

# White over 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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JULY - AUGUST. 1986.

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**AUGUST MEETING:** Tuesday 26th Aug, 1986 at the Gallipoli Memorial Club.

Lunch can be had between 12 noon and 2pm in the dining room.

**SEPT. MEETING:** Tuesday 23rd September at the Gallipoli Memorial Club.

(The September meeting is on the fourth Tuesday of the month not the last.)

**THE JULY MONTHLY MEETING:** The Monthly General Meeting was held on Tuesday 22nd July in the new Anzac Room and commenced at the new time of 2pm.

Some forty-six members attended including a new face or two. Those in attendance:- Pres. Alf Carpenter, S.V. Pres. Allen Lindsay, Sec. Fred Staggs, Laurie Waterhouse, John Hawkins, Ted Fox, Ferd Pegg, Athol Heath, Harry Wright, Norm Auberson, George Stack, Vic Forbes, Harold Bowman, Dick Pinson, Slim Venn, Sid Buckley, Squizzie Taylor, John Ringrose, Lionel Clark, Tom Tracey, Slim Powers, Cec Lawson, Les Jones, Bob Ferguson, Bill Parry, Trevor Richardson, Ken Richardson, Frank Ivey, Jim Graham, Pat Bruty, Biscuits Arnott, Ted Jackson, Ray Campbell, Alex Maxwell, Peter Cade, Rex Everson, Barney Turley, Bill Fogden, Ron Barber, Jack Garvie, Slim Pollock, Peter Denver and visitors Andy Phillips and Peter's Brother Derrie Denver. Apologies received, Cec Chrystal, Ken Kesteven (General Meeting), Harry Gjedsted, Dagwood Jackson, Jim Foreman, John Meehan, George Mitchell, Dave Follington, Tich Fordam, Curley Gorman, John Copland, Ross Smith and Blah Smith.

President Alf Carpenter opened the meeting by welcoming Peter Denver and his brother Derrie who made the trip over from South Australia en route to the reunion at Inverell, also to long time no see Jack Garvie. Then called for one minutes silence for departed comrades and announcing the sudden death of Country Vice President Artie Kleem of Young who had died that very morning. Most business had been dealt with in committee. Official correspondence was practically nil. There was a letter from the Prime Minister to Des Cunningham replying to the proposal of taxing disability pensions, theme being that it is not on. That is the assurance given in his letter to Des. George Stack also presented letters he had received from members of parliament, others had reiterated that they too had received letters. A letter from the Preveli Monastery Memorial Fund to 6th. Div. Assn. re the funding of a scholarship. Also a letter from Doug Slinger re people going over for the America's Cup to get in touch with



him. Also a letter from Ernie Bowdidge re the Cairns coach trip. Reports followed, Pres. Alf giving an account of the Lionel Mead presentation dinner at the Paddington Woollahra Club and the 21st birthday function of 4Bn. RNSWR. Also showed the 2/4Bn. plaque that Jim Foreman had done for the Gallipoli Memorial Club and the regimental flag of the Italian 21st. Regt given to Alf at Tobruk and now framed in glass for hanging (courtesy of Harry Gjedsted) in the Gallipoli Club. This was followed by the Treasurer's report on the financial status of the Association letting us know that we have an overall balance of \$13,635 in the treasury - quite a good effort. This was followed by the Editor's report and Secretary's report. Next was the Welfare Report, this was given by Harry Wright in his usual competent manner. Norm Auberson reported on his first attendance at a 6 Div Assn meeting and said he was not impressed. Gave out details of V.P. Day 15th. August commemoration service at the cenotaph, 10.30 to 11am. All members are urged to make the effort to attend this function. Ken Kesteven elaborated in Committee that an Australian-Greek War Memorial is to be erected in Canberra, cost to be borne by the government and is to be sited near the Australian War Memorial and to be ready for the 1988 Centenary.

General Business was taken up with a report on the Inverell reunion itinerary arrival and departure times of trains and busses, north and south. Allen Lindsay elaborated on the function he attended for the retirement of Lofty Taylor when he and John Dooley and Blah Smith represented the Bn Assn. Athol Heath reported to Pres. Alf that Wednesday 17 Dec. 1986 will be the day for the Christmas gettogether at the Gallipoli Club. Peter Denver addressed the meeting on maintaining the lifeline of the Assn. and hoped that in the future W.O.G. could be produced each month only if one sheet. Ferd Pegg was then invited to give a talk on his travels in and around the Gallipoli Peninsula this proved to be very interesting to all present. Harry Gjedsted in reply said how cooperative the Turkish Government had been and with the club there is a close friendliness in their relationship with the office of the Turkish Government representatives. Pensions Officer John Hawkins spoke on his work having had success with a couple of people and appearing at the Tribunal for others. Anyone with any pension worries, see John he may be able to help you. Meeting closed at 3.05 pm.

