



White over Green

JOURNAL OF THE 2/4 INFANTRY BATTALION ASSOCIATION

PATRON: MAJOR GENERAL SIR IVAN DOUGHERTY, C.B.E., D.S.O. & Bar., E.D., LL.D. (Hon.) B.Sc.
PATRON: MAJOR GENERAL G.L. MAITLAND, A.O., O.B.E., R.F.D., E.D., (R.L.)

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PRESIDENT: Alf Carpenter, J.P., E.D. 66 Chatham Road, Georgetown, 2298	(049) 61 2366 or (049) 67 1969 (02) 905 2660 (047) 76 1180
HON. TREASURER: Les Jones, 8 Consul Road, Brookvale, 2100.	
HON. SECRETARY: Fred Staggs, 899 Castlereagh Road, Castlereagh, 2749	
VICE SECRETARY	
& FINANCE OFFICER: John Hawkins, E.D. 21 Maloney Street, Blacktown, 2148.	(02) 622 0531
WELFARE OFFICER: Bill Cearns, 2/43 Rosa Street, Oatley, 2223.	(02) 579 6063
EDITOR: Pat Bruty, 22 Russell Street, Birmingham Gardens, 2287.	(049) 51 4932
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Northern: Esca Riordan, 17 Cochrane Street, West Kempsey, 2240.	(065) 62 4671
Central Coast: Wally Mangan, 68 Yarram Road, Bensville, 2251.	(043) 68 3487
Southern: Dudley Meacham, 9 Temora Street, Cootamundra, 2590.	(069) 42 1698
QUEENSLAND:	
Hugh Wittleton, 61 Sutherland Drive, Banksia Beach, Bribie Island, 4057	(07) 408 9482
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6TH DIV. REP: Norm Auberson, 44 Mary St., Merrylands, 2160	(02) 632 8225

TWO MEETINGS AT THE GALLIPOLI MEMORIAL CLUB, LOFTUS ST., SYDNEY.

DAY 25 JULY: Monthly Meeting commencing at 1400hrs. Committee will meet at 1100hrs.

TUESDAY 22 AUGUST: As above.

TUESDAY 25 JULY: Ladies luncheon at the Bowler's Club of NSW 95 York St., Sydney, (arrive 1200 to 1215). Contact - Heather Fox on (02) 416 1200.

TUESDAY 22 AUGUST: As above.

FRIDAY 4 AUGUST: (1700hrs onward), Newcastle Region Monthly Meeting held in the Hamilton RSL. Raffle in aid of the Swimming Club. Please contact Alf Carpenter, (phone top of page (1)).

FRIDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER: As above.

WEDNESDAY 9 AUGUST: (2nd Wednesday, 1100hrs onward). Central Coast Monthly Meeting to be held at the Gosford RSL. Contact - SVP Wally Mangan... (043) 68 3487.

WEDNESDAY 13 SEPTEMBER: As above.

SUNDAY 23 JULY: A luncheon will be held at the Clayton RSL (Vic.) to celebrate 50 years of the forming of the club. Ned and Marj Kenna, V.C. will be guests of honour and a cordial invitation is extended to members of the 2/4th Association to attend. Contact Bill Panter, phone (03) 557 5171.

MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, 2ND, 3RD, 4TH OCTOBER 1995.. 2/4TH AUST. INF. BN. REUNION GOSFORD.

NOTE: Accommodation at Galaxy and Palms booked out. Members attending requiring camping or caravan parking, please contact Wally Mangan on (043) 683 487. Address, 68 Yarram Road, Bensville, NSW 2251.

SPECIAL "AUSTRALIA REMEMBERS" AIRFARES FOR 1995.

1995 is the 50th anniversary of the end of the 2nd World War. In recognition of the significance of this anniversary both QANTAS and ANSETT AUSTRALIA have advised that all veterans of this

conflict and their spouses will be eligible for substantially discounted airfares for the duration of 1995. The fare offered by both airlines will amount to a saving of up to 60% on the existing economy class airfares. For further details, the contact numbers are as follows:-

QANTAS.

Melbourne, (any staff member) 03 2742210.... Sydney, Andrew Beck 02 9514040.
Brisbane, Peter Hoare, 07 3602341 Geoff Pryor, 07 3602239.
Adelaide, Ann Holding, 08 2088877. Samantha Elfenbein 08 2088877.
Hobart, Cameron Hadlow, 002 354900.
Perth, Robert Wade, 09 2258338.
Canberra, Di Preston-Stanley, 06 2508299.

* * *

ANSETT AUSTRALIA

The veteran or spouse should call Ansett's National Customer phone number 131413 from anywhere in the Country and quote PS 13093 to make their bookings. Tickets may be then paid for at any Ansett Retail Office or local travel agent.

* * *

AUSTRALIA REMEMBERS VICTORY MARCH, SYDNEY
SATURDAY, 12TH AUGUST, 1995.

As part of the "Australia Remembers" Celebrations a victory march will be held in Sydney on Saturday, 12th August, 1995.

The 2/4th Battalion will form up at the corner of King and Philip Street, ready to march off at 9 A.M. (or later), marching on the same route as Anzac Day. The usual banner, flags, medals, jackets and ties to be included.

After the march, the Patron, President, Committee and Members of the Association invite the ladies and families to join the menfolk at the Victory March dinner to be held at the G.M.C. South Pacific Restaurant, Loftus St., Sydney. COST: \$15.00 single, \$25.00 double. A limited "dry till" will operate.

TUESDAY 15TH AUGUST, 1995. VICTORY IN PACIFIC DAY IN SYDNEY.

The day will begin with a Dawn Service at the Cenotaph in Martin Place. An additional service at the Cenotaph at 11 A.M. - both events are expected to attract big crowds. A tickertape parade will then take place through the city streets from about noon. It will end at Darling Harbour, where a programme of entertainment will continue through the afternoon and evening. As a fitting finale - a spectacular show involving fireworks and lasers. The ticker tape parade is seen by organisers as a suitable vehicle for both veteran and youth groups.

FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY, 18TH, 19TH & 20TH AUGUST, 1995.

