



# 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 Sir Ivan Dougherty, C.B.E., D.S.O., E.D., B.Ec.  
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SEPTEMBER, 1968

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Southern N.S.W.: Tim West, "Yarramunda", Cowra.

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Victoria: Claude Raymond, 92 Rose Street, West Coburg.

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**Next Meetings: Friday, 11th Oct., 1968**  
**Friday, 1st Nov., 1968**

**at Royal Naval House, Grosvenor St.,  
Sydney, at 8 p.m.**

## COCKTAIL PARTY

The Cocktail Party in honour of **Sir Ivan** and **Lady Dougherty**, held in the Ballroom at Royal Naval House on 19th August, was a tremendous success.

Attended by more than 150 members, their Ladies and official guests, the function began at 6.30 p.m. with sherry and introductions. Sir Ivan and Lady Dougherty arrived at 7.15 p.m. and were piped into the ballroom to the tune of "Cock O' The North" by pipers of the Parramatta Pipe Band.

President **Harry Gjedsted** and his sister, **Mrs. Mary Solomon** accompanied the Guest of Honour introducing the Committee and Official Guests.

In a brief but well considered address, Harry welcomed our distinguished Guest of Honour and presented Sir Ivan with a Desk Set as a memento of the occasion. Mrs. Mary Solomon (deputising for Marjorie Gjedsted who is in Europe) presented Lady Dougherty with a sheaf of flowers.

Sir Ivan spoke with deep feeling of his appreciation of the Association's gesture and of his great regard for the members of the old battalion. Lady Dougherty added her thanks also and her best wishes to all.

Sir Ivan then mingled with the guests. It was his intention to meet everyone personally but, unfortunately, he became ill and had to leave before he intended. Members will be pleased to know that he is quite well again after a few days in bed.

A feature of the function was the attendance of many **Country Members**. Among those noted were **Ron Belford** (Ashford), **Jim Brown** (Kempsey), **John and Mrs. Hyles** (Tharwa, A.C.T.), **Jack and Mrs. Ormiston** (Cowra), **Leo and Mrs. Carter** (Kiama), **John and Mrs. Hine** (Lithgow), **Harry and Mrs. Pearse** (Stockton), **Alf and Mrs. Carpenter** (Warner's Bay), **Charles and Mrs. Adams** (Woy Woy) and **Bob Lane** (Ettalong). A very large number of apologies was received from other country and interstate members, all of whom extended their congratulations and best wishes to Sir Ivan and Lady Dougherty. Among them were telegrams from **Peter Denver**, South Australia, Vice-President; **Tom Provians**, Vice-President, Queensland; **Claude Raymond**, Victorian Vice-President; **Esca Riordan**, Kempsey, Northern N.S.W.; Vice-president; **Tim West**, Cowra, Southern N.S.W. Vice-president, and from "The Far North Coast Boys". Other apologies included those from **Jerry and Mrs. Coghlan**; **Peter and Margaret Cade**; **Mrs. Keith Turnbull**; **Mrs. Daisy Logan**; **Mrs. N. Smith**; **Mrs. Parkinson**; **Mrs. Jocelyn**; **Mrs. Herbert**; **Mrs. Isobel Nelson-Slee**; **Miss Eva Morrison**; **"Dasher" Deacon**; **Jeff King**; **Dave Endean**; **Bill Wall**, Bingara; **Max Rungie**, Adelaide; **Tom Mort**, Adelaide; **"Doc" Howard**, New Guinea; **Nevis Farrell**, Griffith; **Jack Crowley**, Dubbo; **Charlie Hood**, Bungwahl; **Bill Colley**, Bathurst; **Jack Chaseling**; **Bill Facey**; **Wal Henry**; **Doug and Charlie Grove**; **J. Gardiner**; **Tim Lamond**; **Jack Lister**; **R. J. Murphy**; **Mel McInnes**; **Ian Wallwork** and **Hugh Whittleton**, all of Kyogle; **Peter Willan**, Perth, W.A.; **Dick Bawden**, Port Macquarie.

