment of Honorary Life Members for 1986
9. Notice of Motion:- moved Laurie Waterhouse, seconded Norm Auberson.
"That the Association newsletter, White Over Green, which is now being printed each month, be printed and posted every second month, namely, February, April, June, August, October and December. The alteration to commence in April, 1986 after the Annual General Meeting, set down for February, 1986."
10. Election of Officers for 1986.
11. General Business
12. Closure.

A. Lindsay Next MTG.

1985 ANNUAL REPORTS.

President's Report.

It is with much pleasure that I submit the report on the activities of the 2/4th Battalion Association for the year ending February, 1986. The members continue to meet and conduct the affairs of the Association in a happy, thoughtful and efficient manner. Happy and thankful to meet each month with their comrades of the 2/4th Battalion, in which we were all privileged to serve. Thoughtful in their deliberations of the complexities of running the association, and this too, makes for efficient running.

The Interstate coach tour is all ready to go on 9th March. All indications are for a full coach of 50 persons. It has been most rewarding to organize such a trip on behalf of the Association. The support from our own members and that of the 2/1st Field Regiment Association was much appreciated.

This report cannot be submitted without some mention of our Wagga Re-union. To Bob and Enid Jackson and their hard-working committee, the heartiest of congratulations from all; a job well-done and really appreciated by all.

Ross and Nance Smith and their committee have our 1986 Inverell Country Re-union well in hand. I cannot remember a re-union march being led by the Light Horse, but it looks as if this will be a highlight of Inverell.

Chick Sleeman is at present organising the Nelsons Bay Committee for 1987.

The 50th Anniversary Sydney Re-union Committee is gathering data and ideas for an excellent time for all attending in 1989. No doubt over the next few years all the loose ends will be tied up in plenty of time. Senior Vice President Allen Lindsay is chairman of that committee.

The Association funds are in a healthy position and I feel sure that the committee and the association will see fit to make some monies available to assist in financing our 50th Anniversary.

My thanks must again be recorded to all association members for their loyal support at all our functions and parades, with special thanks to our hard-working office bearers and committee. I know I will be forgiven for mentioning one in particular, our Editor and his assistant, Joy, and his team. Many thanks to you all.

To our Patron, Sir Ivan, and our club The Gallipoli Memorial Club, your help and support has made our association what it is today. In closing, I wish every member and their families, health and happiness for the coming year, and to the 2/4th Battalion Association, every success.

It has been my pleasure and honour to serve as your President during the past year and I am looking forward to another rewarding year if elected for 1986.

Respectfully submitted,

Alf Carpenter, President, 2/4th Infantry Battalion Association.

THE A.G.M. of the ASSOCIATION of 4th BATTALIONS, will be held on FRIDAY, 14th FEBRUARY, 1986. Your attendance will be appreciated if you can attend.

Editor's Report.

Once again we find it is that time of the year to summarize the past events and accomplishments achieved, in keeping our monthly newsletter - "White Over Green" to the fore and maintaining regularity of issue. Also, to maintain the interest and news content of what transpires in the Association, what the members are doing (and the antics they get up to). To keep up-to-date with our welfare reports on all who are sick and not so sick. All this we have tried to accomplish along with the news of the activities of the members from other States, plus all other items of interest pertaining to the Association and its members. The main thing we have tried to maintain is regular contact with all members, with an up-to-date account of the meetings held each month and what effect they have on our lives. To endeavour to keep our Association closely knit as ever throughout Australia.

The year 1985 was not without its frustrations, but despite these a continuity of issue was maintained as well as adherence to the time table of posting dates. However, no one man can achieve all this on his own, as we have pointed out before. You have to have a team effort, people you can depend on to rally round each month or when called on. We have such a team and it would be very remiss of me if I did not pay them due recognition. First of all my good wife; without her patience and understanding in putting up with my raving and ranting at the times when things did not go right. To you Joy. "Thank you" for a sterling effort in your colouring of the White Over Green Heading and for answering the phone. Wouldn't life be dull without a wife looking over your shoulder? However we miss them when they are not around, God bless them. Then we have "Twinkle Fingers" our typist, come Treasurer and guardian of our treasury, who does a mighty job in interpreting my scrawl to convert it to a neat typewritten copy for the copier machine. Thank you, Allen Lindsay. Of course we have Peter Cade, a willing and able backstop to the Editor. 'S' Pollock who now and then brings along a bottle or two of "Pollock's Pollutin' Potion" to sip whilst working on the production line. 'Slim' Powers, who would rather miss his favourite T.V. show (Bilko?) than not come over to help and finally Vera Walsh, not as consistent over the past six months (due to ill health) but has managed to grace us with her presence. To this team of willing and devoted helpers my sincere thanks for a job well done, I am sure all the members will endorse my sentiments.

Laurie Waterhouse. EDITOR.

Welfare Officer's Report.

Another year has passed and the work of the Welfare Team keeps on. Once again this is possible because of the work of the dedicated few. Dave McGillivray had to bow out with health problems and his place, as you should know, was taken by Alex Maxwell and very capably too. Dave is still not enjoying the best of health, but must have a claim in the marriage longevity stakes, having been married 56 years. Thanks again Dave, for your many years of hospital visiting.

