



White Water Green

MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE 2/4 INFANTRY BATTALION ASSOCIATION

PATRON: Major-General Sir Ivan DOUGHERTY, CBE., DSO & Bar., ED., BEC., LLD., (Hon.).
42nd. year of continuous publication.

Registered by: Australia Post: Publication - NAS 1532.
Price: 50c. per copy.

Vpl. 42-No. 10.
OCTOBER, 1987.

President: Alf Carpenter, 66 Chatham Rd., Georgetown, 2298. 'Phone: 049-612366 or 049-671969

Vice-Presidents:-

Senior:	Allen Lindsay, 21a Mirral Rd, Caringbah, 2229.	02-5241937
Queensland:	Laurie McCosker, 60 Hillsdon Rd, Taringa, 4068.	07-8701395
Far Nth. Coast:	Allan Kirk, 179 Dibbs St., Lismore, 2480.	066-214464
Northern NSW:	Esca Riordan, 111 Kemp St., Kempsey, 2440.	065-624671
Newcastle:	George Mitchell, 6 Verli Pl., Waratah, 2298.	049-672182
Southern NSW:	Bob Jackson, 14 The Boulevard, Wagga Wagga, 2650.	069-226914
Victoria:	Claude Raymond, 92 Rose St, West Coburg, 3058.	03-3541145
Sth. Australia:	Peter Denver, 15 Admiral Tce., Goolwa, 5214.	085-552252
West Australia:	Doug Slinger, 55 Hotham St, Bayswater, 6053.	09-2717027

Secretary: Fred Staggs, 13 Seven Hills Rd, Seven Hills, 2147. 02-6711765

Asst. Secretary: John Hawkins, 21 Maloney St, Blacktown, 2148. 02-6220531

Treasurer: Allen Lindsay, 21a Mirral Rd., Caringbah, 2229. 02-5241937

Committee: Norm Auberson, Vic Forbes, MM., Les Jones, Ken Kesteven, MC, ED., John Meehan, John Ringrose, George Stack.

Editor: Ted Fox, 29 Longford Street, Roseville, 2069. 02-461200

Welfare Officer: Harry Wright, 3 Boundary Rd., Carlingford, 2118. 02-8715312

Pensions Officer: John Hawkins, 21 Maloney St, Blacktown, 2148. 02-6220531

Liaison Officer to the Gallipoli Club: Athol Heath, French's Forest, 02-4514466

NEXT TWO MEETINGS:-

At The Gallipoli Memorial Club, 12-14 Loftus Street, Sydney, commencing at 1400 hours in The Anzac Room (lunch available in the Dining Room between 1200 hours and 1400 hours at a table reserved for 2/4 Bn. Association Members or at a separate table if so preferred):-
3DAY, 27th. OCTOBER - Normal Monthly Meeting) Committee will meet at 1130 hours in
3DAY, 24th. NOVEMBER - Normal Monthly Meeting) The Anzac Room.

"W.O.G." PRODUCTION:-

WEDNESDAY, 11th. NOVEMBER - Team 5 at 1000 hours in The Anzac Room;
THURSDAY, 12th. NOVEMBER - Team 6 at 1000 hours (NOTE change from 1100 hours) in The Anzac or Regimental Room (check on arrival at the Club).

DATES TO REMEMBER:-

TUESDAY, 20th. OCTOBER - Actual commencement date of Port Stephens/NELSON BAY RE-UNION - but many Members will arrive on Monday, 19th. October, and some on Sunday, 18th. October. Re-union continues to, and inclusive of, Thursday, 22nd. October.

TUESDAY, 17th. NOVEMBER - "Charlie Coy. Calling" luncheon at The Gallipoli Memorial Club - 'phone Norm Auberson on 632-8225 or Harry Gjedsted on 27-6350 by Friday, 13th. November, if you wish to attend. Payment for luncheon is to be made to Norm Auberson upon arrival at the Club.

WEDNESDAY, 16th. DECEMBER - 2/4 Bn. Association's Christmas "GET TOGETHER" at The Gallipoli Memorial Club commencing at 1500 hours.

AUSTRALIAN-HELLENIC MEMORIAL APPEAL:-

Raffle tickets are now available, proceeds going to this Appeal. The cost is \$2.00 per ticket and there are three prizes with full details shown on the ticket - briefly they are: 1st.-Holiday for two in Greece; 2nd.-Ansett South Molle Island Holiday for two; 3rd.-Hamilton Island three nights accommodation for two. Ken Kesteven will have tickets with him at the Port Stephens/NELSON BAY RE-UNION - please obtain them direct from Ken, not from the Re-union Committee.

BATTALION MEDALS and MINIATURES:-

Final reminder - the RE-UNION is the last chance to order these as the dies will then be withdrawn from the Manufacturer.

MONTHLY MEETING - 22nd. September, 1987:-

The Meeting commenced at 1405 hours with S.V.P. Allen Lindsay presiding and 43 Members in attendance. Apologies entered in the Minutes from A. Carpenter, L. Smith, K. Richardson, K. Kesteven, L. Jones, V. Forbes, B. Turlley, L. McNamara, C. Powers, A. Fordham, J. Partidge, M. Porter, R. Lever, D. Milne.

One minute's silence was observed in memory of our Fallen and Departed Comrades.

It was Moved, Seconded and Carried that the Minutes of the previous Monthly Meeting, as published in "W.O.G.", be taken as read and adopted.

Business Arising from the Minutes: It was acknowledged that the matter of T.P.I. Pension validities/reductions (etc.) has been satisfactorily resolved, subject to amending legislation being passed through Parliament as promised by the Prime Minister. Assistant Secretary, John Hawkins, recorded the following Business dealt with at this September Meeting:

CORRESPONDENCE "IN":

Letters enclosing dues/donations/payments for medals, ties, etc., as mentioned hereunder and in the (following) Treasurer's Cash Register Report.