Official Guests included 4 Bn. A.I.F. (1914-18): **Mr. and Mrs. Jack Noakes** and **Mr. and Mrs. Harry Stafford**; 4 Bn. A.I.F. (1939-45): **Geoff Tuckwell**, **Cliff Horsley**, **Ken Menser**, **Jack Gulliver**; 4 Bn. R.N.S.W.R.: **Lt.-Col. Gordon Maitland** and **Mrs. Maitland**, **Lt.-Col. Ray Sharp** and **Mrs. Sharp**, **Major Tom Hall** and **Mrs. Hall**, **Major Tom Chambers** and **Mrs. Chambers**, **Capt. Ray Hurst** and **Lieut. Peter Keating**.

The President and Committee extend their sincere thanks to all who assisted in making the function the success it was, particularly the 10 young men of the 4th Bn., Royal N.S.W. Regiment, who, smartly turned out in their uniforms, performed so excellently as stewards.

### THE ASSOCIATION OF FOURTH INFANTRY BATTALIONS

The Association has decided that their Annual March, Wreathlaying Ceremony and Reunion should be held on the Sunday nearest Armistice Day. This year it will be on Sunday, 10th November.

The March will commence at 3 p.m. in Phillip Street, off Martin Place, proceed to the Cenotaph for a brief Wreathlaying Ceremony and then to Wynyard Park in Margaret Street.

The Reunion will commence at 4 p.m. in the Ballroom at Royal Naval House, Grosvenor Street. Members are reminded that membership of the Combined Association is open to our members for \$1 per year.

### BOOKS FOR 4 R.A.R.

The Association of 4th Infantry Battalions is collecting reading matter for men of 4th Bn., Royal Australian Regiment, in Vietnam. Please help by sending any available material to H.Q., 4 Bn., R.N.S.W.R., Burrows Road, Arncliffe.

### PARTY PHOTOGRAPHS

**Peter Cook** has a copy of most of the snaps taken at the Cocktail Party last month. There are some really first-class photos of groups. It is a long time since we have had such a representative attendance at a function, and the resulting photos should be of great interest. Peter will secure copies for members who want them.

### THE LAST POST

NX11968 **J. T. Kershaw**; NX6140 **R. J. Sherrin**.  
"We Will Remember Them"

### NOTES FROM THE TREASURER

Hon. Treasurer **Fred Searle** reports subscriptions and/or donations received from **Alan Lindsay** \$4.00 and **George Ormiston** \$5.00, also **Jack Pearce** \$1.00.

We were very sorry to learn at the last meeting that Fred has had a recurrence of the kidney trouble necessitating a spell in bed and further visits to Repat. Our thanks to Dorothy for coming all the way in with Fred's Financial Report.

### CAPTAIN GEORGE CARTWRIGHT, V.C.

Many will remember George Cartwright, V.C., for his thoroughly organised training and fatherly guidance in various training camps.

George lives up Epping way, but has not been enjoying the best of health.

He and his wife were shipboard companions of "Nedda" and Mrs. Kenna when they were attending the recent V.C.'s gathering in London.

I sent George a copy of our War History and the result was a phone call and a happy reminiscence on old Greta and Tamworth days. George particularly recalls the "wonderful North Coast boys", but sends greetings to all who passed through his hands in training and best wishes to the Association.

Dick Morris.

### PATROL TO WADI ZEITAN

Just after dusk on the 8th January, 1941, we had moved closer to the Tobruk perimeter. Two platoons, one each from "A" and "B" Coys, went in to contact the enemy.

After hours of searching we found them—or they found us. It was a bright moonlit night and we had advanced quite stealthily. The screech of an occasional shell passing overhead kept us reminded that this was the real thing.

Our bombers were dropping flares over the port area. This would be followed by the thudding crunch of a stick of bombs.

Simultaneously, a barrage of tracer flak would float upwards, mostly red and green. These missiles seemed to soar lazily through the air.

Then the bombers would drone overhead on their way back to base.

Suddenly we topped a rise and a volley of rifle and machine gun bullets welcomed us. We went to ground; next, we made a rush over the rise. We did not get far when another volley brought us to earth again. Now on a forward slope, without any cover from enemy fire with the exception of a few dark stunted bushes.

The excited Italians sent up flares. We could distinctly hear them speaking while they worked their mortars and machine guns. They were too close for comfort. I'll never forget the ominous clatter just before each mortar shell exploded.

