



White over Green

MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE 2/4 INFANTRY BATTALION ASSOCIATION

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**Next Meetings: Friday, 4th September, 1970 at Royal Australian Naval House, Grosvenor St.,
Friday, 9th October, 1970 Sydney, at 7.30 p.m.**

NEWCASTLE REUNION

6-Hour Day Week-end, October 3 to 5

A FABULOUS WEEK-END ARRANGED

FRIDAY: TROTS

SATURDAY: WREATH LAYING AND REUNION DINNER

SUNDAY: R.A.P. AND FRESH AIR (AT THE SURF CLUB)

MONDAY: TURF MEETING

BOOK RIGHT NOW

\$2.00 per head to JOHN RAE, 4/93 Wolfe Street, Newcastle, 2300

Please give adequate details of preferred accommodation, arrival time, etc., to allow the Newcastle committee to make arrangements most suited to your needs.

6 DIV. ASSN. REUNION

September 4, 1970

Wreath laying: 6.10 p.m., Phillip Street.

Dinner: 6.45 p.m., Ball Room, Menzies Hotel.

Tickets: \$4.00 each

Bookings: George Stack, R.S.L. Club, or Honorary Secretary, 6 Div. Assn., P.O. Box 96, Bondi Beach, 2026.

Unfortunately, the function clashes with our September meeting, but it is trusted that all who can will attend the march and then OUR meeting.

LAST POST

NX70178—Capt. W. A. (WAL) DAVEN (B. Coy.), Gosford.

VX71832—T. E. Barrett, Melbourne. (Road Accident).

It was particularly sad for me personally to hear of the passing of Wal, as we grew up together at Gosford and our lives ran parallel in many respects.

R.S.L. STATE CONGRESS

Members who attended State R.S.L. 54th Annual Congress: Sir Ivan Dougherty, Jim Brown, Ted Jackson, Dick Bawden, Arthur Webb, Bunny Burrows, John Copland and Keith "Red Steer" Beattie.

I doubt whether any other unit can equal this record of service to the R.S.L. cause.

JOHN COPLAND.

(Thanks for the information, John—Dick.)

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---------|------------------------|--------|
| Harold Westwood | \$2.00 | Tim Ellis | \$4.00 |
| Dave Tearall | \$2.00 | Sailor Harvey | \$2.00 |
| Don Patterson | \$3.00 | Keith Montgomery | \$2.00 |
| Jack Wilson | \$2.00 | Guy Vance | \$2.00 |
| Tom Provians | \$10.00 | | |

Wewak Guessing Group

| | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| Cec Chrystal | Harry Wright |
| Dick Morris (2) | Ted McCaffrey |
| Rex Everson | Allan Lindsay |
| Rick Morris | Tom Provians |
| Harry Gjedsted | Larry Dooley |
| Cock Robin | S. R. Smith |

Deposits for Fares

| | |
|------------------|----------------|
| Ron Thatcher | Tom Provians |
| Harry Wright (2) | Rex Everson |
| Dick Morris | Bill McClennan |
| Geo Stack | |

NEWCASTLE NEWS

Jim Sherritt has been good enough to send along news of Novacastrians meeting each week to organise, for you and me, the 1970 Country Reunion.

Sgt. Jim Brown, previously of Weston Police Station, now stationed at Cessnock, is living at Kurri and busy doing some renovations to his home at the moment, hopes to make Newcastle at the long week-end.

Eric Jacobs, who joined the Bn. at Julius and transferred to 6 Div. Cav. at Darwin, has a business in Kurri, also teaches leather craft at the Yawarra boys' home.

Ernie Bowdidge, original A Coy., living at Ashley Street, Blackalls, employed as tradesman at Newstan Colliery. Recently returned from holidays in New Zealand and Norfolk Island.

Tommy Wardman, living at Turton Road, Waratah, operates his refrigeration business from that address. Enjoying fair health at present.

Stumpy Wright, of Hanbury Street, Mayfield, has lost a lot of weight since a large, serious operation. Still very interested in football and attended both tests in Sydney.

Alf Carpenter and wife have recently moved from Warners Bay to a home purchased in Georgetown. Nice and handy to Alf's employment, Lane Amalgamated Hardware Co., where Alf is Personnel Officer.

Bill (Bully) and Estelle Hayes recently farewelled only daughter Alicia, who flew out from Mascot to join her husband in Hong Kong, where he is attached to Rex Aviation.

Peter Cohen, Manager of Commonwealth Bank, Newcastle, advised Jim Sherritt that he will be absent on holidays over Long Reunion Week-end. However, sends kindest regards to the boys and wishes Reunion every success.

