



# White Cedar Green

MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE 2/4 INFANTRY BATTALION ASSOCIATION

PATRON: Major General, Sir Ivan DOUGHERTY, CBE., DSO & Bar., ED., BEC., LLD., (Hon.)

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**APRIL MEETING:** Anzac Day, 25th April, 1986. At the Gallipoli Memorial Club, 12 Loftus Street, Sydney at 1300 hrs.

**MAY MEETING:** Tuesday 27th May, 1986 at the Gallipoli Memorial Club. Committee meets at 1130 hrs and Members Monthly meeting at 1430 hrs.

**THE MARCH GENERAL MEETING.**

In the absence of the President and the Senior Vice-President the Chair was taken by Past President Ted Fox. Unfortunately your acting blank file editor omitted to take note of the apologies but from memory Sir Ivan, all the West Australian travellers, Cec Chrystal, Syd Buckley, Allen Lindsay and Ken Kesteven (who attended the Committee Meeting but couldn't stay) all sent apologies. Hope we haven't missed any as indeed we did George Stack in the last issue. Those who attended were: Ted Fox, John Hawkins, Nap Alavoine, Athol Heath, John Ringrose, Bob Fergusson, George Stack, Slim Pollock, Dave Follington, Barney Turley, Trevor Richardson, Bill Parry, Frank Ivey, Jim Graham, Slim Venn, Ron Barber, Lionel Clarke, Gordon Chrisp, Biscuits Arnott, Norm Harries, Mick O'Regan, Slim Powers Curley Gorman, Pat Bruty and Peter Cade. The Chairman opened the meeting calling for a minute's silence for Fallen and Departed Comrades. As a few of the Executive were still on the West Australian Trip, reports were a little light on; Pensions Officer, John Hawkins reported some activity in his sphere and some prospects of success but naturally no details. Secretary Fred's correspondence both in and out was reasonably light and all the inward letters were dealt with by the committee. and the non-routine ones were read to the meeting. The Chairman advised that all the arrangements for Anzac Day were finalised in Committee and that Ken Kesteven had, with others, attended the 6th Div Re-union at Victoria Barracks and had reported on this in Committee. He also mentioned some advice he had received from Lt-Col. (Doctor) Tom Selby. Elaboration of these two articles appear elsewhere in this issue. After the meeting your correspondent fell in with quiet company, for a few beers, like Bob Fergusson, like John Ringrose, like Ted Fox and like Trevor Richardson! ? Well 75% is not a bad score, is it? Anyway Trevor was reasonably quiet.

**ANZAC DAY ARRANGEMENTS.**

**WREATH LAYING:** Same as usual. Assemble at the corner of York and Erskine Streets about 0745hrs. We move off a bit after 0800hrs. As this is our own Anzac Day tribute, it is requested that all who possibly can please attend this wreath-laying ceremony at the Cenotaph.

(continuedover)



### MAIN MARCH.

Battalion form-up place will be the corner of King and Phillip Streets. Estimated March commencement for the battalion 0945/1000hrs. The ties, blazers, the banner, the Colour Party from the 4RNSWR. You can't miss us! Don't forget your medals, battalion tie and name badge, too.

### RE-UNION DINNER.

Again to be held on the first floor, Callipoli Memorial Club, 12 Loftus Street, Sydney, admittance by \$10 ticket (and good value, too!) which will be on sale by Committeemen at the march form-up place and, if you miss them there, also at the door. Entrance after 1200hrs, be seated by 1300hrs, please gentlemen!

### ANZAC DAY LADIES LUNCHEON.

As in previous years, 2/4th Battalion ladies (and their friends, daughters, etc) are invited to watch the main march from the usual assembly point outside Lowes Store in George Street (opposite the Queen Victoria Building). Wear your "White Over Green" badges and name tags, ladies and roll up in force to encourage your menfolk who really do look forward to your presence and applause. Your luncheon after the march will again be held in the Camellia Restaurant, 462 George Street which is only a short walk from Lowes. A blanket reservation of 30 has been made and to date Hilda Wright and Heather Fox have received 15 bookings, so ladies get in right away and book your Anzac Day luncheon with Hilda Wright, tel. No. 871-5312. Later in the afternoon you may wish to join the boys at the Gallipoli Memorial Club and have one for the road with them before the day's activities come to an end.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR ANZAC DAY.

