



# White War Green

MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE 2/4 INFANTRY BATTALION ASSOCIATION

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PATRON: Major-General Sir Ivan Dougherty, C.B.E., D.S.O. & BAR, E.D., B.Ec.

25th YEAR OF CONTINUOUS PUBLICATION

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MARCH, 1970

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COLUMNIST: Jim "Cock" Robin, 20 Adderstone Avenue, North Sydney. 2060—Author of "Cock's" Column.

**Next Meetings: Friday, 3rd April, 1970 & Friday, 1st May, 1970, at 7.30 p.m.  
at ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVAL HOUSE, Grosvenor St., Sydney**

## STOP PRESS: Fred Searle Passed Away, 8th March

IF A CROSS APPEARS IN THIS  
SQUARE, OUR RECORDS INDICATE  
THAT YOU ARE UNFINANCIAL.  
\$2 TO ALLEN LINDSAY WILL  
SQUARE YOU. ANZAC DAY IS  
THE DEADLINE.

### SUBSCRIPTIONS

Your president and committee sincerely invite you to continue membership and ask for your support in carrying on the Association in strength. Regrettably delivery of W.O.G. must cease if membership lapses, so do send off your \$2 by return mail.

### ANZAC DAY ARRANGEMENTS

Wreathlaying Ceremony: Please attend this in full strength.

F.U.P.: Corner of York and Erskine Streets.

0800: FALL IN—for the short march to the Cenotaph via Barrack Street, preceded by members of the 4 Bn A.I.F. ('14-'18) and led by the Parramatta Caledonian Pipe Band.

Following the wreathlaying by our respective Association Presidents, the march will continue to our F.U.P. in Phillip Street, for the main march.

#### The Anzac March

This will commence 0900 hours. Our unit usually moves off at about 0945. Members are respectively requested to be in readiness to form up at approximately 0930, and to conform to the directions of the Honorary R.S.M.

Whilst avoiding over organising, let each of us be

worthy of taking our place in the ranks and the unit as a whole worthy of its place in the march.

The Committee has appointed the following members to act as standard bearers.

BANNER: Bill McLennan and Dick Latimer.

FLAGS: Chas Adams and Vic Francis.

The March finishes in Hyde Park, where there will be the usual Service.

#### The Anzac Day Reunion

Buses will be available. Be guided by Embussing Officer.

VENUE: Manresa Hall, Carlow Street, North Sydney.

COST: \$4 per person. Committeemen will have tickets for sale at F.U.P.'s.

CATERING: The Catering Committee will have a menu available for next issue. Rest assured it will be tasty, ample and properly distributed. Liquid refreshments will be ample with a skilled barman controlling the situation.

GUESTS: "Our Band" and a small group from four 4 R.N.S.W.R. are amongst the guests invited. We also look forward to a visit from some of the 4 Bn A.I.F. ('14-'18). The usual fraternal visit will be made to their reunion at the Journalists' Club.

### EDITORSHIP

Congratulations to RUSS McWILLIAMS for his long and excellent handling of W.O.G. and my sincere thanks for his generous offer to relieve me of these "duties" when the necessity arose some two years ago.

I apologise to RUSS, SIR IVAN, HARRY and all members for the length of time it has taken me to "front up" again.



Barbara, of course, must be offered our special thanks for her staunch assistance to RUSS.

RUSS and BARBARA—a big thank you from me and I'm sure from our patrons, President and all members.

During this period "Cock" has been continuing his "Fourth Columning" (no fifth columnists in our mob!), in his own inimitable style and it will be great to again team up with the "McDOUGALL OF W.O.G.". Congratulations on your well-deserved Honorary Life Membership "Cock".

I trust I may serve members through W.O.G. for many years to come, and reach RUSTY'S fine standard of editing.

DICK MORRIS

### WOY WOY FERRY TOUR AND PICNIC

The Committee has accepted Chas Adams' offer again to organise a picnic day in the Woy Woy district. Frank Frizell and Bob Lane will no doubt help.

This turned out to be a most delightful occasion last year and I'm all for a repeat dose.

Tentative date is the Sunday following Mother's Day.

Single tickets \$1.50. Full tickets \$2.50.

Ferry will leave from Woy Woy wharf—only yards from the railway station. Full schedule will be included in next month's issue.