Letters to Secretary, Fred Staggs, from:

Cec Loughnan (\$10); Mrs. Kyle (\$33.55); Laurie Crispin (\$7); Geoff Ings (\$50); Joe Lowe (\$40); Harry Dowling (\$50); Craig Clark (\$50); Wal Honey (\$20); Keith Montgomery (\$8) - all these related to purchase of medals, miniatures, ties, etc.

E. Mackey - confirming receipt of miniature medal and tie.

Shirley Vaughan - with Medal details re her Husband (Fred) and Father (W.H.J. Hyde).

Wal Capper - notifying change of address.

Phyl Chrystal - enclosing cheque for \$250 being proceeds from sales of the "Dougherty" biography.

Letters to Treasurer, Allen Lindsay, from:

Harry Smith - enclosing a donation of \$60.

Newton (etc. "Doc") Howard - with subscription, best wishes and regards to all the 2/4thers.

Vic Manchester - with subscription and a donation to Association Funds, and an invitation to "WOG" visitors to Orange to call on him.

Vera Pollock (Inverell) - enclosing donation towards "W.O.G." postage costs. She sends thanks for our action in continuing to send our Newsletter to her since her husband's death just on two years ago.

Letters to Editor, Ted Fox, from:

"Chic" Sleeman - re Mrs. Edna Maunday of Lambton concerning the late Aub South-see separate item later in this Newsletter.

"Chic" Sleeman - re Lieutenant Phillip Lilliebridge of 12/16 Hunter River Lancers who made himself known to Merv Jones at Nelson Bay R.S.L. after sighting the 2/4th. colour patch on Merv's blazer pocket. His father was an original member of our Signal Platoon, NX8857 - Eric Lilliebridge, mentioned on page 82 of our War History where the various claims are made as to "whose hat was it that was hoisted on the flagpole at Tobruk"? Phillip would no doubt have enjoyed meeting some of his father's mates at our forthcoming re-union but at that period he will be in the Cooktown area on manoeuvres. At his request, Phillip has been added to "W.O.G."

(Contd. next column)

MONTHLY MEETING - 22nd. September, 1987(Contd.):Letters to Editor, Ted Fox (Contd.):

mailing list.

Frank Crutchett - advising that he and Enid will arrive at Nelson Bay Re-union on Saturday, 17th. October, and will stay there for one week in a Unit owned by friends in Canberra. Frank and Enid recently spent a couple of weeks on the Sunshine Coast, including a few days at Surfers' Paradise where they caught up with "Doc" Howard.

Frank also supplied details of the retirement of (NX169204) Dave Taylor from the A.C. T. Parks and Conservation Service, where he was Senior Fruit Officer (he says that is a "fancy name for Supervisor"). David joined the Parks and Gardens Service in the Department of the Interior, as it was then known, in 1947, aged 22 years, after serving with us in New Guinea and later in the Occupation Force in Japan.

"Chic" Sleeman - enclosing a cutting from "The Northern Star" of August 6th., 1945, describing an action by elements of 2/4 Bn. during the drive into the Prince Alexander Mountains in New Guinea. (I will print that item when space is available - Ed.).

Pat Bruty - enclosing an article on Nicknames, which will be printed in this Newsletter or a later one if necessary.

Bob ("Dagwood") Jackson - enclosing formal Sitrep which appears elsewhere in this Newsletter. He also enclosed copies of "Reveille" and 7th. Aust. Div. Association articles/letter containing the most extraordinary versions of Sir Ivan Dougherty's personal honours and titles - "Reveille" (May/June) demoted him to Major and restricted him to CBE DSO & ED. The 7 Div. Association invested him with the degree of "DIPP LITT" - and both withdrew the BEC., LL.D., (Hon). However, we must be tolerant in the knowledge that no other Unit or Organisation is, or has ever been, as efficient as ourselves. Bob also contributed the following "Bylines" article published on 12/9/87 in the "Wagga Daily Advertiser": "Printed on one of the many hundreds of \$2.00 notes gratefully received during Legacy Appeals Week we the words 'GREED BREEDS MEAN DEEDS'. It was signed 'Christians', and even gave a postal address, Sydney South, 2000. Could this be a message for society at large in this seemingly tough and ruthless world?".

Vic Forbes - with his impressions of the Trooping the Colours ceremony by 2nd./4th. Bn. R.A.R. at Townsville on 15th. August, 1987, which appears later in this Newsletter.

Letter to Harry Gjedsted:

From Doug Slinger - referring to Harry's comments in an article, which even made the W.A. "DAILY NEWS" afternoon newspaper, about the use of Gallipoli Veterans to promote the sale in N.S.W. (and probably elsewhere) of a certain W.A. origin beer through a T.V. advertisement. Doug agrees that the matter is in poor taste, had not seen it on T.V. in W.A. at the time of writing, but sent the relevant newspaper cutting to Harry with the remark: "... I suppose the market for his grog is pretty secure over here, so he is looking for sales on your side of the country".

CORRESPONDENCE "OUT": Nil.

REPORTS:

Treasurer reported the following Account Balances as at 22nd. September, 1987: General Account \$6,298.00; Benevolent Account \$239.00; State Building Society \$8,723.00; Re-union Committee \$500.00; Total Funds are \$15,760.00.

(Contd. next page)

MONTHLY MEETING - 22nd. September, 1987(Contd.): - REPORTS (Contd.):

Welfare and 6 Div. Reports were presented by Harry Wright and Norm Auberson respectively and are printed later in this Newsletter. Editor reported that the photocopier is performing better since being serviced, but reproduction still tends to fade towards the end of the printing.

Pensions Officer gave a brief account of the cases he has handled to date.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

S.V.P. Allen Lindsay formally welcomed Sir Ivan to the Meeting and, in responding, he stressed the value to us all in maintaining the comradeship which was formed during our time together on Active Service. Sir Ivan then congratulated Mick O'Regan on having become qualified to join the OCTOGENARIAN CLUB.

