



# White over Green

MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE 2/4 INFANTRY BATTALION ASSOCIATION

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AUGUST 1, 1959

## COOTAMUNDRA COUNTRY RE-UNION!

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### 2/4th BATTALION ASSOCIATION

GENTLEMEN!

THERE WILL BE A COUNTRY RE-UNION  
IN

### COOTAMUNDRA

ON THE EIGHT HOUR WEEK-END

3rd, 4th and 5th of OCTOBER

IF YOU ENJOYED THE LAST ONE, THEN  
YOU'LL ENJOY THIS ONE TOO!!

FOR DETAILS, SEE INSIDE THIS ISSUE

COOTAMUNDRA COUNTRY RE-UNION!

## COOTAMUNDRA COUNTRY RE-UNION!

As soon as possible, send the following details to:

Mr. Jim Crowe,  
Parker Street,  
COOTAMUNDRA.

NAME, and if accompanied by wife.

Date of arrival. ACCOMMODATION wanted.  
10/- Hotel Deposit for each person.

Accommodation at CARAVAN PARK available.

## EDITORIAL

### ONE BLAST FOR C COMPANY! COMING UP!!

The August Monthly Meeting was C Company night. Do you know how many C Company blokes showed up? FOUR! ONLY FOUR out of all the ex-members of C Coy. that live in the City. Slim Pollock is disgusted and he said "You can tell 'em if you like, too!" Consider yourselves told! All I can

say is that if Harry Watts was still running this paper you'd be in for a good roasting!

WE THANK THOSE FOUR THAT DID SHOW UP  
FOR THEIR SUPPORT.

THANK YOU GENTLEMEN!

## MONTHLY DOINGS

Now where were we?

Collectively there was a pretty fair roll up for the August meeting. Amongst the business of that meeting and the Committee meeting was the discussion of the designing of a new letter head for the Association stationery. It was decided to put it on a suggestion-competition basis and that members submit designs, preferably incorporating the old Fourth crest. It is the mailed fist with four bars and the motto "Nomine Quartus" on a scroll. Ask Ron for a look at it at the September meeting and submit your design. The Committee are donating 2/- each as a prize for the best entry.

Major-General Dougherty gave an interesting address on the work and history of Legacy. Legacy was originally formed in Tasmania in 1923 by Maj.-Gen. Sir John Gellibrand, K.C.B., D.S.O., commander of the 3rd Aust. Div. in 1918. Originally it was known as the Remembrance Club and was formed for the purpose to which Legacy is now dedicated, that is, for the care of children and later the widows of deceased servicemen.

It was started in Melbourne by Sir Stanley Savage (Commander of 17th Brigade in the desert) and in Sydney in 1926.

The General pointed out that the work of Legacy is increasing every day. In its manifold activities, Legacy had an increase of an average of six new cases each day. These are widows and children of deceased returned soldiers requiring help and guidance in many forms.

Legacy admits that it and its activities cannot fill the gap left by a deceased father but its aim is to assist in any way possible from advice to monetary assistance.

The General made reference to the donation of £600 to Legacy by the 2/4th Bn. Association in 1946.



In conclusion it might be of interest to point out that if and when our Association is wound up our Constitution says that all our assets are to go to Legacy.

After the meeting, Dick Pinson and company got on the piano, sax and drums, and started to whoop it up a bit. Charlie Hanson, an A grade performer on the saxophone, gave us a solo, accompanied by Wally Pinson on the piano. Dick had his face in a glass at this stage I think.

No room to enumerate those present.  
G'bye, now.

### SICK PARADE

E. Dobbin .....	Ward 6
W. J. Thomas .....	Ward 1
J. Watson .....	Ward 23
Recently discharged: Alan Nelson-Slee.	

### UNFINANCIAL MEMBERS

Our subscription has not been increased since 1946. As a consequence we find we need to keep every member financial. If you find a little notice inserted in your W.O.G. it means that you have forgotten it this year.

