

# Whiteadder Green

MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE 2/4 INFANTRY BATTALION ASSOCIATION

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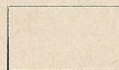
APRIL, 1965

PRESIDENT: Cec. Chrystal, 288 Sailor's Bay Road, Northbridge. 95-5121  
TREASURER: Fred Searle, 31 Griffith Avenue, West Ryde 80-4905  
SECRETARY: George Stack, 40 O'Keefe Crescent, Eastwood 85-5312  
EDITOR: Dick Morris, 49 Frederick Street, Ashfield 20-922, Ext. 296

**Next Meeting: Friday, 7th May, at Royal Naval House, Grosvenor Street, Sydney.**

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

IF A CROSS APPEARS IN  
THIS SQUARE YOU ARE  
UNFINANCIAL



£1 TO FRED SEARLE WILL SQUARE YOU  
ANZAC DAY IS THE DEADLINE

## ANZAC DAY

Arrangements for the big day of the Association's year will follow the same pattern as last year. The programme:

**Fall In, 0800 Hours:** Corner of Erskine and York Streets (outside the Ex Oriental Hotel).

**Move off:** March to Martin Place for Wreath Laying Ceremony. As in past years we will be joined by the 4th Bn. and as it is their 50th year we feel a bumper turn up is very desirable.

**March on** to the Main Assembly Area. This varies from year to year, but the R.S.L. has an information centre at the corner of Martin Place and Macquarie Streets.

**After the March, 1130 Hours:** Buses will be waiting outside the Conservatorium, just off Macquarie Street.

**Lunch, 1230 hours:** At Manresa Hall, Carlow Street (just off Miller Street, opposite St. Leonards Park, North Sydney).

**Speeches:** If the president has his way they will be brief.

**Conclusion:** Whenever you have to go home.

**Cost:** £1/5/0. The treasurer must have BOOKINGS NOW. This being an unusual year, the March being on a Sunday, your early co-operation would be appreciated. Please forward to Fred Searle.

**Band:** As usual we will have the Parramatta Pipe Band to lead us and also at the dinner.

"Old" Fourth have been invited to attend, both officially and unofficially, and are always welcome.

**WAR HISTORY: WILL BE ON SALE £2/0/0.**

## ANZAC DAY

I feel certain that all thinking men will agree with the Committee that the Wreathlaying is **our** main gesture to Fallen Comrades on Anzac Day. For this reason all are earnestly requested to be "On Parade" at the corner of York and Erskine Streets, at 0800 hours.

The President.

East-West Airlines and Airlines of N.S.W. have generously offered free travel to Sydney for any original Anzac wishing to attend the 50th Anzac Day March.

Many thanks to "Rusty" McWilliam for the following appropriate poem.

## THE LONELY WATCH

(By a Soldier in Flanders)

In lonely watch night by night,  
Great visions burst upon my sight,  
For down the stretches of the sky,  
The hosts of dead go marching by.

Strange ghostly banners o'er them float,  
Strange bugles sound an awful note,  
And all their faces and their eyes,  
Are lit with starlight from the skies.

The anguish and the pain have passed  
And peace hath come to them at last;  
But in the stern looks linger still  
The Iron purpose and the will.

THERE'S STILL TIME TO BOOK!

## ANZAC DAY LUNCHEON

Bookings are still required.

If you have been lax in this matter send off £1/5/-  
to Fred Searle NOW!



### SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions from W. English, S. R. Smith, Clg. Barwick, G. Vance, G. Cole, A. Manning, R. Hodgkinson, K. Beattie, A. H. Coughlin, W. E. Andrews, A. Miller, E. McCaffery, G. Ormiston, B. Machen, G. S. Bohle, R. J. Murphy, J. Eastham.

### SUBS AND ANZAC DAY LUNCHEON

B. F. Turley, E. L. Graham, H. W. Taylor, L. Jones, R. M. Robberds, A. D. Owers, E. N. McGregor, W. G. Kirkby, J. Maloney, S. Blacksley, P. C. Betts, T. Clarke.

### LUNCHEON TICKETS ONLY

I. N. Dougherty, A. Heath, J. Jordan, A. Kleem, G. L. Robins, Ack. Harvey, W. Colley (2), F. Frizell, J. Morrison, E. J. Riordan, J. Bradford, D. Grove, H. McLaughlin, E. Schofield, J. Humphries, R. Morris, C. Chrystal, C. Grove, M. J. Wilson.

### IN R.G.H., CONCORD

Mrs. Nell McNab, Ward 410.

Rex and Norma Everson, Johnnie Morrison, Fred and Dorothy Searle visited Nell McNab in R.G.H., Concord.

