

# White and 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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There will be no meeting for DECEMBER, Instead the Xmas Get Together will be held. The date-- 17th DECEMBER. between 2pm and 5pm.

JANUARY MEETING--- TUESDAY, 27th JANUARY, 1987. 2pm in the ANZAC ROOM.

Our Patron, the President and committee of the Association, convey to all members their good wishes for an enjoyable festive season. Hope you all have a Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year. May Good health and Happiness be yours and for your loved ones through out the coming year.

## MONTHLY MEETING - NOVEMBER 1986

The above meeting was held on Tuesday 25th November 1986 at the Gallipoli Memorial Club, in the new Anzac Room, some fifty two people turned out for this meeting, including a couple of visitors, one of them from 4 R.N.S.W. Regt.- 'Pancho' Black. Those in attendance at the general meeting:- Sir Ivan Dougherty, President Alf Carpenter, Treasurer Allen Lindsay, Secretary Fred Staggs, Laurie Waterhouse, John Hawkins, John Meehan, Ted Fox, Ferd Pegg, Athol Heath, Harry Wright, Norm Auberson, Ken Kesteven, George Stack, Vic Forbes, John Ringrose, Pat Bruty, 'Curly' Gorman, 'Lascar' Roach, Dick Pinson, Slim Powers, Jack Partridge, Jim Graham, Ray Campbell, Wally Shaw, Alex Maxwell, Jim Foreman, Ron Barber, Barney Turley, Frank Ivey, Bill Parry, George Mitchell, Cec Lawson, Dave Follington, 'Tich' Fordham, Ken Richardson, Slim Venn, Bill Fogden, Peter Cade, 'Mick' O'Regan, Bob Fergusson, Harold Bowman, Jack Garvie, Lionel Clarke, 'Squizzie' Taylor, Nap Alavoine, 'Biscuits' Arnott, Trevor Richardson, Wally Johnson, Wal Lambourne, Ron Phillips (visitor), Pancho Black (4 RNSW Regt.). Apologies received from: Cec Chrystal, John Copland, Les Jones, Sid Buckley, Harry Gjedsted, Rex Everson.

President Alf Carpenter opened the meeting by welcoming our Patron Sir Ivan Dougherty, members and the visitors, then called the meeting for one minutes silence, in honour of departed comrades and reciting the 'Infanteers Ode'. Much of the routine work, such as dealing with correspondence and payment of accounts had been carried out in committee. Two most interesting items came out of the meeting. They were firstly, the written resignation of our present Editor as from 31st December 1986, secondly the appointment and acceptance to the position as from the 1st January 1987, of Ted Fox.



Arrangements are being planned for the removal of all the relevant materials and machines associated with the production of 'White Over Green' journal, and will be housed at the Gallipoli Club. The retiring editor is moving residence up to Kirra in Qld, and moves at the end of January '87. Also discussed and recommended was the nomination of life membership for the Annual General meeting. Several letters worth mentioning, one from the Greek Hellenic & Australian Memorial Committee, outlining the form and lay out of the proposed Memorial in Canberra and its cost. One from Ross Smith thanking the Association executive and all those who helped in making the Inverell re-union the success it was. Letters from Doug Slinger re their Xmas get together & windup for the year, also elaborating on the death of George A Smith, NX4697, he was definitely a 2/4th Inf Bn member. Mrs Margaret Whitaker wrote a thankyou letter in appreciation of the support given by members of the Assoc. to her on the death of her late husband Jim recently. Secretary reported on letters sent out to the Inverell reunion Committee, Sec-Manager of the Inverell R.S.M. Club, to the local Inverell Vietnam Veterans Ass for their help at the reunion. Treasurer Allen Lindsay, gave a very comprehensive outline of the Association's finances, giving details of the expenditure and profits derived at the reunion. Consequently the Associations funds have been bolstered somewhat. Allen explained to members that the funds have to be kept at a certain level, to assure a source of finance for the 50th Anniversary 1989, which is expected to be heavy. His final summary of total funds as at 25 Nov. being \$15540-. President Alf in his report, summarised from a letter received from "Chick" Sleeman on the 1987 Country Reunion - Venue of which will be Nelsons Bay. The most important thing though, he said was that it will be a mid week series of functions, date has been set as October 20th, 21st, 22nd - Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday. Members are to familiarise themselves with this format and the dates. Pres. Alf also announced that the Cairns trip has been booked out, and he has a waiting list in case cancellations. General Business: Allen Lindsay addressed the meeting thanking the members for turning out as they did for the late "Slim" Pollocks funeral, specially to Sir Ivan for the fine eulogy delivered at the service. Pat Bruty presented to the Sec-Manager, Harry Gjedsted, a framed replica of "The Grace" composed by the late Dick Morris for use at all 2/4th Inf Bn official dinners, with the "Infanteers Ode" presented underneath. This will hang on the wall in the Anzac Room. Vic Forbes spoke about a recent trip to Canberra and visiting David Wren, who sends his regards to all and sundry. Bob Fergusson spoke on the new classification of 'Detainees' to be applied to P.O.W.'s by Veterans Affairs Dept. George Mitchell, who is on the Nelsons Bay reunion committee, gave a brief run down on the format to be undertaken, dinner at the Youth Centre, trips to the Myall Lakes, B.B.Q if possible at Williamstown RAAF Base. The retiring editor spoke to the meeting, mentioning the fact, the newsletter depends on its sources of news and information and for the various people in other states, who have been regular news suppliers such as Doug Slinger in Perth, Laurie McCosker in Brisbane, George Mitchell at Newcastle, Erri Riordan from Kempsey, and Allan Kirk of Lismore. To these people a big thank you indeed, your support has been greatly appreciated and hope that you will accord the same standard of news to the incoming editor in the future.