#### THE MORTAR REUNION FOR 1986.

The Mortar Platoon reunion for 1986 was held in Narooma in the latter half of February and as usual was a most casual affair, to come and go as you please. Before the MacLennans arrived the weather had been perfect for swimming and sunbaking but we fixed that for sure. However even though the sun did not shine for the next six days the weather neither dulled nor dampened the spirits of those who attended. The main events were two monster B.B.Q's (to which we had to bring our own monster) attended by up to thirty-five happy folk and it was terrific to see them all again and enjoy the company, fun and laughter. We were particularly pleased to greet Verna Gillespie with her two friends from Melbourne with whom she and Norm always travelled and Freda Thomas (Baldy's widow) whom Bill and Bonnie Panter were kind enough to bring. It was great to see both of these ladies after the sad loss of their husbands.

In our inaugural Narooma meeting year we elected two Hon. Life Members in Berry and Vonnice Moody (non 2/4th), residents of Narooma with whom we are always invited to spend an evening in their lovely home. Berry is ex RAAF and Vonnice is a doll and also just happens to be the daughter of a very famous cricketer, Jack Gregory and the owner of some fantastic memorabilia from her father. I feel sure Meehan and McAtamney and Co would love to get their hands on it. Vonnice is thinking of a cricketing museum for her treasures eventually. Sydenham suggested the M.C.G. and yours truly the S.C.G. so who knows! However we are all indebted to the Moodys for what has become the highlight of the Mortar Reunion. We have recently had contact with the Morts who, because of their now residing on the South Coast are the cause of this pleasurable sojourn and it is "all systems go". Unfortunately Joan has been hospitalised in Sydney for an eye operation but seems to be recovering well and we wish her the very best for the future. Those who attended are as follows: Berry and Vonnice Moody, Tom and Joan Mort, Larry and Yvonne Dooley, Tom and Peg Tracey and friend, Verna Gillespie and two friends, Fred and Pauline Taylor, Hugh and Doris Burgdorf, Bob and Nina Ferguson, Max and Pat Sydenham, George and Pat Walton, Bill and Bonnie Panter, Freda Thomas, Keith and Rita Bailey, Lindsay and Lillian Hope, Bob Warilow and wife and Bill and Gwen MacLennan.

#### DEATH

#### NOTICE.

It is with regret that we announce the death of our South Western N.S.W. country Vice-President ARTIE KLEEM of YOUNG. He died very suddenly on Tuesday morning, the 22nd JULY 1986. His cremation was to take place at the Orange Crematorium on the 24th July. Pres. Alf Carpenter and a few others from the Metropolitan area were going to Orange to attend the funeral. No details to hand as we go to print.

Editor.



The monthly meeting of the Association was held on Tuesday, 24th June, at the usual venue of the Gallipoli Memorial Club. There was a change made with the time of commencement at this meeting, a change that will prove to be a vast improvement to all who attend. To all our members in the country and interstate, please note that the commencement time of the general meeting is now at 2pm in the Anzac Room off the vestibule on the ground floor. This does away with that wait we had for the dining area on the first floor. President Alf Carpenter opened the meeting, by making the visitors and 'long time no see' members very welcome. These were: Arch Cunningham of 19th Bde HQ Sigs, Andrew Phillips of the Garrison Artillery, our visitors. Arch having accompanied Sir Ivan on the trip to Greece and Crete recently, Bruce Cork from Gold Coast Qld, Rex Everson who has had a fairly rough time with his knees, and last but not least 'Squizzie' Taylor who we have not seen for many a day. As we have said before in these columns, there is always a big welcome to any member or visitor to our meetings, whom we have not seen for any length of time. The main business of the meeting was the proposed coach tour to Cairns and The Tablelands, incorporating a stay at the islands in the Whitsunday Passage, also a visit to Lavarack Barracks at Townsville. Ernie Bowdidge has been contacted also Chris White at Gordonvale. From what your editor has been told, it looks like being a good tour, and will prove a popular one. The same coach and driver will be available that took the crowd to Perth and back. Rough details at the moment, it will be 19 days duration starting at Newcastle 1st August 1987, all dinners, beds & breakfasts at Motels, and some lunches. Cost per person approximately \$1200-. Booking deposit \$120- per person. A complete itemised itinerary will be published in October issue of 'White over Green'. Alf stressed one thing most important, that is, those who contemplate undertaking this tour must be in reasonable health and physical condition.