### LAST POST

NX9766: FRED SEARLE, an Honorary Life Member of our Association passed away on Sunday, 8th March, 1970.

An original of the Bn. and for many years our honorary treasurer, Fred was well loved by all.

Our Patron, President, Committee and many members attended St. Anne's, Ryde, on Tuesday, 10th March to pay their respects.

Our deepest sympathies are extended to Dot and Jacqueline and Fred's kinfolk. We share their grief.

VALE FRED.

NX5541 JOSEPH EDWARD MOSS: Passed away 4th March, 1970. "Bluey" was an original and well known member. PETER COOK, JACK (CHEEKY CHARLIE) KEATING and BLUEY McNALLY attended the funeral, and together with three Petty Officers acted as pall bearers.

VALE JOE

MRS. EILEEN COPLAND (wife of John): Eileen's death was a sad loss to the community as a whole for her Welfare work has been outstanding over the years.

We have lost a staunch supporter.

A large number of members and wives attended the Service.

To John, one of our most beloved members, we all extend truly deep felt sympathies.

Dick Latimer expands on Eileen's life work in his Welfare Column.

VALE EILEEN.

Members, their good ladies and close associates who paid their last respects to Fred Searle:

Sir Ivan Dougherty	Mick Gray
Harry Gjedsted	Ernie Twist
Jim Brown, M.L.A.	Ewen Wood
(also rep. N. Coast boys)	Dick Faulder
Russ McWilliams	Cec Powers
George Stack	Ed Wilson
Cec Chrystal	Ted Gamble
Dick Latimer	Joe McGrath
Chas Adams	"Blue" Coleman
Athol Heath	Dave McGillivray
Reg Cole	G. Weston
Bill McLennon	Mike Richardson
John Meehan	Harry Stafford (4 Bn., '14-'18)
Rex Everson	Bill Ford (Pipe Band)
Jim Robin	Marge Gjedsted
Dick Morris	Marge Stack
John Copland	Norma Everson
Peter Cook	Mollie Irvine
"Brick" Bradford	Enid Latimer
Frank Frizell	Pat Heath
Stan Bowen	Gladys Twist
Wally Lambourne	Mrs. Bradford
(Rep. by Pat Kent, Ryde R.S.L.)	Mrs. Richardson
Len Bolin (4 Bn. '14-'18)	Blanche Stafford
Mrs. Phyllis Dunn, rep. her mother, Mrs. Parkinson	Mrs. McGrath

Apologies to any who may have attended and not be enlisted above.

### WELFARE REPORT

It is with a heavy heart that I report the passing during the last four weeks of two very fine and remarkable people I have been visiting, **Eileen Copland** and **Fred Searle**.

From a very early age **Eileen** dedicated her life to the service of her fellow man, particularly ex-service-men and women. When **John** first met her some forty years ago, she was actively assisting the blinded of World War I, and from then until recently, when she learned she was suffering from an incurable illness she continued her tireless work. She served in executive positions with the Women's Auxiliary of the Ryde R.S.L. from 1948 to 1970, when due to ill health, she did not nominate for re-election. In 1961 she was awarded the League's Certificate of Appreciation for services rendered. In addition to this, for a period of 20 years she was a very active member of the local Branch of Red Cross, during which time she played a full and useful part in all their activities in organising and conducting the Blood Bank. The Royal Ryde Homes Auxiliary also knew her as an able and untiring worker over 17 years. **Eileen** was laid to rest after a service at St. Anne's, Ryde, and then the Northern Suburbs Crematorium, and the large attendance clearly indicated the high esteem in which she was held. They included **Lady MacKay** and a strong contingent of Association members and wives headed by our President **Harry Gjedsted**.

Of **Fred Searle** my remarks will be brief and personal. Our President will pay a tribute to him in our next edition of W.O.G.

It is almost impossible for me to grasp the fact that the irrepressible, effervescent and tireless **Fred** is



no longer with us and my thought is, if we would all take a leaf from his book, what a truly great Association we would have.

Full honours were paid to **Fred** at a service at St. Anne's, Ryde, and then at the Northern Suburbs Crematorium which was attended by approximately 60 Association members and wives, led by our Patron **Sir Ivan Dougherty** and our President **Harry Gjedsted**. Ryde R.S.L., of which **Fred** and **Dot** were both active members, conducted a most impressive service.

