



# White over Green

MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE 2/4 INFANTRY BATTALION ASSOCIATION

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MARCH, 1968

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**Next Meetings: Friday, 5th April, 1968**

**Friday, 3rd May, 1968**

**at Royal Naval House, Grosvenor St.,**

**Sydney at 8 p.m.**

## PRESENTATION TO 4 BN. ROYAL N.S.W. REGIMENT

The Arncliffe Sub-branch of the R.S.L., of which our Committeeman **Peter Cook** is a member, recently saw fit to have a photograph of our **Edward Kenna, V.C.**, inscribed and mounted for presentation to the "**Edward Kenna V.C. Club**" (the O.R.s' Mess) at 4 Bn. R.N.S.W. Regiment H.Q. at Arncliffe.

Mr. Allan Tattam, Senior Vice-President of the

Sub-branch made the presentation to General Ivan Dougherty who in turn presented the photograph to the President of the Mess, Corporal Barlow.

Major Ian Thackeray, on behalf of 4Bn. R.N.S.W. Regiment, thanked the Arncliffe R.S.L. for their very fine gesture in presenting the picture to the Club and also General Dougherty for his part in the function.



GENERAL DOUGHERTY presenting the picture of EDWARD KENNA, V.C., to the President of the O.R.s' Mess, Corporal Barlow. Also pictured are MR. ALLAN TATTAM, MAJOR IAN THACKERAY and Officers of 4 Bn. R.N.S.W.R.

### ASSOCIATION OF FOURTH INFANTRY BATTALIONS

The inaugural meeting of **The Association of Fourth Infantry Battalions** was held in the Arncliffe Drill Hall (H.Q. of 4 Bn. R.N.S.W.R.) as scheduled, on 8th March. The meeting was attended by a very large and representative gathering of members from the various units, past and present, designated **Fourth Infantry Battalions**. Our **President, Harry Gjedsted**, who chaired the meeting, opened the proceedings by giving a brief resume of the history of all the **Fourth Infantry Battalions** to have been raised in Australia.

It was decided unanimously that the Association be formed forthwith and the meeting proceeded to elect office-bearers for the initial year. **General Dougherty** was elected Patron and took the Chair pending the election of a President. **Harry Gjedsted** was duly installed in this most important office. Others elected were: Vice-Presidents: **Harry Stafford** (4 Bn. A.I.F. '14-'18); **Athol Heath** (2/4 Bn. A.I.F.); **Geoff Tuckwell** (4 Bn. A.I.F. 1939-45); **Lt.-Col. Gordon Maitland**, E.D. (4 Bn. R.N.S.W.R.) and **Lt.-Col. L. R. Greville** (4 Bn. R.A.R.). Honorary Secretary: **Tom Hall** (4 R.N.S.W.R.) Assist. Hon. Sec.: **Sgt. Ross Buckingham** (4 R.N.S.W.R.); Hon. Treasurer: **Trevor Payne**; Assist. Hon. Treasurer: **Geoff Barlow**; Magazine Editor: **Terry Smith**; Publicity Officer: **Dick Chamberlain** (2/4 Bn.). Committee: **Jack Noakes**, **Bede Keary**, **Jack Gorman** (4 Bn. '14-'18) **Peter Cooke**, **John Jordan**, **Rusty McWilliam** (2/4 Bn.) **Ken Menser**, **Tom Dolan** and one other (4 Bn. '39-'45) **Norm Harries**, **Peter Keating**, **Ray Hurst** (4 R.N.S.W.R.), **Franz Kudnik** with two to be added (4 R.A.R.).

### ASSOCIATION OF 4th INFANTRY BATTALIONS BECOME A FOUNDATION MEMBER FOR ONLY \$1

The Association was formed on 8th March, under the Patronage of Major-General I. N. Dougherty, C.B.E., D.S.O., E.D. We urge your strong support of this worthy organisation which is aimed at assisting the members of the younger 4th Battalions to belong to the fraternity of "White Over Green".

### 6-HOUR DAY HOLIDAY WEEKEND OCTOBER, 1968

Southern N.S.W. Vice-President **Tim West** with **Ted Harris** and **Hilton Batchelor** report everything is on target for the 1968 Country Reunion. Booking fee: \$2 per person.

MAKE YOUR BOOKINGS NOW WITH:—  
TED HARRIS, c/o Services Club, Cowra, N.S.W.  
2794.

### ANZAC DAY

At our Annual General Meeting **Harry Stafford** of 4 Bn. ('14-'18) advised that his "lads" thought it was time to throw in their lot with us on Anzac Day.

At the Wreath Laying Ceremony prior to the main March both Units will form up in the vicinity of Barrack and York Streets corner, and march together

behind Parramatta Pipe Band to the Cenotaph. After the main march they will join with us at Manresa Hall for what should be one of our best Anzac Days ever. Buses will be provided to transport troops to Manresa Hall.