The Inverell re-union organisers report all is well with the undertaking and bookings, a separate paragraph appears elsewhere in this issue. Pension's officer John Hawkins reported that he has handled quite a number of applications, some of which have been successful, others are in the pipeline ready to be processed. Treasurer Allan Lindsay delivered his report on the financial status of the Association, his balance sheet for the period ending June proved to be quite a healthy one, thereby proving to members that his management of Association funds has been sound and productive. Welfare officer Harry Wright gave his report, this will be combined with the July one and published as one in 'White over Green'. He did give out notice of the death of Reg (Pommie) Cole and Peter Armstrong. Editor not being present, sent a verbal report per Peter Cade, that our newsletter 'White Over Green' is now registered with Aust Post as a bi-monthly publication, that all conditions as laid down by that Dept have been met with meticulous care and meet the regulations of weight and size with a four page (extra foolscap) issue if so & when desired. Alf reported on the Church Service at St Annes and the presentation of the 2/4th Aust Inf Bn plaque to the Rector, The Rev. Tipping. The plaque was presented to the Rector by our Patron Sir Ivan Dougherty, who spoke on behalf of all the 4th Battalion's, past and present.

In general business, which was of a negative nature, John Meehan, our past minutes secretary, who accompanied Sir Ivan Dougherty and others on the recent trip to Greece & Crete gave members present a very enlightening address on the tour and the highlights of his trip to the former battle areas and consequently further tripping around in Palestine & Egypt a long with Bruce Cork. His talk was received with great acclamation from the members present.

Harry Gjedsted in his passing, addressed the meeting on the poor attendance at the church parade at St Annes, also on the bad reporting of names in the apologies and attendance lists. (Told you Harry those Gremlins do get in or is it the leprechauns, don't know which, but either will do. You know we don't do a bad job when you consider some of the signatures in the attendance book look as if a spider crawled across the page leaving its trademark. Those who attended the meeting: Pres. Alf Carpenter, U. Pres. Allan Lindsay, Sec. Fred Staggs, John Hawkins, Harry Wright, Norm Auberson, Ted Fox, George Stack, John Meehan, Bruce Cork, Curly Gorman, Wally Shaw, John Ringrose, Frank Ivey, Barney Turley, Jim Foreman, Bob Fergusson, Jim Graham, Ron Barber, Dave Follington, Wally Lambourne, 'Slim' Pollock, Nap Allavoine, Lionel Clark, Mick O'Regan, 'Squizzie' Taylor, Alex Maxwell, 'Slim' Uenn, Sid Buckley, Pat Bruty, Rex Everson, George Mitchell, Bill MacLennan, Wally Mangan, Les Jones, Jack Partridge, Peter Cade, Bill Fogden, Bill Parry, 'Biscuits' Arnott, Uic Forbes, oh and Harry Gjedsted. Apologies for non attendance: Sir Ivan, Ken Kesteven, Laurie Waterhouse, Athol Heath, Ferd Pegg, Cec Chrystal, 'Slim' Powers, Cec Lawson, Ken Richardson, Brian Waring, G. Moore. Meeting closed 3-30pm, with the usual happy hour following.



