



White over Green

JOURNAL OF THE 2/4 INFANTRY BATTALION ASSOCIATION

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PATRON: MAJOR-GENERAL G.L. MAITLAND, A.O., O.B.E., R.F.D., (R.L.)

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CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR GREETINGS.

PATRONS' SIR IVAN DOUGHERTY AND
MAJOR-GENERAL GORDON MAITLAND,
PRESIDENT ALF CARPENTER AND COMMITTEE,
TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO WISH ALL MEMBERS AND
FRIENDS OF THE ASSOCIATION, A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
MAY THE NEW YEAR BRING HEALTH AND HAPPINESS TO ALL.



* WELFARE: FROM BILL CEARN...Often many of us are unaware of the sudden illness or death of a comrade. To remedy this situation we have formulated a plan to acquaint all members and friends of the 2/4th Association when an illness or death occurs. To achieve this we have divided Sydney Metrop. area and the Central Coast into six (6) zones with the country, interstate areas also included in the plan.

The person responsible for each zone is asked to report the illness or death to Central Control, (Bill Cearn)* who in turn will inform other zone leaders as follows:- Ted Fox, (02) 416 1200.. Larry Dooley, (02) 713 6488.. "Slim" Powers, (02) 542 1248.. Peter Cade, (02) 524 3529.. Wally Mangan, (043) 68 3487.. *Bill Cearn, (02) 579 6063.

NEXT TWO MEETINGS:

At the Gallipoli Memorial Club, Loftus St., Sydney.

TUESDAY, 22 NOVEMBER: Monthly Meeting commencing at 1400hrs. Committee will meet at 1100hrs.

TUESDAY, 13 DECEMBER: 2/4 Association Christmas Party will be held at the Gallipoli Memorial Club, Loftus St., Sydney. A limited "dry till" will operate. Luncheon will be served from 1230 to 1300 hrs at special tables reserved for us. The luncheon will be at your own expence.

NOTE: No Monthly Meeting in December.

TUESDAY, 13 DECEMBER: The President, Patrons' and Committee and members of the Association extend a cordial invitation to the ladies, their families and friends to attend the annual Christmas get together and luncheon at the Gallipoli Memorial Club, Loftus St., Sydney.

SATURDAY, 26 NOVEMBER FAR NORTH COAST CHRISTMAS PARTY: Yes, it's on again, Saturday, 26 Nov., at East Lismore Bowling Club, the far North Coast Christmas Party followed on Sunday by a barbecue lunch at Kirk's, during that, many, many tall tales, tinnies and tongue bashing, of course, a big welcome to all 2/4thers, their families and friends.

The Bowling Club activities begin after 6 P.M. and the smorgasbord at approx. 7.30 P.M. Sunday is open day at 179 Dibbs St., commencing after 10.00 A.M. As far as grog is concerned, B.Y.O. will be the order of the day... Everything else will be supplied at a nominal fee. Re Motel bookings contact Allan Kirk on (066) 21 4464.

FRIDAY, 2 DECEMBER. (First Friday, 1700hrs onward) Newcastle Region Monthly Meeting will be held in the Hamilton RSL - raffle in aid of the Swimming Club - contact Alf Carpenter.

SATURDAY, 3 DECEMBER, A cordial invitation is extended to members and ladies of the 2/4th Association from the Hamilton RSL. Swimming Club to attend the Club's annual Christmas Party to be held in the auditorium, Hamilton RSL. Cocktails will be served between 6 P.M. and 6.30 P.M. Santa will be in attendance handing out goodies. "Dry till" during the evening.

COST: \$20.00 per head. For bookings please contact Pres. Alf Carpenter.

THURSDAY, 1ST DECEMBER. (First Thursday each month, 1100 onwards, not January). "Ring-a-Rosie" day at Forestville RSL. Please ring John Ringrose on (02) 451 5761 for further info.

WEDNESDAY, 14 DECEMBER: (2nd Wednesday each month, 1130hrs onward.) Central Coast Monthly Meeting will be held at the Gosford RSL. Contact Wally Mangan on (043) 68 3487.

* * *

TWO MEETINGS AT THE GALLIPOLI MEMORIAL CLUB, 12-14 LOFTUS ST., SYDNEY, COMMENCING THE YEAR 1995.

TUESDAY, 24 JANUARY 1995: Normal Monthly Meeting commencing at 1400hrs. Committee will meet at 1100hrs.

TUESDAY, 28 FEBRUARY 1995: Annual General Meeting commencing at 1400hrs. Committee will meet at 1100hrs.

"W.O.G." PRODUCTION FOR JANUARY, 1995.

MONDAY, 16 JANUARY... Sticker team (1) Peter Cade & Doug Wilson.

WEDNESDAY, 18 JANUARY... F/W/M team - Wal Johnston, Vic Forbes, Madge Fraser. Plus the permanents.

"W.O.G." PRODUCTION FOR MARCH, 1995.

MONDAY, 20 MARCH... Sticker team (2) Larry Dooley & Doug Rodda.