On a Motion by Alex Arnett, Seconded by George Mitchell, Jack Partridge was appointed Vice-President of a new area to be recognised by our Association as N.S.W. Central Coast. The Secretary was requested to write to Tom Mort to ascertain whether he is in a position to accept an appointment as Vice-President for N.S.W. South Coast (as distinct from Southern N.S.W.).

"Lofty" Taylor suggested that our Pensions Officer be granted approval to travel, at Association expense, to country areas when necessary to assist Members and deceased Members' Wives in pension matters. After discussion, Pensions Officer John Hawkins recommended that the matter of travel and related expenses be left to his discretion. This was agreed by the Meeting.

Bob Fergusson spoke on the necessity at all times for each one of us to care for our fellow members in every possible manner and whenever a need arises for such care.

In humorous vein, "Slim" Venn protested about the damage caused to his reputation by the report in September "W.O.G." that he and Mick O'Regan had responded to a newsagency placard announcement "WANTED - TWO MEN FOR ARMED ROBBERY" by applying for the job. There being no further Business, the Meeting was closed at 1455 hours.

According to the Attendance Book, the Members present were: ALLEN LINDSAY, SIR IVAN DOUGHERTY, NORM AUBERSON, FRED STAGGS, JOHN MEEHAN, JOHN RINGROSE, JOHN HAWKINS, TED FOX, HARRY WRIGHT, GEORGE STACK, ATHOL HEATH, ALEX ARNOTT, PETER CADE, GEORGE MITCHELL, MALCOLM KESHAN, PAT BRUTY, DICK PINSON, RON BARBER, REX EVERSON, JOHN "LARRY" DOOLEY, ALAN BOHLÉ, ALEX MAXWELL, HARRY GJEDSTED, GEOFF GREEN, ERNIE SWAIN, LIONEL CLARKE, NAP ALAVOINE, "TOLGA" JACK GARVEY, TOM TRACEY, CLIFF "SQUIZZY" TAYLOR, FRED "LOFTY" TAYLOR, KEN "SLIM" VENN, JIM SADLER, FERD PEGG, MICK "NO CHANGE" O'REGAN, BILL PARRY, "PORKY" WILLIAMS, BILL FOGDEN, WAL JOHNSTON, WALLY SHAW, DAVE FOLLINGTON, BOB FERGUSON and JIM GRAHAM.

O-O-O-O

TRIVIATA - MIDDLE EAST SENTRY INCIDENT:-

Mick "No Change" O'Regan was on sentry duty (something he was usually able to avoid) on a dark and windy night in Palestine and was concentrating on remembering the Pass-Word when he saw a figure approaching:

Mick: HALT! WHO GOES THERE?

Answer: Army Chaplain.

Mick challenged another three times - he had to be sure - and three times he received the same answer: Army Chaplain.

Mick: (As he "popped one up the spout") I'll
(Contd. next column)

TRIVIATA-MIDDLE EAST SENTRY INCIDENT(Contd.): -

give you one more chance - WHO GOES THERE?

Answer: Army Chaplain.

So Mick shot him, saying: I'll give you Charlie Chaplin, you smart Alec b-----d.

O-O-O-O

VIETNAM VETERANS' NATIONAL RE-UNION:-

It was a beautiful day in Sydney, sunshine and a clear blue sky. It was also a day of cheers and tears, nobody - Marchers or Spectators - tried to hide their emotions. It was a day that no Viet.Vet. will ever forget. We lined both sides of George Street, in the vicinity of the Town Hall, and we allowed ourselves a few tears as those younger men paraded past us with a newly-acquired pride reflected in their demeanour. S.V.P. Allen Lindsay called us "to order", a special mark of respect for the members of 4 Bn. R.A.R. when that Unit approached us, & with our 2/4 Bn. colours displayed, per medium of our Unit Flag, we stood to attention until that battalion had marched on. We were especially proud to see "Larry" and Yvonne Dooley's son "on parade" with his Viet.Vet. mates. Several of us were approached individually, after the March, and were thanked "for turning out to welcome us" by Viet.Vets. (some with tears in their eyes) who obviously did appreciate our presence. The event has been well reported in Sydney newspapers but, for the benefit of our Interstate Members, the following extracts do seem to sum up what their belated reception meant for these "forgotten" men:

"The Vietnam Veterans' Welcome Home Parade was one of the greatest emotional outpourings Sydney has witnessed in decades and thousands of personal ghosts were laid to rest".

"Some of the 25,000 men wept openly as the March progressed past a cheering, flag-waving crowd of 150,000 who lined the city streets".

"Women and young girls rushed up to Veterans in wheelchairs, kissing them and handing them flowers".

"This was an emotional purging of anger, frustration, bitterness, confusion and rejection which has possessed these men since they returned from that terrible Asian war".

"For years I walked the streets being ashamed of who I was. Not any more. Not after today".

Normie Rowe, veteran of Vietnam and the "pop" stage, said: "The March surpassed all hopes. I heard of a bloke who went home last night for the first time in 20 years. He just turned up on his daughter's doorstep. Another bloke came out of the jungle near Townsville where he has been living since he got back from 'Nam. He marched today".

Our Members attending the March were: H. GJEDSTED, A. DICK, A. ARNOTT, D. MILNE, D. FINCH, E. FOX, A. BOHLÉ, R. EVERSON, J. FORMAN, W. JOHNSTON, L. JONES, R. SMITH (Metro.), N. AUBERSON, H. WRIGHT, A. LINDSAY, J. MEEHAN, G. STACK, N. MCGREGOR, P. LAHEY, A. MAXWELL, J. DOOLEY, T. RICHARDSON, R. COUTTS, D. FOLLINGTON, K. KESTEVEN, J. RINGROSE, E. SWAIN & JEAN MAXWELL, HILDA WRIGHT, GWEN MACLENNAN, JOYCE RINGROSE, FI KESTEVEN, ENID LATIMER, PHYL CHRYSTAL, MARGE STACK, YVONNE DOOLEY, JEAN FORMAN, HEATHER FOX and her sister SHIRLEY LEHMANN.

