



White over Green

MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE 2/4 INFANTRY BATTALION ASSOCIATION

Registered at the G.P.O., Sydney, for transmission by Post as a Periodical
Patron: Major-General I. N. DOUGHERTY, C.B.E., D.S.O., E.D.

Twentieth year of continuous publication

Vol. 20, No. 8

PRICE 5½d.

August, 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, September 3, Royal Naval House, Grosvenor Street.

COWRA REUNION

Guest Speaker:

MAJ.-GEN. DOUGHERTY
C.B.E., D.S.O., E.D.

Our Patron is leading the way!
No stragglers, please.

BOOK NOW

1. ALL Book for DINNER to facilitate catering. Do this even if accommodation is not required or already arranged privately.
2. Let Cowra know if your wife is attending.
3. INCLUDE £1 PER PERSON if accommodation needed. State number of persons and number of nights.

Send to —

TED HARRIS
C/- Servicemen's Club
Cowra

18th SEPTEMBER

is the latest date that block accommodation can be held.

TWENTY YEARS SINCE V.P. DAY

August 15 marked the 20th Anniversary of the day, which heralded a new era of "Peace on Earth".

I sat me down to do a short editorial on this theme, but all I can do, contemplating the world happenings of recent times, is just sit and wonder — and wonder — and wonder!

COWRA BOOKINGS TO JULY

Les Adams and friend	"Scotchy" MacCartney
Mat Bristol	Norrie McGregor
"Massa" Brookes and friend	Roy Moores
Ces. Chrystal	Jack Maloney
John Copland	Dave MacGillivray
Chas. Carroll	Dick Pinson
"Jerry" Coughlan	Harry Pearse
Rex Everson	"Cock" Robin
"Bub" Graham	Esca Riordan
Bob Griffiths	Fred Searle
Athol Heath	George Stack
"Sailor" Harvey	Harry Wright
Chas. Hansen	Joe Wells
"Beau" Hester	Frank Sadler
Jack Huston	Bill Colley
Jack Jordan	Artie Kleem
Alan Kirk	"Butch" Warren
Wally Lambourne	"Bunny" Burrows
Dick Morris	Rusty McWilliam
Ted McCaffrey	Phil ("Blah") Smith
Johnny Morrison	Possibles: W. G. Berick

Many of the above will be accompanied by their wives (and families in some cases), and many other members have indicated that they will be "On Parade".

All who are going to the Re-union, PLEASE let Cowra Committee know if you are going to the DINNER so they can arrange catering. This is regardless of whether you need accommodation or not.

Please send your firm booking, NOW!

* * *

We were pleased to hear from Bob "Dagwood" Jackson that he appreciated being "Mentioned in Despatches" in the Birthday Issue as one of the original Editors (the late Harry Watts of course being the other).

"It was good to be remembered, though one does not look for it."

Bob also mentioned "B" Coy Night — "It would have been good to have walked into "B" Coy Night on Friday. I bet it was a good night!"

Bob will be battling hard to fit in the Cowra Weekend and wishes to be remembered to all the boys.

Thank you for your note, Bob, and for the kind thoughts on my family. Your words made them most happy.

Roy Moores, Bourke, reports how much he enjoyed Anzac Day March and Luncheon, how proud he was at the good roll-up and although greatly saddened at the loss of Bob McCarty, was pleased that he was in Sydney and able to pay his last respects.

Roy mentioned Mel Humphries No. 683, 4th Bn. (1914-18) — "The only original Anzac in Bourke" — and enclosed an article by Mel, which we hope to include soon, being of interest to all, particularly the "old boys".

Thanks, Roy, it's always good to hear from you — by letter!!! (I'm kidding — Always happy to have your news!).

* * *

Our Patron, Maj.-Gen. Dougherty has consented to become Federal Patron of The Thirtyniners Association. Congratulations, Sir!

Pat Lahey, with an excellent pass in the Public Service Higher Grades Examinations, has moved from Meadowbank (Registrar) to Sydney Tech. College (O.I.C. General Office).

Hylton Batcheldor, Sec. of Cowra Reunion Committee, has forwarded most interesting details of the Cowra Japanese War Cemetery, wherein are interred not only those Japanese killed in the famous break-out, but also all who died in Australia whilst internees or K.I.A. (Darwin raids). Because of this, in Japan, Cowra is probably the best-known Australian town.