Of these two dedicated people the words of Abou Ben Adhem are certainly true: "Write me as one who loves his fellow men."

#### Visited in Hospital

**Norman Shayler**, Ex A Coy.

**Henry Dawson**, 4th Bn. A.I.F.

**Cecil Whiteford**, 4th Bn. A.I.F.

**Les (Alfred) Crisp**, 4th Bn. A.I.F.

#### Visited at Coorabell Re-hab. Centre, Ryde

**Lionel (Bully) Howe**.

Bully is mastering his tin legs very well and hopes to be home in Temora in about 14 days.

#### Visited at Home

**Dot Searle, John Copland, Dick Faulder.**

My sincere wish to all members

**Good health.**

DICK LAMITER

#### IN THE MAIL BOX

Dear Cock

I was very thrilled to read in "White Over Green" that you had been elected an honorary life member of the Association. A very large number of the Association have appreciated all the work that you have done in producing Cock's Column for such a long period.

This applies particularly to those living in other states or in other parts, and both Betty and myself have looked forward with pleasure to reading your column each month and we hope that it will continue for many years. Once again congratulations and all the best of good luck.

Please find enclosed a letter to Mrs. Searle. Unfortunately, I have not her address. Would you kindly arrange to have it redelivered for me.

Kind regards,

Max

(M. K. Rungie).

Many thanks Max, for your nice remarks. Kind regards to Mrs. Rungie, and to any of the boys you meet down there, South of the Border.

#### COCK'S COLUMN

Firstly, I wish to express my sincere thanks to the Association members for making me an Honorary Life Member. You have honoured me in a way which I feel is far beyond my humble efforts (Modesty! (Ed.)) but I will always do my very best in the interests of the Association.

Secondly, I am most sorry that Russ McWilliams, through having so many other commitments, will not be able to continue as our Editor.

My thanks go to Russ and Barbara for the wonderful understanding and assistance in helping me with my column.

I was pleased to hear that Dick Morris has kindly offered his services as Editor.

As we all remember, Dick was our Editor before having to drop out due to tragic circumstances.

**Sid Thompson** (original 2/4th Sigs. and 4 Bn. Australian Rifles) recalls that he and **Tony Cressey** were the first to enlist from Portland in '39. Sid was pleased to read in the column that **Tom Ousby** is still O.K. and sends his regards also to **Garry Hart**, **Charlie Evans**, **Charlie Granquist** and **Bernie O'Mara**. Sid is still soldiering on — Postmaster at the Military Post Office, Holsworthy.

**Athol Heath** and **Allen Lindsay** had a great time, especially swapping yarns with the fine bunch of young men of the Wollongong contingent of 4 R.N.S.W. Regt.

**North British News:** A pleasant surprise to walk in and meet **Don Ellicott**, late of Bourke. Don looks very well — all 15 stone of him. He works for Winchcombe Carson and has transferred to Sydney. Don reports having seen **Tommy Fielder**, "A" Coy. **Tom Mort's** son, **Tim**, introduced himself to Don at Bourke — undoubtedly "a chip off the old block", says Don. Closer to home — at Manly — Don had a few beers with **Eric Holder** and **George Catt**.

Met **Allan Brown**, 2/1st Field Regt. — we were with the 2/1st at Haifa and Wewak. Allan wishes to be remembered to **Jim Brown**, **Phil Smith**, **Geoff Hawke** and all the rest of us.

Eileen's notebook showed a note from **Jock Cumming** and **Jim Crowe** from Cootamundra. Sorry I missed you men and hope you are well again now Jim.

**Jim "The Pom" Staples** (Sgt. mortars) lives at 10 Warne St., Wellington, N.S.W. and invites anyone passing through to call and see him there or at the Apsley Bowling Club. It was Jim's first time at the N.B. — had been in R.G.H., Concord. Hopes to be moving to Sydney in the not too distant future.

**Bill Jones** and **Sam "Sep" Innes** also called in to see **Ron "Porky" Williams**.

In Haberfield met **Bob Byall** Ex Navy and Tamworth R.S.L., who is a friend of Nick Allardice, also of late Bill Smith. In fact Bob was going up to Tamworth that weekend and would see Nick, I asked him to pass on to Nick our regards.