O-O-O-O

LOST:- NX9928, H. QUINTAL - thought to be in South Australia - anyone knowing his whereabouts should advise us for Bill Bickley.

O-O-O-O

6TH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION



Report by Norm Auberson:-

(1) Arrangements re display of Unit Flags (NO banners), and where we were to take up our position, at the Viet.Vets' March were explained in conformity with 6 Div. requirements.

(2) The Greek Scholarships will now remain viable until 1991.

(3) The overall attendance at the 6 Aust. Div. Association (N.S.W.) Re-union was very satisfactory, but the only 2/4thers in attendance, apart from Sir Ivan and Lady Dougherty, were Alf Carpenter and Doreen Manuel, Norm and Nita Auberson, Ken and Fi Kesteven, Harry and Marge Gjedsted, Alex Dick, Jim Graham and Ted Fox.

Report by Ted Fox:-

Whatever beverages were consumed at the above Re-union by Jim Graham and Alex Dick had a strange effect upon them - they both lapsed into verse, joke and riddle & submitted, on the spot, material for publishing in "W.O.G." and without further comment their pearls of wisdom are as now follow:

From "Gentleman Jim" Graham:

(1) Scots Wa' Hae we' Wallace Bled -
Scots Haem Bruce had often Led -
All he did was pee the Bed
And blame it on his brother Ned -
(That Caledonian Rascal).

(2) When Caesar's Legions were crossing the Moselle area, heading for Albion, one night a soldier went to the nearest vineyard and brought back a bottle of wine. He showed it to his friend Claudius and said: "Hey, you are a bit of a wine buff, try this. The vintner says it is three years old!!! Do you recollect if 58 BC was a vintage year?"

What is the anomaly in the above question? Answer: How would Claudius know it was BC?

From Alex Dick: "PEACE":

In the tranquillity of early morning,
When the world is at its rest,
The birds awakening from their slumber -
That's the hour that I love best.

When they greet the morning cheery
With clear and melodious notes,
Warming up their calls and tuning
Stemming from their every throats.

The Currawongs and the Magpies,
And the screeching Cockatoo -
The echo bouncing off the mountain -
That's the life for just we two.

Have you ever heard such splendour?
And the "PEACE" the bush can bring?
The Cicadas in full chorus
When it's well into the Spring.

The chiming of the Bell-birds
With their beat to every bar -
Others joining in full chorus,
It's like a bush orchestra.

The Rainbow Lorrikeets and Parrots
Give colour to the scene.
It's the best soother of the nerves
Man has ever heard or seen.

It was made by our Creator
And with the beauty of the "Cast"
If we go together forward
We'll have gained our PEACE at last.

O-O-O-O

PORT STEPHENS/NELSON BAY RE-UNION:-

"Chic" Sleeman's address is: Mr.O.C.Sleeman, 92 Tomaree Road, Shoal Bay, N.S.W.2315. His 'phone number is: 049/81.2347.

Latest Re-union bookings comprise:

Merv and Claire Jones; Harry Hamburger; Vic Forbes; Selby Dean; Bern Stafford; John Whitelaw; Ern and Meg Cook (Original 2/11 Bn.); Geoff Green; Cliff Curran.

NOTE: (1) Cec Loughnan has donated a beautiful hand-painted plate, the art of his late wife, Ede, to be raffled at the banquet.

(2) Harry Hamburger is staying with his brother at Nelson Bay and they have six spare beds available - FREE - but they cannot provide meals. 'Phone "Chic" Sleeman if interested.

(3) Resulting from newspaper publicity about our Re-union, a Mrs. Edna Maunder of Lambton has contacted "Chic" Sleeman and has told him that during "our" war, when she was a girl of 11 years, she knitted socks and sent them away for the troops. One of the recipients was our own Aub South, NX5183, who wrote letters of thanks to Mrs. Maunder, as she now is, and she has kept those letters all the intervening years. She thought there might be a chance of meeting & greeting Aub at the Re-union, but "Chic" had to inform that he died some years ago. However, "Chic" was not able to give Mrs. Maunder any details of Aub's death, when or where, etc., but she said that Aub wrote in one of his letters that he had a son about seven years old and that his family lived at Richmond. If anyone knows the location of Aub South's descendants or relatives, or has information about Aub which could be of interest to Mrs. Maunder, please write to her at 60 Moorehead St., Lambton, N.S.W.2299.

(4) Ned Kenna is scheduled to arrive at Williamstown Airport on 19th. October and will be met there by Jim Brown.

WWII BATTALION REUNION IN BAY.

The Association of the Second Fourth (2/4) Australian Infantry Battalion veterans of World War II will hold their annual country re-union in Nelson Bay on Tuesday the 20th of October.

Around two hundred and fifty veterans, wives and widows of deceased members will travel from all over Australia for the re-union.

The Battalion's patron, Major-General Sir Ivan Dougherty and Lady Dougherty will be present, and it is hoped that a contingent of Light

Horsemen, mounted and wearing their traditional uniforms will lead the march.

Veterans will form up at the oval opposite the RSL at 5pm.

After a ceremony, the veterans will attend their re-union banquet at the Nelson Bay Police Citizens Youth Club.

The veterans will spend the 21st cruising our Blue Water Wonderland on charter boats, and then spend the final day of their stay. Thursday the 22nd, on a tour of the RAAF base at Williamstown.