Soon after going down the second time, I felt a burning stinging thud as a bullet tore into my right forearm, then a rush of bleeding. Quite automatically I clapped the palm of my left hand over the wound. The cold air also helped to clot the wound.

The enemy fusillade seemed to increase in intensity.

Every moment I expected to collect another slug for good measure.

After what seemed an age there was a rush and a scramble for a more healthy area. Grasping my damaged arm firmly with my left hand I got going. We were speeded on by the crackle of enemy bullets.

We had not gone far when an Italian barrage started to fall between us and our lines. During the short lull between each salvo we managed to get past the area being shelled.

Next we passed through a support group, under the command of our Intelligence Officer. Accompanied by two other chaps (one a shell shock case) I headed further back in search of our R.A.P., which I could not find, and no one seemed to know where it was.

Rupert Carrington.

### REMEMBER LADIES' NIGHT FOR 1968 ON

FRIDAY, 6th DECEMBER, AT 8 P.M.  
See next month's issue for full details.

### HOSPITAL NEWS

In R.G.H. Concord: **John Keyte**, Ward 11; **"Blue" Benson**, Ward 4; **Mick Laurie**, Ward 6; **Peat Moss**, Ward 17.

## A "KNIGHT" TO REMEMBER

A momentous occasion, Royal Naval House the scene,  
Our General has been knighted by Her Majesty the  
Queen.

Sir Ivan piped in, the tune "Cock-O'-The North",  
Inside the hall to greet him his "boys" and other  
"Fourth".

Harry's speech was brief and full of well-earned praise.  
When Sir Ivan responded he spoke of other days,  
Of those we left behind us, the Desert, Greece and  
Crete;

Men here with their womenfolk, whom he was pleased  
to meet.

Days a generation back, men fought with common aim  
To uphold a way of life our offspring now acclaim.

The spirit, the mateship that exists among us still  
Will carry on forever? He feels sure it will.

Sir Ivan and his Lady were toasted with champagne—

It's a way we have in the Army,

Hip--hip-hooray again.

We are so proud of you, Sir, we wish you both good  
health,

Not only from your boys, Sir, but all the Common-  
wealth.

Joe McGrath.

## COCK'S COLUMN

## In the Mail Bag:

This is long overdue, "Cock", old mate, but better  
late than never, particularly as I would like to record  
the grand hospitality (as always) received on the  
family's trip to and from Brisbane following Joyce's  
death.

The three younger kiddies had gone ahead with  
friends and Rick and I travelled by car with Brian as  
motor-bike escort.

A phone call at Newcastle brought **Harry Pearce**  
over from Stockton for a noggin or two. He and  
**Yvonne** had just returned from a trip north and had  
seen some of the gang.

Would like to have "buzzed" **Billy Hayes** and **Jim**  
**McAdam** at Hamilton and also "**Bookie**" **Ray**, but it  
was a week day. Also had to press on.

Kempsey meant **Esca** and **Vera Riordan**, of course,  
and a good yarn. Esca sent warnings ahead per phone,  
speaking to "**Bushy**" **Bennett** (sorry we didn't get out  
to the spread, **John** and **Billie**), **Tommy Clough** at  
Macksville and **Dick Latimer** at Coff's Harbour. Dick  
promised to have a light in the window for us, but  
he had quite a wait as Esca and Vera insisted on  
supper and, of course, Tommy was waiting for us at  
Macksville R.S.L. Club.

True to form, however, **Dick** and **Enid** made us wel-  
come at Coff's Harbour, although the motel was not  
quite ready to open for business, and after a couple  
of bottles and a good yarn we settled down in really  
fine quarters.

Dick squashed our fond hopes of being the first  
paying guests, so the best we could do was send flowers  
to Enid before leaving Coff's Harbour.

Managed to locate **Royce McDonald** at Woodburn  
and it was good to have a yarn. Missed "**Tiny**" **Egling-**  
**ton** both going and coming, but was pleased to again  
meet his wife.