Official guests will be Major-General Ray Sharp, President of the Association of 4th Infantry Battalions, Lt-Col. Vin Hallinan, Secretary of the same Association, Lt-Col. Graham Fleeton, C.O. of the 4th Battalion, RNSWR. Also it is hoped that our Patron and former Commanding Officer, Major-General Sir Ivan Dougherty will be able to spare some time out of his busy schedule to pay us a visit. Honorary Member, Major-General Gordon Maitland has sent his apologies as he will be out of Australia on Anzac Day.

The representatives of the Parramatta Caledonian Pipe Band will not be with us this year, they have a paid engagement elsewhere. Although John Meehan will miss the music, equipping a pipe band really costs and if there is a quid to be earned it has got to be done. However our G.G. Machine tells us that they may be available to attend our 1987 Country Re-union (Chick Sleeman please note).

Lady Makay (well into her nineties) will not be fit enough to be a guest on the official dias at the Anzac Day memorial service in Hyde Park. An admirable lady, about time she slowed down a bit.

### NAME BADGES.

For those members who do not have Association name badges or for those who have lost them, a new supply has been purchased and will be available on Anzac Day. As usual John Meehan is in charge of this operation and, also as usual, all will be well produced and accurate. The cost is \$4. See John on Anzac Day.

### NEWCASTLE NEWS.

It appeared that on Saturday, 8th March, the Adamstown R.S.L. Club was invaded by a crowd of 2/4th Bn Assn members with their wives along with some of the 2/1st Field Regt. and wives also, plus a few widows of departed members. They came to have a farewell dinner amongst friends before departing on the coach tour the following day, Newcastle being the starting point for the West Australian Tour. Apparently they had a great time from what was learnt on the bus next day. Those who attended and were not travellers, Joe and Gwen Boyle, George and Heather Mitchell, Jack and Mary Partridge, Guy and Kath Mitchell.

George and Heather Mitchell and Jack and Mary Partridge have just returned from a holiday up on the North Coast, returning via Gloucester where they arranged a get-together with several members of the Gloucester R.S.L. Those present were: Alex Miller, Alex and Shirley Watson, Noel and Mary Woolcott and, of course, the travellers. An apology was received from Chris Geelan and his wife. Great socializers up there on the Central Coast. George Mitchell.

### LISMORE NEWS.

Only home a couple of days from Perth when a letter from Allan Kirk arrived giving the sad news of the death of 'Tiny' Eglinton, one of our esteemed members from the Tweed River area. He died on Thursday, 13th March after many months of sickness. His remains were privately cremated and a commemoration service was held at Kingscliffe on 14th March. Judging from the large gathering that attended, the late 'Tiny' Eglinton was held in very high esteem within the area. 2/4th members who attended the commemoration service were: Jack Hughes, 'Chubby' Crossthwaite, Eddie Miller, Bruce Cork, Bernie Shoebridge, Ron Ellem and his wife, Bill Sheaffe, Max Nernay, Laurie Stevenson (known as Horse), Allan Kirk. Allan went on to write about the occasion being the first time he had met Laurie Stevenson since the end of the war, adding that it is sad that it seems to be only on occasions such as this that you meet again with some of these old mates.

He goes on to say that he has not had any bad reports on any other members in his area. They seem to be "battling on". Only one, Johnny Himett; he is to undergo an operation on the throat some time in the near future at Greenslopes Repat. Hospital, this news being conveyed to Allan by Max Nernay. Allan also asked that



we pass on his congratulations to Alf Carpenter on his Life Membership status and his kindest regards to all from himself and Carma.

#### PERTH COACH TOUR.

Well the 2/4th Inf Bn tourists are back safe and sound, except for one couple - Alex and Jean Maxwell. Alex had been suffering from what he thought were indigestion pains for a few days. He then had a severe spasm of pain in the chest area so he was put into hospital at Port Augusta on the way back and his wife Jean stayed behind in the Motel to be with him. They were very good to her and so was the hospital. We have been informed that he is now back in Sydney.

Yes - the tourists arrived back on Easter Monday, 31st March, looking sun-tanned freckled and very weathered in facial appearance. They all looked a little heavier and their waist-lines had a slight look of rotundancy, as if they had been living a life of ease and good eating. Their pockets and wallets feeling a little worn with the wear and tear of the many attacks made on them and I think there may be a few depleted bank accounts. They certainly had a good time for the 23 days.

Yours truly and Joy were amongst them, also four members of the 2/1st Field Regt. Association. We were most fortunate in having a comfortable coach, which rode very smoothly and a very good and obliging driver. Without these two main necessities a tour, such as we undertook, could have easily gone sour.