At the North British, February—

**Ken Northrop** called in. Was only down from **Glen Innes** for a week.

**Morrie Wilson** sends regards to all.

**Allan Brown**, 2/1 Fld. Regt., wishes to be remembered to **Jim Brown**, **Phil Smith**, **Geoff Hawke** and all his other 2/4 Bn. mates. Allan lives in Mosman.

**Jim Crowe** and **Jock Cummin**, Cootamundra, called in. Gee, I am sorry I missed you boys.

"Happy Christmas to all" from **Jim "Stumpy" Agnew**, Tumut. **Jim** wrote that **Clem Roddy** has been very sick but is now improving. Thank God. Sorry to hear you've been so ill **Clem**, but pleased to know you are now on the road to recovery. Sorry I missed you **Jim**.

**Joe Rognini** met "Jerry" Coughlan—why?

Happy New Year to all from **Sid Young**.

Roll Call—**Ted McCaffery**, **Porky Williams** and **Fred Hudson**. Gee what a trio!

**Jack Crowley**, Dubbo, called in to see the boys, kindest regards and good luck to all. "Hello Cock, greetings for the New Year, sorry I missed you.



Daughter Allison sailing for England tomorrow on the Himalaya, could drop in after midday tomorrow." I am sorry that I missed you **Jack**. Wishing you and family all the best for the 1970. Congrats. to **Allison** and I hope she has a very pleasant trip.

**Allan Kirk**, Lismore: "All the best for the New Year."

Sorry I missed all these boys. Better luck next time.

Sincere thanks **Eileen** for the excellent job you are doing.

Travelling to **Kandos** with a friend, **Allan Bailey**, Lidcombe, he saw my 2/4th badge, said, "2/4th eh? I was in the 4th Bn. in Western Australia." Allan is a friend of **Clyde Parker** (C Coy.), Auburn, played tennis with him. Allan sends regards, Clyde.

With my nephew-in-law Roy Morris of Kandos, I visited the Kandos R.S.L. Club and met Mr. **Jack Blackeney**, Sec./Man. Was made very welcome by him. He shouted a round saying, "Compliments to the 2/4th Inf. Bn." **Jack** was in the 2/2nd Bn. (Second to None). He knows **Ralph Fenton** who enlisted from Emu Plains. Jack sends regards, **Ralph**. **Jack** invites any 2/4ers passing through, to visit the Club, where they will be made most welcome.

At the North Sydney Anzac Memorial Club met **Bill ("Sluggo") Wildman**. I am pleased to say **Bill** has now recovered from a broken ankle and is playing outdoor bowls at Warringah Bowling Club. **Bill** met **Harold Bowman** who recently returned from Warialda and reports that brother "**Budda**" is OK. **Bill** also met **Terry Carroll**, **Les Sharp**, **Les** lives on the North Shore. **Bill Brunnell**: I heard that **Bill** fought South-West Pacific and attained the Featherweight Championship and **Roy Fuller** an original 2/4er wrote C/- North Sydney A.M.C.

North British again: Met **Don Ellicott** ex-Bourke. He looks well—now a 15 stoner. Recently has seen **Tommy Fulder** A Coy. At Bourke **Tim Mort**, **Tom's** son, introduced himself to **Don**. Undoubtedly a chip off the old block. **Don** was hoping that **Jim Whitaker** may be down from Milton. **Milla Don's** youngest daughter Suzanne was married at Bourke, and that time was staying in Sydney.

In the mail box letters and Christmas cards from England: **Frank Mallett** a nice card, "To Cock and also all the 2/4th Assn." I had sent him one. **Frank** and family are OK.

Also from England, a letter from **Monty Selms** in answer to my card.

From **Jack** and **Joan Huston**, Canberra. Also a card to send on to **Eva Morrison**.

From **Dick Morris** and family, West Ryde. **Jim** and **Marcia Crowe** and family, Cootamundra. **Esca** and **Vera**, West Kempsey, **Esca** writes: "Will try and get some news for 'Cocks' Column' early in the New Year. Hoping you are OK. We are."