### ASSOCIATION PHOTOGRAPHIC COLLECTION

Dear Ed.,

As advised by Ron on account of lack of space the details of photos in future will be given with acknowledgements. Describing the excellent collection received from Jack Bell: 19 standard size snaps (really 22, but 3 of them twice), and 8 smaller ones, including small album with the exception of 5. The rest are of Syria. (1) Jack Bell on motor bike, Nissen Huts in background at Elaine. (2) Hop. Cassidy, Drag. Haliburton, "Killer" Turnbull on Mt. Buffalo. (3) Two of the boys with low pitched tent and equipment on top of Mt. Buffalo Elaine. (4) Jimmy Brownjohn on motor bike near Nissen Huts. (5) Bruce Cork sitting against heap of stones showing photos signalling equipment in background, Mt. Buffalo. (6) Bull Wilkinson on motor bike outside hut, Elaine. (7) Group of five, Jimmy Brownjohn, Happy Davis, Bull Wilkinson, Frank Sadler, Grumpy Skelton, Huts in background. (8) Hopalong Cassidy, Bruce Cork, Drag Haliburton, out on the wide open spaces having a snack. (9) And then the snow came. Group of eight outside hut throwing snow, G. Skelton, Peter

Denver, Mick ?, Ted Harris, J. Brownjohn. (10) Bull Wilkinson and Skinny Williams on motor bike in snow outside hut while two others look on. (11) J. Brownjohn, G. Skelton, Bull Wilkinson, Frank Sadler, Killer Turnbull in snow, huts in background. (12) Bull Wilkinson and Frank Sadler wrestling in snow. (13) Outside Sig. Office, Syria, Lyle Rhodes, Ted Harris, Killer Turnbull, Mick ?. (14) Group of ten in their greatcoats, covered in snow returning from the search for Sg-Maj. Robbins; also in group is Clutch Kable. (15) Killer Turnbull, Mick ?, in snow outside hut. (16) Group of four, no names or place, looks like a scene from Moscow in the snow with their greatcoats and balaclavas and old type building in background. (17) View of road through the snow, men in foreground. (18) J. Bell, H. Davis, G. Skelton, S. Williams around a snowman. (19) Closeup of snowman with "Diggers" hat on in black outline on chest, a large Victory V, also A.I.F., 1942, Syria. (It reminds me of Johnny Morrison.) (20) View of approaching storm, hut, truck and figures in distance. (21) Jack Bell, J. Brownjohn, at Cafe, with Air Force chap, glasses charged and two bottles on table. (22) Group of four around snowman. Now back home to Darwin. (23) J. Moreland (Kew, Vic.), Bluey Guthrie, Jack Bell, ? Rogers (W.A.). In shorts sunbaking. (24) Fred Apthorp, John Hunt, John Storey, outside tent. (25) Doug. Wallace, J. Brownjohn, Frank Mallett, ? outside tent. (26) Sid George, J. Bell, J. Hunt outside tent sampling home made beer; they seem to be enjoying it too. (27) Frank Mallett, Ted Harris, J. Brownjohn, looks as though they are doing their washing in tins (could be making a brew). Sincere thanks for these Jack, I won't call you Ding Dong anymore.

—Cock Robin.

(To be continued)

### GUESSING COMPETITION

The Guessing Competition is under weigh again chaps!

The first prize is a transistor radio, second a pair of blankets, third a pair of sheets and pillowslips and the fourth is a pair of bath towels. We ask that members and supporters get behind this as you have done in the past years.

If you haven't already got your books write to Pat Lahey, 58 Darval Road, Eastwood, or to Ron Barber.

The four best "guessers" will be announced at the combined 4th-2/4th Reunion in November.

While we are on the subject the COMBINED '14-'18 4th and 2/4th SMOKO-REUNION will be held on 6th November. The PARRAMATTA CALEDONIAN PIPE BAND WILL BE THERE. However, details of this later.



## SUBS., CHANGES OF ADDRESS, Etc.

Literary contributions for the next couple of months should be sent to **Fred Staggs only**. (The other Editor is taking a few sickies.)

Changes of address should be sent to the Secretary.

Subscriptions should be sent to the Treasurer.

