



# 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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OCTOBER MEETING: Tuesday 28th October, 1986. at the Gallipoli Memorial Club. Lunch can be had in the dining room between 12 noon and 2pm.

NOVEMBER MEETING: Tuesday 25th November 1986, at the Gallipoli Memorial Club at 2pm. Both these meetings will be held in The ANZAC ROOM.

## MONTHLY MEETING SEPTEMBER 1986.

It shows how we get set in our ways as old age catches up with us, one sign to indicate this is our loathing to go out of a night to meetings or any other function, be what it may. This was brought home to me recently at the local Sub- Branch R.S.L. monthly meeting, when a special night had been arranged for members to view some special films. Some twenty odd membersturned up out of a membership of 1000. I wonder what the attendance would have been, had it been held during the daytime, like our meetings. Some forty six members attended the September meeting, Judging the looks of some them, there were one or two who should have stayed home. Thats the difference between daytime and night time meetngs. The meeting was a quiet and routine one and believe it or not, it finished within the hour. Those who attended are as follows:- President Alf Carpenter, Treasurer Alla Lindsay, Sec. Fred Staggs, Editor Laurie Waterhouse, Min.Sec. John Hawkins, Welfare Off. Harry Wright, Ted Fox, Ferd Pegg, Ken Kesteven, Athol Heath, Norm Auberson, Ross Smith(city), 'No change' O'Regen. Curly Gorman, Wally Shaw, John Ringrose, Peter Cade, Dave Follington, 'Tich' Fordham, Nap Alavoine, Lionel Craig, Les Jones, Bob Fergusson, Slim Venn, Dick Pinson, Pat Bruty, Jim Graham, Bill Poplin, Ted Jackson, Vic Forbes, Barney Turley, Jack Partridge, 'Bischitts' Arnott, Ron Maczkowieck, Ron Barber, Bill Fogden, Jim Foreman, Norrie McGregor, Trevor Richardson, Ken Richardson, Slim Powers, Ray Campbell, George Mitchell, Squizzie Taylor, Bill Parry, Harry Gjedsted. Apologies received from the following:- Gee Chrystal, John Meehan, George Stack, Slim Pollock. Sid Buckley, John Garvie, Bookie Ray, Brian Waring, Harold Bowman, Rex Everson And Ross Smith (Inverell).

President Alf opened meeting with the usual one minute silence and the recital of the Infanteer's Ode. In honour of fallen and departed comrades, mentioning the death of Noel Ford of Mollynook, Who died Friday 19th Sept. Business arising from the minutes as read, was that Doug Slinger is to be



informed, that he can go ahead with the presentation of the Battalion Plaque to the Preveli Memorial Chapel at Margaret River, West Australia. Correspondence in folowed and this was quite lengthy. Letters received from Ross Smith, Inverell., Dealing with the reunion, from 6th Div Association inviting President, two executives of the Bn to a Luncheon on Wed, Oct. 15th, From Artie Harradine re the death of the late Artie Kleem, From Mrs Yvonne Dooley regarding the retirement of Larry in the near future, from Bob Jackson, Accepting the Committee's Nomination of him to fill the Vice-Pres. of South West N.S.W. left vacant by the death of Artie Kleem. A card expressing Thanks and Sincere Appreciation for lovely Basket of Flowers and message of goodwill sent to Mrs Amalia Shaw, Mother of Wally Shaw, on the occasion of her 100th Birthday. Letter from Mrs Marj McCarty letting know that she is moving to South Australia to live closer to her family, but will still maintain her contact with the Association. Letter from Doug Slinger giving up-to-date news of the West Australian Boys. A letter from Bruce (Barney) Barnes outlining his efforts at achieving the publication of an article in current issue of 'Reveille' with the aid of the Editorial Manager. There were many letters from members who applied for the miniature Bn Medal and finally a letter of appeal from the 6th Aust Inf Div sent to all Units of the Division. The Appeal is for the victims of the earthquake that took place recently in Greece at the site of the town of KALAMATE. Many late comers to the Battalion will wonder why we of the 6th Div have been singled out. The reason being that it all goes back to April 1941, when Australian, New Zealand and English forces were trying to evacuate their troops from Greece at the time of the withdrawal. Kalamate was one of the towns troops were evacuated from. They waited there for any type of ship to come and take them off. Whilst our troops were resting and waiting the people of KALAMATE, gave of their food and provided shelter to a lot of the troops. Even assisted with the evacuation, many of our members will where there will have vivid memories of this little township and its heroic people, of the help they gave, even when the Germans over ran the place. Many of the troops who were over there and are alive today, probably owe their lives to the people of Kalamate. It is hoped that when the appeal is finalised there will be sizeable sum.

President Alf in his report outlined the main details of the Cairns and Atherton tableland tour, which will be of a much more leisurely than the Perth trip. There will be trips on the water along the Whitsunday Passage B.B.Q.S, and luncheons arranged at a couple of places. A visit to the 4th R.A.R. at Townville is a probability. Alf said it will be no trouble to fill the seats on the coach, but he is keeping the bookings open to 2/4th Bn members till a certain date, then he will through them open to outsiders. He has had enquiries from the 2/1st Fd Regt and the 2/2nd Inf Bn. Associations. For what the tour offers and the company you will be travelling with, this tour is outstanding value for the money outlayed, so be in it or on it. Alf also elaborated on the Inverell Country Re-union, outlining the programme and agenda for the remembrance march and the official dinner and the following days entertainment. He said 'Roaring Horn' Smith has gone out of his way to make this reunion one to be well remembered. He has included in the programme, the viewing of a couple of Videos, one dealing with the Tour this year by Sir Ivan's party and the other 'The Flowers of Retimo' Which was shown on Channel O some weeks back.