Those who came on the tour were:

Alf Carpenter, Vic Forbes, Les Jones, Doug Groves, Stan Blacksley, Laurie and Joy Waterhouse, Norm and Nita Auberson, Alex and Jean Maxwell, Wally and Noni Taylor, Perc and Betty Dalla, Joe and Bobbie Wells, Harry and Ada Whitman, Harry and Hilda Wright, Esca and Bev Riordan, Laurie and Evelyn McCosker, Wally and Connie Mangan, Herb and Marge Robertson, Ross and Nance Smith, Garry and Joan Hart, Vera Walsh, Nell Hawkins, Doreen Manual, Jim and Jean Forman; and from the 2/1st Field Regt. Association: Robert and Joyce Bertram, Harry and Daphne Crossfield, George and Joan Thompson, Harold Tressider, Esther Owen, Elsie Quinn and Dot Hyland.

A very amiable and easy going lot to get on with. The tourists from the 2/1st Field Regt. joined in with our re-union dinners and get-togethers with the same spirit and comradeship as exists within the 2/4th Assn. There were one or two problems, as you would get on bus tours anywhere, but they were overcome.

In all, a fantastic tour, a lifetime experience. (More next issue)

#### MAIL BAG.

Letters have been received during the last two months from far and wide, mostly to our Treasurer with subs enclosed, thanks fellas!

The following are some of them, not necessarily in the order received. The Treasurer will acknowledge all subs and donations received in our next issue.

From Eric Jones of Canberra apologising for non-attendance at monthly meetings. Says he supports the idea of WOG being published every two months. Sends his regards.

From Bill Stewart, now of Bateman's Bay. Says he applied for his Greek Campaign Medal through a bank (!?) who advertised that they would handle the application.

He has not heard anything since. Name of person and bank forgotten, can we help?

Well Bill, that's a hard one! Has any other member had a similar experience? Please let us know. Meantime Bill we suggest you contact Fred Staggs for an application

form, however you may have to be lucky as this business seems to be closing down.

Bill informs us that his son, Allen, is now a Lt-Colonel being C.O. No.7 Sig. Regiment at Kabala in Queensland. Congratulations Allen and Bill!

A short note from Jim Barrow of Ashburton, Vic with subs and stating that all the Vics are looking forward to seeing the tourists. By now this wish has been fulfilled and we hope you enjoyed yourself, Jim.

Des Loydell of Bathurst sent subs and his regards to all the members.

Laurie Crispin of Narrawallee (near Ulladulla NSW) sent subs and said he plans to attend our Anzac Day Re-union and looks forward to seeing us all there.

Roy McAdam wrote saying he and wife Irene are leaving early March on a protracted overseas trip. They will be back in time for the Inverell Re-union and will see us there.

Letter from Alice Clough of Macksville. She enjoys her WOG and thanks all concerned in its production for a job well done.

Nancy Shearwin wrote on behalf of Bill, sent subs and states she and Bill enjoy WOG, thanks us for all our efforts.

J.R.Ewbank of Lightning Ridge says it has been a long summer up there (even if it wasn't it would seem like it). Says there are a couple of 2/4thers with him in the area, John Hudson and Horrie Howard, both ex B Coy.

Short note from H.W.Russell of Repton (our S.V.P's favourite fishing spot) enclosing subs and thanks.

Dennis Jackson of Griffith wrote enclosing subs and apologising for non-attendance at meetings and country Re-unions. His family is spread all over from Alice Springs to Toowoomba, Qld. and family visits usually co-incide with our functions.

Bill and Gwen Newth of Moss Vale sent subs and a special get well to Cec Chrystal. Had a letter from Roy Denyer of Temora who told them that he hoped to be in Sydney for Anzac Day. They are flying over to Tasmania for a holiday in late March.



LAST

POST



N X 46546. EGLINGTON. F.L.B.(Tiny)



WELFARE REPORT. 25th March, 1986.

Visited at Concord

NX 5202. Noel Ford, Ward 8. Discharged from hospital on 5-3-86 and again on the 17-3-86. Heart attacks and in Intensive care.

NX5167, John C. Brown, Ward 520.. Missed him by five minutes as he had been taken away for tests.

NX9755, Rex Everson, Ward 410. In for right knee operation on 19-3-86  
Reported doing well.

NX6098, Alex Maxwell, Took ill at Port Augusta on way home from Perth, Hospitalised at Port Augusta, where tests were carried out. suspected Agina. Now back home under care of own doctor.

WX30958, Wally Evans, In Osborne Park Hospital, Perth. Gall stones problem. No further news to hand.

Mary Mann, Was in Royal Prince Alfred Hosp, for a By-Pass Operation, since transferred to Concord. and since discharged.

A WORD FROM THE WISE.