WEDNESDAY, 22 MARCH... F/W/M team - Bill & Beryl Poplin, John Hawkins, John Meehan. Plus the permanents.

FRIDAY, 6 JANUARY: Newcastle Region Monthly Meeting to be held at the Hamilton RSL.

FRIDAY, 3 FEBRUARY: As above (1700hrs onward.)

THURSDAY, 2 FEBRUARY: (1100 hrs onward) "Ring-a-Rosie" day at Forestville RSL.

WEDNESDAY, 11 JANUARY: (2nd Wednesday, 1130 onwards) Central Coast Region New Year Party will be held in the Gosford RSL. Please, for bookings ring Wally Mangan on (043) 68 3487

WEDNESDAY, 8 FEBRUARY: (2nd Wednesday, 1130 onwards) Central Coast Monthly Meeting will be held at the Gosford RSL. Contact... Wally Mangan on (043) 68 3487.

* * *

MONTHLY MEETING AT THE GALLIPOLI MEMORIAL CLUB HELD ON THE 27 SEPTEMBER, 1994.

OPENING: President Alf Carpenter, asked John Ringrose the number of Members who had signed the attendance book, John replied: "35 signed, sir." Alf Carpenter: "We have a quorum, please assist me: to open the Meeting by standing, if you are able while I recite the ODE." He then recited the ODE.

A special welcome went out from the President to the following Members in attendance :-

A. CARPENTER, L. JONES, J. HAWKINS, P. BRUTY, BILL CEARNS, J. MEEHAN, V. FORBES, W. MANGAN, F. STAGGS, D. WILSON, N. AUBERSON, T. FOX, L. DOOLEY, P. SMITH, A. ARNOTT, "SLIM" POWERS, F. ROWELL, A. BOHLE, M. GRAY, W. JOHNSTON, H. WRIGHT, J. RINGROSE, "SPIKE" GALVIN, T. WATSON, A. MAXWELL, JACK DUBBER, LEW DUBBER, H. SILVER, T. WILSON, L. CLARKE, N. ALAVOINE, BOB LANE, R. STEELE, DICK PINSON, BOB LEVER.

APOLOGIES:- Sir Ivan Dougherty, G. Maitland, W. Shaw, G. Stack, K. Kesteven, G. Chrisp, J. Desmond, C. Gorman, N. McGregor, Wal Lambourne.

It was resolved that the Minute's of the previous Monthly Meeting as published in "W.O.G." be taken "as read" and adopted. Business arising from Minutes: NIL.

Minutes Secretary, John Hawkins recorded the following Matters/Business dealt with at this September Monthly Meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE IN TO THE PRESIDENT FROM:-

C.A. EDWARDS, AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR, ATHENS. Dear Alf, Many thanks for the plaque of the 2/4th Battalion. It is on its way to being placed in a position of honour in the Embassy's social club.

We very much enjoyed being with you all during the ceremonies on Crete. In fact it was a very emotional moment for us when we saw the Aussie team form up and march off after the ceremony at Stavromenos. We do hope that there will be as many as possible at next year's events - even though we know that it is not easy, or cheap, to get there. We certainly will be there. Yours sincerely, C.A. Edwards.

CORRESPONDENCE OUT FROM PRESIDENT TO:-

HON. C. SCIACCA, MINISTER FOR VETERAN'S AFFAIRS:- An invitation to the Minister to attend the October 1995 Gosford country reunion as a honoured guest.

CORRESPONDENCE IN TO THE SECRETARY FROM:-

The Kent family - a card in loving memory of Viola Kent who passed on 27 June, 1994, aged 74.

"We offer you, dear Lord, after tearing away from us the person we held dearest on this earth, our sorrow for the peace of her soul." VALE: Viola Kent - May she rest in peace.

THE DAWSON FAMILY: Would like to gratefully acknowledge your kind expression of sympathy which is deeply appreciated. VALE: NX5162 TOM DAWSON.

GWEN NEWTH AND FAMILY: Wishes to thank all for their kindness and sympathy at a time when it was deeply appreciated. "Thank you all 2/4thers for your support, love to all." Gwen.

VALE: NX5904 BILL NEWTH.

BILL PANTER: A special thanks to Pension's Officer, John Hawkins for his help in gaining me an increase in my disability pension.. Bill passes on his kind regards to all and encloses a donation.

CORRESPONDENCE IN TO THE EDITOR FROM:-

GEORGE COLES (TEMORA): Writes me in regards to NX2001, the late K.C. (Ken) Carrington. Kenneth Charles Carrington died in a Dubbo hospital on the 2-10-94. There was a large attendance at the Holy Trinity Anglican Church for Ken's funeral service. Ken was an original member of the 2/4th and during service in Crete, 1941 was taken PoW.

PETER LOY (FLAGSTAFF HILL, S.A. & SON OF THE LATE BILL LOY): Peter advises me of his father's death on 2-9-94 and subsequent burial in Centennial Park Cemetery, Adelaide on 7-9-94.

"CHIC" SLEEMAN (SHOAL BAY): In reference to your quote page 3 Aug/Sept W.O.G. from Allan Bohle about the death of J.J. Cassidy from scrub typhus I would like to set the record correct.