O-O-O-O

WELFARE REPORT - By Harry Wright:-

As at 21st. September, 1987:

Visited at Concord Repat. Gen. Hospital:

NX68636 - CLARKE, G.J. (Gordon) - Ward 330 - ex "C" Coy. - lives at Port Macquarie - heart problem - has now been transferred to R.P.A. Hospital where he has had surgery - reported to be progressing well.

(Contd. next page)

WELFARE REPORT (Contd.):**As at 21st. September, 1987:****Visited at Sutherland Hospital:**

NX9846 - POWERS, C.F. ("Slim") - Ward 1st. Floor East 4D - lung infection - visited by Peter Cade - "Slim" has also had a slight stroke.

As at 2nd. October, 1987:

"Slim" Powers now out of hospital and reports himself recovering well - has been visited by Peter Cade, Dick Pinson, "Tich" Fordham, Bob Fergusson, Bill MacLennan, Harry Wright and Vera Walsh.

Visited at Tregothan Nursing Home, Leura:

NX3939 - BARKER, E. (Ted) - visited by Bob Lever who reports that Ted is reasonably well and able to get around with the aid of a stick. (Incidentally, Bob also has not been too well but since improved).

Visited at Milton Nursing Home, Roseville:

Lady MACKAY - visited by Heather Fox but she could not be wakened - is now very frail. Heather left a 2/4 Bn. card with a message and has since received a 'phone call from Lady Mackay's daughter to express her appreciation. Lady Mackay is now in her 97th. year.
0-0-0-0

LAST POST

NX169408 - FARR, S. (Known in the battalion as FARRUGIA).
NX202371 - MILNER, C.A. (Bert).
NX190561 - GORMAN, J.E.
NX25339 - DONNELLY, J.A.
NX68638 - CAMPBELL, N.R. (Ray).

STOP PRESS:

At 1500 hrs.
on 13/10/87 -
LADY MACKAY.

**VALE - J.A. (James) DONNELLY:-**

Jim was a member of the Signals Platoon and was staying in Wagga with his wife, Yvonne, when he suffered a heart attack on 16th. September and three days later died in his sleep at Wagga Base Hospital.

NX 25339, Pte. James Augustus Donnelly served our Battalion faithfully from the time of his enlistment in June, 1941, to April, 1946. He served throughout the Middle East, in Darwin and New Guinea. He lost a brother in the 8th. Div. in Malaya, and another in Div. in New Guinea. The Donnelly family served their nation well. Vale, Jim, and may you rest in peace. Our deepest sympathy to Yvonne and her family in their sad and sudden loss.

0-0-0-0

VALE - N.R. (Ray) CAMPBELL:-

Norman Raymond (Ray) Campbell died suddenly at his home on 19th. September and a funeral service for him was held at N.H. Olsen's Funeral Chapel, Sutherland, followed by a burial service at Woronora Lawn Cemetery. The Rev. Gordon Bradbery, from Jannali Uniting Church, conducted the services in the chapel and at the graveside, the R.S.L. Ceremony being performed by Alf Blomfield of Caringbah R.S.L.

Ray served with the battalion in "D" Coy. in the Middle East, Darwin and New Guinea. We were represented at the funeral by Sir Ivan Dougherty, Allen Lindsay and Harry Wright.

0-0-0-0

SITREPS:-**Newcastle - from George Mitchell:**

"On 30th. August, several members and wives attended a church service at Wallsend Uniting Church conducted by ex-2/4th the Rev. Bill Mitchell. We were afforded V.I.P. Treatment including a delicious morning tea. Our President, Alf Carpenter, read the first lesson and Pat Bruty presented the church with the Grace composed by the late Dick Morris, suitably framed. The organist, Cheryl Butters, was appropriately dressed in white and green. In attendance were ALF CARPENTER, DOREEN MANUEL, GEORGE and HEATHER MITCHELL, PAT and GWEN BRUTY, RON and YVONNE MACZKOWIACK. Our Monthly "Get Together" was held at Hamilton R.S.L. on 4th. September, a very good attendance including Jim Brown from Kempsey who was in Newcastle for the weekend. The others present were those who were also at the church service, excluding Ron and Yvonne but including Rev. Bill, plus DOUG and DEIDRE MILNE, "CHIC" and DOT SLEEMAN, CECIL and MARCIA LOUGHNAN".

West Australia - from Doug Slinger:

"Our quarterly luncheon was held at The Anzac Club on Tuesday, 15th. September, the attendance being much less than usual because of circumstances we could not anticipate when we set the date three months ago - i.e. sickness, a funeral to attend, a son to be visited before he flew out to Europe, etc., etc. However, there will be no recriminations and no "Escort and Accused Parades" to substantiate the apologies received from WALLY EVANS, MONA ELLIOTT, DON and RAEMA GUTHRIE, TED HARDS, JOHN and PAM STOREY, FRED STANWELL, VERN and LORIS TOWNSEND, JACK WARD, PETER WILLAN. Of course, "DASHER" and LILY DEACON were away in N.S.W. on their extended holiday and so they could not be at the luncheon. Those present were STAN and JUNE DAY, ROSS ELLIOTT, CEC and THELMA SMITH, EDNA DING, WILMA and MYSELF. Loris Townsend has been in hospital for surgery to remove a kneecap. She is home again but Vern says she will need constant care for some time before she is up and about once more.

Stan Day also spent more than a week in hospital recently after being rushed there by ambulance with sudden breathing problems. It was good that he had recovered and was able to be at the luncheon.

Wilma and I have had letters from the Deacons and one from Merv ("Bluey") and Claire Jones of Victoria. The latter two have already arrived at Nelson Bay with their caravan, and Claire was able to let us know that "Dasher" & Lily have also 'hit that town'.

A letter from "Chic" Sleeman, with the other letters, indicates that all those who are in

(Contd. next page)

SITREPS (Contd.):—

West Australia (Contd.):

Nelson Bay already are having a "real Ball" and (at time of writing) the Re-union is still a month away-lucky people.