A Shinto Shrine has been erected there by the Japanese Government. Hilton states that this Cemetery, with the adjacent Australian War Cemetery, is a beautiful spot and a must for sight-seeing visitors.

* * *

Although the horse has been replaced, it is wise for the driver to remain on the (water) waggon!

LAST POST

Reported in Reveille.

VX 61742 — W.O.II T. A. COOK

* * *

INFORMATION PLEASE

Tom (Nedda) Erskine, Griffith, requests information about NX 5352 W. A. (Bill) WHITEHEAD. Bill was a member of Tom's Sec., badly wounded in Greece, "and a wonderful old fellow." Tom feels sure that, if still alive, Bill would be a pensioner.

* * *

Enquiry from Ross Smith (Inverell) via Fred Staggs, for JOCK McPHERSON. Solicitors Borthwick & Butler of Inverell wish to contact him. [We believe re a will — could be to his advantage.]

Leeton area members, please pass the word to "Jock".

Apology from Fred Staggs for August Meeting night. He was presenting the new flag (White Over Green) to the Chatswood-Willoughby Sub-branch Youth Club.

* * *

SICK PARADE

Concord R.G.H.:

Ward		Ward	
G. Whitby	19	C. Scully	24
R. Robinson	21	Len Smith	24
B. Herwig		G. Ackerman	30
G. T. Holland		A. Wright	520
N. J. Shaylor		J. Rognini	520
C. McCosker	120	Scotty Ferguson	8
Mr. Coles ("Pommy's" father)		Ward 24	
Mr. Swain (Ted's father), 4th Bn. A.I.F.		Ward 30	

Narrandera Hospital:

Joe Hardstaff and "Curly" Hunt.

* * *

HOME AGAIN

F. (Ferd.) Pegg	Sir Iven Mackay
D. (Darkie) Abouzaid	W. G. Berick
W. F. (Snow) Foster	(Narrandera Hospital)
	E. Sinclair

* * *

Rita Staggs has been most seriously ill, but is now relatively well. I'm sure she would be pleased to hear from any of the old Ladies' Auxiliary. Fred himself has not been well either.

Home again also is Rene, wife of Dick Pinson.

The 18-months-old son of Dick's niece Marie (of Annual Ball days) is desperately ill in the Children's Hospital. We are all with you, Dick, Rene and Marie, and may the little lad pull through safely.

Urbie Hoather's wife is another who has been in hospital for some weeks (Western Suburbs Hospital) and we wish her a speedy return to full health.

PRESENTATION W.O.G. HISTORIES

The Official Secretary to the Governor-General of Australia

Dear Sir,

Further to discussions which I have had with Colonel Crowder, I am forwarding two copies of "White Over Green", the History of the 2/4th Infantry Battalion.

The members of the 2/4th Australian Infantry Battalion Association, and indeed all ex-members of the Battalion, whether members of the Association or not, would be highly honoured if His Excellency would accept the copy specially inscribed for him, and if His Excellency would agree to recommend to Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, that Her Majesty accept the copy, which is also specially inscribed.

Yours faithfully,

IVAN N. DOUGHERTY

Major-General (Retired)

Patron 2/4th Australian Infantry Battalion Association

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

4th May, 1965

My Dear General,

I am commanded by The Queen to ask you to thank all the members of the 2/4th Australian Infantry Battalion Association for the copy of "White Over Green" which you have sent to her on their behalf.

Her Majesty has the greatest pleasure in accepting this record of the service of a very gallant Battalion and she deeply appreciates the message of loyalty which accompanied it.

Yours sincerely,

MICHAEL ADEANE

Major-General Ivan Dougherty, C.B.E., D.S.O., E.D.

Government House,
Canberra.
27th April, 1965

Dear General Dougherty,

Thank you very much for your letter of 14th April and the two copies of "White Over Green", which arrived safely and in good order.

The Governor-General sends his warm thanks to you and to the members of the 2/4th Australian Infantry Battalion Association and has accepted his copy of the volume with pleasure. It was very kind of you to have it inscribed and signed.

The copy for The Queen has been forwarded to Buckingham Palace with the Governor-General's recommendation for its acceptance.

