



White over Green

MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE 2/4 INFANTRY BATTALION ASSOCIATION

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Patron: Major-General I. N. DOUGHERTY, C.B.E., D.S.O., E.D.

Twentieth year of continuous publication

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Next Meeting: Friday, 2nd September, 8 p.m., Royal Naval House, Sydney

AIR-CONDITIONED MEETINGS

With the winter months upon us, one feels inclined to forego the monthly meetings, for "home and mumma".

You will be pleased to know, however, that you CAN attend on even the coldest, wettest, most miserable night, assured of a pleasant and comfortable meeting.

Fair dinkum, mate! All the comforts of home!! There will always be a warm welcome, continuous warmth of convivial friendship, and suitable nourishment to keep out the cold.

You can also bet that Fred Searle ("Money-bags") will "make it hot" for anyone who is unfinancial!!

Air-conditioning?? Well, mate, you'll cop plenty of "hot air", to be sure!!! Be in it!

KEMPSEY REUNION

6-Hour Week-end, 1st — 3rd October, 1966

OUR PATRON, MAJ-GEN. DOUGHERTY
will be attending the Reunion

Colourful Parramatta Caledonian Pipe Band will be there!

Bookings to date are very good, but there are still many who have not sent off their requirements and deposits to Esca. Don't have him rushing around at the last minute arranging your accommodation and

BOOK NOW!

INFO REQUIRED

1. Accommodation: Motel or Hotel
 2. Number of nights required from to
 3. Number of persons for accommodation
- Sit ye down lad, and set out your requirements and send them off along with your deposit to

ESCA RIORDAN
63 CAMERON STREET
WEST KEMPSEY

July, 1966

WHITE OVER GREEN

Dear Dick,

I have just been to Victoria and South Australia in my capacity as Chairman of the Parliamentary Select Committee inquiring into the Timber Industry and my visit once more confirmed the fact that 2/4 boys are everywhere!

On our arrival in Melbourne, we were interviewed by Channel 0 and I learned from this that the news editor was none other than Ken Moses, a very well known member of the Battalion. I went to the studios and had a very good talk with him and have even convinced him that he should endeavour to come to Kempsey for the Reunion.

He gave me a film of the Anzac Day March in Melbourne and it is purely coincidental that the 2/4 figure prominently in this!

During the Committee's visit, I went to Mount Gambier and I remembered that there was in "A" Company a chap by the name of Roy McGregor, who had been a hairdresser. I checked up and sure enough, he returned to Mount Gambier after the War and is still hairdressing.

I met him one afternoon when he "knocked off" and during the course of discussion he mentioned that another member of the Battalion, Jack Jarrett, was also at Mount Gambier. A check of a different part of the establishment where we were meeting revealed Jack to be in a different Bar, so he joined us.

Later on in the week, I was to travel to the Barossa Valley by car (kindly provided by the South Australian Government) and I asked the driver if he could return a little earlier so that I could go to Crafers and Mount Lofty. In conversation he said that he was in the area during the War and naturally, I asked him what unit. He said he was Transport Corporal for the 2/4 — his name, Don Garfitt — an original member of the Battalion who enlisted from Griffith. He went to Brigade Headquarters while we were in the Crayfers-Mount Lofty area and remained there for the rest of the War.

Whilst in Adelaide, I learned that Sir Mellis Napier, the Chief Justice, who is also Lieutenant-Governor of the State, was Acting Governor and I was able to be received by him, in company with my wife, at Government House.

A good number of "C" Company members were billeted in the Napier home — "Shurdington" — at Mount Lofty and Sir Mellis has very fond memories of the Battalion.

I regret that I did not have time to find Padre Reid or Max Rungie whilst in Adelaide, nor did I have time to see Padre Keyte, or our Salvation Army friend, Doug Christian, whilst in Melbourne.

I did obtain from Ken Moses, 'phone numbers of Arthur Reilly and Jim Barrow, but unfortunately once more, time ran out.

Incidentally, arrangements are proceeding very well for the Reunion in Kempsey and Esca Riordan, as usual, is doing a great deal of work.

Yours sincerely,
J. H. BROWN.