**Charlie Crossthwaite's** "ranch" was also deserted  
when we were heading back.

Had a good yarn to **Bob "Yappy" Gardiner** and **Jack**  
**Chaseling** at Kyogle, but time was running out so had  
to forego visiting **Doug** and **Connie Grove**, **Charlie**  
**Grove** and **Ian Wallwork**. Did, however, call on **Doug**  
**Stebbing** and his wife whilst Rick was getting petrol  
at Doug's store at South Casino.

Waited around for **Leo Lynch** at the Grafton R.S.L.  
Club, but had to shoot through before he came on  
duty.

From Grafton we headed for the hills and travelled  
throughout the night via Glen Innes, Armidale, Tam-  
worth, etc., for Rick to front up at work the following  
day. The rest of us were pleased to flake out and  
catch up on some sleep.

I apologise to Esca and Vera in particular for not  
calling in on the return trip as promised, and to those  
whom I would love to have seen but our journeys  
both north and south were quite a rush. The intention  
had been for leisurely return visiting all along the  
way, but in Brisbane we "just happened" to meet a  
bloke named **Tom Provians** along with some other  
type by the name of **Bob Werne** and somehow, about  
24 hours, got lost!!! Nuff said!!! Thanks for a grand  
time, boys, and for the lodgings, Bob.

Dick Morris.

Thank you, Dick, for this excellent resume of your  
travels, also the par. of **Capt. George Cartwright, V.C.**  
From **F. Mallett**, Purser Chief Steward, The New  
Zealand Shipping Co. Ltd., Royal Albert Docks,  
London, E16, England:

I have just received my March and May "White  
Over Green". They have been to New Zealand and  
many other places before finally ending up in my  
letter box.

As you can see, I am still not A1 for deep-sea  
voyages, "blood pressure", that's why I am London  
based, so at present I am the relieving Purser Chief  
Steward on the Company vessels that are loading and  
unloading in the United Kingdom. This job also takes  
me to Germany, Holland, Belgium and France. I am  
enjoying it as it's a change from long voyages. How-  
ever, it will be good sailing under the old Coat Hanger  
again with the prospect of seeing many old friends.

It's a pleasure to read about members of the old  
battalion and how they are getting on in this rather  
troubled world.

If you should see **Ron Belford** please tell him I  
think that I must have been as happy as he when his  
son returned to Sydney from the East. This was made  
possible by the article in W.O.G.—it was so very well  
written.

My best respects to you and family, also the Asso-  
ciation members.

Frank Mallett.

From **Flt. Officer R. R. Blackstock**, C/o Officers' Mess,  
R.A.A.F. Base, Point Cook, Victoria:

Dear Mr. Searle,

The family has just forwarded the notification of  
the Cocktail Party which was held on the 19th inst.  
in honour of Major-General Sir Ivan Dougherty,  
C.B.E., D.S.O., E.D.

Thank you for the invitation, and I regret I was unable to attend. I trust the evening was a success.

The members of the 2/4th Infantry Battalion Association must be very proud of the honour paid by Her Majesty to their distinguished Patron.

I have read in "White Over Green" recently of the attendance at the meeting of the Faulder brothers.

Do they "hail" from Parkes, N.S.W.?

My late brother, Tony, often referred to Dick Faulder from Parkes.

Just curious. Once again, many thanks.

Yours sincerely,

**Rita Blackstock.**

From **"Doc" Howard**, P.O. Box 496, Port Moresby, Papua:

An interesting piece of news for me is that my house boy comes from Suain village near Aitape.

Joined in the march we had here on Anzac Day with about 200 others and virtually melted during the address by the Administrator.

Look forward to receiving W.O.G. each month and read of all the members' doings with interest.

Kind regards to all.

From **Clem Roddy**, 7 Fitzroy Street, Tumut:

Walking down the main street of Tumut (yes, we have a main street here) I saw a chap looking at me very hard and I thought I knew him. It turned out to be **Bob Jessup**, an old "A" Coy. chap—I had not seen him since he was taken prisoner in Greece. He looks extra well and is on a property between Tumbarah and Tooma. If you don't know where that is, ask **Jack Pearce**. I told him about the Association and he gave me his \$2 to join so I enclose that amount also. He is anxious to get the unit war history, so I am sure if you forward one along to him and advise him the cost he will send the money to you. He has been on the property for 20 years and it is a wonder that I have not seen him before. Bob's address is: **R. V. Jessup**, "Roblea", Tumbaramba. You can send him his receipt direct and also the magazine each month.

