



White over Green

MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE 2/4 INFANTRY BATTALION ASSOCIATION

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25th YEAR OF CONTINUOUS PUBLICATION

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**Next Meeting: Friday, 3rd July, 1970, at 7.30 p.m.
at ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVAL HOUSE, Grosvenor St., Sydney**

1970 COUNTRY REUNION NEWCASTLE

Whilst it had been hoped to have Wagga Wagga as the venue for this year, the Committee have accepted John (Bookie) Rae's offer to promote the Reunion in Newcastle district.

"Bookie" is quite a radio personality at 2NX and smartly organised the Mayor and booked accommodation.

A short informal Committee Meeting on Anzac Day heard his outline plan and together with Cliff Curren and other Newcastle W.O.G.s such as Harry and Yvonne Pearse, he is confident of making it, with the support of members, a huge success.

Further details will be published next issue. Do book EARLY!

In the meantime, I personally hope that when Wagga R.S.L. Club extensions are completed "Dagwood" and "them thar Southerners" will be prepared to do the honours in the near future.

RETURN THANKS

Dorothy Searle and family wish to thank everyone for their kindness in their sad loss of Fred.

In a letter to "Cock Robin", Dorothy wrote:

"The boys of the 2/4th, also some of the ladies, have been wonderful to me, keeping in contact either by phone, letter or cards. I would love to be able to thank each and every one of them personally but there were so many. It has been one of the things that has kept me up in spirits so much and I am truly grateful for their thoughtfulness. It has been a great loss to me. I am hoping to be in the same as always on Anzac Day. It is going to be very hard to

do but I think Fred would want me to, and that's all that matters."

(Of course, in true 2/4th spirit, Dorothy did make it on Anzac Day. Chin up Dot. — Ed.)

WOY WOY LAUNCH PICNIC

This was again a wonderful day, enjoyed by all who attended, and it was marvellous to see the happy families and their friends. "Cock" has all the personal details for his column, but here we must congratulate Chas. and Phoebe Adams and thank them for their efforts and hospitality. They were ably assisted, of course, by the "terrible twins" Bob Lane and Frank Frizell.

Your Editor was the lucky winner of the pearls donated by Chas.

Don't miss this outing in future years for it has become a "must" for W.O.G. families.

GORDON MAITLAND

Gordon Maitland proved himself a most capable Guest Speaker at the Ryde R.S.L. Anzac Day Sunday Service. Your Editor, now a "Ryder" (or whatever you call residents of Ryde districts) was in attendance and it was a pleasure to again meet Gordon, as well as John Copland, Harry Wright, Ed and Fran Wilson and Dick Faulder, also Arthur Burrows, 4th A.I.F.

CLAN NIGHT

"Our" Band, Parramatta and District Caledonian Society, holds regular Clan Nights at Parramatta Town Hall and there is a standing invitation for our members to attend. You are assured a happy evening.

ASSOCIATION OF 4th INF. BNS.

Next monthly meeting: 25th June, 1970.
 Arncliffe Drill Hall, Barlow Street.

LAST POST

NX30263 Allan M. (General) McArthur of Ashfield. (Morton Pl.) Passed away 17th April, 1970, in R.G.H. Concord after a long illness. Our sympathies to Allan's families.

NX42778 Jim H. Crowe of Cootamundra (B Coy), collapsed whilst on a shooting outing. Jim was a man's man and on joining the Bn. prior to our return from the M.E. was accepted by all ranks as a capable N.C.O. His sporting prowess, particularly as five-eighth in the Bn. Rugby League team brought him further recognition and of course his bearing in action left nothing to be desired. We will miss this dear mate. After the war Jim continued his sporting career in football and cycling, playing against the English team in 1950. He became Steward in charge of trotting in the South West district and he will be sadly missed by the fraternity. Jim's popularity can be gauged to some extent by the number of members who were good enough to write in, most enclosed press cuttings which gave ample indication of his standing in the southern area of N.S.W. My sincere thanks to those who went to this trouble to ensure W.O.G. had this sad information.

All will join in asking Marcia and her children and all Jim's kin to accept our deepest sympathies.

Ronald Dunreath, 4th A.I.F. (See Dick Latimer's Welfare Column.)

VALE Allan, Jim and Ronald.