**Wal** and **Nora Taylor** and family, Cootamundra.

**Dick** and **Enid Latimer**, 298 Bobbin Head Road, North Turramurra.

**Harry** and **Marge Gjedsted**, Mona Road, Darling Point.

**Roy** and **Beverley Moores**, a picture post card folder of Adelong (very nice too). **Best** wishes to the 2/4th Bn. Assn.

**Russ** and **Barbara McWilliam** and family.

From **Victoria**: **Bob**, **Ada**, **Denise** and **Harry Griffith**, **Mildura**, Box 269.

I wish to thank you all sincerely for remembering me. I hope you all received my cards and that I did not forget anyone.

A letter from **Eva Morrison** (we had sent each other cards and gift). One page of the letter to me and the second page "To all members of the 2/4th Battalion, I wish all Peaceful Happiness and Good Health for 1970 and to all families prosperity, Yours truly **Eva Morrison**. Best wishes to **Ted McCaffery**, **Dick Morris**, **Rex Everson**, **Fred Searle**, **Alex Maxwell**, **George Stack** and all families. Good Health and Peace Always, **Eva Morrison**."

Was having a sip with **Bill ("Sluggo") Wildman** at the North Sydney Anzac Memorial Club when **Terry Carroll** came in. He said "Hullo **Bill**, hullo **Cock Robin**"—and we had not seen each other for over 25 years. **Terry** is Accountant at Hodder and Stoughton Ltd.

**Terry** has recently met **Russ McWilliam** and **Harold Bowman**. As you may remember **Terry** was in the Carriers, so if any of you "Carrierees" wish to write to him, his address: **Terry Carroll**, 810 Military Road, Mosman. It was good to see you **Terry**. Coming to next meeting?

Now back to the North British where I met **Jack Gaffney**, **Ken Webb** and **Jim ("Happy") Davis**. **Jim** had recently seen **Terry Sparks**, **Vic Francis** and **Bill Duffy**.

**Barry Herwig** called in down from Queensland. His new address: C/- P.O. Wondac, Queensland, 4606. A good R.S.L. at Wondai, all 2/4ers are welcome. Sorry I missed you **Barry**.

**Don Ellicott**, new address: Unit 4, Lot 8, No. 12 Fairway Close, Manly Vale, 2093. **Don** also reports that **Murray Naismith** was in Concord hospital.

**Joe Rognini** reports that he saw in the T.P.I. Journal that **Murray Naismith** is now a T.P.I.

At the North British, Annual Meeting night:

Met **Ron Anderson**, **Bill Crother**, then **Bob Lane**, all the way from Ettalong came in. Then the one and only **Jim ("Happy") Davis** (we can be thankful for that!) then **Charlie Adams**, also from Ettalong and last but not least **Reg "Pommy" Cole**, **Jack Fitzgerald** 2/1st said hullo; also that he met **Lex Fox** and **Joe Rognini** on the Manly Ferry. "**Happy**" could not go to the meeting, had other commitments, but paid me **Terry Sparkes'** subs and new address in Holdworth Street, Newtown.

Those in attendance at the meeting:

**Sir Ivan Dougherty**, **Harry Gjedsted**, **Russ McWilliam**, **George Stack**, **Allen Lindsay**, **Harry Wright**, **Dick Latimer**, **Athol Heath**, **Cec Chrystal**, **Reg Angel** (all the way up from Hutchinson), **Bill "Snow" MacLennan**, **Vic Francis**, **John Meehan**, **Cecil ("Slim") Powers**, **Ted Jackson**, **Charlie Adams**, **Bob Lane**, **Jack "Frog" Clarke**, **Rex Everson**, **Ted DeSatge**, **Reg "Pommy" Cole**, **Dick Pinson**, **Bill Leech**, **Sid Young**, **Bob Ferguson**, **Dick Faulder** and myself.

News from some of them:—

**Reg "Pommy" Cole** visiting Brisbane quenched the thirst with **Tom Provan**.

**Ted Jackson** has recently seen **Les Fox**, **Johnnie Ringrose**, **Phil Smith** and plays bowls with **John Cause** 4 Bn. ('14-'18). **Bill Luck** said that his daughter **Robyn** (a good name that!) has a month's holiday in San Francisco. Son **Anthony** is attending University of N.S.W. doing an Engineering course.