At the conclusion of the meeting, our Patron, Sir Ivan Dougherty addressed the meeting, saying that it is always a pleasure to go along to a meeting of the 2/4th Inf Bn Ass. knowing that there is that atmosphere of efficient procedural debate in dealing with the affairs of the Association and thanked the President and the executive for achieving that high standard. He went on to wish all members present a very happy festive season and hoped to see all their smiling faces in the new year. After the meeting, the happy hour took over in the dining area, set aside for Association by courtesy of the Sec Manager Harry Gjedsted. Final reminder, don't forget the Xmas get together, 2pm till 5pm on the dining room level. Bring your wife, daughters, even the girlfriend. Just be there, Wednesday, 17th December.

Mr K Haigh (a member of the former 9th Aust Division), 9 Wylde Pl, Macquarie, A.C.T. 2610 (Phone 062 51 5273).

Has requested, on behalf of a friend and neighbour, who was a child in Crete in May 1941, to try to locate an Australian soldier who was sheltered, cared for and hidden from the Germans by his family (no doubt at great risk). The only information available is that the soldiers surname was ANDREWS, the name of the family who sheltered him was KATSANEVAKIS and the name of the village where the succour was given was ZEROS. It would be deeply appreciated if unit or kindred ex-service organisations would find space in their journals in order that some effort be made to try to locate Mr Andrews. If necessary contact Mr K Haigh (as above) or S. McDougal on 02 797 8284



SPECIAL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING NOTICE.

The 1987 Annual General Meeting of the 2/4 Australian Infantry Battalion Association will be held on TUESDAY the 24th FEBRUARY 1987. To be held in the ANZAC ROOM at the GALLIPOLI MEMORIAL CLUB. LOFTUS ST SYDNEY.  
Time of meeting ---- 2Pm. Lunch may be had in dining room- 12noon--2Pm.



Dispite the inclement weather quite a good attendace was had for the month of October, some forty five members, including a visitor from the 2/17 Inf. Battalion. Those who attended were as follows:- Alf Carpenter, Fred Staggs, Laurie Waterhouse, John Hawkins, Harry Wright, Ferd Pegg, Ted Fox, John Meehan, Norm Auberson, Athol Heath, George Stack, John Ringrose, Wally Mangan, Cec Lawson, Pat Bruty, Bob Fergusson, Les Jones, Doug Milne, George Mitchell, Jack Partridge, Barney Turley, Mick O'Regan, Dick Pinson, Harold Bowman, 'Tich' Fordham, Jack Dubber, Vic Forbes, Dave Follington, 'Slim' Powers, Peter Cade, Lionel Clarke, Trevor Richardson. Bill Parry, Frank Ivey, Alex Maxwell, 'Nap' Alavoine, Wally Johnson, 'Slim' Venn, Merv Nicholson, Jack Garvi, Tom Tracey, 'Curly' Gorman, John Holman (2/17th Inf Bn) Ron Phillips (Coastal Ar). Apologies received from the following:- Allan Lindsay, Cec Chrysal, Ken Kesteven, 'Slim' Pollock, Jim Foreman, John Copland, Sid Buckley, Brian Waring, 'Biscuits' Arnott, Jim Graham, Wally Shaw, Rex Everson, Ron Barber, Harry Gjedsted, also Gordon Chrisp,

President Alf Carpenter opened the meeting by calling for one minute silence for fallen and departed comrades in arms and reciting 'The Ode'. He then went on to welcome the members and visitors, especially Wally Johnson, as this was his first attendance at a meeting, the other special attendee being John Holman of the 2/17th Inf Bn. who was invited to the meeting by one of our members, and made very welcome.

Business of the meeting was very light, mainly dealing with correspondence and reports. General business proved to be of a negative nature,

Correspondence in, came from Ern Bowdidge re the arrangements being made for the Cairns & Tablelands tour next August 1987, Things are well in hand for a B.B.Q. At Herberton and probably a visit to the Laverack barracks at Townsville. A letter from Doug Slinger re the News that the 2/11th Inf Bn memorial tablet in King's Park, Perth had been Vandallised he had been in touch with 2/11th Bn Ass. Letter received from Harry Hamburger With a donation to the treasury, a letter from Norm Rogers for three Miniture medals and a donation to Kalamate fund, A letter from Mrs Beasley regarding medals. Thank you cards received from Mrs Rita Casey and Family, from Mrs Betty Ford and family. Mrs Ford was very appreciative for the support given by the The Association at the funeral of her late husband Noel and for 'The Eulogy' delivered by Ted Fox. letter from Laurie McCosker re news of Members in the area. Also one from 'Dagwood' Jackson to the Editor re coverage of the past Inverell re-union.

Correspondence out consisted of letters to the Greek Consul sympathizing over the recent Kalamate Earthquake. To the 6th Aust Inf Div. replying to invitations for their recent luncheon. Also receipts sent out to members who are booked on the Cairns Tour.