As part of "Australia Remembers" the clock will be turned back 50 years one weekend in mid-August when people walk past the uniformed sentries at Newcastle Showground to enter a World War 2 military staging camp. It will be packed with war memorabilia to evoke the extraordinary atmosphere of wartime Australia all the northern troops would have experienced en route to far flung battlefields.

As an added bonus over the same weekend the Newcastle "Australia Remembers" Committee is organising three Nostalgia Night Concerts with special guest entertainers and big bands recreating in sound and costumes the magic of World War 2 camp concerts.

SUNDAY, 17TH SEPTEMBER "AUSTRALIA REMEMBERS 1945-1995." COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE AND PARADE OF BANNERS. The Garrison Church Council invites all associations to attend. The Parade will commence at 10 A.M. and proceed from Observatory Hill to the Village Green, Argyle Place (opposite the Garrison Church where the Commemorative Service will commence at 10.30 A.M. Assembly time will be at 9.30 A.M. on top of Observatory Hill, only Banner Bearers will march. If you feel you would rather your members sit and view the parade we will arrange Banner Bearers. Cars may take Banners up to the assembly point but cannot remain parked.

R.S.V.P. 17 August 1995, BANNERS.

O.M. Sallans (Service Co-Ordinator) 3/51A Sloane St., Summer Hill 2130. Ph: 02 798 4130.

* * *

VICTORIA CROSS.

6th August 1915, the Australian attack on Lone Pine saw seven Australians win the Victoria Cross.

For their actions on 26 April 1915, at Helles (Gallipoli Peninsular) and following 36 hours saw British Army and Navy Servicemen win 15 V.C.'s.

After the evacuation of Gallipoli, General Paris was justly proud of his Division, and whether it was his intention to visit all battalions in turn in order to express his appreciation, I know not. Suffice to say that the Hoods (Hood Battalion RND) were paraded for the General's inspection; and after saying some nice things, he announced his intention of giving the officers leave to England and the men, if they cared, leave to Malta. His speech was listened to in silence, but when the acting commander called for three cheers for the General the gallant 'Hoods'

gave him the 'raspberry'. The General went pink and, in a fit of choler, cancelled all leave for the battalion and confined all ranks to camp for seven days. (From 'Defeat at Gallipoli', AB Thomas, Macmillan.)

MONTHLY MEETING AT THE GALLIPOLI MEMORIAL CLUB, 23 MAY, 1995.

The Meeting opened with President Alf Carpenter in the chair. The President recited the ODE and welcomed the following Members:--A. CARPENTER, J. HAWKINS, B. CEARNS, T. WILSON, W. MANGAN, P. SMITH, F. STAGGS, J. MEEHAN, T. FOX, L. JONES, P. BRUTY, F. ROWELL, D. WILSON, B. LEVER, D. PINSON, L. CLARKE, HARRY WRIGHT, B. LANE, R. BERTHELTSEN, A. MAXWELL, R. EVERSON, "SLIM" DESMOND, HAROLD SILVER, F. PEGG, WALLY LAMBOURNE, W. JOHNSTON, A. ARNOTT, WAL SHAW, M. GRAY, J. RINGROSE & MAJ. GEN. GORDON MAITLAND.

APOLOGIES:--Sir Ivan Dougherty, Vic Forbes, N. Auberson, R. Steele, G. Chrisp, J. Desmond, N. Alayoine, Bob Fergusson, J. Dubber, L. Dubber, "Slim" Powers, C. Gorman, D. Follington, "Tich" Fordham.

One Minute's Silence was observed in Memory of Fallen and Departed Comrades.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting as published in "WOG" was adopted. Business arising NIL.

Minutes Secretary, John Hawkins recorded the following Matters/Business dealt with at this 23rd May Monthly Meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE OUT FROM PRESIDENT TO:--

THE MANAGEMENT AND STAFF, SOUTH PACIFIC RESTAURANT:--The 2/4th Assocn. wishes to thank all staff for the efficient way the Anzac Day Luncheon was presented.

THE DIRECTOR AND STAFF, GALLIPOLI MEMORIAL CLUB:--The Assocn. sends thanks to all concerned at the GMC for making our Anzac Day Celebrations a memorable one.

TOOHEY'S LTD:--Sends thanks to Toohey's for their generous donation for Anzac Day.

CORRESPONDENCE TO THE PRESIDENT FROM:--

BOB JACKSON (8th May): Just a note to let you know that we'll be thinking of you as you head to Hamilton. We hope you have a wonderful trip and a great weekend. We local 2/4th-ers would like to be remembered to Ned and Marj, wish them both well for the celebrations. Special good wishes from Max Sydenham, as you know, has to go into hospital, but should be visitable by the time you arrive here on Tuesday, 16th June, because we are looking forward to meeting all of you bus travellers at the Motel that night.

Because of Wagga's special association with WW 11's first VC, Cpl J.H. Edmondson, and with so many of our original 2/4th-ers (see page (4) in "White over Green"), I did a bit of a write up on Ned's award and your excursion to Hamilton, which should appear in our local paper.

The following is my contribution to the local paper.

V.C. WINNER HONOURED:--Just fifty years ago on 15 May, 1945, Private Edward Kenna was awarded the Victoria Cross for his part in the Wirui Mission action, near Wewak, New Guinea.

"Ned", as he was known in the unit, the 2/4th Infantry Battalion was one of only seventeen to be honoured in this way in the AIF in World War 11. He is currently one of the only two surviving V.C. winners in Australia - Sir Roden Cutler being the other World War 11 holder of the award.

Wagga has the distinction of being the home town of the winner of the first V.C. to be awarded in World War 11. Corporal J.H. Edmondson received his award posthumously for a brilliant action in Tobruk on 13-14 April, 1941. Ned Kenna's was among the last three V.C.s to be awarded in May/July 1945. He was wounded in another action, not far from Wirui Mission less than four weeks later.

The 2/4th Battalion History, "White over Green" contains a lengthy citation which describes the extraordinary valour of this young soldier. It adds: "Forward movement resumed by 'A' Coy the following morning was bogged down by well sited enemy bunkers. Forward troops were withdrawn and a 25 pounder was brought on the target." There was a further hold up, and a number of men were wounded. But the Battalion diary continues:--

"The situation was resolved by the courage and quick thinking of Pte. Edward Kenna, Bren Gunner of 5 Section. From his position Kenna was unable to fire on the Japanese machine gunners, so standing up in full view, and under fire from the enemy, he fired from the hip with the Bren, and then the rifle. He effectively neutralised the position, allowing the attack to be successfully concluded."