Treasurer Allan Lindsay, in giving his financial report to the meeting, out lined the various out goings, why the big amounts outlayed such as the Sum of \$1100.00 for Miniature Bn Medals and nearly \$400 on T shirts. This is all going into stock on hand and will be recuperated over the next twelve months. However Allan assured members that the treasury is still healthy there being an overall balance of \$ 12,456.00 in total funds. Very Good. Secretary reported that he will be taking a supply of Bn Ties And T shirts And the miniature Bn medals to Inverell, for those who want them.

Editor reported on the purchase of enough paper to see the printing of the W, O. G. for the next twelve months. He also stressed the need for the making of 70 to 80 new stencil plates for change of addresses, at the moment they have to be typed and this is time consuming, this work to be carried out. Harry Wright our welfare officer gave the meeting a lengthy report on the hospital visiting, then read out the 'LAST POST'.

Pension Officer reported that he has had a very quiet time, as no one has been in touch with him for awhile. He implores members to make application for a pension even for an increase, they have nothing lose, everthing to gain and he has the time to devote, these matters, don't leave it till later, do it now.

General Business was a quiet session, Wally Shaw spoke in appreciation for the wonderful tribute paid to his mother on 100th Birthday, by the Association. Wally is 80 yrs old and still very agile.

Harry Wright informed the meeting that John Copland is now living at the R.S.L. Wing Hospital, War Veterans Home. Narrabeen.

Ted Fox informed the meeting that he been asked to do the Eulogy at the



MONTHLY MEETING AUGUST 1986

The 2/4th Aust. Inf. Bn. Association Monthly Meeting for August was held at the Gallipoli Memorial Club on Tuesday, 26th August, in the Anzac Room, committee meeting commencing at 11.30am and the general meeting at 2.00pm. Some forty five members turned up to give the meeting support. Thought being such a fine day, there would have been more. But never thought that the school holidays were on, and that Granddad would be "baby sitting" or taking the kids some place for the day. Those who came along as follows:-

President Alf Carpenter, Senior V Pres Allan Lindsay, Secretary Fred Staggs, Laurie Waterhouse, John Hawkins, Harry Wright, Ted Fox, Ken Kesteven (committee only), George Stack, Athol Heath, Norm Auberson, Curly Gorman, Sid Buckley, Slim Venn, Jim Grahame, Gordon Chrisp, Biscuits Arnott, Les Anderson, Peter Cade, Frank Ivey, Norrie McGregor, Slim Powers, Ron Barber, Nap Alavoine, Wally Shaw, Slim Pollock, Bob Lane George Mitchell, Less Jones, Bob Fergusson, Wally Mangan, Cec Lawson, Jim Sadler, Pat Bruty, Lionel Clark, Barney Turley, "Tich" Fordham, Jim Foreman, John Ringrose, Ray Campbell, Harry Gjedsted, Andy Phillips (visitor), and Ron Mackzeowiak (South Aust.), Mick O'Regan, Dick Pirson. Apologies were received from Sir Ivan, Jack Huston, Ken Kesteven (general meeting), Cec Chrystal, John Meehan, Ferd Pegg, Alex Maxwell, Dave Follington, Jack Partridge, Vic Forbes, and Jim Brown.

President Alf Carpenter presiding, opened the meeting, welcoming the visitors and the champion swimmer of the River Murray, Ron Maczkowiak of Loxton, South Australia, then calling for one minute silence and reciting the Infantry mans Ode. Business was mainly routine, correspondence dealing with Bn medal applications, also letters from See-Manager of Gallipoli Club, Doug Slinger and the brother of the late country Vice-President Artie Kleem. Letter from the Gallipoli Memorial Club was in reply to a letter of appreciation sent by the Ass to the Board of Directors of the Club in appreciation of the courtesy and privileges extended by the club to the 2/4th Inf. Bn. Ass. and its members, specially for the use of the new Anzac Room, which is proving ideal for our Monthly meetings. The letter from the late Artie Kleem's brother Jack, was the expression of thanks to the Assoc member for the attendance at the late Artie's funeral and cremation. Daug Slinger wrote his usual long screed to the Secretary, outlining the West Aust Activities and seeking the executives permission to make a presentation to the Preveli Memorial Chapel. Full details appear in the West Aust news.

Two main items came out of the meeting, on the election of "Dagwood" Jackson of Wagga to the position of Vice President South Western New South Wales. This position became vacant on the death of Artie Kleem, committee recommended "Dagwoods" nomination to the general meeting which voted unanimously for "Dagwood" Jackson to fill the vacancy. The second was, that the Secretary has taken delivery of 312 miniature Bn Ass medals. Also a new lot of Bn. T-Shirts. The usual reports followed, led by the Presidents report, which dealt mainly with his attendance at the Orange Crematorium for the funeral service for the late Artie Kleem. Also giving an outline on the progress being with the bookings for Cairns, Atherton Tablelands Coach Tour scheduled for October 1987. Thirty two people have so far made bookings, indicating that the tour is a "going thing". President Alf also elaborated on the Inverell Country Reunion, having been in touch with the organising Committee. Ross Smith, President of organising committee, has assured: a guard of honour of Cadet Corps will be on parade and that Sir Ivan will inspect the guard, also a "fatigue party" will follow the "Light Horse Squad" that will precede the March to the memorial. So that it is all systems go at Inverell.