### HOME FROM R.G.H.

W. Ashcroft, R. McCarty, W. Humphries, F. Mooney, C. Scully.

### IN LADY DAVIDSON

J. Jocelyn.

### LAST POST

NX5936 T. G. (Tom) Riboldi, C Coy. Address: 26 Thomas Street, Warilla.  
NX9835 E. A. (Ernie) Evans.

### MAIL BAG

The following letters were received last week: One from Bill Black, which reads: I see by the "White Over Green" which I received today that I am unfinancial, so I am forwarding my subscription immediately as it's too good a journal to miss.

We had the pleasure of having Sam McCready and family staying with us for a few days earlier in the year. The years do not seem to age Sam and he is as keen as ever on Soccer—had to buy a pair of football boots a couple of years ago to show the youngsters how.

Harry Whitman and family also called in for a few minutes one day and I was very pleased to see Harry once again.

I sincerely hope that I will be able to get over to some of your dinners and Anzac Day shows when the son and heir to the Black's bad debts can take over the farm. He is at present in 2nd year.

Please remember me to any of the old gang. Have a couple of beers with Rex Gilliland for me.

— From Port MacDonnell, S.A.

Other letter from Alex Miller, Gloucester, which reads: Enclosed sub for '65. Don't look like getting down for Anzac Day, have a couple of wood chops coming off, one at the local show, and one at Stroud on the 24th; also have a shoot coming off in between; went and joined the rifle club a little over twelve

months ago and had more wins with old Betsy than I've had with the Kelly, won off the rifle at our last League Sports Day, our team brought home the cup from Wauchope.

### FREE TICKETS ON ANZAC DAY FOR VETERANS

Country ex-Servicemen wanting to attend this year's Anzac Day ceremonies in Sydney will get free rail travel.

The Premier, Mr. Renshaw, yesterday said this was decided because the celebrations commemorated the 50th anniversary of the Anzac landing at Gallipoli.

Free tickets would be available to all N.S.W. ex-Servicemen and women living outside the metropolitan area.

Application forms will be sent out soon to all country R.S.L. sub-branches.

These should be presented at railway stations before April 10 to be exchanged for free return tickets to Sydney.

Journeys to Sydney may be made from April 20 and return trips up to two months after that.

Second class rail travel is free, but any warrant holder may, by paying the difference, travel first class.

### SOLDERING ON

Yesterday we reported East-West's free flights to the Anzac ceremonies for original Anzacs living in country towns on its network.

Now Mr. L. R. Newman, of R.S.L. headquarters, announces that they have talked Airlines of N.S.W. into matching their rival's offer. Dubbo will be included in the "free flights" plan, as will 40 or so other country towns.

### BIRDWATCHERS' CORNER

Nature lovers everywhere will welcome this treatise by Professor Airbrayne on the "Venue-Vacillating" variant of our picturesque winged friend, the "White Throated Verdi Birdie" (mentioned in March W.O.G.).

By Professor Airbrayne, D.A., K.B.4X  
GENUS: "AUSTRALUS SIXDIVIUS"; SPECIES: "PORBLUDII FOOTSLOGUS"

The origins and distribution of the main species are well known to naturalists, but the everyday birdlover will doubtlessly find interesting a list of some of the more common names by which this bird was known in various locales.

First known flocks were variously referred to as "Menzie's Dollar Birds", "Giggle Suit Ganders" and "Ingleburn Terns".

Disappearing from these shores it was, for a period, known as the "Strathnaver Shrike" or, more commonly, "Menzie's Touring Tit".

Having migrated to the Middle East, local names were numerous as the flocks spread through the area.

Some of the picturesque names noted were:—"Kilo Curlew", "Julis Jackass", Tobruk Sand Rook", "Benghazi Budgerigar", "Florina Fantail Flyer", "Aliakmon Water-Wader", "Heraklion Heron", (or "Paratrooper Parakeet") and "Syrian Snow Goose".

With the full migratory cycle completed we find common Australian names of the period were: "Loftus



Lorrikeets", "Billeting Bullfinches", "Adelaide River Jail Birds", and "Mitchell Grass Marauders" (one unique fact recorded in the N.T. was the refusal of one flock to eat "Birdseed"!!!).

Common names also abounded in New Guinea, particularly "Aitape Ibis", "Danmap Diver", "Minga Creek Night Lark", "Wewak Warbler", "Wirui Magpie" and "Tazaki Ridge-Runner".

Sub. Species: "White Throated Verdi Birdie". Flocks under the eaves of Royal Naval House each full moon. Colour: White and green.

Variant: "White Throated Venue Vacillating Verdi Birdie."

Patient scientific study of the sub-species has led to the exciting discovery of the gloriously plumed variant with its incredible migratory habits. During the past decade flocks have been noted to migrate each October, BUT, to a different area of N.S.W. each year. This changing of locale naturally led to the recognition of the "Venue-Vacillating" variant.