Ex members of his Battalion from Newcastle and other parts of NSW, Victoria & South Australia travelled last week to Ned's home town of Hamilton, Victoria to pay tribute to him. They will take part in the 50th anniversary commemoration of his award which will be hosted by the Shire of the Southern Grampians. These men, accompanied by their wives, belong to the 2/4th Inf. Bn. Assocn. which was founded by early repatriates from the Middle East in Sydney in 1943. It is strongly active, with a membership of over 500, scattered throughout Australia. The bus party will stop overnight at Wagga and it is envisaged that local members of the 2/4th will welcome them. Among these visitors will be former Cpl. Vic Forbes, M.M. He was an original member of the Bn, one of the first to be wounded, and for his action in Vevi, Northern Greece, was awarded the M.M.. Yet four years later, in the Koigan area, not far from the scene of Ned Kenna's dramatic effort, Vic was still "biting bullets". A great effort in wartime which he has continued with a devotion to the cause of his Battalion Association throughout these post war years.

One of the few surviving 2/4th-ers in Wagga, is former sergeant, Joe Wells who was awarded the D.C.M. for outstanding leadership and conspicuous bravery during an attack on Mt. Tazaki, in the Wewak area on 26 June, 1945. In modern terms Joe would be called a quiet achiever. These men have records which well deserve to be remembered. Many of them have served their fellow ex-servicemen, and their communities, with much of their courage and audacity which demonstrated in those far off days in the Middle East and New Guinea.

JACK AND JOAN HUSTON (ACT): - Encloses a copy of the programme for the Service "Australia Remembers" held at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra on 8th May. Jack, on behalf of the 2/4 Asscn. gave apologies for the lack of our unit flag - the parade included 2/16, 2/7, 9th Div, (one), Vietnam, British Legion, A.A. Regiment, Artillery, Div. and Corps Units.

Although, not a great number considering the number of Unit Associations, in all a good performance by those participating. The speech by RSL President, "Digger" James drew lots of applause, as was the one given by a local school girl. All were impressed by a detachment of Defence Service personnel dressed in period uniforms, marching on to the parade to the tune of "It's A Long Way To Tipperary."

FI KESTIVEN AND FAMILY: - The family of Kenneth wish to thank you for your attendance, and for your kind and thoughtful expressions of sympathy and support during our time of sorrow.

GOSFORD RSL SUB BRANCH: - Thank you for your letter of 17 March 1995 relative to the 100TH Birthday of our Patron Harry Newhouse... Plans for a suitable celebration have not yet been finalised but your members will be very welcome to attend.

Harry still attends our monthly meetings, thanks to Lorraine Tannock who drives down from Kurri Kurri to pick him up and bring him to our meeting. He is showing signs of age, and we are concerned for him. As soon as we have finalised plans for Harry I will let you know.. R.M. De Hon. Secretary.

LETTERS TO THE SECRETARY FROM: -

CRAIG CLARK: With a change of address, sends best wishes to Sec. Fred and Committee and special thanks for the wonderful job you are doing keeping "WOG" flowing through to one and all.

NEVIS FARRELL: With subs enclosed, makes him a Paid Up Life Member.

FI KESTIVEN AND FAMILY: Dear Fred, Thank you for your 'lest We Forget' card, I shall keep it always.

MARJORIE STACK: On behalf of the family and myself, I wish to thank all the men of the 2/4th Inf. Battalion who attended George's funeral on Wednesday, 5th April. I felt very proud to see them standing on the Chapel steps. Very sorry, I was unable to speak to each personally, I am afraid time did not permit.

It did please me to see Harry Wright conducting part of the Service, because he and George had been on the Welfare Team for just on 30 years, a special thanks from me to Harry.

LADY DOUGHERTY: Sends thanks to the Association for their very good wishes to Ivan, and he does appreciate the Association's kindness for keeping in touch. He did appreciate the birthday card with all the signatures, also one of the same from the 2/4th ladies.

R.J. THOMAS NX9707 (CATTAL): A new member, Mr Thomas encloses subs to cover literature concerning the activities and news of the Association.

R.L. PATTEMORE (HON. SEC. N.E. GROUP, 2/2 INF. BN. ASSOCN.) 9 RIVERSIDE DRIVE, BALLINA 2478.

Writes that the 2/2 Bn. Asscn. is having a reunion dinner to be held at the Ballina RSL on 13 September, 1995. This being the 50th Anniversary of the signing of the surrender at Cape Wom by General Adachi, Commander of the New Guinea Japanese forces.

On behalf of the 2/2 Asscn, members of the 2/4th are cordially invited to attend the reunion dinner... Prior to the dinner, the group from the 2/2 Association will be having a Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Cenotaph, adjacent to the RSL... This activity should be of interest to our North Coast members, if so, please contact Mr Ken McPHERSON, 195 Dawson St., Lismore, 2480 or phone 066 21 2811, or R.L. Pattemore (Address on heading.)

LETTERS TO THE TREASURER FROM: -

KEN TRUDGEN (CANOWINDRA): Ken encloses a donation to the Association, for this we give thanks. Reports that he was involved in a near fatal accident. Although his vehicle, being one of some substance, a 72 Model Toyota Crown and being hit by a Falcon with a bull bar was a shock to his system, and as a result of the accident, Ken spent 10 days in hospital with whip lash, he gives this advice to male drivers - never tangle with a female driver who knows she has the right of way and is prepared to defend it, even if she has to kill to prove her point.

Ken sends a special get well message to his old friend Esca Riordan, and reports that he, like Esca suffers back trouble, and puts the trouble to carrying heavy weights during his younger days... Will try and make the effort and attend the Gosford reunion in October.

GEOFF INGS (EX-"B" COY.): Geoff couldn't attend Anzac Day this year, he has leg problems, and being in his 80's hasn't made the problem any easier. Encloses a cheque for subs etc.

DAVID "SPEED" TAYLOR (ACT): A long time "no see" member, David reports that for the last 50 years has been a world traveller and thinks finally he has settled down.