Cliff Curran and Joe Bohle, both members of the B.H.P. Pty. Ltd., and both active members of the Newcastle Reunion Committee, send regards.

Harry and Yvonne Pearse, of Stockton, are both well and enjoy immensely Reunion Committee Meetings held at Tattersall's Club each Thursday night. Send regards.

Bill White, of Repatriation and Newcastle Trotting Club Committeeman, is looking after details re naming of races for the Friday night meeting on the reunion week-end.

Mona Sherritt is busy making feather floral decorations for the Reunion Dinner tables and promises something pretty good with the White over Green theme.

John and Margaret Rae report good bookings coming in for long week-end and all arrangements well in hand. Both immensely enjoy committee meetings and get-togethers at Tattersall's Club.

Thanks very much, Jim, for such a thorough job of reporting (all typed out, too—a great help!).

Several new addresses here, so the Reunion activities have drawn in more old mates. Terrific!

WELFARE REPORT

It's a little early to see whether my advice to "extract the digit" has had the desired effect, but here's hoping.

In the last fortnight I've received medical history reports from

Kenneth Franklin, A Coy.; John Meehan, HQ Coy.; Charles Adams, D Coy.; George Stack, HQ and D Coy.; Wilfred Bartlett, D Coy.; Ken Moses, HQ Coy.; Dick Thomas, C Coy.; Clem Curtin, B Coy.; Alfred Dooley, HQ and B Coy.; Beaumont Rowbottom, HQ Coy.; Richard Chamberlain, RSM. Thanks, chaps, and please keep them coming.

I would like to say a special thanks to Clem Curtin, who is a T.P.I., for his donation of \$2.00 to our Welfare Fund.

Ken Moses rang me on Sunday and his appeal is to be heard in the near future. Ken has had a set-back with his appeal due to the recent death of one of his main supporters, Sir Wilfred Kent Hughes.

Sir Wilfred, himself a distinguished soldier in two World Wars, was a true champion of the Ex-Serviceman's cause and his passing is a grievous loss to us and, in fact, to all Australians.

Visited in R.G.H., Concord

2/4 Bn—**Geoff Galvin**, **Alan Headlam**, **Dick Thomas**, **Peel (Bully) Duncolm**, A & B Coys.; **John Hine**, B Coy.; **Henry Roberts**, B Coy.

4 Bn A.I.F.: Our grand old friend and invaluable honorary auditor, **Harry Stafford**, underwent a very unpleasant operation a week ago, but, like the tough old breed we are so proud to have succeeded, is making a good recovery. **James McBride**, an original and as tough as goat's knees despite his 80-plus years.

Sick at Home

Dick Bawden has had another rough trot, but I'm pleased to say is on deck again and is at present in Sydney for the R.S.L. Convention.

Jacqueline Guy, daughter of **Dot** and the late **Fred Searle**, has had a short stay in hospital. Trust you are feeling 100% again **Jacqueline**.

Cec Chrystal is still not enjoying the best of health and to add to his troubles some clumsy illegitimate glow-worm rammed him in the rear (of the Falcon) the other day and injured his neck.

The 16½ stone of **Reg Cole** is back in circulation and is just as cheery as the previous 19 stone. Keep up the good work with the diet, **Pom**.

Gloria Lindsay, wife of our **Treasurer**, has been confined to bed with a slipped disc. I think, **Allen**, you should buy **Gloria** a lady sized axe, I'm sure the present one is too heavy for her.

It is with regret that I report the passing of **NX70178**, **W. A. Daven**, B Coy.

Wally and I were very old mates, having served together in 18 Inf Bn pre-war and then in the 2/4 Bn. His passing is a very sad loss to all of us and I'm sure particularly to those survivors of B Coy. who were at **Vivi** on that never to be forgotten Good Friday morning, 1941, when **Wally** became one of the Battalion's first casualties in Greece.

VX71832, **T. E. Barrett**. **Ken Moses** rang me from Melbourne on Sunday to say that during the transport strike in Melbourne last Friday a vehicle which picked **Barrett** up (I think his Christian name was **Tom**) on his way to work, was involved in a fatal accident.

Les Russell, of Port Macquarie, whom I visited in Lady Davidson's Home, passed away recently. **Les** for many years was with the Department of Health and was actively engaged in Welfare work in Mental Institutions and acted as Honorary Welfare Officer for the 4 Bn A.I.F., and in later years worked closely with **Dick Bawden** as Pensions Officer at Port Macquarie. **Les** served with 9 Field Ambulance in World War I and saw more than his fair share of action. He was awarded the **Imperial Service Medal** for his wonderful work for mentally handicapped Ex-Servicemen.