Reports. President Alf reported on the Inverell reunion, saying it was a most enjoyable one also a very successful and well organised one as well. That Ross Smith in his capacity as Chairman of the organising committee and President of The Inverell R.S.M. Club should be highly commended for the amount of effort that he and his committee put into the whole show.

he secretary has been authorised to send a letter to Ross, the Sec-Manager and staff of the Inverell R.S.M. Club. Also a letter is to be sent to the Inverell Vietnam Veteran's Ass. for the part they played in making the the weekend a very memorable one to look back on.

The Trasurer being away up north again, consequently there was no balance sheet for the month, what accounts where presented, were passed for payment, Editor reported that would have to have the services of the technician to look over the copier machine, before printing next issue of W.O.G. also reported the long wait for the account for the supply of paper delivered almost two months ago.

Secretary had nothing to report, and the Welfare Officer Harry Wright read out the report on the months activities with Welfare and Hospital visiting and then gave us the names of those who have passed on and now have their names included in the Last Post. This report will appear elsewhere in this issue.

General Business brought little of importance, except that members were asked to attend a function at the Cenotaph On Friday, 31st October 1986. where a wreath laying ceremony was to held to commemorate the 91 Victoria Cross winners who have passed from this world, The remaining five that are still living would be attending. Later they would attend a function in the Queen Victoria Building, where a commemorationn plaque will be unveiled to honour the 96 V.C. winners of the Australian Armed Services, by SIR RODEN CUTLER, V C. It is expected that Nedda Kenna will be in attendance. Also that the 2/1st Fd Regt. Association will be holding their Xmas Dinner At the Gallipoli Club, in Beaumont St, Newcastle on The 7th November At 1pm Pension's Officer John Hawkins reported that he had had a number of pension applications from the reunion and other places, so he looks like being kept busy for next month or two, plus a couple of Tribunals to attend.

Meeting closed at 3pm, everyone gathering upstairs for 'One for the road!



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## INVERELL - a triumph in 1986

To say that our Battalion Re-union at Inverell was a great success would seem to be almost an under-statement!

It was indeed a great weekend - and enjoyable in so many ways... the warmth and enthusiasm of our reception: the good, all-round organisation; the ready co-operation of the staff of the host RSL club, the motels, and the bus and taxi services: and, of course, there was that very special sense of camaraderie and fellowship which seems to grow richer, and more meaningful with every re-union year by year.

Our reception left nothing to be desired. As in previous years, the 2/4th-ers came in their droves on Friday night, and many on Saturday morning - the great majority with their wives (and, pleasingly, quite a number of sons & daughters), some with "lady friends", some with new wives - making new lives after sadnesses of the past - and some few representing the "hard core" of bachelors whom we've known down the years.

### Welcome ...

We were all made so welcome at the Inverell R.S.M. Club. No, that didn't mean it was the special preserve of our President (ex-RSM) Alf, or former RSM "Robbie" of S.A., who regretfully couldn't be here this year). It means that Inverell is just one of very few RSL clubs in NSW which insists on being known as a Returned Servicemen's Memorial Club. A very nice idea when you come to think of it. May we never forget why we have a returned servicemen's club in the first place! And thank you, Rodger Eyles, Secretary/Manager of Inverell RSM Club for your letter of welcome, and extension of membership facilities of your club to all our members and their friends.

It was good to see members, both new and old, as they arrived: some proudly wearing the rich green and emblazoned jackets of the Association: others losing no time donning their 2/4th "tops" so attractively produced by Pres. Alf's Lifesaving club some 2-3 years ago ... and yet others appearing a little more formally but always distinguished by our Battalion tie and/or badge.

### Inter-state stalwarts

And wasn't it fun to have been able to greet them as members arrived from all parts of NSW and from almost all the other states - big "Dasher" Deacon and "Squatter" Slinger from W.A., the perennial (and ever youthful) Peter Denver and his team from S.A., Claude Raymond, with a goodly number of members from the "garden state" (Victoria), and, of course, Laurie McCosker and his merry men from "Joh's country". Once again it was great to welcome the old WW I stalwart, Harry Newhouse, an original of 4th Bn - smiling and sprightly as ever at 92 years. He is a great example of what some of us may be like in 25 years' time - we hope!

It wasn't long before we sighted President Alf, Jack Partridge, and other stalwarts from Newcastle and mid-north coast; Allan Kirk, Esca Riordan and genial Doug Grove from Kempsey and further north coast areas. Glad also to see Frank Crutchett, Jack Huston and others, representing the A.C.T. Allen Lindsay (SVP) and most of his hard working executives from Sydney and environs soon loomed on the horizon. We were sorry to note one conspicuous absence - our Editor, Laurie Waterhouse (& Joy) who was unable to be present due to some health problems. However, at the time of writing this report (17th October) we understand that results are encouraging, and Laurie hopes to be "batting on" with us for quite a while yet.

### Newcomers especially welcome

There were some great surprises through fellows turning up for the first time ever. Of special pleasure was the writer's meeting with NX 4541, John Wood, MM., originally mortar man, No. 9 Section, 11 Pl. "B" Coy, as per nominal roll, dated 20th June, 1940, and still in the possession of the then Section Leader, Cpl. P. R. Jackson (NX 9856). John won his award, and was later commissioned in 2/17th Bn. He is still every bit of his good looking self (perhaps perceptibly older?) and with his charming wife, Beth, appeared to be really enjoying this re-union.

Another 9 Section man, Alex Maxwell (NX 6098) and his wife, Jean, was also with us for the first time - thus making three of our original section present at this re-union. Not bad for 45 years on? There was a good sprinkling of "B" Coy men, as always, which just goes to show that we remain the "premier" company - though we realise that there may be some who would contest this? (Incidentally, in case you think I'm being "discriminating" there will be a complete list of all who were present at the end of this write-up!)

