



White and Green

MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE 2/4 INFANTRY BATTALION ASSOCIATION

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THE PRESIDENT'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

"Here we are at the end of our seventeenth year as an Association and of our twenty-first as a Battalion.

"May I, therefore, on my own behalf as well as on that of the Executive, the Committee and the Editors, wish you all and your loved ones every Blessing and Joy for Christmas. Then for the New Year and all through 1962 everything that is happy and bright."

—John Copland.

ALSO FROM THE PRESIDENT

One of our two Editors, Peter Cade, has expressed a desire to have a spell for a while, even if only for one year. He has been on the job for seven years now and his request certainly has justice behind it.

Peter has done a wonderful job under very trying conditions because his own job is most exacting and he has to work all sorts of odd hours.

Is there anyone who would volunteer to help in this direction?

It is essential that WOG be kept going with as high a standard as possible. It is the main artery of news and activities of members, scattered as we are throughout the Commonwealth and we are justified in saying the world also.

In the coming year the Association has much to do and much to publicise. The war history will be published, Anzac Day and other functions in the city, the Country Reunion and the functions of country branches. We need a new hand to help us do the job.

HOW ABOUT IT!

MEETINGS

THERE WILL NOT BE A MONTHLY MEETING IN JANUARY,

BUT

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY, 2nd FEBRUARY, AT 8.15 P.M., AT ROYAL NAVAL HOUSE, GROSVENOR STREET, CITY.

AND WE WANT A BIG ROLL UP!

The next Committee Meeting will be held on 19th January at Royal Naval House. The time gentlemen is 7.30 p.m.

FROM THE GRIFFITH BRANCH

"NOW IT CAN BE TOLD" (a borrowed phrase)

Dagwood Jackson's story about Roy Moores shooting through with Dagwood's wife on the way home from Kempsey and being urged to go faster reminds me of the Cootamundra Reunion in 1959.

Whilst returning from same the writer, on approaching Junee, failed to notice that right-hand turn. Result: ran up a blind alley and had to back-pedal for two hundred yards. Funniest part, however, was another motorist following behind, followed the leader and as you've probably guessed, another W.O.G. on his way home. A case of the blind leading the blind. Were their faces red?

Also I must apologise to Reg Cole (Wagga Reunion). On taking Sid Thompson into Reg's room for a talk I inadvertently closed the door on leaving. Half an hour later I heard a couple of chaps banging on the door and cursing poor Reg for locking them out. Forgot he had room mates; I felt sorry for him as after all it was my fault.

Could any member kindly identify this unit. A button from a tunic or a greatcoat. A cross which contains five stars (five pointed). The cross is surmounted by a crown and the inscription is "AUT PACE AUT DELLO" (or BELLO). The name of a London firm, H. W. Martin, is stamped on the back. The button was not acquired in the Middle East but picked up at Hillston, N.S.W.

Fred Aphorp,
Griffith Sub Branch.

THE FAR NORTH BRANCH

The Inaugural Meeting of the above Branch was held on August 30th with a roll-up of eleven. Allan Kirk is President, Doug Stebbing is the Treasurer and Fred Varley the Secretary.

Tom Provians was one of those who showed up. He was down that way from Brisbane and joined

the Kyogle contingent, consisting of Jack Chaseling, Bob Gardiner, Doug Grove, Hugh Whittleton and Jack Lister, and charged over to Lismore with them, picking up Ian Wallwork on the way.

It's not too early to start advertising this: A SMOKO will be held by the Far North Branch on THE LAST SATURDAY IN FEBRUARY, presumably in Lismore. Mark it off on your new calendar you Northcoasters. We'll give you more details in the January issue of WOG.