I think that Allan has confused Cassidy with some other victim of the disease. James Joseph Cassidy (Hoppy) and I were the signallers responsible for maintaining communications of "C" Coy... On the exercise mentioned by Allan at Trinity Beach, Hoppy and I shared the same groundsheet on which to sleep and in the morning Hoppy drew my attention to the numerous small red mites that covered his arms and legs. I examined my skin but found none had attacked me. Hoppy put forward the theory that my B.O. was so strong that no self respecting insect would have anything to do with me. We considered the mites to be harmless inhabitants of the area... Some days later, at Wondecla, Hoppy became ill and complained of swollen glands etc. The then M.O. diagnosed mumps and Hoppy returned to our lines. As time went by Hoppy's condition worsened and I spoke to our platoon commander, Mac Wilson about Hoppy, & we both knew that Hoppy was the complete antithesis of a lead swinger, shortly after Hoppy was conveyed to the hospital at Atherton, with excellent nursing Hoppy returned to the platoon apparently fully recovered and our training continued.

New Guinea - with thirteen platoon under the command of Sgt. Joe Wells was given the task of clearing Koigin of the enemy and Hoppy and I were sent along to provide communications. As the attack progressed Hoppy became ill and weak so I carried all the sig gear. The position was not strongly held but "Porky" Whalan was killed before the task was finished. It was now late in the afternoon and the platoon had to hold the position until "B" company arrived before returning to "C" company position... It was pitch dark as we climbed the track and everybody was extremely tired when we gained the top of the hill and moved through the kunai grass towards our perimeter. I had no idea where Hoppy was but assumed that he was somewhere in the single file and glad to be back where he could rest.

I made my way to the small canvas tent that served as shelter for our sig gear and waited for Hoppy, after several minutes I returned to company HQ, about 12 feet away, and as I arrived Hoppy was carried in. Someone in the weapon pit astride the track had heard moaning from the Kunai grass and had gone down to investigate. He brought Hoppy in and we laid him beside the Sig. tent, I could find no sign of life so I phoned our M.O. Capt. Williams who explained that nothing could be done but if Hoppy regained consciousness give him some hot sweet tea to drink.

I guess Hoppy was dead in the Kunai grass and before daylight his body had stiffened and I knew I had lost a wonderful mate.... O.C. (Chic) Sleeman.

* * *

REPORTS: President Alf reported that he attended the POW wreathlaying and luncheon at Gosford RSL, then spoke about Harry Newhouse who is having his 100th birthday in 1995.

Alf said that he writes to Harry who is in a nursing home at Woy Woy and some of the feed back Alf gets from Harry's minder states that Harry, for his age, is still very bright and enjoys a Toohey's on occasions.

TREASURER REPORTS: SUMMARY OF FUNDS: WESTPAC BANK GENERAL A/C \$1,869. BENEFIT FUND A/C \$905. AUST. GUARANTEE CORP: DEBENTURES (BEN. FUND) \$14,500. M.M. ACCESS A/C (BEN. FUND) \$2,111. TOTAL FUNDS AS AT 27th SEPTEMBER, 1994 \$19,385.

EDITOR REPORTS: 515 copies of our newsletter mailed out to all Australian States, U.K. & U.S.A. Pitt St., Mail Centre no longer accepts our newsletter with the resulting postal articles to be mailed have to be picked up from the G.M.C. by courier and transported to the Alexandria Mail Centre for dispatch. Unfortunately, this is the reason that some people in the Sydney Metrop. area take up to three days to receive their "WOG".

GENERAL BUSINESS: Wally Mangan spoke of the 1995 Gosford reunion difficulties re accommodation after double booking, however this problem has been solved by putting the dates back to the 2nd/3rd & 4th October, 1995.. An updated pro forma included this issue. Ted Fox reported an act of sacrilege on the Garrison Church, The Rocks. Items regarded as sacred were vandalised, included was our 2/4th Battalion plaque made by Jim Forman and presented to the Church during our 50th Anniversary celebrations... Good news, the plaque has been fully restored and replaced in sequence in the 6th Division section.

Vic Forbes reported that a donation from Burwood RSL has assured that the project concerning the new gun wheels is well on its way, and next year this wonderful help should enable the gun to be placed at the 4th/3rd Heraklion Lines Ingleburn.

Bob Lane on behalf of his family and self expressed appreciation to those who offered their condolences for the sad loss of his wife Betty. Special thanks to the Central Coast people who supported Bob during the Service at Palmdale.

"Spike" Calvin gave special thoughts and thanks to all those that are involved in the Association, and as always, "Spike's" remarks were good and encouraging.

During the day, the news that Graham Parker, Sec. Manager G.M.C., had been given notice that his job no longer existed prompted Pres. Alf to invite Graham to the Meeting where he was thanked for his past support of our Association in particular during the renovations to the Club, where as always, Graham made sure that the 2/4th was always comfortable in "WOG" production and Monthly Meeting days... To this, Graham responded accordingly.

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 1500hrs.



Let no man fear to die,
we love to sleep all,
and death is but a sounder sleep.