Areas to which the flock has migrated include (with local names in brackets), Wagga ("Wobbling Wagtails"), Cootamundra ("Kookaburra"), Kempsey ("Brown Kestrel"), Griffith ("Gyrating Galah") and Lismore ("Lyre Bird").

It was during the migration to Lismore last Spring that the discovery was made that these birds not only congregate from numerous areas, but cover vast distances. Professor Clipwing of Brisbane, has been awarded the Featherbrane Medal for recording the fact that at least two of the species live on the remote Atherton Tablelands, North Queensland. Noting this southward and subsequent northern flight (from Lismore), he diligently followed and proved beyond doubt that they "homed" to the Tablelands.

Here he heard the legend (similar to the old snake myth) alleging that they milk cows' teats. This remains unproven although similar rumours regarding the species have persisted for years on the North Coast (possibly another Variant?).

All of this led thinking naturalists to a closer study of this bird in an attempt to discover the means by which the intelligence as to the destination of each migration is passed on.

Naturally enough their attentions turned to the monthly flocking together under the eaves of Royal Naval House.

Here a possible clue was discovered!

It would seem that like the bees, intelligence can be passed on in some mysterious way by gathering

around certain birds who have apparent pre-knowledge of the required information.

The reader is reminded that a bee which has discovered a source of nectar, returns to the hive and starts a weird dance. Others gather about him and follow his movements exactly and from this gain directions and make straight for the correct area.

Similarly, the "White Throated Venue-Vacillating Verdi Birdies" gather together at the full of the moon for a strange ritual of elbow-bending antics of sipping the nectar of that well-known native bloom, the Bottomsupp Ambercup.

Doubtlessly the migrating details are passed on in this way.

So science again triumphs and another of Nature's mysteries is solved!

We trust that the above whets the interest of bird-lovers sufficiently to encourage them to witness this year's migration to COWRA.

Cowra's Gun and Birdwatchers' Club is handling all nesting arrangements.

Forward £1 per person, together with accommodation requirements to:

TED HARRIS, c/o Servicemen's Club, COWRA.

### COCK'S COLUMN

"Cock" at present is not a well lad and has had to attend several "sick parades".

As big-hearted as ever, he has however managed to again prove himself the best b—— runner in the battalion by getting through this vital and interesting info.

All who enjoy his ever-newsy column will, I know, wish him a speedy recovery. Notes from well-wishers would buck "Cock" up no end—particularly if any news was included (20 Addistone Avenue, North Sydney). Ed.

At the March Meeting: It was good to see Jack "Brick" Bradford come along. Jack's daughter is starting at Concord, nursing—congratulations Janice, we wish you the best.

Swimming news: Jack's son, Peter, broke the 12 years age record in butterfly, won the breaststroke and team won the Relay—congrats Peter. Not bad for a country boy. "Brick" also said, that one Sunday afternoon his nephew from Hawkesbury College arrived down with two mates and introduced them, one was Peter ———, the other Bob Conkey. Jack asked him,

Accommodation required for ..... (number of nights)

Hotel, Motel or Caravan Park .....

Single or Double .....

Name: Self ..... Wife .....

Address .....

Please find attached deposit of £1 per person.

Post to Ted Harris, c/- Ex-Services Club, Cowra.



any relation to Harold, yes, that was his father. Jack told Bob that he was also in the 2/4th Bn. Bob replied that he knew Mr. Robin (that's me). Pleased to hear of you again Bob, wish you all the best mate.

Michele Jordan, charming daughter of Johnnie and Doris has done it again, another trip to hospital, this time to have all her teeth out, very sorry to hear you're in hospital again pal. We wish you all the best and a speedy recovery. Wouldn't you know, still patriotic to Association "White Over Green" bed-spread, "White Over Green" water jug.

Was pleased to see Jim "Happy" Davis there, but was sorry to see he was on a stick. Jim has been in three hospitals lately, a bad knee, an accident at work. We wish you a speedy recovery too, Jim—all the best.

Sailor Harvey reports: He met Norm Auberson (D Coy.) at Wentworth R.S.L. How about dropping a line Norm.

On parade at March Meeting: George Stack, Harry Wright, John Jordan, Rex Everson, Ivan Pollick, Stan Bowen, John Meehan, Rus McWilliam, Athol Heath, Jim Davis, Dick Morris, Jim Robin, Harry Gjedsted, John Copland, Jack Bradford, Cec Chrystal, Jack Heaney, John Morrison and Fred Searle.