W.O.G.'s 24th BIRTHDAY

The first issue of White Over Green was published in May, 1946. It has "never missed a beat" since.

We are all indebted to those who have helped sustain this continuity, above all, those members who take the trouble to pass on information for publication. Whilst lack of space may not permit publication of all details, essential and interesting items always gain mention, so do send in that news on self, family and mates.

ANZAC DAY

Just on 200 members marched in Sydney on Anzac Day, some for the first time. Many were down from the "scrub" and it was great to have a yarn to them. You can bet "Cock" has oodles of interesting info. from most members, which will be published in his column.

The Wreath Laying was impressive, our marching was of its usual high standard and the Re-union was a wow, with many distinguished guests, excellent catering and ample liquid "ammo". Our Patron, Sir Ivan, led the Wreath Laying March and addressed the gathering at the Re-union.

Bill Ford of "our" Band won the guessing competition prize of "bottled headaches" generously donated by Snow McLennan.

Space precludes a fuller account of a wonderful day.

BUNDEENA R.S.L. SMOKO

Dick Chamberlain, as the new president of the Bundeena Sub-Branch invited official representation from our association at that Sub-Branch's Smoko. Rex

Everson and your editor attended and had a wonderful time.

During the evening Dick Chamberlain made a presentation to the Past-President (of many years standing), Dick Swain, 4 Bn. A.I.F. and father of Ernie. In reply, Dick Swain said he was pleased that the Sub-Branch Presidency was still in the "family" (4th Bns.).

Rex and I sincerely thank Dick and his Branch for making us so welcome, Ernie and Mrs. Swain for their hospitality and the poker machine which paid a Jackpot to the "Sick Parade" malingerers.

Summing up: The Smoko was terrific; the Saturday "Sick Parade" was "murder"! Thanks Bundeena.

WELFARE REPORT

Since my last report, two more of the boys I've been visiting have answered their last Roll Call.

Alan (General) McArthur, ex B Coy and Mortar Pl. 2/4 Bn. and **Ronald Dunreath Cooper**, 4 Bn. A.I.F.

Ron and **Alan** passed away after very long and painful illnesses and although their passing has left a sad gap in their families and our ranks, I'm sure nobody could wish them back. By a strange and tragic coincidence they occupied adjacent beds in Ward 630, R.G.H. Concord, and passed away within 10 days of each other.

VISITED IN HOSPITAL

Now discharged **Murray Naismith**, **Norm Shaylor**, **Dick Swain**, 4 Bn. A.I.F., **Reg. Stapleton**, 4 Bn. 39-45, **Ken (Dasher) Deacon**, **Les Crisp**, 4 Bn. A.I.F., **Rick Carter**, **Bill Keough**.

STILL IN HOSPITAL

Alan Headlam: **Alan** will be in for at least three months with a severe chest complaint.

Tony Creasy: **Tony** sends regards to **Peter Cook**.

I'm pleased to report **Lionel (Bully) Howe** has returned to his family in Temora — best wishes **Bully**.

Rick Carter has also gone home to Urunga and **George Stack** received a very appreciative letter from him thanking **Dick Morris**, **Cec Chrystal**, and myself for assistance we were able to give him and his wife during his sojourn in Sydney. **Rick** was a very sick boy indeed, he was suffering from poisoning induced by a drug wrongly administered for an arthritic condition due to war service. Thank you for the letter **Rick** and our best wishes for a complete recovery.

Applications for T.P.I. pensions have been lodged on behalf of **Des Cunningham** and **Bill Keough**. **Des** is suffering from diabetes and a severe heart condition, and **Bill** has recently suffered his fourth coronary. **Bill's** troubles date back to an attack of typhoid fever in Palestine in 1940. Both these boys are unable to work and the pittance they are receiving is an absolute iniquity.

I am most terribly disappointed at the result of my appeal in my last report for information regarding the date and cause of death of our members.

Dick Faulder has painstakingly compiled a list of our boys that we know of who have passed on since the end of the war and the list adds up to a frightening 240 men, 31 in the last twelve months and when I tell you I have received only one letter from **Molly**, the

widow of **Sam (Scotty) Irvine**, from a distribution list of 550 W.O.G.'s I think you will agree the response is disappointing to say the very least.