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SICK PARADE

Our best wishes for future good health to the following:

Concord R.G.H.

C. HARRIS	Ward 23
J. McATAMNEY	Ward 21
K. SPURWAY	Ward 330
C. ROUTER	Ward 630
P. MOSS	Ward 4
V. SMITH	Ward 8
C. GORDON	Ward 10
T. KENNEDY	Ward 11
L. FROGLEY	Ward 17
F. CONSIDINE	Ward 17
C. SCULLY	Ward 23

Prince Henry Hospital

J. MEEHAN	Ward 6
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Heidelberg, Victoria

B. ERVINE	Ward 7
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Home from Hospital

J. ANTONY	Randwick
A. WEBB	Seriously Ill
D. ELLICOTT	Bourke

How about a note to an old mate who may be in hospital or just home? You can bet it would be appreciated.

Rex Everson, Russ McWilliams and Monty Siems all mentioned Bill Ervine's hospitalisation. Monty writes as follows:

"Would you call all C Coy wallahs and pass the news that Bill Ervine, of Orbost, is in Ward 7, Repat. Hosp., Heidelberg, Vic., and would, I'm sure, like to hear from some of his old mates.

"Have been in to see him a few times and will be going again. He's having a pretty tough spin, but the old spirit is there and he's making a good recovery."

This is the true spirit behind our association and whilst it exists our show will always be close-knit comradeship! Monty goes on to say:

"Would like you to pass on a hello from me to 'Scotchy' McCartney, long time since I last saw him. My best wishes to you, 'W.O.G.' staff and all members of the 2/4th association."—Monty Siems.

Thanks Monty. How's the painting?

LAST POST

NX2052 Oliver Thomas (Ollie) BLOWES (Herald).

LEST WE FORGET

Russ McWilliams was good enough to attend Ollie's funeral and reports that he was informed that Ollie collapsed and died on his way to work. Delayed effects of head injury sustained some time ago in the course of his employment, is believed to be the cause.
Vale Ollie.

A swollen head is nature's frantic effort to fill a vacuum!

W.G.P.

People who carry "tales" should not "monkey" in other people's affairs.

JULY SITREP

Another happy gathering at the July meeting with main business being Kempsey Reunion. "Our" band will be attending, some with their wives, who will join our ladies for dinner. The band was a grand and colourful success at Cowra and look like becoming part of future reunions.

Don Bundy sent Peter Cade an historical colour patch to add to the collection.

I quote Don: "... These patches were made by hand at Arbiets-Comando Everdorf, Stalag XIII C, in Germany. They are made from pieces of felt cut from a woman's hat scrounged from a rubbish tip, but the bloke who made them, wore them with pride all over Europe and England and back to Australia."

Another presentation to the association collection was made by Johnnie Morrison on behalf of Ted Swadling. This was a photo of Anzac taken just prior to the evacuation and had been the property of Ted's father, 4th Bn. Anzac.

The meeting was sorry to hear of the large number members in hospital, particularly committeeman Johnnie Meehan, whom we have become accustomed to seeing well and truly on deck each month.

BILL LUCK REPORTS

Our Patron, "Doc", recently reviewed cadets of Fort Street School.

In his address he stated that it was the first time in the history of the cadet corp, the Queen's Colours were unfurled at such a parade on the Queen's Birthday.

Proud parents on the day were Bill and Joyce Luck, for on parade was son Tony, following White Over Green traditions.

Some minds are like Blotters — they soak it all up and get it all backwards!

Kempsey Country Reunion Oct., 1966

ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE

NAME OF UNIT	ACCOMMODATION	TARIFF	
		SINGLE	DOUBLE
Moon River Motel	Bed & Breakfast	\$4-75	\$9-50
City Centre Motel	" "	\$4-80	\$9-60
Kempsey Motel	" "	\$4-00	\$8-00
Fairway Motel	" "	\$4-00	\$7-50
Star Dust Motel	" "	\$5-50 Plus \$0-75	\$8-50 Plus \$1-50
Hotel Kempsey	" "	\$3-50	\$8-00
Hotel Tattersalls	" "	\$2-90	\$5-80
Hotel Royal	" "	\$3-50	\$7-00

MORE KEMPSEY STARTERS

Tom and Freda Clarke, Jack and Joan Chaseling, Rex and Norma Everson, Doug and Connie Groves, Jack and Joan Hughes, Alan and Carma Kirk, Norrie and Norma McGregor, Harry and Emmeline Russell, Harry and Mrs. Whitman, Ian and Edna Wallwork, Tony Hinett, Aub Priest, Bill Wall, Rick Carter.