Thanks again to "Larry" Dooley for supplying the Christmas gift for the computer room staff, at Concord. I have been assured that it is very much appreciated. Hope you have completely recovered from your recent illness, Larry and hope to see you at our meetings soon.

Thanks also to many other members, local, country and interstate, who keep us informed about members in their areas.

A request from the team, that members, when being admitted to Concord Hospital, record their unit as 2/4th INFANTRY battalion. There is, then, no confusion with other 2/4th units.

A reminder that visiting hours at Concord Hospital are 8am to 1.30pm and 2.30pm to 8pm.

Harry Wright for the Welfare Team

TYPESETTER'S NOTE.

The above report is typically low-key and modest and is what we come to expect from our Welfare Officer and his team. What Harry does not say in his report is that the Welfare Team has consistently, for a period extending back over the last fifteen years, at least, made in excess of one hundred individual hospital visits to our members and relations, each year.

Congratulations from ALL of us!

SITREPS. (continued from page3)

John a long and healthy retirement - may he find much happiness and contentment in the days ahead. Good luck, John!

News flash from Wagga! Message came by post that Perc and Betty Dalla, that well-known couple at Wagga, have, for the first time, become grandparents (oh! the pain of it!) Heather, wife of son John, made the presentation at Essendon, Victoria, of a baby girl - Melissa Elizabeth. Congratulations to John and Heather Dalla and, of course, to the Grandparents, who, we feel, will be most joyous on this happy occasion. We think the baby's head received more than a mere "wetting." We will drink to the little girl's arrival when we see you on the 9th March.

Vera Roddy of Tumut, phoned early in the New Year to say how pleased she was to see some of the 2/4th Bn members again and was so sorry to have missed the Wagga reunion. Vera's son Michael is still in Wagga hospital, waiting for a hip replacement and other surgery, following his accident six months ago.

2/4th INFANTRY BATTALION ASSOCIATION.
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS.
for the year ended 31st December, 1985.

GENERAL ACCOUNT.

\$

\$

Receipts.

Balance: 1. 1. 1985.	
Westpac Bank	2210
Aust. Guarantee Cpn.	2000
Subscriptions - Life	770
- Members	191
- WOG	965
Functions - Receipts	1110
Donations Received	927
Sales: Shirts, Ties, etc.	753
Battalion Medals	353
Pockets	49
Plaques	525
Interest Received	360

\$10213

Payments.

White Over Green - Printing	1107
- Postage	1019
Functions - Costs	1492
Purchases - Battalion Medals	281
Classified Advertisements	61
Postage, Stationery, Telephone	167
Plaque Materials	673
Sir Ivan Dougherty Fund	500
6th Div. Association	10
Royal NSW Regt. Fund	50
2/4th Assn. - Victorian Branch	180
R.S.L. Poppy Day Donation	30
Govt. Tax on Bank Account	9

Balance: 31. 12. 1985.

Westpac Bank	1134
Aust. G'tee Corp.	2000
State Bldg. Socy.	1000
Inverell Reunion Committee	500

463.
\$10213

BENEVOLENT ACCOUNT.

Receipts.

\$

Balance: 1. 1. 1985.	
Westpac Bank	368
State Bldg. Society	8034
Interest Received	872
Donations Received:	
Sir Ivan Dougherty	
Biography Fund	500
Sundry	150
	650
	\$9924

Payments.

\$

Hospital Visits Expenses	290
Govt. Tax on Bank Account	1
Balance: 31. 12. 1985.	
Westpac Bank	240
State Bldg Society	9393

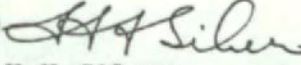
\$9924

Alf Carpenter. President.

Allen Lindsay. Hon. Treasurer.

Auditor's Certificate:

I have examined the books of account and supporting vouchers, bank accounts and documents of title of the 2/4th Infantry Battalion Association for the year ended 31st December, 1985. From such examination it is my opinion that the above accounts are a full and fair statement of the Association's financial affairs for that period.

(signed) 
H.H. Silver.
Honorary Auditor.

SITREPS (continued from page 5)

Also announced at the Editorial Post, the engagement of the Editor's son, Geoffrey, to a charming little lass from Epping, named Elizabeth. The day for tying the nuptial knot has been set down for 3rd January, 1987. Sanity never prevailed at the best of times in the Editor's abode, so imagine the confusion the engagement caused, plus a "do" at the Cronulla R.S.L. which was enjoyed by all concerned, especially the Editor, as he was not driving that night.

By the time members receive this issue, those two "beggars for punishment" - Ron Maczkowiak and Yvonne Pearse will have made that long, never-seeming-to-end, bridal march as Man and Wife. Yes! they will have been married by the time you read this. February 15th is to be the big day. We hope that you can keep Ron from straying too far, Yvonne, especially up that river! In all seriousness, the editorial mob here, wish Ron and Yvonne long lasting health and happiness in the years ahead.

Who was the 2/4th Bn member, living at Mullumbimby that went and got himself married again, on Sat, 24th January 1986. He is now on the high seas as a tourist on the 'ORIANA! He was seen being 'piped' across from McMahon's Point to Circular Quay. Of course the piper was from the Parramatta Caledonian Pipe Band. (Identity Is Known to the editor). This marriage caper is becoming a catching thing, those good looking widowers will have to watch out, the 'wives of a woman in search of love are no match for a mere man.