Expresses sympathy on the passing of Larry Dooley, having received this bad news from Keith Bayley.

E.C.DAVIS(PORT MACQUARIE): E.C. enclosed a cheque for subs and donation which was thankfully received. In his letter were photos of the Isle of Crete, and these on being passed around by Les created lots of interest to those in attendance at the May Monthly Meeting.

STAN SUTHERLAND(OLD.): Cheque for subs encloses. Gives regards to all the team and trusts 1995 will be favourable to all.

MARJ STACK: Marj encloses a donation to the Association as a small token of appreciation for all the happy years George enjoyed with his mates. Wishes all a happy Anzac Day, hopes we had a good T.V. coverage. (Alas!! that didn't happen.) Ed.

GABRIELLE BLACKSTOCK(BLAXLAND): In fact, this letter was written to Pres. Alf, and having a substantial donation enclosed, was passed on to Treasurer Les.

Gabrielle writes, "On behalf of my sister Rita and self, I wish to extend to Fi Kesteven and Marj Stack, and the members of the Association, our sincere sympathy on the deaths of their husbands and the loss of loyal and hardworking members of the Association."

BRUCE CRAIG(HON. SECRETARY, PARRAMATTA CALEDONIAN PIPE BAND): Bruce writes on behalf of the band to say thanks to the 2/4th for the donation of \$50.00.

"As always, it was a pleasure for us to lead the Battalion on Anzac Day. It makes us feel very proud to march in front of such a great Association as the 2/4th, and we hope our affiliation will last a great many more years." Some of us are looking forward to seeing you all at Gosford in October.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR FROM:-

DES LOYDELL: Des reports on the sad passing of our member, Don Ellicott who spent the last years of his life at the Bathurst Nursing Home, Kelso.

Des reports, that he has become a member of the 39er's Association. Des writes down that the Association's Monthly Magazine has lots of interesting articles pertaining to past activities of the 6th Division, and other units of World War 2. (I think Des is thinking seriously about sending a story in to the magazine about some of the 2/4th's battle actions. If so, best of luck Des, we are eagerly waiting the outcome of your project.)

Ends by sending his best regards to all, and is still involved with riding motorbikes.

FI KESTEVEN: I have just received the April/May issue of "WOG" and I must tell you of the uplifting and comforting review of Ken's life, and the effect it has had on the family. Indeed it has served to minimise the loss.

Please convey in "White over Green", our gratitude to all expressions of sympathy.

JOHN KESTEVEN: I am writing to thank you for your support on Anzac Day, and for introducing me around. Not an easy task with each person wanting to stop and talk, unintentionally slowing down the process. But I suppose that it is a measure of how my father was loved, that his friends would want to stop and talk to his son. We share the sad loss.

MARJ STACK: Of great comfort during our sorrow were the expressions of sympathy conveyed to us in many ways. We did appreciate your kind words regarding George, I know he had many good friends in the 2/4th, I will always remember their kindness.

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FEATURE.

THE ROYAL NEW SOUTH REGIMENT'S BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES ON

MAJOR GENERAL GORDON LINDSAY MAITLAND, AO, OBE, RFD, ED(RL).

General Maitland was born in the family home at Rockdale in 1926. After attending Canterbury Boy's High School, he proceeded to Sydney University.

On nearing the age of 18 and before completing his course, he enlisted as a private into the Second AIF. After service in the islands as a corporal and sergeant, he received a direct commission in 1946. Following service in the Interim Army he joined the Citizen Military Forces in 1948 and was posted to the 45th Infantry Battalion where he rose to become senior Company Commander.

Subsequently he held such appointments as Brigade Major of the 5th Infantry Brigade and Grade 1 Staff Officer (GS01) on the Headquarters of the 1st Division.

In 1965 he was appointed the Commanding Officer of the 4th Battalion of the Royal NSW Regiment. He and his battalion distinguished themselves to the extent that he was appointed an Officer in the Order of the British Empire (OBE). His period as a Lieutenant Colonel included service in Papua New Guinea and in Vietnam.

From 1971-1974 he was Honorary Aide-de-Camp to two Governor-Generals.

Major General Maitland was promoted to that rank in 1974 when he took command of the 2nd Division. His development of the division was recognised in the 1978 Australia Day Honours when he was made an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO).

In 1978 he was appointed Inspector General of the Citizen Military Forces and became one of seven members of the Army's Advisory Committee. In 1979 he was appointed to be Chief of Reserves - the first reserve Officer to hold the position.

In his civilian life, General Maitland was a career banker with the Commonwealth Bank of Australia in which he was appointed an Executive Cadet shortly after his return from war service.

In later years he held a series of wide ranging administrative positions in the fields of corporate lending, research and marketing in its widest sense. He was a member of the small Working Group that led to the establishment of the Papua and New Guinea Banking Corporation. The Commonwealth Bank encouraged his military service and he ultimately rose to be Chief Manager before taking early retirement in 1983.

In 1983, at the invitation of the Royal Agricultural Society of N.S.Wales, General Maitland took up appointment as Director of that Society. He retired in 1989 and assumed various board appointments... From 1984 to 1992 he was Regimental Colonel of the Royal NSW Regiment.

In addition, he is a writer on military subjects and is the author of "Tales of Valour from The Royal New South Wales Regiment" which is the life stories of the Regiment's twenty four Victoria Cross winners.

General Maitland married in 1948 and has three adult children. He lives with his wife, Dorothy, in Warrawee.

General Maitland is prominent in a number of organizations. He is:-

Commissioner of the Earl of Lauderdale... Patron of the NSW Military Historical Society...

Patron of the 2/4th Australian Infantry Battalion Association... The Head of the Clan Maitland in Australia and its representative on the Scottish Australian Heritage Council...

Chairman of the Royal Humane Society of NSW... A member of both the Federal and State Councils of the Boy Scout Association of Australia... Senior Vice President of the Council of the Royal United Service Institute of NSW... A long term Councillor of the Defence Force Reserves Association of which, for some years, he was President... Vice President of the Army Museum...

He is an active member and former President of a variety of organizations many of which, like the R.S.L., have conferred life membership upon him.

He spends most of his time writing his next book - "The Battle Honours of the Royal New South Wales Regiment."

* * *



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.