At the 6th Div. Re-union in the course of conversation, Lt-Col(Dr)Selby suggested to Ken Kesteven, that he advise 2/4th members to write out a record of their war service, particularly from the medical point of view and leave with their families. As he could not stay after the committee meeting, Ken reported this to the committee. Some members may recall that some time back, the late Dick Latimer, when a committeeman did some work along these lines. Your writer for one, submitted his record. This necessity increases in importance proportionately and in direct ratio to the Repet's and Government's hardening attitude to new applications for pensions. As our Pensions Officer, John Hawkins pointed out, the Freedom of Information Act gives ex-servicemen access to their medical records but the contents are only things that have been officially recorded. ed Fox mentioned a back injury, unreported at the time but attested to on oath by witnesses. Similarly, Cec Chrystal had his foot by a truck in Greece and due to the exigencies at the time there was no Sick Parade for this one either and as well as other things, this injury has come against Cec in his later years.

COMMEMORATION OF THE BATTLE OF CRETE AND THE GREEK CAMPAIGN WEEK

MAY 1986.

This Association through affiliation with the 6th Aust Div. Association has been asked to give the fullest support it can to the celebration of this most important and historic event in the Battalion's history. We ask for as many members that are able to attend this function or functions as outlined herewith. Dress, blazers if available, ties and Medals to be worn.

SATURDAY,

May 17th, 1400hrs. Wreath Laying Service and Ceremony, At the Cenotaph.  
1330 hrs. Assemble Pitt and Hunter Streets corner for march to Cenotaph. Unit Flags to be carried.  
Naval Support Command Band will lead the March.  
2000hrs Cretan Association Ball. Cretan House,  
Cnr Chapel and Victoria Rds.  
MARRACKVILLE.

SUNDAY

May 18th, 1986. 1100hrs. Memorial Service, Greek Orthodox Cathedral.  
Cleveland Street. REDFERN.  
Adjacent to Prince Alfred Park.  
Medals to be worn.

SUNDAY

May 25th, 1030hrs. Memorial service, Holy Trinity Garrison Church.  
Millers Point.  
Medals to be worn and Unit Flags to be carried.  
Morning tea after the service.  
It could be appreciated if the Ladies could bring a  
. Thank You.



With this issue of "WOG" we enter a new era: a new routine of publication and distribution every two months instead of monthly, which it has enjoyed for the last 40 years.

For some of our members, especially those in distant parts of Australia, and overseas, this may be disappointing. They will miss that regular flow of information about the Association and its members which they have enjoyed at very regular intervals for so long.

But this change will have one redeeming factor. "WOG" will continue for as long as our Editor, Laurie Waterhouse, or other dedicated members, remain willing to carry on with its publication. Had Laurie's motion for this change to bi-monthly been rejected at our recent Annual General Meeting, the future of "WOG" would have been much less assured.

As one of the originators of WOG, away back in 1946, one feels conscious of having started something which seemed a good idea at that time, and then having "gone bush" thus leaving others in our fledgling Association "holding the baby". This situation was not, of course, anticipated, or really within one's power to rectify.

Thanks to the efforts of many dedicated members, right up to the present team, led by Laurie Waterhouse, the aspirations of those early editors have been richly fulfilled. The strength of our Battalion Association, maintained so long after its formation, is probably unique in Australia. The enthusiasm with which members take part in Re-unions, Anzac Day, Association of 4th Battalion and other functions, can be attributed largely to the good lines of communication which have been maintained through "WOG".

For those who may feel to some extent deprived by this change to bi-monthly it may be said that down the years - the whole 40 of them - we have enjoyed 480 issues of "WOG". A mighty fine effort, and a very fair "crack of the whip" for all at the receiving end.

For many good reasons, which were vigorously debated at the A.G.M., this decision was firmly taken. In doing so, we were facing the "facts of life" and being, therefore, realistic in the interests of the future of "WOG".

There were those who felt that a "referendum" should have been taken among all members of our Association. This would have involved much paper work (and quite some cost) to no great advantage. Considering the very limited response which we had to the airing of this matter in WOG as far back as November, 1985, it seems unlikely that we would have arrived at any better consensus than that which was reached at the Annual General Meeting in February.

There are ways by which we can be compensated for this lesser frequency of "WOG". Editor Laurie assures us that where necessary and practicable within his production programme, another sheet, containing up to two pages of text, could be added to "WOG" from time to time without upsetting postage costs or regulations.

Further, should there be something very important to be notified in between the normal two monthly issue, a "special edition" of WOG comprising up to one or even two pages could be sent out, if considered desirable by the Association Executive.