It was a long trip from Sydney (and many other places) though some had come only from Tamworth that day. So it wasn't long before we filtered back to our motels. The

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ever courteous Bob Fergusson insisted on returning your scribe and his wife to their, and we left to the strains of the Inverell Pipe Band which was apparently rehearsing for our march the next day. It was a grand finale to the first phase of our 1986 re-union.

### "The Sapphire City"

Saturday dawned cool and cloudy, but later in the day showed promise of clearing for our march, scheduled to start at 8.30 pm. That promise was fulfilled. We enjoyed exploring the town which was a hive of bustling activity. The "Salvos" had a big annual appeals stall in action. Legacy's Opportunity shop was a thriving centre run by a dedicated band of ladies, one of whom had been involved in this worthy project for over 22 years - just imagine!

A nice, clean, lively town with plenty of roadworks in progress (also in Tamworth). With a population of about 10,000 Inverell is known as the "Sapphire City". Some 80% of the world's sapphires are mined in this region. There were some beautiful specimens on display at the Twin Swans motel. Enid Latimer will certainly remember Inverell for these lovely gems, for she was the lucky winner of the sapphire which was raffled at the re-union. A beauty, too. Congratulations, Enid.

Next stop was, of course, the RSM Club. More fraternising, more arrivals. Good bistro service and drinks to match. Thirsts quenched, but throats getting a bit sore. We wonder why...

The weather was cooler than usual for this time of the year, but some people can never resist the urge to explore pools at their motels, no matter how unseasonable. A certain Wagga couple did just that at the "Twin Swans" and what happened? You guessed it. Clunk went the (childproof) gate and no way could they get it opened. Over the fence? No, too high. Out the gate at the far end of the pool - yes, but that area was all sealed off, and only got us into the wood-yard. After much shin-annicking and screeches from the imprisoned non-swimmers Bill MacLennan came to our rescue. Just a matter of lifting a little knob in the right side of the gate and hey presto - freedom. Bill was heard to say ... "I told you, Dagwood, that you should have stayed in the ranks longer!" Yes, Bill: (but thanks you just the same!)

### The March and the Dinner

And so to the march. The "Op order" would have pleased the most exacting adjutant. The execution of the march and ceremony was first class (as far as one can tell, being a participant) but local reports and the video we saw on Sunday night seemed to confirm this. Inverell really honoured us with their Light Horse Association, Sapphire City Pipe Band, and Air Training corps.

The ceremony was a masterpiece of timing and precision, and as our Patron inspected the ATC Guard of Honour, it was noted that, in his usual thoughtful and considerate manner, Sir Ivan expressed words of appreciation and interest to every cadet. How like him: and how proud those young men would have been, and how they would remember this occasion in years to come!

The Dinner followed much the same pattern as in recent years. Well set up, though rather "bursting at the seams". There were, I believe, over 250 present. The Grace, written by the late Dick Morris just before the Wagga Re-union last year, has become a standard for all future re-unions - a commendable decision by our Association Executive.

We were pleased to have our friend and Patron, Major General, Sir Ivan Dougherty, with us in person this year. He spoke those words of wisdom and approbation which we have often enjoyed on previous occasions: but this time he emphasised the enormous importance of our wives and loved ones, especially during the war years, and still standing by and encouraging us through all these years since the war. We were sorry that Lady Phyl was not able to be with us, but we were glad to be able to meet Sir Ivan's cousin, Miss Eunice Dougherty, at the re-union.

The official address by Gerald Fenton reiterated for many of us all the facets of our war-time operations, and as an ex-member of the N.Z. Division in the Middle East, he expressed appreciation of our work together, especially in Greece & Crete.

Gary Heffernan, Vietnam veteran, and currently President of the RSL struck a note of sincerity and enthusiasm as he commented on the depth and quality of our post war friendships, even after forty years. "Such was the stuff of true comradeship", he said. A good dinner, and good fun, which Ross handled with aplomb in spite of some small hitches and problems common to P.A. systems in a big crowd.

### Sunday Safari ...

On a beautiful, sunny Sunday morning, those worthy buses gathered us once again and took us on a most pleasant trip to Morris's Honey Farm & Bottle Museum. Unfortunately, the bottles were empty, the honey heavy, and the mess orderlies were a bit light on for morning tea. But it was an enjoyable stop and much appreciated by the souvenir hunters.



The Copeton Dam, destination for lunch, was a magnificent sight, and a delightful venue for our barbeque. The Vietnam Veteran's Association catered for us most generously, too - thanks, fellows. It was a stirring effort.

An unexpected "curtain-raiser" for this lunch break was a demonstration of section tactics and weaponry by a team from the local Inverell School Cadets. Two ex "B" Company wallers were rung in as enemy for this exercise. "Dagwood" somehow got into the act and finished up tussling with the insurgents instead of being "dead" (as instructed!) However, we got an extra can of Fosters and a wonderful feed of steak and onions, and it took us back a year or two, too! (It is understood that Dagwood has been offered a small part in the next Paul Hogan production. Ed.) It was a great day, perfect weather, and all the catering and company thoroughly enjoyable.

### The Last Lap!

All good things must come to an end: and our final gathering at the RSM Club on the Sunday evening spelt that sad event. But again there was a feast of good food, more hospitable drinks, and our last fling of "ear-bashing".