WE DEEPLY AND SINCERELY REGRET THE DEATH
OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS.

✓ NX2001 K.C. (KEN) CARRINGTON. NX10742 R. RIXON (N.T.) ✓
✓ NX1202 A.G. RIMMER NX5587 W.H. (BILL) LOY.
✓ NX5879 L.K. KINGSLEY.

VALE: Laurie Waterhouse NX5870. Born March 1914 and passed away Tuesday, 13th September, 1994. A funeral service, prior to cremation was held at the Simplicity Funeral Parlours, Logan Rd., Buranda, Q'ld on 14th September, 1994.

His wife Joy, son Geoff, daughter Sandra and their respective spouses, as well as a number of close friends, were in attendance. Bruce and Angela Cork and Allan and Gloria Lindsay attended, both as close friends and representatives of the Association.

His son Geoff delivered the eulogy and Allan Lindsay gave a summary of Laurie's service, first with the Battalion and then of the many years he spent on the Committee of the Association, both as Secretary and Editor of White over Green. For this service Laurie was awarded Honorary Life Membership of the Association.

Allan also mentioned that Laurie would have been one of the last surviving members of the "Dreadnought Boys", that band of young boys who came out from England under the Dreadnought Scheme shortly after World War 1 and started as a farm boy in the Wagga district. He enlisted in the A.I.F. from that district and was posted as an original to the Battalion in November, 1939.

After World War 2 Laurie moved to Sydney, and was employed for many years until his retirement by the P.M.G. Department.

"Lest we Forget" - honouring a devoted and hard working member of the Association....

VALE NOTICE BY ALLAN LINDSAY.

* * *

STOP PRESS: DATE TO REMEMBER. TUESDAY, 22 NOVEMBER.

Ladies' Luncheon at the Bowler's Club of N.S.W., 95 YORK ST., Sydney. Arrive 1200 to 1215. Please phone Heather Fox on (02)416 1200 at least two days beforehand, this will enable Heather to make adequate table arrangements.

TUESDAY, 13 DECEMBER. 2/4TH Association Christmas Party to be held at the Gallipoli Memorial Club, Loftus St., Sydney. It is requested, that those who are having lunch at the South Pacific Restaurant, situated in the club - please contact Ted Fox on (02)416 1200 A.S.A.P. This will enable Ted to make the necessary table bookings.

BALLINA REUNION - OCTOBER, 1994...REPORT BY PAT BRUTY.

To begin at the beginning, the 2/4th Association held its first country reunion at Cootamundra, October, 1958. This reunion at Cootamundra literally sowed the first seed in the Association's yearly gatherings of former associates, ladies, families and friends, culminating in this, our 37th country reunion at Ballina.

Activity began on Thursday, 20th when Bill and Nora Mitchell, Doug Grove, Eddie Miller, Jack and Mollie Scheibel welcomed the first people, to this, the beautiful tidy town of Ballina. This day (Thursday) set the scene for both Friday and Saturday because, historically these three days were book in days at the venue, Ballina RSL - name tags - programmes were distributed to all... Seen at the booking in table, Saturday, A.M. were Alf Carpenter, Doug Grove & Les Drayson.

Early on Friday, people journeyed by bus to Lennox Head, Byron Bay Lighthouse and tour of town, then Bangalow and Knockknow Castle... Lunch at RSL Bistrow 1230 hrs, then at 1800hrs a welcome smorgasbord at the RSL, during this time a chance for reminiscence, I mean the wonderful qualities and faith shown to the Association by the McNeice family (5 members attended), the Forman family (5 members), the Maxwell family (7 members), not to forget those that travelled long distances - Chris & Pat White (North Queensland, Lily Deacon (W.A.) and Russ McWilliam (Darwin), Peter and Pat Denver (S.A.) Also attending, Eileen Lynch (8 members), Joan Chaseling (5 members.) Saturday morning at the RSL gave me the chance to meet up with Dick Pinson, ex "D" Coy and Band, also two more from the Coy, "Tiny" Partridge and Hilton Burt, at this stage I was introduced to "Pop" Williams the Battalion's expert ring and brooch maker... I can tell you, that Pop's order book was always full during those days. Sporting a Battalion Tie of uncertain vintage, "Pop" reported that he is now in his eighties, lives at Alstonville with his wife who is not well.

K. thoughts went out to "Bookie" and Margaret Rae, and as we all know "Bookie" doesn't enjoy the best of health, but come hell or high water was determined to attend, I guess without the wonderful support of Margaret this would have been impossible.