### VALE JACK ANTONY — NX5335

**Jack Antony** passed away in R.G.H., Concord, on Tuesday, 5th March, after almost continuous ill-health since his return from the war.

The funeral took place at 1015 hours on Saturday, 9th March, from St. Anthony's Church, Clovelly, to the Eastern Suburbs Crematorium. The large attendance was a glowing tribute to the service **Jack** gave to his country and his fellow men in peace as well as in war.

**Jack** enlisted in Forbes in 1939, joining B Company. He took part in the Libya Campaign and went with the Bn. to Greece where his section was cut off by the Germans north of Florence Pass and eventually captured. He was a foundation member of Clovelly Sub-Branch of the R.S.L. and took a great interest in the youth of the district.

Our Association was represented at the funeral by **Denny Karanges**, "**Sailor**" **Harvey**, **Dick Faulder**, **Dick Morris** and **John Copland**.

(Acknowledgments to John Copland.)

### VALE ALVIN NOAKES — 2805

The death occurred on 27th February, 1968, of **Alvin Campbell Noakes**, 4th Bn. A.I.F. **Alvin** and his brother **Jack** enlisted about the same time and served together throughout their Army Career. Sailing with the 4th Bn. from Egypt to France in 1916 they took part in the battle of Poziers where **Alvin** was wounded in July, '16. About a dozen of the "Old Fourth" attended the funeral. Both **Alvin** and **Jack** were committeemen of their Bn. Association for the past 31 years.

### LAST POST

4 Bn. A.I.F.: 7217 F. C. Cooper, 3188 C. A. Newton, 4463 S. P. Carswell, 7587 B. Corbett, 3052 A. Croft, 7 A. S. Edwards, 3137 S. A. Johnson, 2805 A. C. Noakes, Fred Spain.  
2/4 Bn.: NX72416 F. W. Frost, NX156688 A. W. Stevenson.

"Lest We Forget"

IF A CROSS APPEARS  
IN THIS SPACE   
YOU ARE UNFINANCIAL  
NOW IS THE TIME TO GET SQUARE

Send \$2 to  
FRED SEARLE  
31 GRIFFITH AVENUE, WEST RYDE

## COCK'S COLUMN

**North British News:** Some of the boys who called in—**Jack "Brick" Bradford, Fred Searle, Bob Lane, Ettalong, Chas Adams, Woy Woy, Doug Barry, Woy Woy, Ernie Clift, Les Fox, Peter Cook, Ted McCaffery, Gordon "The Wog" Murray, Gordon Chrisp, Jack "Cheeky Charlie" Keating, Keith Harvey, Jack Heaney and Frank Frizell**—many thanks **Eileen** for collecting the names for us.

**Bill Sandstrom** (our Artillery support), long time luncheon mate of the late **Johnny Morrison** and **Ted McCaffery** was one off first prize in the \$24,000 Special Lottery. We weep with you, Bill.

Was about to leave when **Kenny Webb** arrived followed by **Gordon Chrisp** and **John Fitzgerald** of 2/1 Bn.

**Murray Naismith**, Narrabri, left this note with **Eileen** for me: "Cock Robin, I called. That photo was taken on our first leave in Jerusalem. (Bus from Kilo 89). I got the photo from **John Forester's** sister, who is my next door neighbour. Sorry we missed you and hope for better luck next time."

**Reg Angel** called after visiting **Monty Boyd** at Prince Henry Hospital.

**Denny Karanges** called in with "**Cheeky Charlie**" **Keating**.

**Joe Rognini** also paid a visit and sends best wishes to everyone.

Met **Ron Booty** and was joined by **Ted McCaffery, "Sailor" Harvey, John Bourke, Bill Sandstrom and Gordon Chrisp**. Gordon had just left **Garry Hart**.

The following are the visitors from interstate, country and local who, unfortunately, I did not have the pleasure of meeting: **Fred Catley**, from Brisbane, you."Fred left a note saying, "Regards to all, sorry I missed you." So am I Fred. On the same note was written, "Same from me," **Jim Barrow** from Melbourne—Jim came in on the Wednesday, and told **Eileen** he would be in for sure on the Friday around 8 p.m. Well, "**Sailor**" **Harvey, Frank Frizell, Gordon Chrisp** and I were there to welcome him, but Jim evidently could not make it. We were sorry we missed you mate.

**J. "Mc." Brown**, from Weston had business in the City—sorry I missed you Jim, will see you Anzac Day.

**John "Bookie" Rae**, Newcastle; same goes for you, John and **Bob "Lascar" Roach**.

**Jack "Dasher" Deacon** made two visits, the second time with the bad news that he was going into hospital on Monday. I am sorry I missed you "Dasher", also to hear you are going into hospital. We all wish you a speedy recovery mate.