Again I ask each and every recipient of W.O.G. and most particularly the widows or family of any deceased member to let me have as much information as possible **URGENTLY**.

In conclusion I would like to pay a tribute to one of my best mates who passed away on Sunday, 26th April. **Jim Crowe** ex E Coy and B Coy. **Jim** was a rare combination, a fine soldier, a distinguished sportsman and one of nature's gentlemen, and it was my privilege to be numbered among his friends. Rest well, **Jim**.

My sincere wish to all members,

Good health,

DICK LATIMER.

COCK'S COLUMN

From Eileen's notebook:

Jack Wilson, NX5527, called in. Jack did not know that the 2/4th boys met there, he lives at Randwick, works with the Maritime Service Board, and is a member of the Coogee Bay R.S.L. Club. Jack was involved in an accident at work and is now on Compo. Written in the book was "All Middle East Battles". He came to the N.B. with his mate Keith Lane of the 2/1 Pioneers Bn., who knows Jack Goffney (also a "Maritime").

Don Ellicott met Ken ("Count") Carrington, and Ralph Richards at Gilgandra, both are well, and send best regards to all mates.

Joe Rognini wrote a note in the book for Don Ellicott.

Laurie "Pop" James came in, Laurie has taken over the paper-stand, at David Jones corner, Market and Castlereagh Streets. So those in that area, please pay him a visit; best of luck Laurie in your new venture. "Paper!"

Before April meeting night, at the N.B. Reg. Cole, first to arrive, Ken Webb, then Harry Wright. We all adjourned to the meeting.

Mail Box: A letter from Eva Morrison (Johnny's sister). Two letters from Ron Belford, from Ashford; one was for me to pass on to Mrs. Searle as he did not know her address. I have done so.

Letter from Mrs. Ruth Carter to let me know that Rick was seriously ill in a hospital at Pennant Hills. I took the letter to the meeting, there Dick Latimer, the Welfare Officer took over.

I will write to you Ron, also you Dick. I have already written to Mrs. Carter and forwarded Ron's letter on to Mrs. Searle.

Ron Belford wrote he is sorry he will not be able to come to this Anzac Day Reunion. He met Ken "Spanner" Graham recently who is not enjoying the best of health. Sorry to hear of this Ken. We all wish you a speedy recovery to the best of health. Ron's best wishes to Geoff Hawke, Selby Dean and Ross Smith.

Dick Bawden hopes to see us all on Anzac Day. He was waiting to hear from Sam Robbins, who promised to come over from Melbourne. Dick sees Tom Barber occasionally, also has 'phone calls from Esca Riordan, Kempsey, and Noel Ford from Sydney, and Eric Lilliebridge. Both Ruth and Dick are endeavouring to make the country reunion this year.

Those who attended the April Meeting: Harry Gjedsted, Russ McWilliams, George Stack, Allan Lindsay, Harry Wright, John Meehan, Ces Chrystal, Charlie Adams, Dick Morris, Vic Francis, John Copland, Athol Heath, Dick Latimer, Lionel "Bully" Howe, Dick Faulder, Stan Bowen, Tom "Blue" Saunders, Mick Steele, Fred De Latge, Bill Luck, Ken Webb, Dick Pinson, Reg Cole, Jack Dubber, Dick Chamberlain, Jack Humphries, Ernie Swain, Ken Kes-teen, George Friend, Fred Staggs, Rick Morris, Ron Thatcher and myself. 34 all told.

Now some of their news:—

Charlie Adams came down from Ettalong for the meeting. Good effort Charlie. Reports that Frank Frizell is down in Flinders Island.

John Meehan met Bill Parry at the Royal Easter Show. Bill sends regards to all 2/4th boys.

George Stack said that it was 29 years today (3.4.70) since the 2/4th Unit landed in Piraeus, Greece. Left Alexandra, Egypt, on 1st April on the S.S. Penland, a Dutch ship.

Dick Faulder said he would like to see Ed. (Boof) Wilson come along to one of our meetings.

George Friend met Merv. Hicks, who is looking forward to seeing a few coppers on Anzac Day.

I was sorry to hear that Fred Staggs's wife, Rita, has been in hospital for an ear operation, but, I am now pleased to write, is home again and doing well.