Len (Buck) Bucholtz, 4 Bn A.I.F., whom I visited recently at Concord. **Buck** was a 1914 vintage and, although his passing leaves another gap in our ranks, nobody could possibly wish him back.

I extend to the families of these departed comrades my sincere sympathy.

To all our members my sincere wish,

Good Health.

DICK LATIMER.

COCK'S COLUMN

I am very pleased to see **Eileen** back on the job, after her accident. **Eileen** was thrilled to get a letter from the Association wishing her well. Also thanked me for "get well" card.

August Meeting

Those in attendance: **Russ McWilliam**, **George Stack**, **Allen Lindsay**, **Harry Wright**, **Dick Latimer**, **Bill "Snow" McLennan**, **Vic Frances**, **Morrie Porter**, **Frank Frizell**, **Athol Heath**, **Ted Fox**, **Dave Tearall**, **Bob Lane**, **Jim Cameron**, **Ken Wells**, **Reg Cole**, **Dick Pinson**, **Charlie Hansen**, **Jack Crowley**, **Ron Thatcher**, **Ted de Satge**, **Larry Dooley**, **George Friend**, **Peter Cook**, **Rex Everson**, **Dick Chamberlain**, **Ernie Swain**, and **Rick Morris**. (Dick's son and 4 R.N.S.W.R.)

News from some of them:

Vic Frances on holidays met **Bernie O'Mara** in Forbes. **Bernie** sends regards to **Harry Gjedsted** and the boys, and "hullo" and congratulations to **Jim "Cock" Robin** (dat's me). Thank you, **Bernie**. Any news, please send.

At the N.B. before the August meeting a chap joined us, he was **Jack Crowley**, ex Dubbo. **Jack** now lives at Drummoyne. He came along to the meeting, and will be a regular. He has heard, per "grape vine", that **Frank Sadler** is O.K. Cheers, **Frank**, hope to see you at Newcastle. Pleased also to meet you again, **Jack**.

Dick Pinson has recently seen **Jim "Stumpy" Agnew** from Tumut. **Jim** was returning from Repat. He informed **Dick** that he got a good report from Repat. pleased to hear it, **Jim**, we all wish you the best. **Dick** also met **Gordon Chrisp** and **Les Saxby**. **Les** is still playing excellent golf for Marrickville R.S.L. With **Dick** was our old friend of saxophone fame, **Charlie Hansen**, who, I am very sorry to say, recently lost his wife, **Rose**. Our sincere sympathy goes to **Charlie** and son **Jim**.

Peter Cook had a drink with "Squizzy" **Taylor** at Matraville R.S.L., and spoke of **Jack Garvey**. **Peter** also met **Bill "Bing" Riley**, who I am sorry to say has not been enjoying the best of health. Sorry to hear of this, **Bill**. He sends regards to **Clive**. **Peter** also met **Lou Evans**.

Larry Dooley reports that **Bill Panter** from Melbourne (HQ and C Coy.) visited him. **Bill** has to learn a bit more about poker machines. He had three Aces (and the fourth Ace was above the line, and he pulled it off. (Shame!) **Bill** is Manager of "Shipping Jews" in Melbourne.

Ted de Satge brought along his friend **Steven Armbrust**. **Steve** comes from Cairns but is in the "Natos", doing his Corp Training at S.M.E., Casula, and looking forward to going to Vietnam.

Ernie Swain, Bundeena, has never given up hope with Repat., and finally has been granted a pension

for Chronic Bronchitis. Ernie reports that Dick, his father (1st Fourth) is well. Ern has recently seen **Fom Dawson**.

Maurice Porter, Chatswood (R.A.P.). First meeting for many years. Returned from Melbourne, now living in Sydney. On a second trip, called in to see the "Squire of Hurmula", **Stan Blacksley**. Was also speaking to **Dr. Paul Tomlinson**, who asked after the boys of the 2/4th Bn. Thanks, Maurice, for giving me a lift home.

Dave Tearail, Merrylands, met **Bob Lane** at the meeting for the first time since "Orian" days (29 years ago) wishes to see **Dave, Bob, Lionel Clark** and **Norm "Buck" Rogers** together on Anzac Day. How about the Newcastle Reunion also. **Charlie Scully**, Balmain, has recently seen "Biscuits" **Arnott** and **Bill "Blue" Pender**.