And last but not least, **Jim Crowe** from Cootamundra called in; sorry I missed you Jim and thank you for your nice Christmas card. It was late, it had been to New Zealand before I got it. I am sorry I missed out this year. Kind regards to Marcia, Graham, Leonie and Sandra.

**Frank Frizell** ran into **Peter Cohen** in Sydney. A very interesting letter and Roll of South Aust. members from **Tom Mort**, Coola Coola, Keith, S.A. Many thanks for compiling the S.A. Roll. I am very sorry to hear of the death of your father. Our sincere sympathy to you and family.

**At the March Meeting:** Met **Dick "Snow" Faulder**, Gladesville; Dick said his brother Jim also one of us in the building trade. Dick works for the P.M.G. and originally came from Parkes. Hope to see you at each meeting, Dick.

The boys at the meeting as they came into view: **Fred Searle, Harry Gjedsted, George Stack, Harry Wright, Mick Steele, Bill Luck, John Jordan, Athol Heath, Cec Chrystal, Bob Lane, Charlie Adams, John Copland, Bill "Snowy" McClennan** and son **Greg, John Meehan, Peter Cook, "Sailor" Harvey, Dick Chamberlain, Peter McWilliam, Bill Faulder, Ernie Swain, Frank Frizell, Gordon "The Wog" Murray, Gordon Chrisp, Jack Heaney, Russ McWilliam** and me.

Now some news from some of the members: **Charlie Adams, Woy Woy**, met **Doug Barry** who is going to see a specialist regarding further operations. We wish you all the best Doug for a speedy recovery. Charlie has not seen anything of **Ron Raymont. Bill "Snowy" McLennan's** (A Coy., later H.Q.) first visit to the meeting. Bill lives at Castle Cove and has recently seen **Les Sharp** (Carriers) **Phil Smith** and **Bob Ferguson**; is also going to call on "**Bull**" **Wilkinson**. Bill brought his son **Greg** to the meeting and Bill (who is no midget) looks up to his son who is 6 ft. 2 in. Bill said it was his first meeting, but not his last.

I am pleased to write that **George Stack** is back at work after being off for 10 weeks with an injured leg due to an accident at work. All the best to you George from now on.

I was very pleased to meet **Peter McWilliam** at the meeting (**Rusty's** brother). Peter, while at Inverell, met **Ross Smith, Geoff Hawke** and **Ray "Rags" Butler**.

**Bill Luck** has recently met **Jack Dubber**; try and bring him along to a meeting Bill.

Was also pleased to meet **Terry Smith**, who is a member of the 4th R.N.S.W.R. Terry is a good mate of **Peter Cook** who brought him along.

**John Copland**, who has held office in Ryde Sub-branch for nineteen years, did not stand this year for health reasons. All the best, John.

I was pleased to see **Gordon Chrisp** come along. Gordon is going to bring in some photos next meeting. Would you please put the information on the back, Gordon—thank you, mate.

**Johnnie Jordan** reports that Parramatta Pipe Band now have their uniforms and will march in them on Anzac Day.

Our sincere thanks to **Mick "Mild" Steele** for preparing the Tin Hats for their "duty" at meetings and reunions. Also to **Dick Chamberlain** who is having our colour patch painted on them.

As this issue goes to press we have learned of the passing of yet another stalwart of 4 Bn. ('14-'18) in the person of **Fred Spain** of Bundeena. Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to the Spain family.

To "**Brick**" **Bradford** our thanks is due for taking over the task, so ably carried on by the late **Johnny Morrison**, with **Fred Searle** of visiting members in R.G.H., Concord. "**Brick**" and Fred journey every Saturday to Yaralla to bring a little cheer to those of our members less fortunate than we.

Calling **Joe McGrath** C Coy. "Poet Laureate" of the Battalion. How about a monthly submission to "W.O.G.", Joe? I'm passing on a personal request from the President for "Another Zac A Day".

**In the Mail Bag:**

From **Tom Mort**, Coala Coala, Keith, S.A.: Dear Jim, As promised here is my news. When I came to S.A. I lived on the outskirts of the city for three years and sent the children to day school—prior to that, in N.S.W., we had four at boarding school and didn't see them except at holidays.

In the meantime I was improving a property about 170 miles from Adelaide—S.E.—all virgin scrub and 17,000 acres of it. Built a house on it and was finished to move into in May, 1964.

Whilst living in Adelaide I joined the small band of 19 Bde. on Anzac Day and used to see an odd one during the year—I am enclosing a Nominal Roll of those Bn. members who are here.