Letter and two photos from Reg Angel, per Johnnie Morrison. Reg was sorry he could not make the trip to Lismore for the reunion, he had developed an ulcer, and had to obey doctor's orders, and refrain from social activities. Reg sends regards to all, also two group photos, post-card size with info on back: 1. Taken in Jerusalem on leave, 1940: Jack Dixon, Joe Dixon, Jack Delph, Les Stout and Reg Angel. 2. One Lieut. and five Sgts: Dick Latimer, Bob Cook, Lieut. Bill Harvey, Dick Morris, Teddy Gamble and Reg Angel ("Wings"). All in S.D., tents in background, many thanks Reg.

Tom Provians, Brisbane, met Chris White (B Coy.). Gordon Vale District, Chris is a cane-farmer, wished to be remembered to all.

Dick Morris attending a Youths' Club committee meeting at Ashfield R.S.L., spotted Keith "Sunshine" Beattie valiantly battling with the "Bandits". Despite a rum issue and moral support "Sunshine" had to give the enemy best, but has threatened to join the club regardless, particularly on hearing a number of "White over Greeners" are members.

North British news: Johnnie received a note from Fred Catley, Brisbane, Fred down for the day, called in, but none of the boys were present. Gee, we are sorry we missed you Fred, all that way too. If possible let us know next time you're coming. Bent the elbow with Jack "Dusty" Gaffney. He looks well and would like to hear from the two "Saints", the Templars. Gordon "The Wog" Murray, paid us a visit, he looks well. Gordon recently met "Bluey" Moss, at head office, Elizabeth Street, also met Jack Maloney and Siddie Zartman, Jack and Slim McNeil will be at the Reunion on Anzac Day, Gordon also ran into Vic Forbes.

Bookie Rae, on a fast trip from Newcastle, again called in, he had a nice session with "Jerry" Coughlan and Porky Williams. I heard that Ted Harris, Cowra, on holidays, had called in also. Gee, I am sorry I missed you Ted.

Another recent lunch-hour (plus) gathering included

"Fangs" Coughlan, "Cheeky" Charlie, "Porky" Williams and Dick Morris, plus the regulars and with the city in support—Bill Sundstrum.

On Parade on Friday night, 2nd April, a list of names comprises one of the best roll-ups for some time, and as our president said augurs well for our Big Day this year, combining both the 50th and 25th years of the 1st and 2nd A.I.F. Present were as taken from the signed roll:—

J. Jordan, H. Gjedsted, J. Morrison, F. W. Staggs, Stan Bowen, W. Luck, A. Heath, J. Meehan, R. McWilliam, R. J. Pinson, R. Everson, F. Frizell, L. Killen, C. C. Campbell, K. Harvey, Porky Williams, Ken Webb, John Copland, Slim Venn, T. C. Saunders, I. A. Pollock, Jim Robin, F. Searle, Dick Morris, Vic Francis, "Socker" Coomber, W. Stewart, G. Stack, H. Wright, C. Chrystal. 30 members in all.

Our main visitor from Melbourne, Vic Francis, received a very warm welcome from all present—only up for a few days, Vic returns south on Tuesday. He spoke at length at the end of the meeting and gave a good idea to all of how the Melbourne "Boys" are making out, and they are becoming a steadily growing force—from a very small beginning—they muster 21 or more for Anzac Day and march under their own banner in front of the 2/8th Bn. who outnumber them considerably—this is only their well won right as after all 2/4 is the senior unit of 19th Bde.

Vic is returning home full of hope and ideas for the old home town, and will assure Melbourne that they are not the forgotten boys of the Unit.

Wishing them all success and health in all their ways, a good day on the 25th, and hoping to see more of them in the future.

Discussing the coming Country Reunion, "Porky" mentioned that he carried his swag through Cowra in 1931!

One of the boys walking along Pitt Street, sighted one, Peter Cohen, was not able to speak to him, but we hope to see you at a meeting Peter.

Dick Morris had a note from Fred Varley who is trying to get some idea of the number from Lismore area, who intend tripping to Sydney for Anzac Day.

He mentioned that Ron Stennett (A Coy.) had called into the R.S.L. and that they had "kicked on until kicked out".

Fred also mentioned that the State Elections may upset his Anzac plans.

Dick also spotted Jack Dubba at a recent Canterbury-Hurlstone Park Swim Carnival for Western Suburbs Youth Clubs.

Jerry Coughlan wants to have a beer with you "Sunshine" Beattie, so how about a visit to a meeting and/or the N.B.

Johnnie Morrison had a card from Dick and Enid Latimer, Mine Hosts of Malacoota Hostelery. Both well, and keen to see any W.O.G. Wanderers.

Robyn, daughter of Bill and Joyce Luck, won the Design Competition for a uniform for the girls of Ashfield Youth Club.

Her design was modelled at the opening of the Club's Hall and Ashfield's Mayor presented her with the prize.

Now how about some news from **your** Youth Club, Fred Staggs?

"Cock" Robin.