FROM ROY MOORES

"When we were at Herakleon, I made myself known to some of the Royal Marines and had four of their names and addresses in my diary. When I was looking through the diary for items of interest for the Battalion War History, I came across the four names and promptly wrote to them, hoping to find out how many were still alive and how they were doing. The result was a nice letter from a man named Vic Lock, of Southampton, England, one returned with address unknown, and two failures. The following is an excerpt from Vic Lock's letter: 'To put you in the picture on the evacuation we went to the harbour and boarded the destroyer Hereward. After some delay we eventually got cracking but apparently too late as the old Stukas caught up with us and sank us about twenty miles out. After a lot of floundering around and a bit of forced paddling we were eventually picked up by an Italian M.T.B. Unfortunately a lot of us were separated and it was some days later that I found out that Doug Cutler' (one of those to whom Roy had written) 'had been drowned. As regards Phil' (another in Roy's diary) 'I never saw him again and feel pretty certain that he was drawned also'." There is further interesting information but space is limited. Roy says: "In closing, my thanks to all you Committee members, Editors, and what have you for your splendid work for our good old unit".

THE NEXT COUNTRY REUNION

CHAPS! (AND HEY YOUSE!). It looks as if the next COUNTRY REUNION will not be in Tamworth, well not in 1962 anyway.

WELL!!!

ANY SUGGESTIONS ???????!

ANNUAL LADIES' NIGHT

This function was held in lieu of our Monthly Meeting at the Royal Naval House with 48 people managing to come along.

People present were our Patron, Gen. Dougherty, and wife, with the following members with wives or lady friend as the case may be: "Sailor" Harvey, Jordon, Copland, Searle, Gorman, Bagshaw, Toohey, Mooney, Chrystal, Staggs, Waterworth, Bowman, Forbes, Young, Stewart, Everson, Jackson, Gaffney, Leach, Pearce. The following made up the Stag line: J. Robin, J. Morrison, C. Campbell, J. Ringrose.

It was very pleasing to see Mrs. McNab and Mrs. "Scotty" Irvine along again this year. Both ladies, I may add, looked the picture of health and beauty.

I think everyone enjoyed themselves although we are all getting a bit long in the tooth for dancing, but there always seemed to be a few game ones each time the music started.

During the evening a small raffle was held to help defray cost. First prize, a bottle of Scotch, was won by "Blue" Mooney. You can be sure of a drink at "Blue's" place over Xmas as he doesn't drink. The second prize was won by Bill Stewart.

The lucky door tickets were held by Mrs. Leach and Harry Pearce. Harry and his very charming wife travelled all the way from Newcastle to attend the night. Do hope it was worth while Harry.

Jim Robin brought along the photo collection and all during the evening the women took a great interest in the collection as there was always a crowd around the table—possibly finding out how handsome their respective husbands were twenty years ago.

Our thanks for this very successful function go to Dick Pinson and his Band who voluntarily provided the excellent dance music; also to the Management of the Royal Naval House who supplied the refreshments and eats. There was more than enough of the latter as quite a lot was left over although we only catered for 50. Last but not least, our thanks to the Organising Committee.

STOP PRESS.—Ken Moses, from Melbourne, arrived late and his name was not on the door list, which is the reason it did not appear earlier. Ken came up to see how the history was coming along and to assist "Dagwood" if possible.

COCK'S COLUMN

Met Bruce Stewart, over for a visit from Wagga; looking as well as ever; wishes to be remembered; gave me his raffle tickets and cash, also £1 for sub. I passed it on to Fred. Bruce, you are financial for '61. Fred also filled in your name on the tickets, but as you see by the results, no luck.

At last meeting "Jock" Anlezark kept his promise and came along with Cliff "Squizzy" Taylor and "Dasher" Deakin (who brought whom?), also five excellent War History photos; they will be detailed later. Many thanks Jock.

Now what happened to you, George Whitby? Next one, eh?

From Johnny Ringrose, of Beacon Hill, one photo, snapshot size, of Dick Addison, of Melbourne, taken at Darwin, March, '43; killed in action with A Coy. in Torricelle Ranges, 20th June, '45; among the last to be killed. Dick went to St. Brigid's School in North Fitzroy with Johnny Ringrose; both joined up together in January, '42. Dick was a mate of Snowy Longstaff, also of Melbourne, who died of wounds, 19th December, '44.

Many thanks Johnny.

Bill Stewart, "D" Coy., has promised photos; sends regards to Bill Dunshea; wants Bill to write to him: 78 Harslett Crescent, Kogarah Bay.