NX2054 D.P. ELLICOTT (DON.) ✓

NX8748 L.R. SWANSON, D.C.M. (TED.) ✓

NX62643 N. CHADWICK. VX48148 A.F.T. SHELL.

VALE: NX8748 LESLIE RONALD SWANSON, D.C.M. (TED.)

A funeral service for Ted was held at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Swansea on Monday 29th May. The relatives and friends of Ted's widow, Dorothy attended.

The RSL Service was conducted by Charlie Turner, Vice President, Swansea RSL Sub-Branch and President Alf Carpenter recited the Infanteer's Prayer.

A private cremation followed the service.. Present from the 2/4th were:- Alf Carpenter, Wally Mangan, Lionel Clarke, Bob Lane and Pat Bruty.

Ted was an original member of the Battalion, and during the Crete Campaign, 11 Pl. "B" Coy under the command of Lieutenant Kesteven and with Ted as Platoon Sergeant were separated from the rest of the remainder of the Bn. except for visual signal communication. Dawn 26 May, 1941 revealed a large body of enemy approaching from the west and other Germans from other quarters; on dispatching a message to Bn. the Pl. Comd. decided to return to Battalion in accordance with instructions. Sergeant Swanson was instructed to lead the platoon with Lieutenant Kesteven bringing up the rear, as he thought nearest to the enemy. Ted and the platoon had not proceeded far when he became aware of 50 enemy in position in a vineyard, who promptly opened fire. Sergeant Swanson, with great presence of mind, then led a bayonet charge causing the enemy to withdraw. This prompt action enabled the platoon and its Commander to return to Bn. with valuable information concerning enemy movements.

For his actions Sergeant Ted Swanson was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal (D.C.M.) (Information from pages 305-6 Battalion History - slightly edited.) Editor.

VALE: NX2054 DONALD PARTRIDGE ELLICOTT (DON.)

Don Ellicott's Funeral Service was held on Thursday, May 11 1995 at the Holy Family Church, Kelso. The Bathurst Sub-Branch of the RSL conducted the soldier's service.

At the conclusion of the service at Kelso, the funeral proceeded to the Field of Mars Cemetery Ryde. Report from Des Loydell.

LEST WE FORGET.

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REPORTS - PRESIDENT REPORTS:

ON 18 APRIL attended the official farewell to descendants of Gallipoli Veterans at the Gallipoli Memorial Club, Loftus St., Sydney.

MAY 20TH, together with Gordon Maitland, Vin Hallinan, Ray Sharp, Les Jones, Linda Lovelee, Ted & Heather Fox with Heather's sister, Harry & Hilda Wright, Alex Arnott, Chas Granquest & wife, John Meehan, Mick Gray, President Alf Carpenter & Doreen attended the 54th Anniversary of the Battle of Crete and Greek Campaign, Remembrance Service and Wreath Laying, the Cenotaph, Sydney.

SUNDAY, 21ST MAY: Anniversary of the Battle of Crete and Greek Campaign held at the Garrison Church.

In attendance from the Association:- Gordon Maitland, Alf Carpenter, Fi Kesteven, Ferd Pegg, Ted & Heather Fox, Les Jones, Linda Lovelee, John Meehan, Vin Hallinan, Wally & Connie Mangan, Harold & Del Silver.

TREASURER REPORTS. SUMMARY OF FUNDS.

WESTPAC BANK: General Account -	\$2,254
Ben. Fund A/C -	700
AUST. GUARANTEE CORP: Debentures (Ben. Fund)	15,000
Growth Bonds (Ben. Fund)	2,000
M.M. Access A/C (Ben Fund)	2,162
<u>TOTAL FUNDS AS AT 23RD MAY, 1995 - - -</u>	<u>\$22,116</u>

All accounts passed for payment... Les Jones. Hon. Treasurer.

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REPORT ON THE LADIES ANZAC DAY BY HEATHER FOX.

A good roll up this Anzac Day to cheer our boys as they proudly marched and with a deep feeling of remembrance for those not with them. Among the "cheer squad" were the families of Fran Wilson and Dot Dempster and many others whose names I did not record, so apologies to them. We were pleased to have Dorothy Maitland and Yvonne Dooley with us this year. We enjoyed a good lunch and renewed friendships. Those attending were:- Muriel Kleem, June Galloway, Noni Bowman, Jean Forman, Molly Johnston, Florence Beach, Doreen Manuel, Del Silver, Doreen Grant, Linda Lovelee, Olga Everson, Hilda Wright, Nina Fergusson & daughter Jan, Gwen MacLennan, Fran Wilson, Joan Hart, Enid Crutchett, Betty Watts, Hazel Gamble. With apologies to those I have not mentioned.

A letter from Pres Alf was read during the luncheon, as is, "Greetings to all our wonderful ladies on yet another Anzac Day. This year of 'Australia Remembers' has a greater significance too, for during the year remembrances go out to those Australians who contributed to the victories in the Pacific. Many commemorations have been planned and I know you will attend as many as you can. My personal thanks to each and every one of you who have given assistance to our great Association, this family of 2/4th-ers is second to none and may it continue for many years to come."

THE LADIES LUNCHEON HELD AT THE BOWLER'S CLUB ON 23 MAY, 1995...REPORT FROM HEATHER FOX.

The Bowler's Club has new caterers, and the standard of their meals is very good. Those who enjoyed this May luncheon were:- Nell Hawkins with her three sisters Lorna, Agnes and Mabs. There was much talk about the Hamilton weekend with Doreen Manuel, Olga Everson, Hilda Wright, Meg Arnott, Muriel Kleem, Heather Fox, Del Silver and Madge Fraser.

FOOTNOTE FROM OUR PREVIOUS EDITOR, E.H. FOX. Award of L.S. & I.P. to Heather Fox: I have to advise the award of LS&IP, Long Service and Incredible Patience Medal to Heather Fox upon the 53rd Anniversary of her marriage to me, 28 April, 1995.

VICTORIAN REPORT BY BILL PANTER.

No doubt it is going to be a busy year for all veterans in this commemorative year with all sorts of activities going on, Bonnie and I represented the Assocn. at the Shrine of Remembrance for the service on V.E. Day, and it was a wonderful ceremony. We don't know what is going to take place for V.P. Day, but I would imagine there will be a big parade for that.