### CHURCH PARADE AT ST ANNE'S 1986

The above Church parade was held on Sunday, June 22nd 1986, on a pleasant sunny day. The march to the Church was marred by the streets in the immediate vicinity of the church being closed off by the local council. However, the initiative of the 4th Bns came to the fore, and the barriers and tank traps set up, proved futile because Norm Harries, the Marshal for the parade, had done his reconnaissance well, and was able to get the band and following parade through the obstacles without much inconvenience, and up to the church. The attendance this year was very poor never the less the spirit was there, sure in the knowledge that a little spiritual uplift doesn't do any harm, no matter who we are. The usual afternoon tea followed, this being supplied by the good ladies of St Anne's Church group. During the afternoon tea, Alf Carpenter called all to attention while he asked Sir Ivan Dougherty to present the 2/4th Aust Inf Battalion plaque to the Rector of the Diocese the Rev Angus Tipping. He responded by saying that he realised the significance of the plaque and what it represented, adding that it would hold a very cherished spot within the church, for all present and future congregations to see. The plaque is inscribed with the Battle Honours and the Decorations won in its various campaigns. Those who attended on behalf of the 2/4th Inf Bn Ass, as follows: Sir Ivan Dougherty, Ken & Fi Kesteven, Laurie & Joy Waterhouse, Ted & Heather Fox, Bob & Nina Fergusson, Harry & Marj Gjedsted, Bill & Gwen MacLennan, Allan & Gloria Lindsay, Norm & Nita Auberson, John & Nell Hawkins, Alf Carpenter & Doreen, Dave Follington, Alex Dick, Frank Ivey, Harold & Del Silver, Mollie Irvine and George Ribot of the old 4th Inf Bn, 1st AIF. Apologies received from Vera Walsh, Morrie & Margaret Porter and Slim Powers.

### 21ST BIRTHDAY OF 4R.N.S.W. REGT.

The celebration of the 21st birthday of the formation of the 4th Bn Royal New South Wales Regiment took place at the H.Q's of the Regiment, Arncliffe, on Sunday, 29th June 1986. It took the form of a ceremonial guard and colour party participating in a parade, marching the colours of the Regiment in a march past the Colonel of the Regt., Maj. General Gordon Maitland and the reviewing officer, the Commander of the 2nd Military Division, Maj. Gen. R.G. Fay. This was followed by the inspection of the Guard and the beating of The Retreat by the Drum Corps, followed by the firing of volleys by the guard. A short service followed and the parade addressed by the reviewing officer. The ceremony concluded with the ceremonial departures of the various Commanders, the colours being marched off and finally the ceremonial guard and the band march off. Quite a spectacular ceremony and a very ancient one too. One thing that marred the ceremony was the cold biting westerly wind that blew throughout the day. After the ceremony, the guests were then invited to the cutting of the cake ceremony and later partake in a buffet and other refreshments. Those who attended on behalf of the 2/4th Inf Bn Ass. as follows: Sir Ivan & Lady Dougherty, President Alf Carpenter, S. Vice Pres. Allan Lindsay, Harry & Marj Gjedsted, Ted & Heather Fox, Norm & Nita Auberson, Ken & Fi Kesteven, Harold & Del Silver, John Meehan, Bob Fergusson, Doreen Manuel, Norm Harries. Once again that great stalwart of the old 4th Inf Bn 1st AIF was in attendance, George Ribot. We are led to believe that this ceremony will be one of the last that the present serving Commanding Officer, Lt Col. Graham Fleeton would be in attendance. Lt Col. Graham Fleeton moves onto another posting, having completed his term as C.O. of the 4 Bn R.N.S.W. Regt. We wish him well in his new posting.

### NEWCASTLE NEWS FOR JUNE

On June 6th at the Hamilton R.S.L. Club, several of the Newcastle 2/4th members and their wives met for the usual monthly get together. Those attending as follows: Alf Carpenter, Doreen Manuel, Doug & Deidre Milne, Pat & Gwen Bruty. Of course Mary & Jack Partridge travelled up from Terrigal and stayed with Heather & George Mitchell, they too joined in. Also on this occasion, it was a case of wishing all happiness and future wedded bliss on Pat & Gwen Bruty, for their thirty fourth wedding anniversary. I am sure all our members will join in, even though a little late in wishing them good wishes for a continued partnership. Jack Partridge, George Mitchell and Pat Bruty visited Frank Wright at his home in Belmont. They found him home and enjoying reasonable health, has a problem with his eyes. Frank sends his best wishes to all in the Association. George Mitchell's son Guy and his wife have just presented them with a gorgeous little granddaughter (get no sense out of George now). Whilst talking of grandchildren we have it on reliable authority that Alf Carpenter has become a grandfather again. Congratulations to our President on the birth of second grandchild.



VISITED AT CONCORD.

NX5162. Tom Dawson. Ward 19. Ulcer on leg, be in hospital six weeks.  
 NX127149. John Anelzark. Ward 130. Operation on Spine, since discharged.  
 NX3654. Colin Campbell. Was in for tests, since discharged.  
 NX68706. Ern Swain. Ward 34. Nervous problems.  
 NX11215. Les Leech. Ward 430. Knee replacement operation.  
 NX5326. Edgar Sparkes. (Vince) Ward 230. Gall bladder problems.  
 Mary Mann. Ward 210. Was in for tests, since discharged.