A letter from Lily Deacon mentioned that she had been asked by Vic Forbes to enquire whether I had available any of our "W.A.2/4 BN.EXCLUSIVE PRIVATES'CLUB CERTIFICATES" and I do have a few of them - so I will bring them to Nelson Bay and invest Vic Forbes, with the assistance of "Dasher" Deacon, with due and appropriate ceremony.

I do want to thank Fred Staggs, Shirley Vaughan and "W.O.G." for clearing up the matter of the H.McKenzie who was reputed to be ex-2/4 Bn. and reported dead in the "West Australian" newspaper. I am so delighted to know that our Harold McKenzie is still in the world of the living & I send him, and Shirley Vaughan and Fred Staggs, my very best wishes.

Wilma and I are looking forward to flying over to the Re-union (and our Hawkesbury River Cruise with "Dasher" and Lily) and I hope to have a drink with you (meaning ME-Ed.).

Southern N.S.W. - from Bob ("Dagwood") Jackson:

"We were coasting along in our usual, not very dramatic, manner, when suddenly things started happening!

About 14th, the Sept. "WOG" arrived: another "thumping good" issue, thanks to Ted Fox and his dedicated team. This alone sparked off quite a few ideas for our report. Then a letter came from the Wagga Branch of the 7 Div. Association. More of that later.

And then, on Wednesday evening came an SOS from Dorothy Roughly, daughter of one of our old Sig. Platoon, James A. Donnelly (known as "Don" in the Bn) of Towamba, down near Eden, with big troubles.

"Don" & his wife, Yvonne, were over in Wagga looking after the grandchildren whilst daughter, Gwen, and son-in-law, Robert Shomrook (a S/Sgt. at Kapooka) went on special leave to Queensland.

Don had a heart attack and complications from emphysema on Wed, 16th., made some progress by Friday, but sadly died in his sleep early Saturday morning, 19th. September.

He had fortunately remembered the name of "Dagwood". His daughter made contact when trouble was looming, and yours truly swung into action. All concerned were contacted, and it was a hard weekend for the five daughters, two sons-in-law, a grieving widow and sundry grandchildren stranded in Wagga until the completion of funeral formalities enabled them to return to Bega on Tuesday.

Bega Legacy Group were alerted for the job they had ahead of them next week.

On the home front, most of our 2/4th-ers are well. Good to have had a yarn with Perc Dalla, who greatly enjoyed the trip to Cairns. Betty was crook on the

(Contd.next column)

SITREPS (Contd.):—

Southern N.S.W. (Contd.):

way home, but is now much improved.

Stan Blacksley and his wife, Kath, are now re-united: being both at the Wendy Hucker section of our local Retirement village - The Haven.

Stan is getting about with only the greatest difficulty, but still quite good from the head up. There's a lot of the "Blacksleyian spirit" still there! He sends regards to all...

We appreciated the write-ups in "WOG" on "Bub" Graham and Dr. Paul Tomlinson. "Bub" was a nephew of Matron Rava, who is in charge of the section where Stan and Kath are. When Stan showed her the "Vale" she was most grateful and got a copy of it for her family there & then.

Stan also says "welcome" to "No Change" M. J. O'Regan to the Octogenarian Club. A pretty rare breed, indeed! Some of us are still enjoying being "Sexagenarians"! But time is running out - and how?

Your "Triviata" deserves comment again, too. These snippets of humour make for a lot of fun. Who knows, some may well find their way to the Reader's Digest or such like. Might earn some "baubees" for WOG, even?

Only argument we have (editorially speaking) is the legitimacy of the word "triviata". In no self-respecting dictionary can I find this word. But it sounds good: and why shouldn't the editor of our 42 year old "WOG" be allowed to create a new word if he wants to. Any comment, Ted?

What a nice thought on the part of John Falla and Joe & Bobbie Wells to make such a donation to the Association for the sake of "WOG". Perhaps we should all take a Jackpot ticket and call it "For WOG's sake"? Quick: do it now while its worth about \$280,000. And we bet Treasurer Allen Lindsay "gets in for his chop"!

Lastly, the 7th.Div. Association will be holding their Re-union in Wagga for the first time this year (9-11 Oct) and I have been honoured with an invitation to represent the 6th.Div. Association at the 7 Div. Dinner. A very happy prospect.

PS: Regretfully, because of other commitments, Enid & I will not be able to attend the Re-union at Port Stephens/Nelson Bay, but we send best wishes for a very successful event. Regards to all,

"Dagwood."

TRIVIATA - A LUCID AND ENLIGHTENING EXPLANATION OF THE DERIVATION AND MEANING THEREOF:-

Apart from "Dagwood's" above-mentioned remarks, at a recent "W.O.G."-wrapping session the origin of the word was queried by Frank Ivey. There is thus a good reason why I should put at ease the troubled minds of those who are confused by it.

(Contd.next page)

TRIVIATA - THE DERIVATION & MEANING(Contd.):

Reference: "WEBSTER'S" New Twentieth Century Dictionary of the English Language - Unabridged - Published 1950:

TRIVIATA - derived by authority of Poet's & Editor's Licence from:

Trivial, a (ie adjective)(from the Latin "trivialis", meaning "of the cross-roads"- hence "commonplace", from "trivia", a place where 3 roads met ("tri" for three and "via" for road) - Of little worth or importance, trifling or inconsiderable, as "a trivial subject".

Tā, v.t. (ie verb transitive) Obs. (ie now obsolete) meaning "To take".

Hence - Trivia tā (n ie noun) pronounced TRIVIATA meaning "to take a place where three roads met" - which seems to be rather a useless thing to do - thus something of no great importance but used by Editors as "space-fillers".