Treasurer Allan Lindsay presented his balance sheet for the Month outlining in a comprehensive detail, the financial standing of the Ass. The outcome after all the explanatory preamble is that the total of finances of the Ass. stand at \$13,748. Accounts presented for payment were passed by Motion from the floor.

Welfare Officer presented his report, this will appear in conjunction with the October report. Outstanding in the report was that John Copland is now a resident in the Hostel section of the War Veterans House at Narrabeen. Also that Cec Chrystal, for the first time since taking ill, has been able to get up and go for a drive in the car.

The Editor in his report, outlined the new postal charges that came into affect on 25th August 1986, that each copy of "White Over Green" posted now costs 19¢. a rise of 3¢. Registration of the Journal each twelve months is now \$40, an increase of 100%. Also the charge for any change to the registration, such as change of posting office or change of address of person responsible for



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printing and posting \$20, also and increase of 100%. In fact over the last five years, our postage has doubled, 1981 it was \$55. 1986 it is \$110.50. This gives you some idea as to how inflation has caught up with us. The same will apply when the new supplies of paper and ink etc which are on order come to hand and will cop the new sales tax, of course we are not the only organisation to feel it. Many ex-service organisations are opting for quarterly issues to counter the rising costs.

Pension Officer John Hawkings outlined his activities in this field and ably reported that he had <sup>had</sup> some success with applications he has handled. He has had three applications successful and has two or three preparing before the Review Board. John has stated, widows of deceased members should apply through their local legacy branch in their area, when applying for a war widows pension or such. Also he stressed the point to members, that the War Disability Pension is not taxable and should not be included with other income.

General Business brought forward that Wally Shaw's mother - Mrs Amalia Shaw will be 100 years of age on 12th September 1986. Association has decided to send a sheaf of flowers with suitable message to mark the occasion. Wally Shaw in an Emotional address to members thanked them for such a fine gesture. Harry Gjedsted emphasised the very importance of wearing the White Over Green badge in the Capel. He had been stopped several times by various relatives of members of the Ass. He also pointed out that mention of the 2/4th Inf. Bn is made in the book - 'The Australian Heritage' - a book worthy of everyone's reading. Harry pointed out, the importance of having a car sticker badge for identification purposes, it can be very handy at times. Specially in country towns,

No further business, the meeting closed at 3pm. With members joining enclaves on the third floor in many and varied conversations. With the aid of various brands of amber fluid and fire waters. Often I have wondered which brand produces the more conversation or diatribe. Have to ask the home brewers.

NEWCASTLE NEWS

Give the Newcastle members of 2/4th Inf. Bn. Ass. an excuse for something and they are bound to use it for an occasion to celebrate. They would have to be the greatest socialisers in N.S.W. Yes they have been at it again, so George Mitchell informs me in his latest letter. On the 1st August the Newcastle members, their wives met at the Hamilton R.S.L. for the usual monthly get together. Those who attended as follows:-

Alf Carpenter, Doreen Manuel, Doug & Deidre Milne, Jack & Mary Partridge, George & Heather Mitchell. Apologies received from Pat & Gwen Bruty. On 12th August, some of them travelled to Wingham R.S.L. to meet with some of the North Coast members and their wives. Those who undertook the trip and enjoyed the evening hospitality of the Wingham R.S.L. are the following:-

Chris & Shirley Geelan, Alex & Shirley Watson, Noel & Marie Woolcott, Jack & Mary Partridge, George & Heather Mitchell and would you believe it Ron & Yvonne Maczkowick all the way from Loxton, South Australia. Mind you Ron & Yvonne are holidaying in Newcastle for a special reason, to welcome and <sup>w</sup>et the head of the new granddaughter. Their daughter & son-in-law Mark being the proud parents. Sound to me, it nearly got drowned (in half scotch, not water, Ron's Allergic to water.) On 15th August, they all met at the West Leagues Club for dinner, the occasion being Heather's birthday, they were joined by Heather's & George's Son Guy, Ron & Yvonne Maczkowiak, Cliff & Aileen Curran. President Alf had eye problems and has since had an operation and has recovered reasonably well.

WEST AUSTRALIAN NEWS

That indomitable Doug Slinger of Perth has surpassed himself again with a couple of long letters to the editor and the secretary. He would have to be the most prolific letter writer we have had for some years, and for a person suffering from arthritis in the hands, he does a marvellous job. Since Doug came into the scene some five years ago he has been responsible for organising the West Australian 2/4th Inf. Bn boys and their wives into a formidable little organisation, this was in evidence when the Coach tour to Perth by the numbers of 2/4 In and 2/1 Field Regt Ass. arrived there in March this year and the welcome the travellers received. Now they meet regularly every three months at the Anzac Club in Perth. On the 19th August, they gathered in Perth for a luncheon get together, held at the Anzac Club, some ten or twelve people turned up to await themselves of a very enjoyable days outing. Amongst those who attended were the following:-

Cec and Thelma Smith, Dash and Lily Decc Don and Raema Guthrie, John and Pam





VISITED IN CONCORD.

NX68706. Swain, Ernie. Ward 34. Nervous Disorder. Since discharged.  
 NX11215. Leech, Les. Ward 430. Knee replacement operation. Discharged.  
 NX5162 Dawson, Tom. Ward 19. Ulcer on leg, Discharged after three months in hospital. Treatment at home.  
 NX4048. Hyem, Ray. Ward 610. Discharged, cataract operation later  
 NX123835. McNamara, Les. Ward 520. In theatre, when called on, eye op.  
 NX72047. Hammond, Will. Ward 310. Nervous disorder, having tests.  
 NX15371. Saunders, John. Ward 610. Seriously ill, having tests, has been in twice and has been visited each time.  
 NX42603. Garner, Roy. Ward 520. Vascular problems, since discharged  
 NX50319. Furness, Sid. Ward 530. Hardening of arteries, in for further tests. Was P.O.W. in Greece.