**PRESIDENT:** Cec Chrystal, 24 The Battlements, Castlecrag. XL 1993.

**VICE-PRESIDENT:** Fred Staggs, 18 Bundarra Avenue, Wahroonga. JW 3411.

**SECRETARY:** Ron Barber, c/o Mosman Post Office, Mosman.

**TREASURER:** Fred Searle, 31 Griffith Avenue, West Ryde. WY 4905.

**EDITOR:** Fred Staggs, address as above. JW 3411.

The next Monthly Meeting will be on the 4th September in Grosvenor Street at 8 p.m. The Committee are requested to present themselves by 7 p.m.

If in doubt as to the exact location of the meeting a phone call to any of the above will solve the problem.

## GUEST SPEAKER

We will have as **GUEST SPEAKER** at the September meeting Mr. G. M. C. Dempsey, Deputy Director of Repatriation War Service Homes Division or one of his senior officers. Many of us have built or bought homes through War Service, and here's where we get the Gen, straight from the horse's mouth as it were. (I'll probably get fired for that!) Questions will be answered at the conclusion of his talk.

An invitation has been issued through Mr. Tony Parkinson to all personnel in the house that are interested to attend this talk, also to the Publicity Officers of ships in port at the time.

Don't forget Chaps, it's Friday, 4th September.

## BATTLE HONOURS

The Battle Honours sub-committee has been formed, done its job and dissolved. The Battle Honours as recommended by the Committee have been put to the meeting and accepted and these claims have been sent to the Hon. Colonel of the 4th Bn. (C.M.F.) Lt.-Col. C. G. W. Anderson, V.C., M.C., who will forward his recommendations to the Army.

## LAST POST

The Association regrets to announce the death of NX47584, Cpl. D. M. Reidy. The Association expresses its regrets to the relatives of this man.

Return thanks have been received from Peter Cade and family whose mother passed away recently.

## THE SECRETARY'S MAILBAG

Jim Sadler, ex A Coy., is now living at Auburn. What about showing up to the September meeting, James Alfred? You can pick up your tie then too.

We received an invitation from the Old Fourth for the President and a couple of the executive to attend their Annual General Meeting. This was duly done and a report appears elsewhere.

From Arthur Baker (South Kempsey) come best regards to all Don Coy. members. He sees Sammy Hughes around now and again and of course Jim Brown.

Fred Apthorp (Griffith) sends subs. from Gordon Murray, also cheque for tie and badge. Thanks boys.

Doug Groves does the same for Jack Lister, both of Kyogle. Doug also sends his own subs. and the news that Wally Henry is now living in the district and sends his sub. also. Hope you didn't have to pay for the lot, Doug.

## REMEMBRANCE MARCH

We have been notified by the Thirtyniners Association that they are organising a Remembrance March on Friday, 4th September.

The assembly point is on the corner of Martin Place and Macquarie Street at 7.30 p.m. The Manly-Warringah Pipe Band will lead the march off at 7.45 p.m. to lay a wreath on the Cenotaph. At the conclusion of the ceremony at the Cenotaph the march will continue along George Street to the Sydney Town Hall where a Remembrance Dinner will be held.

Further particulars may be had from the Thirtyniners' Hon. Sec., E. R. Myers, 10 Wilson Street, Beverly Hills. Phone LF 9900.

## TRAVELLERS TALES

From Johnny Morrison:

"Our captain was really most considerate. Some passengers who had travelled over the route a number of times remarked on the trouble he took to show us the volcano. We approached the island from the blind side of the volcano and he announced that we would go close in as the actual crater was on the opposite side. On arriving at the other side he cruised within four hundred yards of the island. An awe inspiring sight.

"Next stop, Marseilles. We arrived at dusk, went ashore and had a look around. Next morning, took a tour to a fishing village about thirty-five miles out: a refreshing change from Egypt, etc.

"On to England and even the Bay of Biscay was as calm as a mill pond. Arrived at Tilbury at 12.15 a.m. but could not disembark 'til 5 p.m. Drove by car to London and settled down in an hotel, the only time I have been settled since I got here. I had been told and now I know London is the great-



est place on earth (except Sydney of course). Some of the places I have seen so far are: Tower of London, Westminster Abbey, Westminster Cathedral, Parliament House, The Wallace Collection (just a few baubles and paintings—30 million quid's worth). A run by ferry down the Thames to Greenwich. Eighty-five miles by coach down the Thames Valley to Windsor Castle, British Museum, Tate Gallery, St. Paul's, Guildhall, Kensington Palace, and many other places of interest. Even the pubs are an institution; each one is as individual as the inhabitants. Our U.L.V.A. executives should have a look-see.