W.O.G. MEMBERS OF RYDE R.S.L.

More and more frequently I am meeting in the Ryde R.S.L. Club members of the 2/4 Infantry Battalion and I wonder just how many of us do belong.

Unfortunately Club records do not retain this information so we are quite in the dark apart from the ones who are active in both organisations.

Recently I was fortunate enough to sit next to a stranger who turned out to be STAN GLYNN, original 2/4 from down Tumut way, now in Haig Avenue, Ryde, and a full member of the Sub-Branch and Club. Stan's son Peter had sailed on the previous day in H.M.A.S. Sydney with the 1st Task Force for Vietnam.

All this has raised in my mind the question, just how many 2/4 Btn. members do belong to the Ryde Sub-Branch and Club?

Further, how many would be interested in a gathering some time in the Club? On account of our very close relationship with the 4 Btn. (1914-1918) it would be more than fitting to include them too.

What I have in mind is that we should arrange for all to attend a Sub-Branch regular monthly meeting on the second Monday in the month or at a Club quarterly general meeting. On both occasions supper is served and that should attract 4 Btn. or 2/4 Btn. men.

Anybody interested please make contact with me. The least we can do is to get to know how many of us are in the Club, and more importantly, we can arrange the occasional convivial gathering of fellowship for those who cannot get in to the 2/4 Btn. regular monthly meetings at Royal Naval House on the first Friday in every month.

I would think that the executive of 2/4 Btn. Association would be present in force.

Please enquire from:

JOHN COPLAND,
117 Charles Street, Ryde.
Telephone 80 3771
or C/- Ryde Sub-Branch.

COCK'S COLUMN

North British News: Wed., 18th May. Strolled in and was pleased to see a Northcoaster, Harry Hamburger, Port Macquarie, with Johnnie Morrison, Rus McWilliam and Jerry "Fangs" Coughlan. I heard that Alan Kirk had been in earlier. Harry and Alan paid their subs to Johnnie. Harry Hamburger has left Port Macquarie, his new address: 7 Kanahooka Street, Albion Park. Has recently seen Dick Bawden, who is now Secretary R.S.L. at Port Macquarie. Harry also met Bert Barry, who said he had a nephew in the 2/4 Bn., Dave Barry. Harry is now working at Port Kembla. It was good to see you, mate.

Alan Kirk had been in earlier with Ted McCaffrey, and left this note with Johnnie: "Alan Kirk's Lismore Bowls Team won the Section at Cronulla in the inaugural R.S.L. Championship, are now in the final 16 and hope to go on to further triumphs. Congrats, Alan. (Unfortunately, they were beaten!—Ed.)"

Hearing "Cock Robin"! I looked across the bar and saw Laurie "Pop" James, who would like to hear from, or have news of Frank "Andy" Kerr. Would like to meet him. Well, you know the location, Andy—the old North British!

Friday, 27th: News had got around that "Paddy" Reid, over on holidays from South Australia, was in town. The grape vine was busy and there were several of the boys there to welcome him when he strolled into "The Corner." It was indeed a pleasant surprise. The gang comprised Johnnie Morrison, Ted McCaffrey, Russ McWilliam, Jack Heaney, Harry Gjedsted, Keith "Sailor" Harvey, Ron "Porky" Williams, and myself. Gordon Chrisp made an effort but was too late, "Paddy" had gone when he arrived. Dick Morris was coming, but sent his apologies. It was quite an enjoyable evening with yarns and reminiscences, the time passed all too quickly. "Paddy" looks well; it was good to see him and we enjoyed his company.

Tom Whittstanby, 2/3 Fld. Regt., friend of Ken Northrop. Sheep and Wool School, Dept. of Tech. Ed., would like to contact Ken. Has heard that Ken was seen **on crutches** at Sheep Show.