VISITED AT NURSING HOMES.

Cec Chrystal. Slim Powers visited Cec recently, it is now ten months since he went into hospital.  
John Copland, Bill Parry has visited John, he is in the R.S.L. Wing Hosp. War Veterans Home at Narrabeen. Brian Waring also visited John, as he is near by.  
Dave McGillivray, Had a toe removed in Auburn District Hospital recently. He is now living down the south coast at Bomaderry, near Nowra.  
Alex Maxwell, had a fall recently and broke his ankle. Now alright again (Mix a little water with it next time) Doctor's advice.  
Bruce Cork Has been in and out of Hospital in Queensland. Has had knee operation. Wife Angela has not been well either.  
Laurie McCosker and Vere Provians rang to inform me that NX4050. Norm McIntyre was in Princess Alexandra Hospital Brisbane. Laurie had visited him and said Norm had severe breathing problems, and had lost a lot of weight considerably. Last message was that he shown some improvement. Slim Powers has not been too well has been confined to his Unit and was unable to do his hospital visiting, which means he was sick.  
Jack Partridge reported to the meeting that Cliff Gilbert, of the Transport Platoon, is in hospital at Legacy House in Gosford. At moment he is well.  
Bob Jackson of Wagga, reports that Stan Blacksley, after hospitalisation and some minor surgery is now back at the Haven. Bob also heard that Harry Lindsay of Harefield, who has been sick for a long time, has been up and around. However Bob has not seen him since this time last year.

LAST		POST.	
	N X 46782.	FREDRICKSON,	J.S.
	N X 5999.	LIDDEN,	S.G.
	N X 13385.	JAMES,	R.L.(JIM)
	N X 1995.	WHITAKER,	J.S.(JIM)
	N X 130701.	MCALLISTER,	A.E.
	N X 46820.	CASEY,	K.E.(KEN).
	N X 5202.	FORD,	N.R.(NOEL).
			

ARTIE KLEEMS FUNERAL

The funeral took place at Orange on the 24th of July 1986, of the late Arthur Ernest Kleem of Young, N.S.W. He was the country Vice-President of the 2/4th Aust. Inf. Bn Association For South West N.S.W. and a very long time member of the Association and a very ardent attendant at the Bn Association Anzac Day Reunions. President Alf Carpenter delivered an Eulogy at the Cremation service, The Young R.S.L. Sub-Branch conducted a service the previous day at the Church of St John, Church Of England. The Church was Packed and people waited outside to pay their respects. Arthur Kleem was a man who gave all to any voluntary Commitment he undertook within the community of Young. Evidence of this was to be seen by the various representatives of organisations Artie was a member of, attending his funeral. He was a good soldier and a very good mate to have been associated with. He will be sadly missed by the many who knew him and by the 2/4th Aust Inf. Bn. members. Those who attended the funeral, for the 2/4 Bn Ass. Alf Carpenter, Doreen Manuell, Norm & Nita Auberson, Bill and Beryl Poplin. Norm Johnson, Pat Bruty. Cec and Joan Lawson, Apologies if I have missed some one name.  
 VALE ARTIE KLEEM.

Bill Daplin of Warilla, South Coast Phoned me about the death of Ken Casey of Minnamurra. The late Ken Casey died on Friday 12th September 1986. It was only through Bill seeing the death notice in the local paper that we received the news. Any way Bill attended the funeral the following Tuesday, representing the Bn Assoc. Condolences and a card expressing the sympathy of the President and members has been sent to the widow of the departed.  
 Vale Ken Casey.



West Australian News

Storey, Ross Elliott, Vern Townsend, Jack Ward, Douth and Wilma Singer and Edna Ding (Jac Chaseling's sister). Apologies received from Stan & June Day, (Stan not in good health), Fred Stanwell (Whose wife not well), Wally & Thelma Evans (both still away in Queensland.) The function carried on well into the late afternoon, they had done plenty of talking, main theme was the 2/4th Aust Inf. Bn. Plaque, that Doug has presented to the Perth Anzac Club and hangs alongside that of Perth's own Bn, the 2/11th Aust Inf Bn and the 2/16th Aust Inf Bn. Which have pride of place. Amongst hundreds of other plaques.

Doug is in the process of organising a weekend down to the area of the Margaret River and the Preveli Memorial Chapel. The idea being to make a presentation of a 2/4th Bn Plaque, As members are aware the Preveli Memorial Chapel, is a Six Division project to immortalise the memory of the monks and their little monastery in Crete destroyed by the Germans during the battle for Crete. Doug says he won't make the presentation until he has the sanction of the Committee and member here. Doug goes on to say that he has received information of the unearthing of another 2/4 Inf Bn member, now living in Perth, this came about when Fred Stanwell was phoning his apology for the luncheon, apparently Fred had run across him. He is NX 9807, TED HARDS, settled in Perth during the 1950's, he is a veteran of the Middle East and Greece. I think he will be rounded up by Doug. He would have attended the luncheon but business matter that day prevented him doing so but he assured Doug that he will join their little Ass. and try and regain some of the contacts with the Bn. that he has lost over the years, since being in the West. Apparently the T.V. coverage of the recent floods in N.S.W. was SEEN IN Perth and other areas and caused some deep consternation over there, and, Doug and the other members hoped that none of the members over here suffered any loss. He concluded his letter by saying they look forward to a great reunion at Inverell. Also that their final function for the year will be held on the 2nd Tuesday in November, before the end of the year festive season starts.