"Frank Mallett has taken me around to quite a few shops. Really some of them are not shops; they are mansions and the method of presentation is staggering.

"Have been to Dirty Dick's (no you're wrong, it's an ancient pub), also John Peel's, named after the bloke that introduced the first copper. Also the Cheshire Cheese, another historical pub where Dr. Johnstone used to sip."

And from Alf Carpenter:

30th Jan., '59.

"Fair skies with a land swell but most on board are seasoned sailors by this and all seem to be in light spirits for to-day we are to berth at Adelaide but only for a few hours. We passed Kangaroo Island about mid-day. An announcement over the loud speaker informed us that the ship would be sailing again at 7.45, giving us only three hours, which is not enough time to visit this beautiful city of churches and gardens.

"As we berthed, my brother, Vic, could clearly be seen through the binoculars, sauntering onto the wharf. After a wave he disappeared, to return soon with his wife and baby. The gangplank was soon lowered and we were on the wharf exchanging friendly greetings. Outer Harbour with its one Post Office and one store was hard pressed to cope with the great amount of business which had been thrust upon it so we drove to Port Adelaide and were in time to sample once again some of South Australia's best West End beer.

"Time passed very quickly and soon farewells were under weigh. As we pulled into the Gulf again the lights of Glenelg with their multi-colours cast a fairy-land effect along the coastline. Dinner over we assembled at the verandah bar to listen, in the cool evening breeze, to the piano accordeon and mouth organ playing familiar melodies, a cup of coffee and then ready to retire for the night.

31st Jan. Great Australian Bight.

"It looked as if the Bight had smiled on us, for these waters, famed for their roughness, were as smooth as a mill pond, clear sunshine and everyone in good spirits. Quite a big intake of passengers from Adelaide and new faces seen everywhere.

"During the afternoon a strong wind blew up,

making the sea rough and choppy, and also making the "Flaminia" list to starboard. Many faces again changed colour and extra meals were available for the extra good sailors. Mrs. Carpenter and I are seasoned enough but Russell still gets a little sick.

"Squally rain and heavy seas for the last couple of days have made the Bight live up to its reputation. The old ship stands on her nose and with half of her screw out of the water she bucks as if she were going to 'buck her brand off'.

"We are due to take on another 150 passengers at Fremantle where we are expected to arrive at 7 p.m. One of the unattached males aboard said, 'Yes! 100 females and 50 males.' Apparently single females are in short supply. I wouldn't know! Or shouldn't anyway.

(Both accounts to be continued)

## 4th BATTALION ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

The Meeting was held in the I.O.O.F. Rooms, Clarence Street, on Friday evening of the 14th August. Our Association was well represented by Cec. Crystal, Fred Staggs, Ron Barber, Fred Searle, Pat Lahey and "Cock Robin".

The surprise of the evening was the appearance of Jack Hamilton down from the country to attend the R.S.L. Congress. He heard the meeting was on so decided to come along and he was made very welcome by the 1914-18 boys.

The meeting was not as well attended as in previous years, which is appreciated by the passing years. The meeting, however, was away to a good start, and after following the usual routine, the annual report was presented and Bede Keary is to be congratulated for this very comprehensive report.

The Balance Sheet was read by Pat Galvin and he received a pat on the back from the Auditors for the good work over the past twelve months.

At the Election of Officers, Cec. Chrystal was elected Returning Officer and the following were elected to the key positions:—Gerry Gerrard (President), Bede Keary (Hon. Secretary) and Pat Galvin (Treasurer).

Barney Conarty as usual was in the forefront, acting as steward, and was seen using a garbage can lid for a drink tray, which he handled in a most professional manner.

When the meeting drew to a close the boys got together for a social gathering and a good yarn about the old days. In the Annual Report it was stressed that full use was not being made of "Nomine Quartus" at Brooklyn, and an appeal was made to their own members and the 2/4 to avail themselves of the use of the cottage.

I have been told that 9 2/4th Battalion men attended the R.S.L. Congress, representing various Sub-branches.