Cliff "Squizzy" Taylor, Matraville, also promised photos; sends regards to Sid Buckley and Slim Venn; also wishes to be remembered to Noel

Howell. Noel is in the police force, stationed at Bodalla (never heard of it).

Dick Pinson, after playing for a wedding at Punchbowl, backed out his car and "brushed" a utility. The driver was Jim Thompson, of H.Q. Coy., who wishes to be remembered to all.

A Cooee to Sid Buckley from Rex Everson (the goat herder). Sid, you are wanted at 7 Windsor Road, Merrylands. Ray Cullen would like to see you.

Letter from Max Nerney, of Urbenville. Thinking Bob might have left here, Max wrote to me in response to the query about 2/3 M.G.V., 2/4 R.L. match on the Tablelands. Re the match played in 1943, Max writes: "I played in that match along with Jim Crowe, Tich Fordham, Col O'Brien and Scotty McCartney; others I think were Jack and Lou Dubber; it was a knockout round and the gunners had just arrived from Dubbo, I think with a reputation a mile high. You would remember them, all brand new gear, looked like world beaters. Our gear, anything that could be scrounged. Not sure of the score, but I think 9-6 our way; can remember being even at half-time; just about had it but Jim Crowe said: 'Come on you b—s, show them you're not done yet, let's run off', which we did somehow". That is an extract from Max's letter. It has been passed on to Bob, who will check further with Ted. Thanks Max, also for the photos you are sending.

—Cock Robin.

LADIES' NIGHT

A SIDELIGHT: Dick Adams, our good friend and steward at Royal Naval House, called John Copland aside when the night was almost over and said: "John, I think you boys are a great mob and your ladies are wonderful". Such a spontaneous and sincere tribute is really heartwarming. Thanks Dick.

It might be said here that we have always had most wonderful care and attention from Tony Parkinson and all the staff and picquet at R.N. House. We are truly grateful.

We have sent them Christmas and New Year greetings through the mail and look forward to many years of happy co-operation.

THE SECRETARY'S MAILBAG

(That's a corny heading; must nut out a beter one sometime)

However, Miss Susan Holley, winner of the sheets and pillow slips in the guessing competition, got them O.K. and thanks us for same.

Cheque from M. P. Boyd to cover subs. and ticket butts for himself, and subs., ticket butts and badge for Stan Mack (Deniliquin). Thank you sir.

Alan Nelson-Slee, ticket butts and a pointer on Australian geography for Cock. (Made the same mistake, Cock, but saw it in time.)

Ted Hall (Narrandera) sends subs. and postal notes for tickets.

Bob Wardrop, subs. and cheque for the tickets, also apologies for non attendance at the combined smoko.

Roy Moores wishes to express his thanks through WOG to the Kempsey boys for the success they

made of the Country Reunion there. At Jim Brown's invitation, Roy attended a Question Time session in the Legislative Assembly and was most impressed. Roy has something further of interest, published elsewhere in this issue.

We had a letter from Pat Lahey. Seems to be standing up to married life O.K. The writing is a bit shaky but he seems in the best of spirits. Sends regards to the boys.

Bundy, of Narrandera, sent up a gas mask for Kim Lindsay's souvenir collection. Forwarded on to the proper quarter, Donald. Merry Christmas to you, too.

At the unveiling of the memorial at Willawarrin recently, Esca Riordan reports four Secondfourthers present: Jim Brown, Tom Clough, Harry Dowling and Esca. He also recalls an incident at the Kempsey "Do". "You may remember the band-leader on that afternoon, an ex Sgt-Major from the Irish Guards. Well, he came into the club later in the evening and I introduced him to Bill Sumpter. Bill, by this hour, was well and truly primed—he looked up at the big Irishman and remarked, 'It must be wonderful to be Irish, flatfooted and half full!'"

Tom Provians has been asked by the Brisbane and Bonalbo contingents to add their congratulations to the organisers of the Kempsey "do".

Clem Killeen and Topsy Crispin send subs. — Topsy, two years' worth. We copped it Topsy.

George Sugden sent us a quid donation. Thanks George.