I would think that the Hamilton trip is covered fully in this edition, so I would like to say thank you to all the Victorians who supported Ned for a fantastic weekend and a wonderful tribute to Ned... Those who attended were:- KEN & JOAN WILLIAMS, VAL & NOELINE CUNNINGHAM, LES & JOAN DRAYSON, DOUG GROVE, HUGH & DORIS BURGDOFF, CLAUDE RAYMOND WITH DAUGHTERS, JULIE & ANN, DOUG CHRISTIAN, JACK LYONS, STAN PRETTY, VIC & RUTH HILL, MERV JONES & JUNE PLENTER, BONNIE AND YOURS TRULY.

A big thank you to Yvonne Dooley for driving me 100kms to get parts for my car when it broke down on my way there, I don't know what I would have done without her. The weekend would not have been possible without the help of Ned's lovely wife Marjory who coordinated everything to perfection, including lunch on Sunday at the Golf Club, the unveiling ceremony of a photograph and citation of Ned at his school on Monday morning with about 12-2/4th men forming a guard of honour for Ned and Marj. This was a weekend to remember for Ned & Marj & those 2/4th-ers who attended.

Barry Burns had to apologise at the last minute for Hamilton as his wife Betty went into hospital today before they were to leave to have heart surgery, I am pleased to report she is now on the road to recovery.

Ned and Marj. Kenna are to be guests of honour at the celebration of the Clayton R.S.L's 50th anniversary on Sunday, 23 July at a luncheon to which Association members are invited, so we are looking forward to meeting up with them again.

KEITH BAILEY (NEW ADDRESS - P.O. Box 29, YARRALUMLA, ACT 2600.)

I was very sorry to hear of the death of Larry Dooley. He was a tent mate of mine and always looked up to me as a good friend and someone he could depend on. I never let him down and we developed an association that can only be between men who respect each other and are prepared to be there when needed.

Jack Huston and Frank Crutchett asked me if we could get together with other 2/4th-ers in Canberra to have a luncheon and kick the can around. I thought it would be a great idea, so we got on the blower and found Dave Taylor, Roy Findlay, John Falla, John Hyles, Tom Maxwell, Bob Warrilow and Len Griffiths. David Wren was on holidays and I contacted him later. We met at the Canberra Club on 14 February 1995, had a great time and decided that it had to happen again. I was nominated to arrange the next meeting. I suggested that we invite our ladies or guests. This was accepted with acclaim.

Our next meeting was at the Tradesmen's Union Club, Restaurant 83, Woden on 23 May 1995. Present were, Frank & Enid Crutchett, Dave & Vi Taylor, Keith & Rita Bailey, Bob & Jean Warrilow, Tom Maxwell & his friend Frank (1RAR), John Hyles, John Falla, DCM & wife Ruve, and Peter Richardson, MC (2/11th Bn.) Roy Findlay, Jack Huston and Len Griffiths had other appointments and were unable to attend and sent apologies. David Wren was on holidays in Ballina, also unable to be here but wrote me a nice letter which I passed on to the rest of the group. We had a most enjoyable day and everyone agreed that we should meet again at the same venue and retain the friendship and camaraderie that we hold so dear... To me it felt like a mini 2/4th Bn reunion!

Kind regards to President Alf and my mates of the 2/4th. Keith Bailey, 26 May, 1995.

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GENERAL BUSINESS, 23 MAY MONTHLY MEETING: Arrangements for 12th August VP march discussed. Wally Shaw and others gave their thoughts on the Anzac Day March and the lack of T.V. coverage. For this, Mick Gray gave a logical solution - he thought it right and proper that the Battalions' should march in sequence e.g. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th etc. On the death of Don Ellicott, Alex Arnott suggested a letter of appreciation from the Assocn. should go out to the Secretary of Bathurst Sub Branch RSL, for care shown to Don during his stay in the Kelso Nursing Home. Gordon Maitland spoke of the Ned Kenna V.C. celebration at Hamilton and the debt we owe Pres. Alf for organising this celebration in May, 1995... As always, Ned consistently rejected the stereotype hero's roll in which he is cast and remarked during the end of the dinner, "I do not know why they didn't make me a Captain." Adding to this, Phil Smith, as one of 14 who formed the Guard of Honour, said as Ned drew up to him, Ned looked down and said, "Soldier your bootlaces are twisted."

Harold Silver spoke of travel insurance, and the pitfalls attached to this, with the warning - please read the documents carefully.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 1450.

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2/4TH BATTALION TOUR, 9TH TO 18TH MAY TO VICTORIA IN AUTUMN.

TUESDAY, 9 MAY: Our coach left Hamilton RSL at 6.55 A.M. picking up passengers at Charlestown, Doyalson, Hornsby and Parramatta Railway Station. Travelling the Hume Highway our lunch break was The Southern Star Inn, Goulburn. Afternoon break at The Dog on the Tuckerbox then on to Lavington for our overnight stay.

WEDNESDAY, 10 MAY: Our comfort stop was at Benalla with morning tea in the front yard of the Uniting Church plus a recital on a 120 year old pipe organ. After lunch a tour of Bendigo on the Talking Tram, then a quick visit to the Bendigo Pottery.

THURSDAY, 11 MAY: After morning break at Ballarat we visited the Eureka Diorama. A drive down The Avenue of Honour through the 1914-1918 Memorial Arch of Victory. A walk through the Botanical Gardens viewing the bronze busts. Then a drive around Lake Wendouree - a man made lake. Afternoon visit to Sovereign Hill and the Gold Museum.

FRIDAY, 12 MAY: A guided tour of Kyal Castle. After lunch we were on our way to Hamilton along the Glenelge Highway passing The Grampians National Park. Upon arrival at our motel we were greeted by the smiling faces of Ned and Marj.