There can be little doubt that this bi-monthly issue will prove a wise decision. Let us continue to support our Editor by sending him information (preferably in writing) whenever we can. Those living in the metropolitan area who have the time and energy, and would like to help the current production team would, no doubt, be most welcome.

We can only be thankful that we still have members able and willing to carry on this vital link within our Association. Congratulations to all concerned right down the years, and a happy 40th Anniversary of "White over Green", on 15th May, 1986!

"WHITE OVER GREEN" - 1946 editions

Those who were at Wagga last year may recall that a number of facsimile copies of the original "WOGs", Nos. 1, 2 & 3, had been printed for distribution at our October Re-union. They were available at a cost of \$2 each or \$5 for a set of three (May, June and July, 1946).

Some copies are still available, and may be obtained at our general monthly meetings in Sydney, and on Anzac Day. They make very interesting reading for all members, especially those who have joined the Association in more recent years.

They may be obtained from President (Alf Carpenter) or Editor (Laurie Waterhouse) or by writing direct to the original (co-) editor, Bob Jackson, 14 The Boulevard, Wagga Wagga, NSW, 2650. It would be good if they could all be sold so that the Wagga Committee can be re-imbursed for the original cost, and any balance will eventually be channelled to our Bn Association funds.

Courtesy of Bob (Dagwood) Jackson.



NOMINATIONS RECEIVED FOR 2/4TH. INF. BATT. REUNION  
INVERELL 11/12 OCTOBER, 1986. AS AT 24TH FEBRUARY, 1986.

NAME/S.ACCOMMODATION.UNIT/ROOM NO.INVERELL MOTEL.

PEGG, Ferdi. & Margaret	Unit 19	
IRVINE, Molly and WALSH Vera	" 27	
BRADFORD, Elsie (1 share lady available only)	" 2	
NEWTH, Bill & Gwen	" 29	
DEACON, Ken "Dasher" & Lily	" 20	
TAYLOR, Wal & Nona	" 21	
MANGAN, Wallie & Connie	" 22	<u>COMPLETELY BOOKED 17/2/86.</u>

COUSINS MOTOR INN.

JOHNSTON, Wal & Molly	Unit 3	
McADAM, Roy & Irene	" 9	
LEVER, Bob & Gladys	" 11	
DUBBER, John & Eunice	" 14	
CARPENTER, Alf & Friend	" 10	
KLEEM, Arthur & Muriel	" 12	
SUMMERFIELD, Ray & Una	" 13	
CUNNINGHAM, Des & Beryl	" 5	<u>COMPLETELY BOOKED 15/2/86.</u>

TWIN SWANS' MOTEL.

MEEHAN, John and HEATH, Athol	Unit 9	
CORK, Bruce & Angela	" 10	
HART, Gary & Joan	" 8	
SILVER, Harold & Delma	" 11	
CRISP, Gordon & Olga	" 6	
DENVER, Peter & Pat	" 18	
SMITH, Phil "Blah" & Friend	" 19	<u>17 UNITS LEFT. 24/2/86</u>

SAPPHIRE CITY MOTEL.

RINGROSE, John & Joyce	Unit 3	
ANDERSON, Les & Mrs.	" 4	
MAXWELL, Alex & Jean	" 6	
SMITH, Eunice	" 5	
GRAHAM, Bub & Margaret	" 1	
HUGHES, Jack & Joan	" 2	
SHEAFF, Bill & Una and WILKINSON, Reg & Jennie(family)	" 17	
BROOKE, Paul & Myrna	" 11	
WATT, Ken & Lorna	" 7	<u>7 UNITS LEFT. 24/2/86</u>

ROYAL HOTEL/MOTEL.

SUGDEN, George & Edna	Unit 1	
PETERS, David "Morney" and Friend	" 2	<u>18 UNITS LEFT. 24/2/86</u>

OTHERS (PRIVATE ARRANGEMENTS)

KYLE, Gus and Leslie.

Battalion Medal Minutures.

Orders will be taken for the above minutures, as the mould has been made for the medal. It will be advantageous to us if a number of orders can be placed at once. Secretary Fred Staggs will accept orders by phone or by mail. Please note there are no bars for the miniture.

Battalion Ties.

A new lot of ties have been received and these are selling at the same price as the previous ones we had. These can be obtained from Fred Staggs or Allen Lindsay on Anzac Day.

Metal Car Badges.

We are hoping to have forms available on Anzac Day for members who would like to indicate their willingness to order a metal Battalion Car Badge. No deposit or money is required, it is only to give the committee an indication of the intention of members to purchase such badges.