VISITED SUTHERLAND HOSPITAL.

NX9846. Cec Powers (Slim) Breathing problems, after accidentally trying to burn his unit down. Now O.K. and discharged.

VISITED AT MOSMAN NURSING HOME

NX58. Cec Chrystal. No change in condition, far from well.

VISITED AT LADY DAVIDSON HOSPITAL.



NX164. John Copland. Ward "F". Had a fall at home, broke big toe and suffered bruising. Recovering well, very bright in spirit.

VISITED AT MILTON NURSING HOME, ROEVILLE.

Lady Mackay. Ward "A". Has been visited by Ted & Heather Fox also by Enid Latimer. Lady Mackay is now very frail but mentally alert.

VISITED AT BAULKHAM HILLS HOSPITAL.

NX68484. Les Anderson. In for surgery on leg.  
 Laurie Waterhouses reported that Nx 5855, Stan Blacksley is in WAGGA WAGGA BASE HOSPITAL with Bladder problems also that Harry Lindsey of Harefield, WAGGA is also suffering ill health.  
 Norm Rogers of Narrandera Reports that Jim James is in Hospital, not to well, This was reported at the beginning of July.

	<u>LAST</u>	<u>POST</u>	
	NX 2048.	COLE, R.A. (Pom)	
	NX 32136.	ARMSTRONG, PETER,	
	NX 5141.	WAKE, R.C.	
	NX 5948.	KLEEM, A.E. (Artie)	

OBITUARY. -- Reg. Cole (Pom) Died on 31st May, after a series of heart attacks. His Funeral took place at Woronora Lawn Cemetry after a short service at the Bankstown Funeral parlor. Those present at the graveside representing the 2/4th Bn Ass. -- Laurie Waterhouse, Harry Wright, Dick Pinson, Cec Powers. Padstow R.S.L. conducted the ex-servicemen's service.

PROGRAMME FOR INVERELL COUNTRY RE+UNION.

FRIDAY. 10th OCTOBER, '86. From 6pm, members can register and obtain all their tickets, name cards and other relevant information, afterwards join the get-together in the special part of the Club put aside for the 2/4 Bn

SATURDAY. 11th OCTOBER '86. -- From 10am onwards, members to register at the Club. Special section of Club set aside for the Bn Ass. use during the day. PARADE to form up at Memorial side of the Inverell of Fire Station at 5.30PM. March to the War Memorial for short service and Wreath laying ceremony. (March route approx. 100 metres). Immediately after, straight to the Club auditorium for the official Welcome and Dinner.

SUNDAY. 12th OCTOBER, '86. -- Embus at the Inverell R.S.M. CLUB for the drive to MORRIS'S HONEY FARM. Thence unto the COPETON DAM for a Bar-B-Que and refreshments at approx. 12.30pm. At 3.30pm return to Inverell Club for a rwst and clean up. 6.30pm. High Tea and final get to-gether in the auditorium. "AULD LANG SYNE".

Most people will be leaving MONDAY morning, 13th OCT. However, for those staying on, an added attraction for you will be a visit to the Pioneer Village on the TINGHA road and to the GILGAI WINERY further on 10 Km. Go to the WINERY AT 11am and come back to the PIONEER VILLAGE, which opens at 2pm. One thing though, we would like to know a week in advance if th this visit is desired. So that we can arrange transport and let the ladies who run the village, so that they will know how many to cook Damper for. Their specialty- Tea, Damper and Cocky's Joy. Cost \$2.50 plus \$1.00 for the damper. O.K. Courtesy Ross Smith. Inverell R.S.M. CLUB.

ANOTHERCENTENARIAN

Your editor has received news, one of our members has a mother stil living who will be a 100 years old very soon. That member is of course WALLY SHAW, whose Mother MRS AMALIA SHAW will be 100 years of age on the 12th SEPT. 1986.

Mrs Amalia Shaw migrated to Australia from South America where she was born. Have not been able to get any more details, Wally did not divulge much information our informant. Think congratulations will be the order of the day to Wally's mother, when the Association holds its August meeting. Mrs Amalia Shaw is an inmate of the Uniting Church Nursing Home in Norton St, Leichardt. Lets us hope when the great day arrives she will enjoy it.