NOTE for scholars: The "trivia" above-mentioned should not be confused with "trivia" the plural of "trivium (Latin noun) which means: (1) in the medieval schools, the three Arts - grammar, logic and rhetoric. These with the quadrivium together constituted the seven liberal Arts and Sciences;

(2) the three anterior radii of a holothurian or other echinoid considered collectively, as distinguished from the "bivium" or posterior pair.

I do hope that I have now clarified this vexatious (per "Webster" meaning 'agitating to the mind') subject.

All of which preceeding dissertation is a classical example of TRIVIATA... Editor.

O-O-O-O-O

THIS ONE JUST HAS TO BE TOLD by Bill MacLennan:-

Bob Fergusson and I (Mac Lennan) decided to visit "Slim" Powers at Sutherland on 28th. September. Ferg said: "You drive and I'll navigate because I was in the Intelligence Section and you were merely a rifleman". I agreed but did say to Gwen before we left that you couldn't put enough money on Fergie getting us lost. Sure thing, that's just what happened, so I finally took his map, compass and projector from him, tossed them out the window, forbade him to speak again, had a "shoof-tie" at the Gregory's and found "Slim's" place - no worries.

"Slim" made us very welcome. He looks well, keeps himself busy, and I think he would like more visitors.

The moral of this story is not to ask an "I" man to navigate you there - they haven't improved with age and the passing of the years!

OO-- OO--OO--OO

EDITORIAL - ARE WE LOSING OUR IDENTITY?:

There are moves to change our flag. There are people in high places advocating that we should become a Republic. We have an immigration policy which by the year 2020 is estimated to reveal that Australia's Asian-born population will have nearly trebled to 6 per cent, or more than 1.2 million, compared with only 5.5 per cent British or Irish-born.

Ex-N.S.W. Premier Wran's advocacy of a Republic was greeted enthusiastically by Sydney migrant groups who stated that "Australia should be regarded as a separate entity". Ethnic groups, as reported in Sydney newspapers, have said that many migrants are already refusing to swear allegiance to the Queen at citizenship ceremonies. Nino Randozzo, editor of Australia's largest Italian newspaper, Il Globo, said: "The ties to the British crown

(Contd.next column)

EDITORIAL (Contd.):

are totally meaningless to most European migrants."

So, are we losing our identity? I believe we are, and will continue to do so unless our migrant intake is modified to protect OUR ethnic origins. I do not suggest that we ought to revert to a "white Australia" policy but I would be reassured to some extent if those who shape our immigration policy, in respect of the racial "mix", would at least consider the opinion expressed by an early politician who feared that Asiatic immigrants would lower the Australian standard of living and who said: "It is not the bad qualities but the good qualities of these alien races that make them dangerous to us; it is their inexhaustible energy, their power of applying themselves to new tasks, their endurance, their low standard of living that makes them such competitors. The result of contact would be not to lift them up to our standard but to drag our labouring population down to theirs. But the national factor should be considered. We are here touching the profoundest instinct of the individual or nation, the instinct of self-preservation; for it is nothing less than the national manhood, the national character and the national future that are at stake ... all Australian-born have an obligation to pass on to their children their territory undiminished and uninvaded ... It is the note of nationality which gives dignity and importance to this debate. For the unity of Australia is nothing if that does not imply a united race". They are the words of Alfred Deakin, spoken sometime about 1907 - maybe modern circumstances dictate that his views should be varied, but there remains much in them that is still valid today.

Instability in our region is placing increasing pressure on Australia to accept more and more Third World immigrants, and we have a duty to assist. However, an attitude expressed in verse by Dame Mary Gilmore still rings true, i.e. "NATIONALITY" -

"I have grown past hate and bitterness,
I see the world as one,
Yet, though I can no longer hate,
MY son is still MY son.

All men at God's round table sit,
And all men must be fed;
But this loaf in my hand,
This loaf is MY SON'S bread".

O-O-O-O

NICKNAMES - by Fred Staggs:-

"After reading "Dagwood's" article on names and nicknames, in August "W.O.G.", I am prompted to write this confession. When we were in Haifa, training on the 3.7 anti-aircraft guns, we would do morning sessions or afternoon according to how we were rostered. When on the morning spells, we were later taken down to the beach for a swim. On the other shift we later swam in the harbour where, some fifty yards out, there was a pontoon on which some used to sunbake. One day Ken Kesteven and another lieutenant (I think it was DeMeyrick) were on the pontoon when the whistle blew to come out of the water. The other lieutenant stood up and executed a nice, neat dive into the water. Ken stood up, held his nose, and jumped in with a great splash. I just said to nobody in particular: 'Look at Mickey Mouse and Pluto' - and the name just stuck for Ken. I apologise, Ken.

O-O-O-O

TREASURER'S "CASH REGISTER" REPORT:-

The Treasurer reports having received Subscriptions and Donations (etc.) for the period 1st. June to 22nd. September, 1987, as hereunder:

- \$6 - Joe Lowe, H. Howard, Cec Calver, Ross Elliott, Geoff Green, Lou Dubber, Ray Campbell, Gary Hart, Greg Holland, Alan Bohlé.
- \$10 - Mrs. M. Perram, Bill Mitchell, Chub Crosthwaite (2), R. J. Davies, Lindsay Moon, Don Bundy, George Walton, E. Miller, Roy McAdam, C. Taylor, John Wood, Alf Schweitzer, 'Slim' Powers, Ferd Pegg, 'Slim' Venn, Harold Bowman, Jack Garvey, Alex Dick, Chris White, A. Harradine, Bernie Mahy, Mrs. V. Pollock, Len Smith, Ray Hyem.
- \$12 - George Parry, Roy Moores, Fred Morrow, Max Nernay, Stan Day, Don Guthrie, Tom Tracey, Merv Nicholson, 'Robbie' Robbins.
- \$18 - Ewen Wood, Dave Endean, Vic Hill, Doug Yensch, Kev King.
- \$20 - Bert Milner, Frank Gattenhoff, Lionel Clarke, Stan Sutherland, Keith McCaffrey, George Friend, Jeff Galvin, B. T. anonymous, Roy Palmer, Mrs. Laurie Pollock, Vic Slade, Bill Poplin, Athol Watts, Noel Woolcott, Jack Reynolds, Mrs. Doreen Sibilant, Vic Manchester, Newton Howard.
- \$24 - Chris Geelan, Wally Woods.
- \$25 - Vera Provians, R. Kenningale, Mrs. U. Andrews.
- \$30 - George Gartrell, Rick Carter, E. R. Wilson.
- \$35 - Bob Griffiths.
- \$50 - Tom McNamara, Roy Kingsley, Tom Gorman, 'Wishy' Hart, Max Nernay, Ken Kesteven, Nance Smith, Harold Tressider, Mrs. Win Walker, Malcolm Keshan, Harry Dowling, Craig Clark, Geoff Ings.
- \$60 - Harry Smith.
- \$100 - John Falla, Joe Wells, R. E. Percy.
- \$250 - Sir Ivan Dougherty Biography Committee.

0-0-0-0

LETTER TO THE EDITOR OF NORTH SHORE

TIMES - Published 3rd. September, 1987:-

**Not excuse
for a grog**

A MESSAGE for the young, yuppies and eured, Ex-servicemens' reunions may be hard to understand. They are not just an excuse for a grog; they are attended by people with a bond welded out of sharing hard work, hardship and danger.

It is difficult for young people to realise that at several stages during World War II, we were nearly on the losing side; the fight was to prevent Australia becoming a German or a Jap colony.

I find it hard to describe some of the good things that were manifest during Service life. Some have only recently been properly described as unit histories are published.

I don't want to sound as a do-gooder, a conceited prig or a Colonel Blimp, but I can't forget that about 35 years ago. My friendly garage man and I were talking and Major-General Sir Ivan Dougherty's name cropped up. "I would have died for that bastard," he said.

The recently published history of an infantry battalion describes how an Australian soldier escaped from a prisoner of war cage with another and promised that he would not leave Crete without him. They got separated but, at great risk of not getting off, he waited for his friend.

The bravery that was illustrated by members of the Sixth Division should not be forgotten. A Mosman doctor, for instance, volunteered to stay back in Crete at a dressing-station and became, as he knew he would, a prisoner of war. The nursing sisters behaved similarly.

I served as a doctor and saw many examples of the tenderness of the tough, trained Australian soldier. I heard one say during a shelling attack, "Is it OK down there?" "Of course," said the other. "I mean, is it OK for the doctor?"

This officer-man relationship naturally was not universal, but it occurred as the mode in forward areas. What a shame it can't be perpetuated in industry today!

Maybe a proper National Service, not just of a military nature, might reintroduce the understanding that discipline does not lower self-esteem.

At reunions the chaps don't spend all the time fighting old battles ... in fact, quite the reverse. It is a matter of renewing friendships.

The Sixth Division Association, made up of ex-members of the first Australian Army force to be raised in World War II, plan to hold a reunion at Belmore RSL Club on Sunday, September 13, where after luncheon (12 noon to 2pm) there will ensue discussion on the best way to celebrate their 50th anniversary in October 1989.

Realising that most members will be in, near or past

their 70s, the committee of the Association (of which I am a member, having been one-time president) have adopted this means of discussing this memorable event. Two of the former senior officers of the division (all in their 80s) have expressed their support.

Anyone wishing to attend to have their say should contact their old unit association or the Hon Secretary, Sixth Division Association, 22 Woodstock St, Bondi Junction (tel. 339 8718).

Dr C H "TOM" SELBY,
Cremorne.

0-0-0-0

TROOPING THE COLOURS by 2nd./4th. BATTALION
THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN REGIMENT on the occasion of its 14th. Anniversary:-

By Vic Forbes:

(1) This Unit proudly Trooped the Colours of both the 2nd. & 4th. Battalions and as a combined Unit it is now the No. 1 priority Battalion of the Australian Field Force.

(2) The soldiers are a disciplined, well trained and very fit body of men. There is no doubt that any task given to them will be carried out with skill and determination and we old Infanteers who watched them on parade felt immensely proud of them.

(3) Trooping the Colours took some 2½ hours. Every movement was performed with exact precision & timing & that applies to all elements participating - i.e. the vehicles (A.P. Co's B Sqn., 3/4 Cav. Regt.), the gun drill (108 Bn., 4th. Field Regt.), the marching, the drill and steadiness of the four Guards (consisting of 2 Officers, 1 W.O. 11 and some 5 O.R.'s), the Uncasing of the Colours by the Colour Party (comprising Colour Ensigns - 2 Lieutenants, Colour Sergeants - 2 Sergeants, Colour Sentries - 2 Corporals), the Posting of the Officers, and the arrival of the "Big Brass" left nothing to be desired - and the same may be said for the remainder of the ceremony.

(4) Our party consisted of 45 members of 2/4 Bn. & 2/1 Field Regt. including wives & friends and we were afforded V.I.P. treatment and a superb afternoon tea, and "cold cans" later. We welcomed the opportunity to fraternise with the troops, their wives and girl friends and when Lieut. - Col. Ian Ballantyne joined us, with his charming wife and some of his Officers, our President Alf Carpenter presented a Commemorative Plaque (made by Jim Forman) to be mounted in the O.R.'s Mess. S.V.P. Allen Lindsay also presented a framed copy of The Infanteer's Prayer & the "Dick Morris" Grace, as provided by Pat Bruty.

(5) After a short visit to the Regimental Museum a wonderful experience came to an end and we departed from Lavarack Barracks feeling much honoured to have been guests of a very fine Unit and proud to have been permitted to share their birthday with them.

0-0-0-0