With personal good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

M. L. TYRRELL

(Official Secretary to the Governor-General)

On the 7th August, Jacqueline Searle became Mrs. Norman Guy. The celebrations also included the wedding Anniversary of "Dad" and "Mum" (Fred and Dot) Searle.

Congratulations to both generations.

Somewhat of the same situation is developing in the Morris household. "Mum" and "Dad" celebrate their 20th Wedding Anniversary on 29th September.

At 4.30 p.m., 5th September, daughter Elizabeth marries Anthony Fayers.

For those who love to see a bride — the wedding is being celebrated at the S.D.A. Church, Carlisle Street, Ashfield. The reception is very limited, I'm sorry to say, but Ashfield R.S.L. top lounge (or the Ladies' Lounge, if not already filled) will be available. Entertainers will be performing in the main hall, whilst in the evening there is an excellent Talent Quest.

My wife and I would be most happy to see any of the familiar W.O.G. faces on this happy occasion.

Phil ("Blah") Smith "got the message" in last issue of W.O.G., so he and his wife will definitely be making the trip to Cowra.

"Blah" reckons he'll be twisting "Slim" Desmond's arm to hop in the car, too.

Tom Erskine did a fine job of liaison in passing on to Fred Searle the fact that Alan McKern, 4th Bn. A.I.F. (lost a brother on Gallipoli) was entering R.G.H., Concord. Alan hails from Griffith and is a friend of Tom's.

Info. was passed to 4th Bn. Association.

REMEMBER!

Our Patron, Maj.-Gen. Ivan Dougherty will definitely be attending Cowra Reunion as Guest Speaker.

I'm sure "Doc" anticipates seeing YOU "On Parade" too. Don't disappoint him, men! Book now!

"Pop" Williams has sent off a car sticker to Graham Woodward, Kuwait. "Pop" says "You can bet your last piasta it will be the only W.O.G. sticker in that part of the world". It will eventually be seen on the roads of Devon, England.

COCK'S COLUMN

At the July meeting, news from some of the boys. Received from Fred Searle (pleased to have you back with us, Freddie) six photos of the New Guinea campaign. Unfortunately, no name of sender, and no information. Would the donor please write. Thanks, Freddie, and thanks to the one who sent photos.

Harry Wright had a letter from Tom Provians, Brisbane. Tom had an accident in his shop, stabbing himself in the leg, requiring stitching, but is progressing favourably. Tom is sorry he could not make it for Anzac Day. We are sorry, too, also about your leg, Tom, and wish you a speedy recovery.

Peter Armstrong is with H. A. P. Veron and Co., Solicitors, of Sydney, and would like to hear from any old mates, especially "Sandy" McNaughton.

Was pleased to see Dick Pinson, but sorry to hear that Rene had to go into hospital.

Ernie Swain said he missed the June meeting, on account of a car breakdown — the joys of motoring, Ern.

Rex Everson reports that the Rev. Douglas Crawford from All Saints Church, Parramatta, would like to get in touch with Mick Troy from Mittagong.

Rex met "Bluey" Ashcroft, who is doing well. Also met George Whitby and Jack Keating (Cheeky).

Fred Staggs, sorry to hear that you have been on the sick list — we all wish you the best, mate.

Massa Brooks met Teddy "Hubbly Bubbly" Hopkins.

Bill Luck has been selected as State Delegate to the Federal Bi-Annual Conference of the Australian Blinded Servicemen's Association, to be held in Brisbane on 23rd to 27th August, and hopes to meet some of the Brisbane boys.

Harry Gjedsted donated to the Association Photo Collection a large photo of the 2/4th marching along

Martin Place on Anzac Day (from the "Daily Telegraph"). Many thanks, Harry!

Re Nurses — following on report of Roy Moore's daughter Judy as a nurse at Ryde.

There is "Brick" Bradford's daughter, Janice, at R.G.H., Concord; Fred Searle's daughter, Jacqueline, at R.P.A.; Mick Owers' daughter, Barbara, also at R.P.A. Dave McGillveray's daughter is a nursing sister.

Now some North British news. Johnnie Morrison reports that Roy Miles, Cobar; Mick Owers, Moree; Clem "Curley" Day, Terrigal, and Frank Crutchett, Temora, had called in — sorry I missed you, boys!