The Secretary, Fred Staggs has received quite a substantial quantity of miniature 2/4th Inf Bn Medals. They cost \$6 each, so if you want one, send your cheque or money order with your application and Fred will see you get one. The same with the Bn T-Shirts now Summer is coming on. They are a good buy, and Fred has just taken delivery of a new lot they are in sizes 16, 18, 20, 22, 24. The cost is \$12.50 each. Also a new consignment of Bn Ties are on hand get a new one for the reunion. They will be available at the Inverell Country Re Union. Remember you are requested to wear Bn ties and your medals for the march to the Inverell War Memorial.

R.S.L. HONOURS 2/4th BN MEMBER

Just recently one of our well known members. Jim Graham of Canterbury, and a member of the Combined Services Sule Branch of the R.S.L. and Club in Barrack St, Sydney was the recipient of an award for service to the Sule Branch and Club. In March this year at the Annual General Meeting of the Club the President presented Jim Graham with a certificate of Appreciation, in recognition of the service he has rendered in his own quiet way and without any thought of recognition to the R.S.L. and the Club over the last 15 years. Well done Jim and congratulations to you from the Ass. members.

LETTER OF APPRECIATION.

Esca Riordan wrote two months ago, he said it had taken him awhile to settle down after the trip to Perth and back. He said he and Bev had had a marvellous time, wouldn't have missed it for the world. Having such good company, a good driver and a very comfortable coach helped to make the trip worthwhile and more enjoyable. He had one comment to make relating to the baggage party, Alf Carpenter had arranged a 'baggage party' to relieve the driver (Barry) of the tedious job of stacking the bags in the morning and unloading each night stop. One team did the job to Perth another on the way back. When the coach arrived at Ceduna on the way back, the baggage party complained of the bags getting heavier. Esca reckoned this was brought about by Alf Carpenter when he stopped the Belladonia Homestead, Alf mentioned prevalence of the moonstones lying about and how if you hit one on a hard surface they would split open revealing a little round shiny pebble stone, called moonstones. Esca reckons the coach tourists were picking them up and putting them in their bags as souvenirs. I know yours truly started with light bags, but after stopping at the Barossa, Perth and Kalgoorlie, we were having trouble fitting bottles of wine, teaspoons, tea towels etc in the bags, so maybe Esca might have been right in his deducing.



FUNERAL OF NOEL RATCLIFFE

The funeral of the late Noel Ford, who died on Friday, 19th September 1986, after a prolonged illness, took place at the Villa Maria Catholic Church, Hunters Hill, on Wednesday, 24th September 1986. Quite a large gathering of the family, relatives, friends and Members of the 2/4th Aust. Inf. Bn Association attended to pay their last and final respects to one of Australia's Fighting sons. A man who was held in high esteem within his community of friends and fellow men. Ted Fox who knew the late Battalion member very well, delivered a very worthy Eulogy to Noel Ford. Stressing his service in the army during the war and of his peace time pursuits after the war and as a member of the 2/4th Aust. Inf. Bn Assoc. At the graveside, Ted Fox officiated and recited the ex-servicemen Rites on behalf of the 2/4th Inf Bn and the R.S.L. A large number of the Association members attended, their names herewith; - Ted & Heather Fox, Ken & Pi Kesteven. Senior Vice-Pres Allan & Gloria Lindsay, Ferd Pegg, Bill & Gwen MacLennan, Harry & Hilda Wright, Harry Gjedsted, Lang Stronach, Dave Follington, Vic Forbes, Frank Ivey, Alan Boyle John Ringrose, Bob Fergusson, Norrie McGregor John Hawkins, Norm Auberson. Condolences and sympathy cards on behalf of the Association have been sent to the family.

VALE NOEL FORD.

THE SEQUENCE TO A SAFARI TO DARWIN

Some two or three months ago, Wally Lambourne on a trip to Darwin, decide to call on Jim Whitaker, some where this side of Darwin, (Place of Abode not mentioned). When he did call, he found no one at home, so left a note to say he had called also left a couple of 'tinnies' for good measure. When Whitaker arriving home saw the note and the tinnies, immediately rang the tinnies and then got in touch with Wally to tell him that his father was in Darwin Hospital, there fore Wally went to see Jim there. Since receiving this piece of news, we have received the sad news of the Death of Jim Whitaker. No details were given, so cannot elaborate.

The Cenotaph Statues (Sydney)

There can be no doubt that one of Sydney's most impressive and revered sites is The Cenotaph, in Martin Place Sydney. This year keen interest was taken and many questions asked after Anzac Day commemoration. So to set the record straight, an article was printed in one of the R.S.L. sub-branch magazines and here it is here for our readers interest. The statues that stand at either end of the Cenotaph where sculptured and then cast in bronze by Sir Bertram MacKinnal, one time great sculptor. The statues represent a sailor of the Royal Aust Navy and a soldier from the First A.I.F. of the first World War.

The Sailor. The model for the sailor was No. 3059. Leading Signelman John William Varcoe of the R.A.N, a characteristic sailor wearing the rig and equipment for fighting ashore. He was born at Baker's Swamp, N.S.W. on 20th, 1897, educated at Dubbo Public School and enlisted in the R.A. on June 3rd 1913. He served on H.A.M.S Pioneer, Dec 1914 to 1919 and was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal on May 17th 1918. He also served on H.A.M.S Parramatta 1917 to 1919. He died in 1948, Aged 51yrs.