Also not far from me here at Keith there is one, **Harry Byron**, who I seem to remember was orderly room sergeant at 19 A.I.T.B.; he gets my copies of "W.O.G." when I think of it.

Of course, "W.O.G." and its associations are the only tangible things left for one living in the bush and it's a pleasure to get the new issues and keep up with things and refresh old memories. Don't know about anyone else but my memory for names is poor; faces change with age—time marches on and places fade as well—what would I do without "W.O.G." and the band of stalwarts who keep the association going?

Was very pleased to join up with a few at N.B. last time I was in Sydney—this visit was rather a sad one for my family—my father, aged 81, died the day before or the day after **Johnny Morrison**—on 1st December, and I wasn't aware of Johnny's death till a day or two later—he will be greatly missed in the association ranks.

On the way to Sydney by train from Melbourne I thought of **Harold Conkey**. As we drew into Cootamundra sure enough he was on the platform seeing an elderly lady on to the train, which didn't stop long enough for me to make my way down—windows fixed for air conditioning don't allow conversations between passengers and residents—so no talk to Harold.

Rang my mate **E. P. A. Smith** who couldn't make a meeting—**Frank Frizell** took me under his wing—made me an honorary member of Sydney Bicycle Club—sent me home very late. However, we had quite a chat about the past, present and future.

**Cec Chrystal**, **Harry Gjedsted** and I had a short chat and an ale—meant to see more blokes at the Grosvenor Street evening. However, as events turned out it was not possible.

I often see "**Massa**" **Brooks** when I go to Sydney; approximately once per year—we tried to get a game of golf arranged in the middle of last year but as my time there was short I couldn't make that either.

My eldest son, rising 23, is with me now and I am gradually leaving him with more responsibility, so perhaps this year about June and later in the New Year, I will be across.

Was very pleased to see you Cock and look forward to our next meeting, Tom.

P.S.: "Our old friend **Padre Paddy Reid** is well—I see him now and again—also saw **Ross Ellerman** about five years ago in Adelaide, tried to get me on to

Coca-Cola! Please give my best wishes to my mates in Mortars and C Coy, and the rest of the Bn."

From **Tom Provians**, 65 Foxton Street, Morning-side, to "Sailor" Harvey: "Have intended writing to **George Stack** for some time and your letter has prompted me to get busy, I'll leave it to you "Sailor" to pass it on when you have finally interpreted it. Many thanks for the note, it's always good to get news.

Had a break myself for three weeks in January, Medic's orders, so decided to have a quiet time at Caloundra. The family all came up so played some golf, took the boat out a few times (no fish), had plenty of rest and the local is only one minute away per foot so had no difficulty in filling in the time. Came back very much refreshed and am once again very much up to the ears in the grind whilst the gang have their holidays.

**Selby Dean** wrote to me about **Bill Smith** and **Nick Allardice** also rang the shop so I got the bad news very promptly and although I knew for some years that Bill had a heart complaint it came as a terrific shock and I have written to Nance on behalf of the boys up this way. Received telegrams from **Fred Searle** and **Harry Gjedsted** about **John Morrison** and was able to arrange a wreath through Fred on behalf of the Queenslanders.

How right you are, Cowra is a long way from here, however, I will see when the time comes as I would very much like to be there and will be trying to make it.

Saw **Max Nerney** a couple of weeks ago and he looks very well. He and Edna were off to a wedding; I was delayed and we were unable to have a fourx; however, you can be assured we will make up for it. Have also, at long last, tracked down **Norm McIntyre**, his address is 21 Cathie Street, Petrie Terrace, Brisbane. Norm has just had an operation to have part of two or three ribs removed and part of one lung, after effects of a fall from a horse some years ago, however, looks quite well and able to take a bit of nourishment.

Had a pre-Christmas dinner with **Ken Franklin** and "**Wink**" **Walker**, together with some of the 6th Div. boys, and both are going well; they were afterwards anyway. **Ted Werne** is also going strong; also **Laurie McCosker** and I hope to see **Bill Sumpter** at our next 6th Div. meeting. Had news that **Alby Sargent** is around this part some place and also **Norm Bellingham**, so must get on the scent. Also visited **Duncan Russell** pre-Christmas and we had a glass for the festive season—Duncan is still good for a yarn or two and we really enjoy it.

Have promised myself a trip to Sydney this year so don't be surprised if I blow in around about June or July. Can't see much chance before that time what with holidays for the gang, etc.

Very best wishes to Thora, "Sailor", and will be looking forward to seeing you both in October; if I catch any of those WOGS going through here without calling (95 4181) look out for them.

I'll leave it to you Sailor to pass this on to George and our old mate Cock and hope it is of some help to him. My very best wishes to all the boys at the N.B. and have one for me.

Thanks "Sailor" again for jogging me along and cheer and beers for now. Tom."