# 6 INVERELL COUNTRY RE-UNION FOR 1986

Here is the final list of bookings, received on 16th JULY 1986.  
Accommodation in the Motels listed below are completely booked out by the 2/4th Bn Assoc. members for the re-union.

INVERELL MOTEL. Booked out 17/2/86.  
COUSIN'S MOTOR INN. " 15/2/86.  
SAPHIRE CITY MOTEL. " 3/3/86.  
TWIN SWANS MOTEL " " 29/4/86.

## ROYAL HOTEL/MOTEL.

Stronach, Lang & Colleen.---	Unit 7.
Forbes, Vic. -----	Unit 15.
Curran, Cliff & Aileen-----	" 3.
Watts, Athol & Hazel -----	" 8.
Lyons, John.-----	" 17.
RAE, Bookie' & Margaret---	" 4.
Copely, Bill & Mildred-----	" 5.
Peacock, Kevin.-----	" 18.
Roach, 'Lascar' & John-----	" 24.
Gattenhof, Frank & Norma.---	" 23.
Nerney, Max & Edna-----	" 22.
Taylor, Carol.-----	" 16.
King, Geoff & Maida.-----	" 19.
Rixon, Bob & Pam-----	" 20.
Smith, David & Judith-----	" 21.

Only three single units left as at 11/7/86.

The above completes the Motel accommodation in Inverell.

## Inverell Caravan Park

Partridge, Jack & Mary.  
Mitchell, George & Heather.  
Coles, 'King' & Rosa.  
Kirk, Allan & Carma.  
Armstrong, Maude and son  
(Peter dec'd. since booking,  
confirmation required).

## OTHERS (Including private arrangements)

Bowman, Harold & Noni.  
Geelan, Chris.  
Winfield, Mick & Jess.

Don't forget, all bookings must go  
to ROSS SMITH. 46, URABATTA ST.  
INVERELL, 2360. This most important.

## Arrangements and Programme for The Re-Union.

FRIDAY ARRIVALS (Train to Tamworth, bus to Inverell) 6.40pm, bus to meet you  
and take you to accommodation, vehicle for disabled.

MONDAY DEPARTURE (Bus to Tamworth, Train to Sydney) 6.25am, Bus will take  
you from your accommodation to Railway Bus.

TUESDAY DEPARTURE Bus to Tamworth, train to Sydney) 6.40am.  
All Departures, be ready at your Motel or Hotel 1/4 hour before.

FRIDAY ARRIVALS (Northern Bus) approx. 4pm. You will be met and taken to your  
Motel or Hotel.

MONDAY DEPARTURE, Northern Bus leaving 9.45am, will meet you at your MOTEL  
or HOTEL. be ready 1/4 hour beforehand.

TUESDAY " Northern Bus leaving 9.45am, will meet you at your MOTEL  
or HOTEL. be ready 1/4 hour before Hand.

SUNDAY-- At about 9.30am, five buses will do the rounds of the accommodat-  
and leave for the R.S.M. Club for the trip out to the Honey Farm  
and COPETON DAM, at 10am. The same buses will pick you up at your  
accommodation and take you to the club for HIGH TEA. Cabs are available at  
the club, if you so desire and at your own expense.

PLANES-- People travelling by plane, please let ROSS SMITH know one week  
beforehand, the actual day & Flight you will be using, so that he  
arrange transport on arrival and on departure.

## MOST IMPORTANT (VERY)

Every one ATTENDING THE RE+UNION must REGISTER at the R.S.M. CLUB, so that  
you are issued with tickets of entry to the Saturday and Sunday functions  
This is to assist in the accountability of paying for everything on the  
weekend. REMEMBER---NO TICKET -NO TUCKER.

## WESTERN AUSTRALIAN NEWS.

A letter was received from Doug Slinger, unfortunately he had very little  
news to convey. A few of the crowd are away in other states and Dasher and  
Lily Deacon are not back from overseas yet. He himself and his wife Wilma  
are only just back from their trip to Hong Kong, They were having a get  
together at the ANZAC CLUB in Perth and will be presenting a 2/4th Bn  
plaque to the Club and I believe it will hang along side that of the 2/11  
Bn and 2/16 th Bn respectfully. We will hear all about it next issue.