The Soldier. The model for the soldier, was Regimental No 6, Private William P. Darley, of the 15th Aust. Infantry Battalion and also served with the 4th Field Ambulance. First A.I.F. He died in Brisbane in January, 1936, aged 66 years. Sir Bertram MacKinnal was impressed by the physique, athletic bearing and the stern warrior like cut of face, of both men.

Official Side. Inquiries are made from time to time as to which is the official side of the cenotaph. The answer is the side facing the G.P.O. This then dictates the correct dressing of the Flagstaffs. Thus on all occasions, when dressed, the Australian Flag is flown on the right hand side (George St end), the Union Jack on the left hand side (Pitt St end).

An appeal to members re Scholarship Sponsorship

One of our members, Bruce (Barney) Barnes of Glenhaven, has been in touch with me re an article that appeared in the current issue of 'Reveille'. It was through his efforts and conversations held with the Editorial manager, Mr Geoffrey Sutton, that the article appeared. I refer to the article appearing on Page 3 of the Sept+October issue, 'FUZZY WUZZY ANGELS'. It deals with the education of the grandchildren of the these men who gave so freely of their knowledge and expertise of the jungle in helping so many Australians to reach medical aid, thereby saving many of them from death. Not only in this particular field did they help, they were used by the army to guide patrols, to lead intelligence teams into enemy held territory. Since the article appeared in 'Reveille', there has been quite response to it, by Veterans from various Sub-Branches wanting to help in this project. If any of our members are interested then I suggest that they get into contact with Bruce Barnes at his address:- "Scribe Gums" 28 Even Evans Rd, GLENHAVEN. 2154. or Phone 634-2980.



Monthly meeting(cont)

late Noel Ford's Funeral service and perhaps perform the Ex servicemen's rites at the graveside.

Alf Carpenter asked members, that if they were travelling by car to the reunion, they would be at liberty to call in at the Bingra R.S.L. for a Lunch stop, as there would be several of the Newcastle boys meeting there en-route. Alf also re-iterated that the Christmas get together will be held on Wednesday 17th December. Between the hours of 2pm to 5pm, and that lunch can be had in the dining area from 12 noon to 2pm.

Also a gentle reminder to those who are not members of the Gallipoli Memorial Club, Why not join now, cost you only \$ 10. plus a joining fee of \$2. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2.50pm, Jim Venn, Vic Forbes and Peter Cade were seen making for the top floor to form their little enclaves and so continue on the yabbering till when?

FINAL LIST OF ACCOMMODATION BOOKINGS & CANCELLATIONS.

INVERELL COUNTRY RE+UNION 1986.

ROYAL HOTEL/MOTEL

Wilson Morrie & Mollie ( Missed off list No four) Unit 9.

Apologies & Cancellations These Units are now available for booking. Must know before Wednesday, 7th October.

Wagden George & Edna.

Had Unit I. (Now Available).

Nixon Bob & Pam.

" " 20. " "

Wey Frank.

" " II. " "

(Only one four bed Unit left, No I4)

INVERELL MOTEL.

Apologies & Cancellations. These Units still available. But must know before Wednesday, 7th October, 1986.  
Waterhouse Laurie & Joy. Had unit I4. (Now Available)

TWIN SWANS MOTEL.

Wicksley Stan.

These Units now available, but know before Wednesday, 7th October 1986.  
Had Unit 7. (Now Available) NO OTHERS LEFT

AMPHIRE CITY MOTEL.

Wacham Dudley.

Booked into Unit 5. ( No other units left.

AUSTRALIAN HOTEL.

Wallace Frank (om)

Room I5.

(There are 6 Rooms left)

Wagden Gordon.

" 5.

Greenwood Beryl (Assisting Gordon in Dressing) Room 9.

Waller 'Ragsey'

Room I5.

Special Notice Don Barrell, 2/3rd Fd Regt, Greece/Crete 1986 Tour to TWIN SWANS MOTEL UNIT 26 so that Gordon Bladen & Beryl Greenwood could be re-located in Australian Hotel.

Inverell Caravan Park

Lambourne Wally

Site II.

Jones Merv. 'Bluey' & Claire McCulloch. Site I2.

Bowman Ellen & Roy Wykes

Private Arrangements

N/A.

Smith Ross & Nan.

" "

N/A.

This is the Final List of bookings & Cancellations through the courtesy of the Inverell Country Reunion Committee. Ross Smith.

WAS IT A DREAM.

In the last issue of The P.O.W. associations magazine 'Barbwire and Bamboo' there appeared a paragraph which caught my eye and on reading it, could not believe at what my eyes read. It immediately sent my brain into a whirl and it made me wonder just how competent are some of the people who make decisions affecting ex-servicemen's pension applications. The people who received this piece of information are still not over the shock wave it caused. I quote:- "Another extraordinary extract sent to me by a Veterans Review Board member reads:- "The Veteran benefited from the hard work and healthy exercise associated with his three and half years as a prisoner of war of the Japanese working on the Burma-Siam railway, and this would have delayed the development of the complaint 'Atherosclerosis' which caused his death". We wonder who could have made this profound statement and what influence he has on decisions made on claims we might make for a pension". Unquote. By the way, this appeared in David McNichol's column in 'The Bulletin', 3rd June 1986 issue. I leave it with the members to dwell on. I know what my thoughts are of the individual and what I would like to do to him. Editor.