It was good of Allen Lindsay to show the videos and commentaries of the recent Australian pilgrimage to Greece and Crete, but unfortunately many had to leave during the screening to prepare for an early start the next morning. It certainly took us back, though the landscape was very different from the freezing days and nights which we spent near the Yugoslav border 45 years ago.

Right on the dot of 5.50 am. those wonderful men of Inverell Bus and Taxi Services did their final rounds of our hotels and motels to ensure that we were at the SRA terminal for the bus to Tamworth in good time.

Ever the thoughtful and genial host, Ross Smith, was there to wave us off. Thank you Ross, and your team of tireless workers for a memorable weekend. We thank, in particular, Mary Hawke, Lyn Belford (both widows of former 2/4th-ers), Bill Brooks, Selby Dean, Bob McCormack, and all your fellow citizens of Inverell who did so much to make our stay a happy one.

Inverell has certainly made its mark in the annals of our Battalion Association Re-unions. The 29th, in October 1986, will be remembered as "one of the best". Congratulations to you all!

(cont. by "Dagwood" on behalf  
of Laurie Waterhouse).

PS:

Whilst this was being prepared for despatch to our Editor of WOG, Ross rang to say that a number who stayed over on the Monday greatly enjoyed a visit to Dr. Wh' & Sons' Winery at Kilgai, and later relished dampers and billy tea at The Inv. all Pioneer Village. Must plan for that pleasure next time we're up your way, Ross.

Ross also mentioned that during his travels earlier this year he met in Canada (or was it Cendia?) one Captain George Ogilvie of the 2nd Black Watch. He had served near us in Heraklion, and sends greetings to our fellows who served in that area. He has apparently also been in contact with his counterpart in the German Paratroopers since World War II.

### NEWCASTLE NEWS.

As I have said before, give the Newcastle members an excuse for a little socialising and they will be in like a duck to water. The excuse this time was the long trip to Inverell and being old and feeble, these Newcastle blokes have to have plenty of nourishment to keep themselves on the move. When the township of Bingara showed up, tongues started to wag about a stop. However George Mitchell, being the organiser he is, had made prior arrangements before leaving home pastures and had arranged lunch for the weary travellers, joined by a few others from far off places. Those in the travelling party;- Alf Carpenter & Doreen Manuel, Jack & Mary Partridge, John & Margaret Rae, Ron & Yvonne Maczkowiack, Dave & Judith Smith, Bob & Nina Fergusson, Ferd & Margeret Pegg, Perc & Betty Dalla, George & Heather Mitchell and guest Harry & Belle Freeman. The results of this get together gives us a new member in Harry Freeman.

After a great weekend at Inverell, Heather & George Mitchell along with Jack & Mary Partridge travelled to Lightning Ridge where we located three 2/4th Bn members, Ron Ewbank, Jack Hudson and Horrie Howard. Of course where did they go to talk things over, none other than the Lightning Ridge Bowling Club and they did not roll one bowl down. This talking business is a very dry occupation. George mentioned that Merv Jones informed him that Ern Gumbuto lives at M. vellbrook.



VISITED AT CONCORD HOSPITAL.

NX72047. Hammond, William. Ward 310. Nervous Disorder--Discharged.  
 NX42603. Garner, Roy. Ward 520. Vascular Problems-Discharged.  
 NX50139. Furness, Sid. Ward 510. By-Pass Operation, Leg, - Discharged.  
 NX5162. Dawson, Tom. Ward 19. Ulcer on leg, to have spot graft.  
 May have to be transferred to Lady Davidson Hospital.  
 NX8584. Buckley, Sid. Ward 430. Having Tests.

VISITED AT MOSMAN NURSING HOME.

NX 58. CHRYSTAL, Cec. Still seriously ill, has been visited by Ted Fox, Ken Kesteven, Bob Fergusson, & Harry Wright.

VISITED AT R.S.L. NURSING HOME, NARRABEEN.

NX 164. Copland, John. John says he is well except for his legs, they restrict him getting about. Visited by Ted Fox, Slim Powers, John Ringrose, Ken Kesteven, and Harry Wright.

Also visited at Narrabeen Brian Waring, who says he is keeping well.

Vera Walsh was in Concord Hosp. for a check up and has since been discharged. George Sugden, NX1145, Had to cancel from the Inverell Reunion. Suffered from a stroke and was in Tamworth Hospital. Bob Fergusson visited on the way home from the reunion.


At the Inverell reunion, Rex Everson reported that NX69090, Jack Sturt was seriously ill in Liverpool Hospital, Rex rang hospital on his return home. Was informed that Jack had been discharged, no further news.

Doug Slinger also reported that Jack Ward of Carine, W.A. has had surgery on an in-growing toe nail, suffered from complications and spent a couple weeks in hospital.

Hugh Whittleton and his wife were involved in a road accident after the Inverell reunion, taken to Moree hospital. Had treatment but not admitted believed to be alright now.

LAST

POST.

	NX 147494.	MARRIOTT,	W.K.
	NX 5239.	WALKER,	J.W. (Wink).
	NX 46597.	SMITH,	G.A.
	NX 1993.	POLLOCK,	I.A. (Slim)
	NX 5104	CHAPMAN,	H.R.
	NX 122398.	CRANNIS,	A.R.