## PERTH COACH TOUR CONTINUED

In the June issue, we left our tourists in Adelaide, having some free time in the City. In this issue we take up the description from there. Yours truly accompanied by Joy, spent the free time having lunch in the Rundle Mall, at one of the open air sit down areas, enjoying a break after trudging through the many shops and stores. Whilst having lunch of croissants with bacon and ham, we had the good fortune to hear the Royal Yacht Britannia's band. This is no ordinary band, every member is hand picked more or less, and their ability to play not one, but three or four instruments was evidenced, when we heard and saw them play, their music was fantastic. After the beautiful morning we had spent, it was back to the Motel to pick up the coach for a tour of some of the stately homes and areas and then onto "Garrick Hill", a beautiful Tudor Mansion, set in lovely colourful gardens and spacious lawns. This Mansion was built around a beautiful old stair case and some old panelling, dating back to Queen Elizabeth I. It was built by the owner of John Martins big store in Adelaide in 1935. The furniture, (some of it centuries old), the paintings and bric-a-brac are priceless. The South Aust. Government acquired it, and with a staff of gardeners and caretakers, they keep it in very good order. It is open to the general public on certain days of the week. It was through the efforts of Peter Denver, that we enjoyed the visit to this lovely old Mansion. It was like taking a step back into history. Outside amidst the lawns and flower gardens, the camera worked very busily (results being well rewarding), the colour was all there. By the time we had photographed all in sight, it was time to return to the Motel, to change for the South Australian re-union dinner. This was held at the West Croydon-Kilkenny R.S.L. Bowling Club. Here we were welcomed by the President, Tom Hart, his wife, and Peter and Pat Denver, in a very informal atmosphere. Chairman of the dinner was Peter, who cut speeches to a minimum, introduced everyone and bid everyone welcome. President, Tom Hart, himself a member of the 2/4 Inf Bn then welcomed the tourists, specially the 2/1st Field Regt. personnel, saying it was a unique occasion, one he had looked forward to for sometime. He hoped the visitors would enjoy their trip through South Aust. and wished them good travelling and an enjoyable stay in Perth. President Alf responded, thanking the West Croydon-Kilkenny R.S.L. for the welcome and the great hospitality shown to the tourists. He paid special tribute to the ladies of the Auxillary, who went to a lot of trouble and care in catering for the dinner, also to the pianist who provided the music for the evening. Plaques were presented to the President of the R.S.L. in recognition of the visit of the coach tourists. It was well past the closing time by the time everyone said their goodbyes and were ushered onto the coach. So ended another re-union in the Association's history. Those who attended from South Aust. were: Peter and Pat Denver, Tom Hart and his wife, Dr and Mrs Fred Dibden, George and Mrs Walton, Ron and Yvonne Maczkowiak, Betty Rungie, Owen Harrison, L. Loiterton, and of course "Robbie". Apologies to anyone whose name I have missed, having to rely on memory. The following morning we did a quick tour of the City and then headed west to go up to the country to see Hindmarsh Island, Victor Harbour and a look at the scenic view of the mouth of the River Murray, where it enters the ocean. Lunch was had at the Goolwa R.S.L. in the form of a barbecue, with liquid refreshments supplied. This proved to be very enjoyable to all, once again plaques were presented to Peter Denver on behalf of the Goolwa R.S.L. After a quick look around the area, it was back on the coach to go to Crafers for the evening, and so with a leisurely drive back through the Mt Lofty ranges, viewing the damage caused by the 1983 bushfires at Mt Lofty and part of Crafers, Peter Denver once again acting as our commentator and giving us a description as we travelled through the area. We arrived at Crafers Hotel to have a leisurely evening meal, with a few drinks. It wasn't the Crafers Hotel we knew in the 1942 era. It had been extended to cope with the modern style of wining and dining. Here we had a very good meal and a few drinks to see us on our way back to Adelaide and the motel. However, before leaving the area, we went back to the Mt Lofty lookout for a look at the night lights of Adelaide, worth the effort, a beautiful sight. The following morning, it was farewell to Adelaide, and so we left this lovely city, travelling through the northern suburbs and up into the Barossa Valley, stopping to see the "whispering wall" of the dam that supplies the valley with water. We simply had to have a wine tasting, now that we were at the Barossa, so into the big winery of Orlando Wines we went. Here we were made very welcome and tasted a few of their outstanding wines and some of us purchased a bottle or two for the "wardrobe".