Well, I wasn't aware that "Sexy" Rex was known as the "goat herder" until V.P. from Kempsey, Esca greeted him with such, unfortunately our "horse trader" had to give this one a miss... to compliment this we had "Biscuits," "Blah," "Jenny," "Tiny" and many more, because, during the evening dinner, two giant greeting cards were sent around the folks to be signed and "The Fox" stipulated those that had nick names should include same... by the way, these cards were dispatched by Ted, one going to Ken Kesteven and the other to Bob Fergusson both well known and long serving members of the Association who owing to severe disabilities couldn't attend. Kind thoughts went out to Fi Kesteven and Nina Fergusson, we all know what a tower of strength both have been during the trying days of sickness and disabilities which happened to their menfolk. All that knew Chris Geelan, the man with the infectious smile, well, I have to report that the smile is still there, so is the courage shown by him during his few years of painful illness.. again, congratulations Shirley for your loving care... I must comment - I appreciate the gift of cedar boards given me by Chris, these should make up a couple of handsome plaques. Looking fit, our Qld V.P. Hugh Wittleton, had some "noos" - during his travels, Hugh met up with Kevin (Judge) Peacock at Surfers, contacted "Bonnie" Hutton who is moving closer to Brisbane, reported that Bernie Shoobridge had a heart attack some months back.. Hugh's wife Eileen has been too well, is fighting one of those nasties generally called a virus.

Henry (Paintbrush) Elliott and wife Maisie one time residents of Darwin and now Mooloolaba, spoke of the yearly Memorial Service held at the Adelaide River Cemetery, the nearest Sunday to Armistice Day - after, a picnic was held at the Adelaide River Show Ground and this was organised by the local business houses - I think the main attraction after the festivities was the local watering hole... Both were sad to hear of the passing of Bob Rixon, and if the family somehow receive this newsletter, condolences from Henry and Maisie - that goes from all at the Association.

Let's digress: No doubt when one thinks of the mystical law of nature that the three things we who attended this weekend, crave most in life - happiness, freedom and peace of mind - are always attained by giving them to someone else - exactly, this has happened during these wonderful three days.

Going on with the task about people - Herb and Marj Robinson, ex Kurri Kurri, Evans Head and North Haven, plan to stay at North Haven - remarked, "We now reside in heaven on earth." Talking to Morrie and Mollie Wilson farmers from the Byron Bay district was in itself a revelation, Morrie gave me a short history of his army service, this included the 2/4th, then on to the catering branch, no doubt after this our munga improved.

They finally made it, Noel and Marie Woolcott, good to hear that Noel has settled down in his God's little acre, Glenview, Qld, sorry to hear that Noel has had a slight stroke and has now recovered... To those who can remember, during the New Guinea Campaign, Noel was one of those unfortunate soldiers who contacted Scrub Typhus, nonetheless Noel and Marie had a large family, lots of grandchildren and even a big tribe of great-grandchildren.

An interesting man, no doubt lots in the Battalion knew Tom Clarke, NX46529 who joined up from the Lismore district, Dorroughby to be exact. Tom returned to Dorroughby after discharge and has resided in the same house ever since, is a farmer and has cattle. Tom was pleased to meet up with Ned Kenna, "Slim" Desmond and Phil Smith, to name a few.

Well, I met up with our reader from Cleveland (Qld), has a VX number and is Ken Watt - reports Cleveland is starting to get built out - you know, retirement villages and various other things detrimental to the area.

Bruce Cork had success in the tennis events at the Worlds Master Games in Brisbane winning two medals - a silver and a bronze. To win the bronze his team beat a strong Japanese Team. Now, here is a couple worth mentioning, Vic and Gwen Carpenter, who made the trek from Belair, S.A., by way of brother Alf's place at Georgetown. If I remember rightly, Alf remarked that Vic's home brew wasn't up to the same standard as his - but, you know and I mean brotherly love, as a rule always wins out - resulting in I guess, a tie.

Always good for a bit of information, our Patron Gordon Maitland met this chap in his motel car park, and this gent some how or other spying the "White over Green," said, "My father, was in that unit, his name was Wally Potts ex mortar's." Well son, David was invited to our Saturday night do, and I can say this - he was a "dead ringer" of his late father, Wally.

We enjoyed the company of Lyla McInnes together with her brother, Arthur and his wife Beryl on Saturday night - all wonderful and friendly people.

Ex-Editor, (1966/67/68 and 1972), Russ McWilliam reports he now lives in Darwin, was pleased to see the Association operating so successfully, manifested by the contribution so religiously given to the Association by the Executives who have over the last 49 years have been involved in the production of our newsletter, "White over Green."

Lily Deacon, a regular attendee to our country reunions, was thrilled to meet up with some 'd friends again, thought this reunion was the best, and is looking forward to Gosford. Lily's apologies from Wilma and Keith Slinger, who owing to a family bereavement couldn't attend. Our star reps. from "Trek Back" days, Chris and Pat White made it to Ballina via Melbourne, both were returning to Cairns by train - no doubt, a somewhat nostalgic trip.

It was perhaps not surprising to see the ever resourceful and helpful "WOG" production team "all present and correct" during the three days, included in this team was John Ringrose, a most important man because John is keeper of the battalion photo albums and as you may guess, after fifty odd years the total number of these photo albums has substantially grown to a large suitcase full..and as such, created lots of interest when they were displayed at a special table in the Club's Auditorium.