SATURDAY, 13 MAY: After a free morning we boarded our coach at 1.40 P.M. to go back to Hamilton to drop our men folk off at the Post Office to line up for the march to the Council Chambers to attend the Civic Reception in honour of Ned Kenna V.C. Major General Gordon Maitland, Ned Kenna, V.C. and Brian Foley, Deputy Minister for Veterans' Affairs stood on the dias in front St. George. As the Battalion approached, the "eyes right" command was given. They marched like true soldiers up the main street of Hamilton with medals proudly displayed en route to the Council Chambers where they formed a Guard of Honour for Ned and Marj as they entered for the Civic Reception which was hosted by the Shire of the Southern Grampians to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Edward Kenna attaining the V.C. award. A large crowd of well wishers gathered in the Ned Kenna room which proved too small, so with a transfer of venue to a larger room next door, proceedings were underway. After the Civic Reception we boarded our coach to go to the Alexander Club to attend the special commemorative dinner. What a memorable, moving and emotional event! I am sure everyone who attended the dinner either had a large lump in their throat or a tear in their eye as the various speeches were being delivered. Bringing back memories of many events during those war years. No wonder our large family of 2/4th-ers stick together, support and protect one another today. I'm sure this day will hold wonderful memories not only for Ned and Marj but everyone who was present.

SUNDAY, 14 MAY: Early morning farewell to Ned and Marj, then on the road to Port Fairy for our

first break. Due at Flagstaff Hill Maritime Village Warrnambool for a guided tour at 11A.M. after which lunch was served in the tea rooms. MONDAY, 15 MAY: Heading towards the Great Ocean Road viewing places of interest along the way including Bay of Islands, London Bridge which partially disintegrated in February, 1990. Then Port Campbell, Loch Ard Gorge & the Twelve Apostles of which I believe there are only seven left. Lunch was at Apollo Bay then onto Lorne, Angelsea, Torquay & Geelong on our way to Melbourne via the Gateway Bridge. TUESDAY, 16 MAY: Along the Hume Highway to Euora, then to Beechworth for a sightseeing drive before lunch of their delicious pies from a noted Beechworth Bakery. On arriving at Wagga we were joined by some local 2/4th-ers for dinner at the Garden City Motel. WEDNESDAY, 17 MAY: Leaving Wagga, passing through Junee and Cootamundra, then on to Young and Cowra for lunch. A visit to the war cemetery followed, then to Orange for our overnight stay. THURSDAY, 18 MAY: Departed Orange for Bathurst - a lap around Mount Panorama Raceway, rejoined the highway and on passing over the Blue Mountains stopped at Wentworth Falls for lunch... We arrived at Hamilton RSL at 5.40P.M. I'm sure all fellow passengers join me in praising our coach driver Graham for the capable and courteous manner in which he drove us from Hamilton, NSW to Hamilton, Victoria. Special thanks to Helen for organising important details as meals and accommodation... To Alf and Doreen, to all those who partook in this magnificent tour. a big "THANK YOU." Report by Ruth Allardice.

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CASH REGISTER LIST NO. 6.

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>SUBSCRIPTIONS</u>	<u>DONATIONS.</u>
N.W.P. FARRELL (LIFE SUBSCRIBER PAYMENT)	50.00	
H. WHEELER (US \$25)		34.78
P. BROOKE, K. TRUDGEN. EACH \$30 D.		60.00
M. G. WHITELAW, W. BLACK. EACH \$20 D.		40.00
VIS, G. INGS, H. RUSSELL, G. GORDON. EACH \$10 S. \$10 D.	40.00	40.00
A. SCHWEITZER, B. BECK, * R. THOMAS. * EACH \$10 S.	30.00	
J. CULLEN		8.00
C. RAYMOND		5.00
*NEW MEMBERS. COMBINED TOTAL: \$307.78.	\$120.00	\$187.78

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GOSFORD REUNION NEWS: ALTERATION TO BOAT TRIP, BROKEN BAY WATERS, WEDNESDAY, 4TH OCTOBER.

Wally Mangan has obtained a bigger boat, now, ONE trip only - 9A.M. to 12.30 P.M. - morning tea on boat, bar on board... Lunch at the RSL Bistro - rest - farewell smorgasbord.

QUEENSLAND REPORT FROM HUGH WITTELETON: A gathering of Queensland members at Hugh and Eillen's place on Wednesday, 21 June had in attendance: - Craig & Enid Clark, Noel & Marie Woolcott, Henry & Maisie Elliott, Flo Radcliffe, Ken Watt, Bernie Gleeson, Allen & Gloria Lindsay, Joy Waterhouse, J & B Shingles, Evelyn McCosker. Apologies from: - L&B Stephenson, N&D Farrell, Bruce & Angela Cork, Frank & Norma Gattenhof. During July, Frank goes to hospital for further tests - all the best Frank.

During the day Hugh & Eillen served a tasty barbecue luncheon, and was enjoyed by all. Hugh enclosed a photocopy of a letter written by Capt. Owen Williams to his family, 19 May, 1945. This letter was passed on to Hugh by Ken Watt and will be featured in the August/Sept. issue.

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HLV MEETING AT THE GALLIPOLI MEMORIAL CLUB, TUESDAY, 27 JUNE, 1995.

1. Meeting opened with President Alf Carpenter in the Chair. The President recited the "Infanteers Prayer" and welcomed the following Members: - A. CARPENTER, L. JONES, P. SMITH, P. BRUTY, W. MANGAN, W. CEARNS, F. STAGGS, N. AUBERSON, (back from Alaska), T. FOX, T. WILSON, F. ROWELL, D. WILSON, "SLIM" POWERS, R. EVERSON, D. PINSON, W. LAMBOURNE, A. BOHLE, W. JOHNSTON, H. WRIGHT, L. CLARKE, R. BERTHELSEN, A. MAXWELL, B. LANE, H. SILVER, JACK DUBBER (got you this time), A. ARNOTT, J. RINGROSE. APOLOGIES: - Sir Ivan Dougherty, Maj. Gen. G. Maitland, J. Hawkins, J. Meehan, B. Lever, N. Alavoine, "Spike Galvin, G. Chrisp, M. Gray, L. Dubber, Dave Follington.

One Minute's Silence in Memory of Fallen and Departed Comrades was Observed. Minutes of the previous Monthly Meeting as published in "WOG" were taken as read and confirmed.

Business arising from Minutes - NIL. The following Matters/Business was recorded.