In the July-August issue the description of the Perth Coach trip finished at the point where the tourists had arrived at Eucla after a blustery hot day. We take up the description from Eucla. Who would have thought such comfort existed out on the Nullabor. Here we find ourselves at the Motel at Eucla, with a good room with an air conditioner, hot and cold water, a comfortable bed for the night. Then when confronting the bar, we find we can have the pick of Aussie brews, nice and cold too. The dining room was very good and the meals excellent. No roughing it, as we expected when getting to these out of way places. The modern traveller has it made now, providing he does the right thing. Water is the richest commodity out here, as it is so scarce. Imagine the surprise Perc and Betty Dalla had when they found they had scored a water bed in their room. Is it any wonder Perc waking during the night wondered if he was back on the ocean waves again. Imagine the extra thrill you would have, if you were having a little hanky-panky on a water bed. Rumour had it next morning, that someone was seen being dragged home to the roost, but no of any scuffed shoe caps could be seen in the morning. However there were one or two sore heads, so the night spent at Eucla must have been a good one. After a very good breakfast early, we had been up since the chooks started to stir in dawning light. This was because we had a long trek ahead of us, we just had to make it to Esperance by sundown. A distance of some 930 kms for the coach to cover, with the prospect of a very hot day before us. Whilst the baggage party was busy stowing the bags in the coach before breakfast, Norm Auberson was seen replenishing the big Es ky with ice and other refreshments for the long journey ahead of us. From Eucla we made our way to the the Roadhouse of Madura for a 'cuppa' and a leg stretch thence onto the lunch stop at a place called Caiguna. We were not made very welcome here, apparently the people running this place, like to be informed of travellers coming up the track, as they say. The only place on the whole tour that did not want our custom, must have made his 'heap! Anyway it was only under sufferance that we were able to get a sandwich and a drink and go! 't was hot and very blustery outside. (We never stopped there on the way back). After the lunch stop, the wind had become very strong and blustery and coupled with a high temperature, conditions for travelling became unpleasant, specially for Barry our Driver. However we were able to make the township of Norseman by 5pm, with only another 195kms to go, Barry had hoped to refuel the coach here but the strong winds had blown the power lines down and so we had to keep moving until the next fuel stop, hoping we would get there. Barry drove around Norseman quickly to give us a look at the place specially the big 'Tailings Dump' at the big Gold mine there, certainly a big heap of 'Dirt! It is reported as authentic that this dump contains gold equal to the amount of \$13,000,000. However the powers to be reckon it is not a viable undertaking to extract it. We managed to get the coach refuelled a little further down the track and so keep moving to eat up those extra kms to Esperance, which we eventually did at around 7pm or later, after 12 hours travelling. We were mighty pleased to see the Motel as it had been a long weary days travelling. Once again we found ourselves in a comfortable Motel and fronted up to a lovely dinner, plus a few glasses of the good stuff. Might mention that between Balladonia Roadhouse and Norseman we passed a chap pushing a hospital bed. He was doing this to raise money for the Childrens Hospital at Perth, Don't know whether he was pushing it to Sydney or just to Adelaide. Another interesting feature to be seen was the big steel towers, with the big circular dishlike discs mounted on top. These are the modern repeater stations for the telephonic communication system, the equivalent to the old Telegraph Stations now part of our history. Also very noticeable along the highway and set off the roadway a little where the big Water tanks with wide iron roof over them to catch the rain to replenish them, these are the emergency water tanks for the convenience of the traveller, should he run short of water on the crossing of the Nullabor. Supprising the number who do, through being too sure. After a good nights rest and a good breakfast, it was all aboard the coach for a good drive around the township of Esperance and the Bay of Isles and then out along the Eleven mile beach unto the Pink Lake. It was very murky when we arrived, of course it was a bit cloudy, however within a minute of our arrival the sun began to shine and then we could see the water changing colour to a real pink, of course the cameras went to work at a very brisk rate. It was indeed a real phenonemen and worth the trip out to see it. Found out, that certain individuals looking the the town over the night before found a good hotel, which had 'Topless' Barmaids. Perc Dalla was so distressed at seeing them that he could not enjoy his beer and they had to drag poor Vic Forbes away, he thought he had a bout of Hallucination. However a couple of the 2/1st field regt boys wanted to stay to the end but fear of the wrath of Mam changed their minds. Everyone found that Esperance was a lovely place to spend a holiday, plenty of fishing and lobstering to be had, or just tripping around in the car certainly have a nice time. Seeing that every one had had a good look around Esperance, Barry set the coach on the road for Albany our next night stop and so we travelled on to a little place called Ravensthorpe here we had our morning Cuppa. It was easy seen this little place was the centre of West Australian wheat belt, judging by the large wheat silos that were sited along the railway line and the numerous big road trains to be seen hauling the wheat to the rail terminals. The country side was taking on a better look now, better type of country growing bigger shrub and trees. Of course we were in the big timber country now, once out of the Stirling Ranges. Lunch stop was at a township called ONGERUP, a big wheat terminal with many silo. It was not long before we arrived at ALBANY, a little for once, so took a drive around the harbour side and then up to the Mount Clarence lookout to have a look at the ANZAC WAR MEMORIAL, which used be sited on the eastern side of the SUEZ CANAL just before it flowed into the Red Sea. The Arabs wrecked it in the '60s during the war with the JEWS AND THE BRITISH FRENCH FORCES. Prime Minister Menzies had it ressurected, repaired and resited on