* * *

SATURDAY, 5.15 P.M. The magic hour - this is the time for the 2/4th Battalion Association to march to the Ballina RSL Memorial for the Wreath Laying Ceremony and to pay Tribute to Our Dear Departed Comrades who had passed on from 1939 to this day...The Association had 75 marching, including ex artillery, Harold Tresidder, "Bo-bo" Bertram and Horrie Crossfield, also from the 4th/3rd W.O. Warren Barnes.

Our March Marshal was Mick Gray - marching theme provided by the Ballina Pipe Band...then Ned Kenna, V.C., President Alf Carpenter, J.P., E.D., Major-General Gordon Maitland, AO, OBE, RFD, ED, (RL). Following in order the Banner Party comprising of the following:- Les Jones. Pat Brv' Chris White, Craig Clark, Nick Allardice and Tom Maxwell.

The ladies and their friends of the Association epitomised the ultimate in satorial splendor and I can say this, without fear of doubt that throughout this march up the main street of Ballina we were greeted warmly with bursts of spontaneous applause. Let us pause and congratulate those whose disabilities made it nigh impossible for them to march, nevertheless by their enthusiastic presence, we knew in our hearts and mind, they were with us in spirit.

On this cool and windy Saturday afternoon October 22, 1994, this dedicated group of 2/4thers, their families and friends gathered to Remember at this Sacred Place, the Ballina Cenotaph... A Shrine built of sandstone and marble bound by mortar, a Lasting Monument which can be fixed in Permanent Memory in our Hearts to Them.

He is known for his commanding presence, a thoughtful man, a strong resonant voice and has great physical style - the man - Alf Carpenter gave the Memorial Service and recited the Infanteers Prayer - the Piper sounded the Lament - the Banner lowered - the Wreath placed on the Cenotaph by Ned Kenna, V.C. and Major-General Gordon Maitland, A.O., O.B.E. - ODE recited by President Alf Carpenter - Reveille and Banner raised.

Parade dismissed by March Marshal, Mick Gray, then all made their way to the RSL for the Official Dinner...This year, the tables were decorated by Doreen Manuel, Carma Kirk, Nora Mitchell & Joyce, Nora's friend.

M.C. Bill Mitchell said Grace, then introduced the Official Guests, Major-General G. Maitland & Mrs Maitland...Edward Kenna, V.C. & wife Marj...President Alf Carpenter & Doreen...Mr Don Page & wife Morag, Member for Ballina...Bill Stanford & wife Gwen, RSL Club...Mr G. Spindler & wife Gladys, RSL Sub-Branch.

APOLOGIES: -W.BURTON,M.GRIEVE,H&N BOWMAN,R&U DENYER,P&B DALLA,R&N FERGUSSON,J.HART,C.LYNCH,G&H MITCHELL,B & Mrs CORK,G & Mrs MAVIN,O&D SLEEMAN,A.SKEWES,J&D TONKS,J.HOSKINS,P&M BROOKE,E.BLOOMFIELD,E.BRADFORD,H.BURGDORF,W.PANTER,S.CARPENTER,N.HOWARD,R&P BERTHELSEN,J&J HUSTON.
CIVIC WELCOME: Mr Don Page welcomed all and congratulated 2/4thers for their friendly manner.

LOYAL TOAST: Ted Fox proposed the toast to Our Queen.

DEPARTED COMRADES: Harry Wright gave his thoughts on our Departed Comrades.

MESSAGE FROM PATRON, MAJOR-GENERAL GORDON MAITLAND. Our Patron's thoughts went back to the 1st A.I.F. and the White over Green colour patch and the fighting qualities of the 4th Battalion at Gallipoli, Lone Pine and later in France, then spoke about Sir Ivan Mackey, the original adjutant of the 4th Bn. 1st A.I.F. 1914, who 50 years on wrote the Foreword in our Battalion History, "White over Green" and in such quoted, "The battle record of the 2/4th Bn. is one of which you may be justly proud, and you may be sure that the old 4th is proud of you & your achievements...Gordon emphasised the importance of good leadership, and one of these leaders in particular knew his men, and was always sure of the officers he picked, a great humanitarian, and of course, the man - Sir Ivan Dougherty.

TOAST TO THE 2/4TH BY GEORGE SPINDLER, PRESIDENT BALLINA SUB-BRANCH. George quoted extracts from our Battalion History, emphasising the units Battle Honours and the number of decorations won during the many campaigns, with a special thought to Ned Kenna, V.C. and other medal winners from the Battalion.

RESPONSE FROM PRESIDENT ALF CARPENTER. Alf, on behalf of the 2/4th thanked George for the toast, and on a different "tack" he (Alf), was so pleased to see and hear people at this reunion greet each other with such warmth, a great attribute to our country is this feeling of goodwill and deep sense of community awareness, highlighted during this weekend by the attendance of David Wren and Henry Elliott, this was certainly an inspiration to all. Ending, our President gave goodwill messages to all, and was sure all would be welcomed by Wally, Connie, George and Margaret at Gosford, October, 1995.

TOAST TO OUR GUESTS BY NORM AUBERSON. Norm proposed the toast to our distinguished guests.