Rick Morris (Dick's son) met Don Anderson (B Coy) in Parramatta. Don was walking past with his 2/4th Badge on, and Rick grabbed him. Don said he would make an effort to get into the meetings.

Phyl and Cec. Chrystal spent Easter weekend in Canberra, saw Joan and Jack Huston and had a "noggin". Jack sends his apologies, as he won't be able to make Anzac Day this year. He sends regards to all. All are well in Canberra. (Sorry Jack and Joan that you will be absent. Jim.)

Cec. and Phyl called on Pam and John Hydes, at their magnificent property at Tharwa, met the kids, Alexandra, Sarah, Jane, Georgina and John, and what a team they are, all busy drafting sheep, at the "Master's" command, and what a great job they do. John will be playing Polo with the Duke on 24th April, in Canberra. John and Pam are to be presented to the Queen.

Graham Jackett, Tasmania, sees Dick Butters often, and he hopes to come up to the Wagga "do". Graham is making good progress although he suffered a slight setback a few weeks ago. Graham Junior was married in Sydney, on Friday, 6th March. (March meeting night.) The reception was held at Phyl's and Cecil's home at Castlecrag. A very lovely wedding. Our congratulations and best wishes to Jan and Graham.

Now some news of the Chrystaleers:—

Sue: Now in final year of Nursing at the Children's Hospital.

Rolf: Passed his final exams in Architecture at Sydney University last year, and is now working in an Architect's Office at North Sydney.

Angela: Is doing first year Arts at Macquarie University, intends to take up teaching.

Amanda: Final year at High School and doing her Higher School Certificate this year. Congratulations to these Lassies and Lad.

North British again—In Eileen's notebook:—

Dick Latimer, "I am looking for a change, regards to all. Jack Page says hullo to all 2/4thers.

Ron "Porky" Williams and Ted McCaffery will be in on Friday, roll call 11-59.

I was pleased to meet Charles, "Bill" Campbell. As he has been on the sick list for the last four months, but is now working as a night watchman for Metropolitan Security Service. Col's address: 121 Rickard Road, Narrabeen. Col did not know of the passing of Fred Searle, it was a shock to him. He sends his sincere sympathy to Mrs. Searle and Jacqueline.

Met Jack "Dusty" Gaffney whom I had not seen for months. He is well, paid me his subs and his new address is 43 Third Avenue, Willoughby.

Eileen's Notebook: Les Fox, "Hello" Cock, Les will see us all on Anzac Day.

John "Bookie" Rae, Newcastle: May not make it on Anzac Day, this year. We are all sorry to hear that mate, we hope you come.

Ted Swadling, Griffith: Ted drove all night, arrived 4 a.m. At the N.B. met Jerry Coughlon and Ken Webb.

Bob Lane, Ettalong:

Bill Jones: "To all the boys, McCaffrey, Heaney and fellow comrades — Hope you are all looking as well as I feel."

It was a very pleasant surprise to walk into the N.B. and meet Rick and Ruth Carter. I was unable to visit Rick in hospital on the Sunday. Rick and Ruth were catching the night train to Urunga. Rick will have to take it very quiet for some time. He is not a well man and unfortunately will not be able to attend Anzac Day Re-union. Pleased to see you on your feet again, Rick, and also pleased to have met you Ruth.

Rick told me that daughter Alison is training at King George 5th Hospital, with Tim West's daughter Sue. Congratulations to you young ladies.

Friday, 17th April, I arrived and met Jack Heaney and Frank Frizell (Ettalong) then Ron Anderson arrived and Jim "Happy" Davis, who recently met Bill Duffy and Terry Sparks. Jack Heaney paid me his "subs", Gordon Crisp came in just as I was leaving.

Friday night before Anzac Day: On parade were:— Dick Bawden, Port Macquarie, Ted Harris, Cowra, Ted Swadling, Griffith, as well as locals Jack Harry, Ken Webb, Gordon Crisp, Jim "Happy" Davis, Ron Anderson and Dick Pinson.

Jack "Cheeky Charlie" called on his way from Repat. Had a yarn to Ferd Pegg.

Friday before May meeting night. Jim "Happy" Davis, Ron Anderson, Ted Swadling, Dick Morris, George Friend.