At the lookout at ALBANY, a fitting place for it, because Albany was the last look at the Australian landscape as the convoys sailed for Gallipoli in 1915. There were 90 to 100 ships in the harbour at one specific time in 1915. A great and lovely harbour and one can get a good view of it from the War Memorial lookout. Another highlight of the town is the big rock in the main street, it is shaped like the head and shoulders of a dog, hence its name 'The Dog Rock'. In the morning, it was an early start again, so that we could fit in some sight seeing on the way to Perth. So after a good breakfast we set off to pass through some lovely country and when we reached the town of Denmark, this more or less signified that we were in the country of the giant trees and the rich pasture country. It was decided to have a combined late morning tea and an early lunch to save a little more time. So that when we arrived at Pemberton, it was inland to view what is left of the giants- the great Karri tree. They really destroyed these big forests of Karri, that there are not many left, what is left of them they are trying to preserve them for posterity sake. It was interesting to see the big trees but not so the havoc man in his greed has caused to forests. After leaving Pemberton, we talked Barry to deviate his route so that he would stop at the coastal township of Busselton, because it was Friday and the 13th day out from Sydney, naturally the wallets were getting a little light on, after all they had taken a battering on the way. Barry saw the wisdom in our thinking and it was on 3pm when he pulled up right outside the Westpac bank and after receiving very good service from the girls in the bank and a good wish to enjoy our stay in Perth, it was back in the coach so that Barry could show us some of the scenic spots of this lovely seaside resort. The Yankee sailors flock down here when they pull into Perth for recreational leave. Certainly have a lovely long beach, which a big attraction and the two kilometre long pier, a boon to the fisherman. If you wanted a very quiet and restful holiday, then Busselton is the ideal spot for it. Leaving Busselton, we made for Bunbury where the freeway starts, so it wasn't long before we passed through Mandurah and Rockingham. Great places for catching lobsters and crabs, as our friend Doug Slinger informs me. Passing the industrial complex Kwinanna and skirting the outer limits of Freemantle on our left, we were soon on the Canning Freeway that takes you into South Perth. We arrived at the Westos Motel at 5. m to be met by the reception committee headed by Doug Slinger and his good wife Wilma. The motel was terrific, our rooms were on the eighth and ninth floors, giving us terrific views of Perth and the Swan river also of the well known Kings Park. It was great sitting out on the balcony of your room and enjoying couple of cans before turning in for the night looking out at the city lights of Perth. Following day was a free one for the tourists majority of them spent the morning in the city having a look around, some spent all day, till it was time to return to the motel for a rest and a change ready for the nights entertainment. This was in the form of a boat trip up the river to a restaurant called the Mulberry Farm. The boat trip itself was a wine tasting affair and even at the restaurant the wine flowed freely, the meal was good but the noise factor was a little hard to take. The place was a huge barn like structure catering for three to four hundred people at a time. I think it was a little overpowering for most of us elderly tourists, all except Dasher Deacon who tried to create some sort of record for 'Jiving' like a Yo-Yo going up and down in the one spot. Again on the return trip to the city wharf, it was on again with the wine tasting, not many takers this time round, everyone had had a good session. Following day being Sunday, and after a good night rest and a hearty breakfast, it was everyone on the coach for a tour Kings Park, with Doug & Wilma Slinger and one or two of the local boys showing us the various highlights in and around the Park also on the tour of the suburbs on the way out to the Bowling Club at Doubleview. Doug acted as commentator and gave us a very good comment of the areas we passed through. The welcome we received at the Doubleview Bowling Club was spontaneous and very friendly indeed, we were welcomed by the Club President Norm Elms, accompanied by Wally Evans and made to feel at home. It was not long before we had settled down when jugs of liquid refreshments began to appear, followed by other refreshments of an edible variety. The atmosphere was very informal, the idea was for every one to mingle about and meet the West Australian members and their wives. Lunch took the form of a B.B.Q. cooked steak and salads, followed by fruit salad & cream, indeed it was a very delectable meal and the Ladies of the Doubleview- Scarborough R.S.L. are to be commended for their effort and generosity. Speeches were kept to a minimum, short and sweet, and entertainment was provided by the club in the way of an organist and a soloist, somehow Ross Smith managed to get into the act with his \$2.00 tin whistle. Plaques were presented to the R.S.L. President Norm Elms also to the Vice-President of West Aust 2/4th Bn sub-Association- Doug Slinger. Doug's wife Wilma was presented with a very nice Bark Painting done by Jean Foreman, wife of Jim Foreman. After the presentations and speeches, it was on with the music and dancing. Quite some fantastic sights were to be seen as various members of the tourists were caught doing some weird figurations on the floor and enjoying themselves. It was a very reluctant crowd of people when the time came for them to say 'AULD LANG SYNE' I think it took another hour before everyone was rounded up for the trip back to the motel. Now only the memory of that most enjoyable re-union and days outing remains. We must thank the people who organised it, to them we owe a debt in appreciation. The people we must thank are Doug and Wilma Slinger, Norm Elms, Wally and Thelma Evans, Stan and June Day, Dasher and Lily Deacon, Ross Elliott, Cec Smith, Jack Ward, Fred Stanwell, and Don Guthrie and of course the members of the Doubleview-Scarborough R.S.L. Bowling Club. It was a great pity we could not stay for another couple of days in Perth, however a strict time table had to be adhered to and so it was with great reluctance that we had to leave the next day. In the meantime we spent the last evening at the Westos Motel with a lovely dinner and a bottle of 'bubbley' as a last finale to our stay in Perth. Tomorrow we start on the long trek back to Sydney via Kalgoorlie