Laurie McCosker reported that the funeral service for the late 'Wink' Walker was held at the Uniting Church, Caloundra, on Wednesday, 29th Oct. Those who attended from the 2/4th Bn were - Craig Clarke, Henry Elliott, Roy McAdam, John Falla, Frank Gattenhoff, Norm Everson, Laurie McCosker, The wives of the above members also attended. The officiating Padre in his address to the mourners, referred to Wink as a gentle giant.

FUNERAL+ IVAN ALEXANDRA POLLOCK.

The above funeral service to the late Ivan Pollock, Better known to us all as 'Slim', who died suddenly at his home on the 1st November 1986, after returning from a holiday in Queensland, was held on the 5th November at Woronora Crematorium. The death of 'Slim' Pollock has caused a void in the ranks of the Association and a sad loss to his relatives and friends and all who knew him well, for he was a true friend indeed.

In his eulogy to the late 'Slim' Pollock, Sir Ivan Dougherty paid a very fine tribute to him. Saying he was a true Australian, who had a great sense of humour, which was dry and very much to the point. He was a great soldier and a great mate. A man you could rely on at all times, one you would like along side of you in times of trouble. His Stature within the 2/4th Bn Association and the many friends he had, was in evidence, by the very large attendance at his funeral. Also the big attendance of 2/4th Bn Assoc members paying their last respects to a great comrade and friend. The lives of many will be affected by his passing, his relatives, neighbors even those he came into contact with in every day life.

Those who attended the funeral from the Association as follows:- Sir Ivan Dougherty, S.V.P. Allan Lindsay, Laurie & Joy Waterhouse, Dave & Stella Endean, Peter Cade, 'Slim' Powers, Dick Pinson, Harry Wright, Lionel Clarke, Bill MacLennan, Wally Shaw, Sid Buckley, Roy Lane And his wife, Paul Brooks and his daughter, Fred Staggs, Ted Fox, George Steck, John Meehan. Athol Heath, Harry Gjedsted, Norm Auberson, Vic Forbes, Rex Everson, Gorman, Lofty Taylor, Barney Turley, Nap Alavoine, Pat Lahey, Bob Fergusson, Alex Maxwell, John Ringrose, Allan Boyle. VALE - IVAN POLLOCK.



In the SEPT--OCT issue of 'White Over Green', I wrote an article with the heading-'Was It a Dream'. I copied it from an article that appeared in the P.O.W. magazine 'BARBWIRE AND BAMBOO' thinking it would draw some good comment. Apparently it did cause quite a stir amongst some of the ex-servicemens community and may arouse some of the powers to be, to get off their backsides and do something about these anomalies.

However there has been some action in West Aust, because another article has appeared in the current issue of 'Barbwire and Bamboo' describing a similar incident. It came from the President, Roy Young, of the Busselton Sub-Branch of the R.S.L., himself a P.O.W. of the Japs, and he writes as follows, Quote:- "At the R.S.L. here, we have been trying to get a T.P. pension for an ex P.O.W. Germany, whose health is very poor, suffering from a "double curvature" of the Spine. He was captured and sent to Poland to work in the coal mines, he worked in these mines for four years and was constantly bent double, because of the low ceilings of the mines. They worked 12 hours a day for six, sometimes seven days a week without any respite. There is much more to it than this, but he had never applied for a pension before, the reason being that he had been buggered around enough, that he did not want to go through all the hazzles and putting up with the bull and misconception that goes on with the Repat System (as we all know). However, he was eventually persuaded to apply and did. To cut a long story short, his claim was rejected-- the reason?

His condition could not have been caused from being a P.O.W and working in such conditions for such a short period. If four years of such hardship (which would seem a life time, working 12 hours daily, seven days a week) is a short period. Then what would they consider a long period?? Unbelievable and certainly uncomprehensible, who are these so called experts? What can we do about them: (Unquote)

I think much can be done and think it is time for our so called executives of Returned Servicemens organisations involved in keeping Repatriation matters under review for the benefit of the rank and file, made a move. Some attempt must be made to eradicate these Diagnostic Bunglers from the system and see that justice is done in such cases. I wonder what would have happened if the boot had been on the other foot. We do wonder at the type of personnel that man these pension tribunals and what are their credentials.

Editor.

It is regrettable, but the funeral coverage of the late Jim James of the town of Narrandera was not reported in the Sept--Oct. issue of 'White Over Green'. This was due to the oversight of our typist, was 'nt discovered til after the printing was finished.

The late Jim James (NX13385), was a cook with Headquarter Co and saw service with the Bn in the Middle East and then right through to the end of the war. He returned to his home town of Narrandera, from where enlisted and he was employed by the Dept. of Railways as a porter until he retired some years ago. We did not see much of him but when ever a reunion was being held in close proximity, such as Wagga, Young, Cootamundra he would surface and make himself known to his mates present. Illness dogged him for the later years of his life and succumbed to it in September this year. His funeral took at Narrandera and was attended by Norm Rogers and Don Bundy, on behalf the 2/4th Inf. Bn Association. Jim leaves a widow and two sons. Condolences have been sent to the family on behalf of the Association, this was done immediately after the notification of his death. VALE- Jim James.

#### AN APPROPRIATE PIECE OF PHILOSOPHY.

Whilst reading a magazine recently I came across this quotation, that I am sure would have applied some 44 years ago. However when I look at event today, I feel more so than ever that it can be applied to our present day Federal and State Governments. I am sure readers will agree with me, any way I could not resist copying it, and I quote the following:-

"We trained hard and long-- but it seemed that every time we were beginning to form up into teams, we would be re-organised. I was to learn in later life that we tend to meet any new situation or crisis by re-organising. What a wonderful method it can be for creating the illusion of progress, whilst producing confusion, in-efficiency and demoralization". Unquote. Sorry I cannot give the name of the writer, I have asked one or two school teachers that I know but to no avail, they had not seen or heard of the quotation.