Those at the Meeting:

Harry Gjedsted, Russ McWilliams, George Stack, Allen Lindsay, Harry Wright, Cec. Chrystal, Athol Heath, Dick Latimer, Dick Morris, Jim Cameron, George Friend, Ted Fox, Dick Pinson, Stan Bowen, Dick Faulder, Dick Chamberlain, Peter Cade, Sid Young, Rex Filliland, Ron Thatcher, Rick Morris and myself.

Dick Faulder wants Reg. Cole to contact Albert "Angel" Gabriel.

Eileen, Vic Frances' spouse, is on her way to Mil-dura, Vic., and hopes to contact Bob Griffith and family.

George Friend has four children, his eldest daughter, Jennifer, is a 2nd year Nurse at St. Vincent's Hospital; his daughter, Suzanne, has commenced nursing at Sydney Hospital. The twins are now 8 years old. George would like to hear from his old mate, Don Carf. His address: 25 Palmerstone Street, Vacluse.

I was pleased to see Jim Cameron and Ted Fox come along to the meeting. I asked them on Anzac Day to do so, they promised, and kept their word. Also many thanks to Jim Cameron, who was kind enough to drive me home. I certainly appreciated it Jim.

In the Mail Box:— From Dick Bawden, Port Macquarie. Dick writes "On my way home by car I located Ted Swanson at Nabiac (17 miles South of Taree). He has a Caltex Garage, together with Cabins and Caravans, and is the last place on the left coming North from Nabiac. So call in boys.

We all wish you every success in your new venture Ted, and, if up that way, we will certainly call in.

The first man I met was Ron Barber, I was very glad to do so, and hope to see you at the meetings Ron.

Frank Frizell, Ettalong, received another letter from Gordon Robins; could not make the Reunion, sends regards to Dick Pinson, George Stack, "Cock" Robin, all members of the 2/4thers.

Ted Fox, Roseville. Ted was hoping to see Ross Ellesman, Ron Raymond, Ettalong, was hoping to see Harry Russel and Jim "Munga" Mills.

Don Anderson, Parramatta. Don met "Blue" Benson and George Moore, Mollymook.

NOTES FROM THE TREASURER

The Treasurer wishes to advise that several members incorrectly were shown as unfinancial in the February issue of W.O.G. Apologies to those members. The exercise will be repeated later in the year and on that occasion the information will be correct.

DONATIONS RECEIVED**Fees received from:**

RON THATCHER	\$5	WAL DAVEN	\$2
"COCK" ROBIN	\$4	H. BOWMAN	\$4
CYRIL McCOSKER	\$2	R. E. PERCY	\$3.30
EWEN WOOD	\$4	W. R. POTTS	\$2
B. H. BARNES	\$2	MAT MYERS	\$4
KEN WEBB	\$2	A. J. FAULDER	\$2
ERNIE SWAIN	\$2	L. STRONACH	\$4
S. R. SMITH	\$2	GARY HART	\$2
GEOFF HAWKE	\$2	FRED CATLEY	\$4
JACK LESTER	\$6	BILL FACEY	\$4
C. LOUGHNAN	\$2	BILL ENGLISH	\$2
ERIC LETTEBRIDGE	\$4	DOUG STEBBINGS	\$2
W. MITCHELL	\$2	A. L. WEBB	\$4
JOHN HOLLAND	\$2	G. MOORE	\$2
DAVE MARTIN	\$2	DOUG MILLER	\$2
FRANK SADLER	\$5	G. L. ROBINS	\$2
JIM WHITAKER	\$10	FRED VARLEY	\$2
R. J. DAVIES	\$2	DR. DIBDEN	\$10
JACK CHASELING	\$2	E. R. WILSON	\$2
MICK GREEN	\$2	D. ENDEAN	\$2
WALLY SHAW	\$4	L. McCOSKER	\$2
JACK HARDIMAN	\$2	ROY MOORES	\$2
R. J. ROSS	\$2	TOM BRENNAN	\$10
RON BARBER	\$2	DOUG GROVE	\$2
BILL COLEMAN	\$2	BOB GRIFFITHS	\$20
WEWAK R.S.L.	\$2	DAVID DUDNIE	\$2
N. B. FLYNN	\$2	M. C. RICHARDSON	\$2
HARRY NICHOLS	\$2		

(Continued next issue)