## PERTH COACH TOUR CONTINUED

From Barossa it was up to the Clare Valley, but no fasting there, stopping at a little village called Springton, to view an old gumtree that had been home to a German family, way back in the 1890's. They lived in this tree for five years, a remarkable feat considering they had 18 children, here again a very much photographed tree. From Springton up to Gladstone and Laura. Here we saw the great wheat belt of South Aust. and saw for the first time, the huge road trains that cart the wheat to the terminals, thence into Port Augusta. A brief drive around the town-ship and a look at the harbour and surrounding waterfront, before stopping at the motel for the evening. It was becoming quite a habit, this wining and dining each night, with a few "tinnies" thrown in, in between meal times. Custodian of the light refreshment bar on the coach, Norm Auberson, did a magnificent job with supplies. Our night at Port Augusta was quite an eventful one, what with Abo's coming in to see what they could lift off the clothes line and to say nothing of the emergence of the "Halleys Comet Club", to be followed by a familiar vocabulary. It appears the two members of the Comet Club paraded outdoors at 4am. endeavouring to exert possible new members with great enthusiasm only to be met by a stream of threats of certain actions. One gentleman being disturbed at such an ungodly hour of the morning, made the suggestion that the members of the Halleys Comet Club, could bloody well jump on Halleys Comet and go places. (not very complimentary). However, at breakfast later, the said watchers of Halleys Comet came in for some roastings and took it all in good stride. All these things go to make a tour very interesting, to make it even better, it was the morning of St Patricks day. So it was on that spirit of old Ireland, that the coach rolled out of Port Augusta en route for Whyalla and Iron Knob. The theme on the coach that day was Irish jokes and songs but somehow Ross Smith got Scotland involved, of course we all know St Patrick came from Scotland. I don't know where they unearthed the yarns and stories from, but they certainly reeked of the Blarney. Whoever heard of a Scotsman playing an Irish flute, referring to Smithy and his tin whistle. Talking of entertainment on the coach, there was no lack of it. First of all, we had Barry (coach driver) with his daily philosophies, Professor Carpenter with his morning lectures on Hypnosis and Physical Fitness etc, Ross Smith and hilarious flute playing, Harry Whitman a very able story spinner, along with Jim Foreman. Then of course we had Dr Wright, that TV character, in the person of Horrie Crossfield (Horrie the Wog Dog) in between all these acts we had "Bo Bo" Bertram, sliding down the aisle of the coach, tending to the parched throats of the various passengers. It was on this St Patricks Day 1986 that the very matured and mellow singing of a group of old rockers, called the "Wogettes" was heard for the first time. I don't know whether they will reach the high levels of fame as a singing group, but they did a terrific job. They were: Vera Walsh, Joan Hart, Nell Hawkins, Nita Auberson. So you see the coach passengers certainly had a variety of entertainment, even though the quality was lacking, the enthusiasm was very high, and was greatly appreciated. After a good look at Whyalla and the steelworks and ship-building complex, and morning tea at the bleak area of Iron Knob, it was on down the coast of Spencers Gulf and across to the big wheat town of Wudinna for lunch. Afterwards a stop to have a look at Mount Wudinna, a miniature Ayres Rock, also to see another rock formation known as Turtle Rock, and then the long run through the big wheat belt down to Ceduna. It had been rather a hot day and everyone was pleased to get to the motel for the night. Once again a very good dinner and a few cans of Swan or Fosters. The Halleys Comet Club did not show the enthusiasm it had the previous night, oh they were up alright, but I think the cloudy skies dampened the willingness somewhat. In the morning, after a very good breakfast and an early start it was off to cross the long road to Eucla and the start of the Eyre Hwy across the great Nullabor Plain. First stop was at the township of Peung. Then on the road to Yalatta Aboriginal Reserve for a morning 'cuppa', thence onto Nullabor Homestead for lunch, which was very welcome indeed, as a hot north easterly wind was blowing very strong. We stopped at a couple of the lookouts to view the cliffs on the Bight. These are very spectacular to see and a photographers dream. The wind was so strong, those with cameras could not get too close to the edge, therefore no spectacular shots were undertaken. Then another stop at the border of S.A. and W.A. for the cameras, before making the run into Eucla, arriving there with some time to spare, so we went and had a look at the old telegraph station, now practically covered over with sand. Only about five feet of the chimney showing. The old wharf is intact and is used by the locals to fish from, and occasionally a tuna boat pulls in there. Not a very good place to live, those people who worked at the station must have led a very monotonous life style.