#### EDITOR'S LAST WORDS

Editor.

I would like to record for posterity's sake this my last message. I wish to thank my good wife Joy for her help and forebearance in putting with my frustrations and for the many cups of tea and 'bikkies' she supplied to the working bees we had, when wrapping the paper for posting. To Peter Cade, who gave up his football to help, to 'Slim' Powers and to Vere Walsh who never liked to say No when asked to help. There was one other who was very consistent with his help, alas he has departed this life, Slim Pollock. To all these good people my sincere 'Thanks' for a job well done. L. Waterhouse



Names of personel attending the Inverell Re-Union. Oct.10--12, 1986.

Alladice, Nick & Ruth.	Anderson, Les & Ena.	Arnott, Alex & Meg.
Auberson, Norm & Nita.	Ashdown, Harold.	Bailey, Keith & Rita.
Barrell, Don.	Bloomfield, Lyn & Edna.	Bowman, Harold & Noni.
Bowman, Ellen.	Brooke, Paul & Myrna.	Bruty, Pat & Gwen.
Bradford, Elsie.	Carpenter, Alf & Doreen.	Chaseling, Joan.
Clarke, Lionel & June.	Cork, Bruce & Angela.	Coles, George & Rosa.
Chrisp, Gordon & Olga.	Cullen, Jack & Dorothy.	Curran, Cliff.
Copely, Bill.	Cunningham, Des & Beryl.	Crutchett, Frank & Enid.
Dougherty, Sir Ivan.	Dougherty, Eunice.	Dalla, Perc & Betty.
Davies, Frank.	Deacon, Ken & Lily.	Denver, Peter & Pat.
Denyer, Roy & Una.	Dubber, John & Eunice.	Elliott, Henry & Maisie.
Facey, Bill & Aimee.	Fergusson, Bob & Nina.	Follington, Dave, Sally, Olene.
Fox, Ted & Heather.	Forbes, Vic.	Forman, Jim & Jean.
Freeman, Harry & Mrs.	Gorman, Arnold & Maureen.	Gorman, Tom & Sheila.
Graham, Jim & Nella.	Graham, Bub & Margeret.	Granquist, Charles & Wendy.
Grove, Doug.	Hart, Gary & Joan.	Heath, Athol.
Huston, John & Joan.	Hyles, John.	Irvine, Molly.
Jackson, Bob & Enid.	Jones, Merv.	Johnston, Wal & Molly.
Jones, Les.	Kennedy, Bette.	Kirk, Allan & Carma.
Kleem, Muriel.	Kesteven, Ken & Fi.	Kyle, Gus & Leslie.
Kidd, Ethel.	King, Geoff.	Lindsay, Allan & Gloria.
Lawson, Cec & Joan.	Lewington, Arch & Eileen.	Lever, Bob & Gladys.
Latimer, Enid. "Lucky".	Lambourne, Wally.	Lavers, Kel & Margeret.
Lyons, John.	Lynch, Eileen.	Maczkowiack, Ron & Yvonne.
Meehan, John.	Maxwell, Alex & Jean.	Mitchell, George & Heather.
Mairet, Hilda.	Mangan, Wally & Molly.	Mitchell, Bill & Ida.
Mahy, Bernard & Minnie.	Meachem, Dudley & Eunice.	Moore, George, Jean, Ian.
Mr Adam, Roy & Irene.	McCulloch, Claire.	McCosker, Laurie & Evelyn.
McIntosh, Sheila.	MacLennan, Bill & Gwen.	MacDonald, Audrey & John.
Mewth, Bill & Gwen.	Nerney, Max & Edna.	Newhouse, (young) Harry.
Parry, Bill.	Partridge, Jack & Mary.	Pegg, Ferd & Margeret.
Raymond, Claude.	Rae, Bookie & Margeret.	Ringrose, John & Joyce.
Riordan, Esca & Bev.	Roach, Lascar.	Robertson, Herb & Marjorie.
Schiebel, John & Molly.	Slinger, Doug & Wilma.	Smith, Ross & Jean (Sydney).
Smith, David & Judith.	Smith Phil & Enid.	Sheaffe, Bill & Una.
Staggs, Fred & Joyce.	Stronach, Lang & Colleen.	Stevens, Gus & Beryl.
Summerfield, Ray & Una.	Taylor, Carol.	Taylor, Wally & Nona.
Watt, Ken & Lorna.	Watts, Athol & Hazel.	Walker, Wink & Win.
Wallace, 'Pom'.	Wallwork, Ian & Edna.	Wilkinson, Reg & Jenny.
Winfield, Mick & Jess.	Whitman, Harry & Ada.	Whittleton, Hugh & Eileen.
Wilson, Morris & Molly.	Wright, Harry & Hilda.	Wykes, Roy.
Vickery, Enid.	Young, Sid & Florence.	

Inverell Committee in Attendance

Belford, Lyn.	Brooks, Bill.	Dean, Selby.
Eyles, Rodger & Betty.	Hawke, Mary.	McCormick, Bob & Hazel.
Smith, Ross & Nancy.		

Cancellations for the Re-Union--30 Personel.

If I have missed out on any names, please accept my Apologies.

Ross Smith.