GUESSING COMPETITION SUPPORTERS

G. Ackerman, L. T. Adams, D. Anderson, K. Andrews, W. E. Andrews, J. Anlezark, J. Anthony, F. Apthorp, A. Baker, W. Barrett, D. Barry, H. Batchelor, M. S. Beasley, K. Beatty, A. C. Bedford, G. W. Behn, W. J. Bennett, P. C. Betts, W. Bickley, G. Bindley, S. Blacksley, G. Bohle, H. J. Bowman, W. B. Boyd, W. A. Brennan, E. V. Brooks, R. Brough, T. Brownlee, D. Bundy, A. F. Burgess, F. J. Bourke, J. D. Burns, C. J. Burrows, R. L. Burton, W. Bush, L. Butler, S. R. Bonham, R. Barber, D. B. Cade, J. P. Calder, C. M. Cameron, W. Capper, K. Carrington, K. G. Carson, L. Carter, F. Catley, W. G. Catt, C. Chrystal, T. Cloke, T. Clough, G. Cole, R. A. Cole, W. Colley, A. Collins, R. Connor, G. W. Conway, T. Clarke, P. Cook, H. Coomer, J. Copland, A. H. Coughlon, R. Coult, Brig. Cox, V. H. Crowhurst, F. F. Crutchelt, J. C. Clarke, S. Doggett, G. Dale, P. Dalla, Mrs. J. Davies, K. Deacon, S. Dean, W. Dease, J. Desmond, F. Dibden, L. Dooley, Maj.-Gen. Dougherty, H. Dowling, T. J. L. Dowling, L. W. Dubber, H. Dugan, H. Dunlop, R. Ellerman, J. C. Ellis, D. Endean, W. Eslick, R. Everson, N. W. P. Farrell, W. L. C. Fogden, V. Forbes, R. Ford, E. H. Fox, K. V. Franklin, G. Friend, F. Frizelle, W. J. Frost, J. Gaffney, P. Galbin, E. J. Gamble, W. A. Gerard, Mrs. D. Golder, R. Gilliland, Snow Gordon, T. Gorman, E. L. Graham, H. Reedy, R. C. Griffiths, W. Griffiths, D. Grove, A. A. Gorman, K. Hale, G. Hall, H. A. Hall, W. Hamilton, Mrs. A. Hardie, Miss M. E. Hardie, E. Harris, S. V. Harris, A. Harridine,

A. C. K. Harvey, G. Hazel, B. S. Heagney, W. N. Henry, E. Hester, G. Hewitt, W. Hodge, J. Holland, H. H. Hollow, T. Topper, F. Hoyle, J. Humphries, K. W. Hunter, S. Innes, Mrs. S. Irvine, W. Irvine, E. W. Jackson, P. R. Jackson, L. James, J. Jocelyn, N. M. Johnston, J. Jordon, R. J. Jupp, D. Karangos, B. Keary, C. R. Kenningdale, P. J. Kerr, K. Kestervan, W. Keys, G. Kirkby, E. Knox, C. H. Kong, C. Killeen, P. Lahey, W. Lambourne, J. S. Lane, L. Leech, R. Lever, J. Lowe, W. Loy, L. T. Lynch, J. Maloney, A. Maxwell, D. Meacham, A. Miller, R. Miller, F. Miller, H. E. Mitchell, G. Moore, A. C. Moores, A. R. Moores, G. Moray, J. Morgan, Snow Morgan, R. Morris, J. Morrison, T. Mort, R. Moss, B. Mulquinney, R. Munro, A. D. Murphy, M. Naismith, J. Naseby, N. F. L. Nell, A. Nelson-Slee, C. Newell, H. Nicholls, J. C. Noakes, K. Northrop, T. McNamara, L. F. McNamara, D. McGillivray, S. McCreedy, R. McAdam, J. C. McBrown, K. McCafferey, E. N. McGregor, C. McKenna, N. McIntyre, H. L. McLaughlin, R. McWilliams, P. O'Keefe, J. Ormiston, L. Ormiston, A. D. Owers, Mrs. Parkinson, W. Parry, W. Parsons, H. C. Pearce, J. Pearce, C. Pedler, F. Pegg, R. A. Preeam, E. Pickford, R. Pinson, G. Polhman, I. A. Pollock, A. A. Powell, C. F. Powers, Mrs. Price, B. Privett, A. Quinell, W. Reaney, Padre Reid, J. Reynolds, E. Richards, Wick Richards, T. Richardson, J. Ringrose, E. J. Riordan, J. Robertson, C. Roddy, J. Robin, N. Rogers, J. Robnini, J. Rowbottom, W. Ryan, F. Sadler, L. Saxby, D. Schlank, F. Searle, Sec. P.O.W. Assn. N. Smith, W. Smith, G. Stack, F. Staggs, D. Stebbing, M. Steele, B. Stewart, W. J. Stewart, W. L. Stromach, O. C. Sleeman, W. Sumpster, D. R. Taylor, B. F. Turley, W. Taylor, F. Varley, K. Venn, G. S. Vidler, J. W. Walker, W. Wall, I. G. Wallwork, R. Wardrop, C. Warren, Mrs. K. Watts, A. W. Wells, A. M. White, W. H. White, H. Whitman, Mrs. Widgery, S. Wilkinson, H. C. Williams, E. D. Wilson, E. F. Wilson, M. J. Wilson, R. Winning, F. Wright, H. Wright, S. R. Young, D. Bundy, L. Evans.