RESPONSE FROM BILL STANFORD, DEPUTY CHAIRMAN, BALLINA RSL. A navy man, Bill thanked us for the visit, and invited us to come back to Ballina, called us a "happy lot of friendly people" with that, put some cash, by way of a cheque in our "kitty."

AN OCCASIONAL ADDRESS BY TED FOX. Ted read a letter from Ken and Fi Kesteven, who both sent greetings to all at the reunion, with that, enclosed a cheque as a donation to help us to enjoy the weekend, this was received with thanks from all.

PRESENTATION. As a lasting memento of our visit to Ballina RSL and to hang in a place of importance in that place, a well crafted Battalion plaque was presented by Jim Forman.

RESULTS OF RAFFLE, 1st prize, Chris White, 2nd prize, Una Sheaffe, 3rd prize, John Ringrose, 4th Prize, Marj Robinson.

The following anecdotes are from folks that attended. Let's start with Bill Mitchell's report, in a nut shell covers Sunday's activity.

Another reunion has come and gone and all we have of our Ballina reunion is memories. It was an outstanding success and a great time was had by all. For those who could not come because of ill health or other reasons, we missed you and feel sorry that you could not take part in the outings. To Ken Kesteven I want to say a special cheerio and tell you that we all remembered you as we charged our glasses and drank on your behalf. I am sure there were prayers said for you so keep up the good work of keeping on and thanks again...Special thanks must go to Doug Grove for all the work he put into preparations for the gathering and to Eddie Miller. Its great to have mates you can fall back on when needed.

The weather was very good to us the whole weekend and Blanch's bus company went out of their way to make our trips interesting...On Sunday we had a bus trip through some of the beautiful country around Lismore, and on to Nimbin, then on to Rocky Creek Dam for a barbecue lunch. It was a long drive but thoroughly enjoyed by all, then on to our final meal, a smorgasbord. I would like to thank Charles Betteridge who came from Modernville to show his collection of photos and film from Wewak.

Its always sad to say goodbye but now we can look forward to our next reunion at Gosford knowing that, God willing, we will be together again.

FROM DOROTHY MAITLAND. Through you, as the hard working Editor of WOG, I would like to say how much I appreciated being part of the recent reunion at Ballina. The organisation of such a large group is not an easy task but the arrangements went very smoothly - a credit to Bill Mitchell and his helpers. The bus trips in the surrounding countryside were most enjoyable & I chuckled at the dry comments I heard; the trip was informative too, we now know a lot more about our choice macadamia nuts! For me, however, the highlight of the weekend was the march through the town and the very moving ceremony at the memorial. The "old" soldiers turned out in force, and marched so as to be an inspiration to any young person watching. President Alf's poem and words at the memorial were very moving and delivered in such a manner that everyone could hear. The dinner which followed was also very moving and was a filling culmination to the day.

I am proud to be an "adoptee" of the battalion and would say "thank you" for the way in which everyone makes me feel "at home."

LYLA McINNIS. What a wonderful weekend we all spent at Ballina, the occasion the 37th reunion of the 2/4th Battalion and the Ballina RSL did a great job in catering for all of our needs. I was feeling reluctant in going, not having the company of my dear late husband Mel with me, therefore I was pleased to have the company of my brother Arthur and his wife Beryl with me, & of course, to be there gave me a wonderful feeling to be with so many of Mel's army mates their wives and children... Well done, to the bus drivers who provided us with a beautiful bus trip, and a wonderful barbecue luncheon at the Rocky Creek Dam.

FI KESTEVEN. "Pluto's" great card from the Ballina reunion arrived via Heather and Ted Fox. To all who signed, many thanks. You will never know the joy it gave to Ken to be remembered by so many.

NELL HAWKINS. This is one proud wife's observations of the Ballina reunion. The company, the entertainment, the meals and accommodation were superb... The emotions of myself, and I am certain all others who watched the "boys" march cannot be adequately described, what a wonderful feeling it was. Thanks to the Association and all of those who worked so hard to make the reunion the success it was.

* * *

TREASURER'S CASH REGISTER LIST.

<u>MEMBER .</u>	<u>SUBSCRIPTIONS.</u>	<u>DONATIONS.</u>
M. (MORRIE) WILSON		50.00
R. STEELE. (LIFE SUBSCRIPTION)	50.00	40.00
MRS. N. P. SMITH		40.00
N. MARTYN		25.00
L. CUTCLIFFE	10.00	20.00
W. PANTER, H. TRESIDDER, R. MACZKOWIACK,		
MRS. J. CHASELING, EACH \$20 D.		80.00
P. DALLA, S. YOUNG. EACH \$10S. \$10D.	20.00	20.00
G. MAVIN, B. GLEESON* EACH \$10S.	20.00	
R. LEVER		1.00
*NEW MEMBER. COMBINED TOTAL: \$376.00	\$100.00	\$276.00

Les Jones. Hon. Treasurer.

* * *

FROM JOHN HAWKINS. On the 5th October at Parramatta Ex Services club 25 members of the 2/4th Association met for lunch with President Alf and Doreen and 17 members of the Hamilton RSL Swimming Club. An excellent lunch was served and a generous donation from the Parramatta Ex Services Club ensured there was no "dry" throats. The Swimming Club members travelled to Parramatta via the River Cat Ferry service and thoroughly enjoyed the trip. A reciprocal visit to Hamilton RSL is planned for 1995.