Who knows we both might get down to Blah's reunion next year.

Sorry to hear that **Ted McCaffery** has left the Chief Secretary's Department. I am a bit worried because who is going to look after the bushfire brigades now that he has gone?

Give my regards to all the boys and tell them **Brig. Agnew** and I are holding the fort in this neck of the woods.

All the best for now to all the Gang.

From **Esca Riordan**, Kempsey:

On Sunday we had **Dick** and **Enid Latimer** stay with us for the day and had a most enjoyable yarn.

**Mr. George Moore** and his wife called on Vera a few weeks ago but would not stay. I do not remember him, but he now lives in the Wollongong area.

About a fortnight ago one **Ernie Swain** was in Kempsey and was enquiring after **Jim Brown** whom I understand contacted him.

Vera was speaking to **Billie Bennett** on Sunday afternoon and she said **John "Bushy"** was busy feeding his cows and calves owing to the long dry spell (which,

by the way, was broken this week with up to 5 inches of rain).

Looking forward to seeing you all at Cowra, hoping you and Barbara are fit and well. Our kindest regards to all.

From **Fred "Happy" Apthorp**, Griffith:

On behalf of the Griffith Branch of the Association, I would like to tender congratulations to our Patron and former C.O., Major-General Sir Ivan Dougherty, on his knighthood. We all feel that no man has deserved this honour more.

Also our condolences to **Jack Bradford** on the loss of his brother, **Wing-Commander Stuart Bradford**, D.F.C., formerly of Nos. 86 and 75 Squadron, R.A.F., during the Second World War, and later a Flight-Commander, No. 77 Squadron, R.A.A.F., Korea, who passed away at the early age of 44.

Whilst on matters re the Association, and not being able to attend meetings regularly, I would like to suggest that the Association arrange for a special Christmas card this year. As you will recall, we had one in 1940 (our first Christmas overseas) and it took on well. Providing sufficient members are again interested, I think it would be worth trying once more. Hoping you may be able to bring same to notice through W.O.G. With best wishes to all members.

**Ted Gamble** met **Leo Lynch** at Grafton R.S.L. Club recently and was very grateful for the most hospitable reception. Take a bow, Leo!

**Peter Cook** was made an honorary member of 4 Bn. R.N.S.W.R. Officers' Mess at Arncliffe recently.

My friend and neighbour, **Syd Derwent**, mentioned recently that he knows an officer of a 4th Bn., Phil Carey. He is prepared to issue a certificate that in addition to his being a good bloke he is a worthy successor to the old hands of the 2/4th. Syd is also a friend of **Harry Gjedsted**, **Noel Ford** and **"Dasher" Deacon**. We agree with Syd that **Captain Phil Carey**, "A" Coy., 4 Bn. R.N.S.W.R., is what he says.

#### NORTH BRITISH NEWS

It was a pleasant surprise to meet **Colin "Bunny" Burrows** (Auburn) and **Tom Clough** (Macksville). Both were in town for the R.S.L. State Congress. "Bunny" had recently seen **"Boy" Murphy**, **Jack Morewitch** and **Jim Sadler**. "Bunny" and a friend were off to the garden party at Government House so could not stay long.

**Tommy Clough** had recently seen **Bub Graham**, **Jack Maloney**, **Jim Brown**. Tommy often sees **John "Bush" Bennett** and **Billie**. At the State Congress Tom met **Bert Hudson** (Don Coy.) from West Wyalong and **Keith "The Red Steer" Beattie**.

A note left with our good friend **Eileen** from **Esca Riordan**, Kempsey, to say he had a note from **"Pom" Wallace** after Neil's death. Pom said that **"Tiny" Eglinton**, **Ron Ellem**, **Jack Lister**, **Cras Grove** and **Bob "Yappy" Gardiner** attended the funeral. Our sincere condolences to you, "Pom".

Esca also mentioned that as far as he could gather there would be a car load going to Cowra from Kyogle.

**Frank Frizell**, **Chas Adams**, **Noel Ford**, **Ken Webb** and **Jack Heaney** had a bit of a yarn before the last meeting.