CORRESPONDENCE: The President reported as: - A letter from Hal F. Herriet, & this being a copy of a letter from Herriet to Minister of Vets. Affairs re recognition for those vets. who fought in Greece/Crete, he thought a special medal should be struck for these people... A thank you letter from Helen Hallinan, both she and Vin appreciated the Hamilton VC reunion and the organisation put into this by Alf Carpenter... Bob Jackson, with many thanks for the enormous effort by Alf put into running the Association... Marj Kenna writes with thanks for the effort by Alf, Doreen and all for their attendance at Ned's 50th Anniversary of him winning the VC... From Peter Denver, a newspaper clipping depicting South Australia's 19 Bde Members attendance at Ned Kenna, VC 50th Celebration... Jack and Joan Huston re their attendance to the Greek Embassy, Canberra for Greece/Crete week... Brian Nebenzah (Chairman Australia Remembers Committee) with full program of events in Sydney, V.P. Day, August 15, 1995.

The Secretary: - D.V.A. Budget Review... Invitation to Victory Ball, Saturday 5th August, 1995. Cost will be \$80 per person. Venue - Sydney Convention Centre.

Secretary: Allen Lindsay re the 1996 country reunion to be held at Tweed Heads - reports all systems go... Letter from Henry Wheeler(USA), was saddened to hear of the death of Ken Kesteven, was involved with Ken during Greece/Crete, a card from Henry and Rachel to Fi was enclosed in the letter and this was passed on from the Secretary to Fi... Lt.Col. Vertzous wrote to thank the Association for the honour of inviting him to the 2/4th Anzac Day Dinner.

Treasurer: A letter from Henry Wheeler(USA), encloses a donation of US \$25.00, also included in his letter, a newspaper clipping in reference to Russia's War dead and the non existence of cemeteries holding the remains of these veterans.

Editor: Letter from Parris McDougall, re mistake concerning his father NX4015 R.F. McDougall, M.M. as written in the April/May issue... From Ruth Allardice, including a summary of the return bus tour from Hamilton, NSW to Hamilton, Vic. Also, with the report, her thoughts on the 50th Anniversary celebrations for Ned Kenna VC at Hamilton, enclosed the death notice for the late Margaret Carson, widow of the late Kit Carson, Esperance W.A... Bill Panter, Victorian report, the essence of this, mainly about the 50th for Ned Kenna... Keith Bailey, report on get together of 2/4th-ers in Canberra.

Reports: President attended Church Service at St. Anne's Strathfield- reported, owing to scant publicity, attendance was down... Alf also attended 6th Div. Meeting. Together with Wally Mangan, Bob Lane, Lionel Clarke & Pat Bruty attended the Funeral Service for Ted Swanson, DCM..

Secretary: Proposal for Anzac Day Units to march in numerical order has been knocked back by the RSL Committee... 6th Div. Norm Auberson reported on the rather sorry state of trees planted in the vicinity of Bardia Barracks; a proposal to hand, the seedlings from a Lone Pine parent tree should be planted around the area... During the 6th Div. Meeting, John Whittle gave the Assocn. a pat on the back; he thought the 2/4th were the best turned out and marchers in the 6th Division during the last Anzac Day March. Norm also spoke of the possibility of a reprint of our Battalion History, done on computer and a soft cover.

Treasurer reports: Summary of Funds.

Westpac Bank: General Account	\$2,418
Ben. Fund A/C	700
Aust. Guarantee Corp: Debentures (Ben. Fund)	15,000
Growth Bonds (Ben. Fund)	2,000
M.M. Access A/C (" ")	2,162
Total Funds as at 27th June, 1995	<u>22,280</u>

Les Jones. Hon. Treasurer.

A new Nominal Roll printed (one copy), more comprehensive than previous issue, cost \$4.00 per copy.

Welfare: Bill Cearns visited Mick Owers at his nursing home... Phil Smith reported on his visit to Lady Davidson Nursing Home, saw "Spike" Calvin who was in for an operation on his left knee. A small piece of shrapnel was removed, the doctor in his wisdom, thought this in some way aggravated Spike's knee problem. In the same ward, Nap Alavoine was recovering from a knee operation, (Nap is now home). It was reported John Hawkins had middle ear trouble, wife Nell was due to have tests for her leg troubles... Ross Smith has had a successful operation on his leg... Claude Raymond - colectomy (no report on his present health)... A phone call from Jim Brown gave information that Esca Riordan had a heart valve virus and will be hospitalised for 6 weeks... Wal Johnston reported that Dave Follington is still having treatment for his problems, and Wal keeps in touch with Dave... Bill Panter reported the passing of Verna Gillespie, widow of the late Norm Gillespie, a 2/22 Bn. member who served with the 2/4th in the Aitape/Wewak Campaign.

General Business, 27 May Monthly Meeting: President reported to the Meeting that Ned and Marj Kenna VC and self will represent the Association for the pilgrimage to Papua/New Guinea, leaving Sydney 29 June on "MIKHAIL SHOLOKOV", subsequent to this, and at this time and place Phil Smith had a phone call from Jim Brown reporting that he was nominated by Ned Kenna, VC to attend the Pilgrimage, further to this, information came through that Tom Maxwell, (ACT) would also be attending, this made five people going:- Ned & Marj Kenna, Alf Carpenter, Jim Brown and Tom Maxwell. During the Pilgrimage to the Wewak area, two plaques will be unveiled by Ned, one at Wirui Mission, and the other at Cape Wom Memorial Park... Vic Forbes spoke re the coach tour to Hamilton and complimented the coach captain and his assistant who, by their demeanour, made the tour a wonderful experience.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 1450 hrs.

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LADIES LUNCHEON HELD AT THE BOWLER'S CLUB OF N.S.W. REPORT FROM HEATHER FOX.

A warm welcome was extended to Fi Kesteven & Yvonne Dooley who joined the ladies for lunch. A card was signed by everyone and sent to Nell Hawkins who was missed owing to leg ulcers, get well quickly Nell - also Belle Sadler, who is now in Lady Davidson Hospital. Apologies:- Molly Johnston & Doreen Manuel, hoping both can join us 25th July. Attending were:- Hilda Wright, Meg Arnott, Madge Fraser, Joan Hart, Fran Wilson, Olga Everson, Agnes Pugh, Mabs Lupp and sister, Flo, Del Silver, Heather Fox, with Fi Kesteven and Yvonne Dooley.

finis.