We thank the above mentioned for their support and apologise to those whose letters and cheques were not mentioned in WOG after they had been received by us, particularly George Bindley and Tom and Mrs. Brownlee.

LAST POST

Fourth Bn., 1914-1918:

6706 Pte. J. E. Buckingham, 6142 Pte. G. W. Jackson, 2401 Cpl. W. R. Lindsay, 4564 Pte. W. Mackie, 6680 Pte. W. T. Perkins, 6315 Pte. E. A. Pickard, 6545 Pte. D. M. Robinson, 4287 L/Sgt. F. York.

Second Fourth Bn.:

Jack Dowber (funeral attended by Pat Conway; no further details).

The Fourth and Second Fourth Battalions Associations express their sincere sympathy to the relatives of these men.

NOTICE

For those of you who haven't taken advantage of the offer of Esca Riordan to send down photos of the Kempsey Wreath Laying Ceremony, may we suggest that you do so? They are both good photos and are 6/6 each. Details in October WOG. We are not sure but an extra sixpence or a bob on the cheque should cover the postage and exchange.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO WHITE OVER GREEN

Thanks to the interest members have been taking in W.O.G. over the year we are faced with an accumulation of material with which so far we have been unable to cope. This in spite of already having had several six page issues, and we cannot, unfortunately, have too many of these because the extra cost is beyond our means.

Consider that the cost of a six page issue every month would be over £200 per year even under the favourable rates we enjoy now. And then consider the number of financial members at £1 per head and you will see that WOG could take up nearly all our revenue. Most of the material in hand is verse and most of it well worth while.

However, we have made some cuts in other directions as you will see in the layout of this issue and we hope to catch up on our back lag commencing with the next issue.

The accumulation of material also accounts for the fact that we did not publish the full list of those who sent in money for books in the Guessing Competition. In response to several requests, we do so in this issue. The number of books sold is not given.

SICK PARADE

A brief report: Gus Ferguson (Fergy) has been discharged. Wally Brooks has also been discharged as has been G. C. Davis.

Still in at the time of going to print is Fred Hubbard in Ward 520 and our old Hon. Sec. Rex Gilliland. Hope you boys will soon be back with us. Come out of there and be in the rat race. It's fun!! (Yeah?)

Late News: Bill Colley is back in Concord. Not sure which ward but they'll tell you at the gate.

AUTHORITY FOR PERIODICAL PAYMENTS

The Manager,

Dear Sir,

Commencing on 1st January, 1962, please debit my account on the first day of each January in each succeeding year, until further notice, with the sum of One Pound (£1/-/-) plus current bank charges for this service, in force from time to time, and place the amount less such charges to the credit of 2/4th Aust. Inf. Bn. Association with the Commonwealth Bank of Aust., West Ryde.

Yours faithfully,