FROM BILL PANTER. Firstly, in his report Bill sends greetings to all readers who attended the Ballina reunion, although unable to attend, Bill was with us in spirit.

Reports the Battalion is keeping Heidelberg Repat. Hospital quite busy, and at present Hugh Burgdorf has had a hip replacement and is recovering very well, Merv Hicks was in for a time with Parkinson's disease, is not well and has to have 24hrs attention. Jim Barrow, at the time of writing is waiting for a call to be admitted. Ken Williams has had a spell in hospital - a plumbing job. Hopefully, all the above will come good and be on deck again.

Bill reported the death of NX5879, L.K. Kingsley, an original who was taken POW in Greece. Claude Raymond told Bill he had contacted L.K. Kingsley in earlier years but could not get him interested to join up in the Association.

Bill ends his communication with this message. "On behalf of Victorian Members, I would like to wish all members of the Assocn. and their families a Happy and Blessed Christmas and a safe and healthy New Year."

JIM BROWN. Unfortunately, owing to lack of space, Jim's report on Ballina will have to be included in our next issue. Nevertheless there were lots of information from this that jogged my memory, and these points from Jim were included in my main report.

LILY DEACON. The same reason as above, I haven't included Lily's far reaching report which is so good it will be included in full next issue of "WOG."

IMPORTANT: 1995 GOSFORD REUNION.

THE DATES HAVE BEEN CHANGED (SEE PRO FORMA INCLUDED THIS ISSUE.)

NEW DATES - MONDAY 2ND OCTOBER, TUESDAY, 3RD OCTOBER, WEDNESDAY, 4TH OCTOBER.

Most bookings received can be changed to the new dates without difficulty. Please fill in the new pro forma carefully and return as soon as possible... Wally Mangan.

* * *

A special thanks to those kind people who helped Gwen during Ballina - this help is always appreciated..

HAVE A MERRY CHRISTMAS FOLKS,

2/4TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION REUNION, GOSFORD 2ND, 3RD, 4TH OCTOBER, 1995.

NAME(PRINT) Alf CARPENTER. PHONE _____

ADDRESS 66 Chatham Rd.

GEORGETOWN POSTCODE 2298

I WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY(GIVE NAMES) Doreen

I WILL ARRIVE ON 2ND OCTOBER BY CAR. TRANSPORT _____

I WILL REQUIRE ACCOMMODATION FOR NIGHTS 1ST...2ND...3RD... 4TH.... (TICK.)

(NO PREVIOUS BOOKING BEFORE THE 1ST OF OCTOBER.)

MY PREFERRED ACCOMMODATION IS:-

	MOTEL	CARAVAN	PRIVATE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	GALAXY MOTEL - \$66.00 PER DAY - AT R.S.L. LIMITED ROOMS.		
<u>2ND</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PALMS MOTEL -\$65.00 PER DAY - 18 ROOMS. 600 M FROM R.S.L.		
<input type="checkbox"/>	GOSFORD MOTOR INN - 20 ROOMS - 800 M FROM R.S.L.		
<input type="checkbox"/>	CARAVAN, WILL ARRANGE AT FUTURE DATE.		

PLEASE NOTE: IF PREFERENCE IS BOOKED OUT NEXT CLOSEST WILL BE BOOKED: PLEASE INDICATE SECOND PREFERENCE.

IF NECESSARY TO CANCEL BOOKING, NOTIFY WALLY MANGAN A.S.A.P. YOUR ROOM MAY BE REQUIRED.

DEPOSIT:- \$15.00 PER PERSON MUST BE ACCOMPANIED WITH APPLICATION..CHEQUES PAYABLE TO:-
2/4TH BATTALION REUNION GOSFORD...POST OR DELIVER TO:-
WALLY MANGAN, 68 YARRAM ROAD, BENSVILLE, NSW 2251. PHONE (043)683 487.

BOAT TRIP TO BROKEN BAY WATERS.

TRIP 1. 10.00 A.M. TO 12.30 P.M. ☒

TRIP 2. 1.00 P.M. TO 3.30 P.M. ☐

EITHER TRIP. ☐

CHANGES COULD BE MADE TO BALANCE LOADING. PLEASE INDICATE BY (✓) TICK - THIS INDICATES ALL NAMES ON PRO FORMA.

FUNCTIONS:

MONDAY, 2ND...BOOKING IN, SMORGASBORD. ✓

TUESDAY, 3RD...MARCH, WREATH LAYING, REUNION DINNER. ✓

WEDNESDAY, 4TH...BOAT TRIP, SMORGASBORD. ✓

COMMITTEE:-

WALLY & CONNIE MANGAN

68 YARRAM RD., BENSVILLE, NSW 2251. PHONE (043)683 487.

GEORGE & MARGARET FRIEND

10 CRYSTAL AVENUE, PEARL BEACH, NSW 2256. PHONE (043) 432 076.