QUEENSLAND NEWS.

It did not take Laurie McCosker very long to get back to the stamping ground and get the pen out to give us the latest on the boys in Joh's country. He starts off by telling of the unfortunate bout of ill health that Gordon Bladen is enduring, he has had five By-Passes done and is now suffering from blood poisoning in the legs but goes on to say that he is gradually on the improvement list.

Laurie says he has had word to say that Norm McIntyre is now back at home and also on the recovery list. Also that Wally McKenzie is well, but has his good days and bad days. Norm Everson is another who has been on the sick list and is now reported as well again.

Laurie goes on to say that he was talking to Frank Gattenhoff and he was disappointed that he had to miss out on Inverell re-union owing to reasons of a personel nature. Last but not least, he reports Vera Provians as being very well.

Presentation of Battalion Plaque to Inverell Shire Council.

In a unique ceremony during the Inverell reunion recently, a presentation of a 2/4th Inf. Battalion Plaque was made to the President of the Inverell Shire Council, Mr Richard Coventry by members of the BN Association. The presentation was made as a goodwill gesture, to commemorate the enlistment of the 80 young men, who eventually became members of the 2/4th Infantry Battalion, 2nd A.I.F. in 1939 also to mark the occasion of the first time the Bn has held a reunion in Inverell. The Presentation was made by Norm Auberson, Jim Foreman and Ross Smith (resident Inverell R.S.M. Club) Mr Richard Coventry thanked the 2/4th Bn Ass. assuring them the Plaque would be honoured in a very prominent area of the Inverell Administration Centre for all to see.



CASH REGISTER :

The Treasurer reports having received subscriptions and donations for the period 20th February 1986 to 1st December 1986.

\$6

Jim Sadler	Mollie Perram	N Campbell	R Bertram
L Moon	A Scott	M Nicholson	Uin Hallinan
Cecil Calver	Ken Venn	Jack Garvey	H Cox
Bill Shearwin	Pat Bruty	Cliff Taylor	H Crossfield
Harry Russell	Neil Taylor	H Freeman	Lou Dubber
H C Williams	George Thomson	J Hawkins	Roy Andrews (\$?)
Peter Denver	Harold Tressider	M McCarty	

\$10

Eric Jones	Brig McAtamney	John Eastham	Jack Lyons
Artie Kleem	Alice Clough	John Whitelaw	Alan Bohle
Les Jones	Roy Andrews	Bill Newth	Eric Toynton
Alan Manuel	Roy Percy	Lionel Clarke	Charlie Davies
Doug Rodda	Charlie Grandquist	Dick Boyce	Jim Graham
Tich Fordham	Rex Everson	Max McAllan	Vic Pike
George Sugden	Geoff Ings	Alex Dick	Wally Shaw
Tom Dawson	Charlie Adams	Noel Woolcott	Norm Auberson
Claude Raymond	Harold Bowman	Cec Lawson	John Wood
E Miller	Clyde Bradley	Trevor Richardson	A Harradine
Bill Poplin	Bernie Mahy	Perc Dalla	Jack Cummings
Sid Young	Don Barrell	Jack Shwiebel	Alf Schweitzer
Dave McGillivray			

\$12

Ted Hopkins	George Moore	Paul Tomlinson	Norm Rogers
Mick Green	Cec Lawson		

\$15

Norm Everson	Roy McAdam
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\$20

Wink Walker	Des Finch	Bob Lane	Lang Stronach
Dennis Jackson	Dave Follington	Ian Fitchett	Bill Mitchell
Gordon Chrisp	Nance Smith	Gordon Robins	Jack Lister
Vic Manchester	L Varley	Molly Irvine	Jack Cullen
Lyn Bloomfield	Henry Elliott	Dud Meacham	Bill Facey
'Pancho' Black	Harry Hamburger		

\$25

Miss G Blackstock	Reg Holmes	Joan Chaseling
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\$30

J R Ewbank	Roy Denyer
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\$50 (Life Membership)

H McLaughlin	Norm Johnstone	Les Drayson	J Cullen
Merv Killion	Mel McInnes		

\$100

Pat Lahey

NEWS FROM DAGWOOD JACKSON (WAGGA)

Had a call from Arthur Harradine of Temora, giving information on one - Bill Wilson, formerly of 'A' Company. Not a member of the Association, as far as I can see, and not a very good history of 'life management' in Temora, I believe. He was William Neville Wilson NX42537, according to our 'White Over Green' Nominal Roll but according to local RSL records, he is shown as NX24557, so I don't know which is right. He died on Monday, 24th November 1986 and his funeral was at the Uniting Church on Tuesday 25th November 1986. The funeral was attended by Arthur Harradine, George (King) Cole, and Roy Denyer representing the 2/4th Inf Bn Ass. About another thirty odd ex-servicemen from the district also attended. Please advise the appropriate people, so that records can be made of his passing. Stan Blacksley is battling on, not very well but putting up a good fight as usual. Saw him yesterday (26th Nov.). Had a line or two from 'Chick' Sleeman of Nelsons Bay re advice on bookings etc. Kindest regards to all for the festive season.

"Dagwood" Jackson

LATE NEWS FLASH.

Just recieved news of the death of Cec Chrystal, one time president of the Association and a long time serving committeeman also one of the committee that worked so hard in getting the 2/4th Aust. Inf. Bn. War History- "White Over Green" also for getting the book 'DOUGHERTY' launched. No details of funeral to hand - we print this. .EDITOR.