John Copland's son received his Uni. Degree for Architecture on 29th April — a proud moment for the Copland family. Congratulations.

Our sincere sympathies to Thora, wife of "Sailor" Harvey. Thora's mother recently passed away.

Harold and Mrs. Conkey are at present enjoying a world tour.

John and Mrs. Falla, Canberra, are also abroad on long service leave.

From Johnnie Jordan: Mr. Ferguson, Chief of the Parramatta Caledonian Society was recently in a car accident and sustained shoulder injuries. Now on road to recovery.

John Copland recently met Dan Shearer, down from Moree, where he is a P.M.G. linesman. Dan was attending Repat. with a view to obtaining a pension. Health not the best, Dan? Sorry to hear this.

Congratulations to Bruce Graham, brother of "Gentleman Jim", who will be remembered by many as he attended several meeting years ago. Bruce has won Pre-selection in his Party for the Federal seat of North Sydney. Bruce was Federal member for St. George, 1949-58.

Spotted Jack Coghlan, Erskineville, at Repat., but he was whisked away before we could have a yarn. He's trying to tame a tatty "ticker".

Rex Everson reports: Bill Irvine's old complaint has caught up with him and he has had a major operation. Bill is in Ward 7, Heidelberg Hospital, Victoria. Everyone's best wishes are with you Bill, so look after yourself, mate.

Dick Morris reports having had a beer with Stan ("Bull") Wilkinson at Ashfield R.S.L. some time back, on the day prior to Stan's wedding anniversary.

Stan is still not in the best of health.

Dick also had a yarn—and refreshments, with Siddle George. The occasion was the Ashfield Mayoral Ball.

Noel Ford has moved to "greener fields" and is now Manager of C.I.G. in Townsville. Good luck to you, Noel!

North British News

Strolled in, and was very pleased to see a visitor from South of the Border, Jim Barrow, Melbourne, with the regulars, a rush trip, just for the day. Jim looks well, he has recently seen Russ Maddern, at the Dawn Service, also met Peter Glyngell and Arthur Reilly (C Coy). Sorry your trip was so short Jim, come more often.

Wednesday, 15th, another pleasant surprise, this time a North Coaster, Hugh Wittleton, Lynch's Creek, via Kyogle. Hugh asked a Parking Policeman for directions to the North British and the Brown Bomber said he went there, and told him. Hugh mentioned his 2/4th mates and then the Brown Bomber said he was an original of the 2/4th Bn. Was in 13 Pltn. at Ingleburn, then went over with them to the 2/1st M.G. He came from Leeton, knew Stan Bowen, "Blah" Smith, John Copland and Nevis Farrell.

Hugh has recently seen Bob Gardner, Doug and Charlie Grove, Jack Lister and Ian Wallwork. They will all be at the Kempsey Reunion. Hugh will be in Sydney for 10 days, is down to see a niece who is touring the world (a working holiday) on the Chusan.

I heard that Ron Booty called in, collected a War History, which he had ordered from Johnnie a few days before.

Friday 17th, when I arrived, were Johnnie, Jack Heaney, Ted McCaffery, Russ McWilliam, Bill Sandstrom (our artillery support and uncle of Ken Franklin) and our North Coaster, Hugh Wittleton. During talk, Hughie said that his father was in the 5G Bn. First World-War, his colours, White over Green, worn up and down. So Hugh wore his father's original colour patches overseas.

Hughie also said that Charlie (Chick) Sleeman's (Warragamba Dam) daughter, Patrice, is also a nurse at one of the Sydney hospitals. Congrats. Patrice.

And still another country visitor to the N.B. I was told that Harry Whitman had called in and gave Johnny some news. Harry was a Dreadnought boy, and came to Australia when he was 11 years of age and is now flying his first trip home to near Bristol, England, to see his mother, aged 84. Harry will return in time and has booked for the Kempsey Reunion. Sorry I missed seeing you Harry, I wish you a safe and pleasant trip. Please give your mother our kind regards.

Received from Charlie McBride, eight excellent snapshots of The Convey going overseas, troop ships and battleships. Many thanks Charlie, hope you are keeping well, mate.

"COCK ROBIN.