Walked in, and it was a pleasant surprise to see Jack Hamilton, from Wakool area, with Johnnie and Jack Heaney. Jack looks and feels well. He had recently seen Harry Whitman, and sees Sammy "Half-pint" McCready occasionally. Both send regards to the boys. Jack would like to hear from Jake ("Trapper") Browning, or any of the old mob. His address, Jack Hamilton, Burrigarrima, R.M.B. 232, Barham. Just as we were enjoying ourselves, in strolled the "Silent One," Roy Moores from Bourke, who was down for three days. His daughter, Pat, is in 2nd year Physiotherapy at Sydney University. Judy is in 4th year nursing at Ryde Hospital, and Ann has had a baby daughter, Maxine. Our congratulations, Ann. Gran-pa, I mean Roy, visited "Bush" Bennett in his lovely home near Brewarrina, who has seen Brian Waring, also Don Ellicott, who has recently been in hospital in Sydney. (Sorry to hear of this, Don. Sorry I missed you at the N.B.). He often sees Frank Sadler at Dubbo R.S.L., also had a letter from Jack Hine, Lithgow.

Friday, 10th July: A good gathering of the clan — J. Morrison, Ted McCaffery, Frank Frizell, Ron Barber, Jack Hamilton and myself. This was Jack's good-bye visit. He was going home on the night train. Jack said it was 23 years since he had met Jack Heaney and Frank Frizelle. We enjoyed your company, Jack, come again soon. Give our regards to Bill. I also heard that Jack Chaseling, Kyogle, and Jim Brown, Kempsey, had called in. Sorry I missed you, chaps, I was there the following night. Strolled in and was pleased to see Les Fox, Narrabeen, bending the elbow with the regulars. Les had met Joe Rognini. He said Joe is well and looks well. Memo: During reminiscing

time, I heard an amusing incident re 8 pl. on guard at the ammo. dump Berg El Arab. The cast was Cpl. Tim West and "Porky" (Moonshine) Williams. Please write it for us, Ron.

I also heard that Harry Whitman, Wakool, had been in; also "Fangs" Coughlan and "Porky" Williams.

The regulars, Johnnie, Ron, Frank and I were "on duty" when Keith "Sailor" Harvey drifted in. Keith had met Alex Maxwell.

Met Stan "Bull" Wilkinson in Ashfield. I am sorry to say he is not enjoying the best of health. Stan often meets Urbie Hoather, whose wife has been in West. Sub. Hospital, and frequently sees "Sunshine" Beatty.

Met Laurie "Pop" James at Milson's Point. He was hurrying for a train, so no time for a yarn.

I am pleased to report there was a good crop of Country-siders at the N.B. this month — 11 in all. In future, if coming to the Big Smoke, please let us know beforehand if possible. A brief note to Johnnie in the corner will do. Was pleased to see Tom Clough there, from Macksville, who came in to see the boys, but was sorry to hear that he was down for his brother-in-law's funeral. We offer our sincere sympathy to you, Tom, your sister and relatives. Then Johnny, Teddy, Ron Barber and Peter Armstrong drifted in. Quite a nice gathering. Tom was going back by train the following night. He had recently seen John Smith (Carriers); Jack Maloney, Bub Graham, Jim Brown, Esca Riordan and Bill White. A cooee to Chris Geelan. Tom would like to hear from you, Chris.

I heard that Ted McCaffery is a proud Gran-pappy. Congratulations, Teddy!

We also had a visit from Dick Chappelow. Sorry I missed you, Dick, long time no see. Come again!

An interesting letter from Keith "Sailor" Harvey, addressed as follows: Messrs. Mr. Caffery, Morrison and Robin "Cock", Robin's Corner (it's really Johnnie Morrison's Corner), c/- North British Hotel, Circular Quay, Sydney. Yes, it found us — your letter passed on to Dick, "Sailor", thank you!

I heard that Jimmy Crowe, Cootamundra had called in. Down to the Repat. Also that he had met Wal Taylor.

John Copland was another visitor to the N.B. recently, but the "Corner" was bare of bods. After a quiet refresher, John did the Arab act and quietly stole away.

— "COCK" ROBIN.