Ernie Swain would like to know the whereabouts of **Jack "Curley" Simeon**, also **Archie Lewington**.

Ted Fox, who is now a "regular" at meetings after an absence of 25 years, would like to see a lot more of the old faces. Ted would like to see at our next Meeting, **Ross Ellerman**, **Jim Thorham**, **Joe Taylor**, and many others.

Allan Williams, 2/2nd Bn, a friend of ours at the North British, said he had recently met **Jack "Brick" Bradford**.

Other News

Gordon Chrisp, who has been on holidays (details next time), met **Jerry Carlisle** (Carriers) recently.

On an early morning bus I spoke to the conductor, **Larry Fahey**. He said he lived at Sefton. I asked him did he know **Jack Clarke** ("Frog"), B Coy. He did—lived in the same street!

3-7-70 **Ken "Dasher" Deacon** called into the N.B., wrote in Eileens notebook, "Not drinking, terrible life! Sorry to hear that Eileen has had an accident. All the best to the boys."

Chas. Pedler, NX5934, Narrabri, called in, wrote in Eileens notebook—"How are you, mate? Sorry I could not see you. Remember me to **Ted McCafferey** and the boys. Sorry I missed You. Chas."

In the Mail Box: Large envelope, post mark "Sydney", a full page of Humorous Verse, "Old Nicks Cobbers", and page of "Army" jokes, no name of sender. Many thanks. Please add your name next time.

Also in the Mail Box—a nice letter from **Eva Morrison** (Johnny's sister). Thanking the Association for W.O.G. and wishing to be remembered to the boys

A very nice birthday card to me from **Athol, Pat** and **Julia Heath**. Thanking the three of you sincerely.

At Milson's Point met a young lady named **Denise** who, during the conversation, said she came from Bourke. I told her I had two Army mates at Bourke, **Roy Moores**, whom she did not know (wasn't she lucky) and **Dan Ellicott**. Both she and her father, **Harry Conroy** ("Dunsandle") knew Don.

Eileen Frances contacted **Bob Griffiths** at Mildura on her way back from holidays in S.A. Was lucky enough to catch up with him at the station, just knocking off work. She was taken home and given

Page Four

a most hospitable evening by **Bob** and his very nice wife. Eileen had four hours to wait for the train to Melbourne, so was most grateful to them both. **Bob** sends regards to the boys and hopes to see you all again in the near future.

(Thanks for news, Vic. A Cheerio to you, **Bob—Dick**.)

Bill Sandstrom (2/2 Fld. Reg.), our old "Artillery Support" called in. Will be down for next Roll Call.

Keith Beattie ("Red Steer") called in. First time at North British.

Joe Rogrini writes, "On a trip up North, called at Port Macquarie, met **Dick Bawden**, and at Nabitac met **Ted** ("Swanee") **Swanson**.

More Bus Stories

When "Fez Plis" came around, I said to him, "You're new," He replied, "Yes, I used to be on the North Side." I replied, "An army mate of mine, **Jack Gaffney**, was a driver there. **Terry Toomey**, the conductor, knew you, Jack. Terry was in the 2/13th Bn.

Coming home from work, a chap sat alongside me in the bus. He said to me, "You were in the 2/4th Bn, mate." It was **Charlie** ("Skull") **Scully** (H.Q.), Balmain. Charlie often sees **Bill "Blue" Pender**, and has also met **Jack Carroll**. I told him **Murray Naismith** had called to the N.B. Had he known he would have been in to see you, Murray. He wishes to be remembered to you. Charlie has promised to attend the August meeting.

Back to the N.B. **Ken "Dasher" Deacon** called in again, missed Eileen, who was at lunch, but wrote in her book, "See you all at Newcastle, regards to **"Cock" Robin**. How about seeing us at the monthly meeting, Ken?

It was a pleasant surprise to see **Wal Taylor**, Cootamundra, at the N.B. Wal has recently seen **Lyn Hope**. Lyn's wife, **Elion**, has gone to Japan on a business trip. **Gordon Vesperman** has taken a temporary job, back on the Railways. Wal did not stay long, as he was getting the night train home. Good to see you, Wal.

Another pleasant surprise when **Jack "Slim" Archer** (C Coy), Paddington, walked in. "Slim" looks well, has put on weight, and this was his first visit to the North British—but "not his last". He was going to pay me his "subs", but was interrupted by other old mates who recognised him. He promised he would try to make the next meeting. Said that **Ferd Pegg** had advised him where to meet us. Thanks, Ferd, keep up the good work. Good to see you, Jack, hope to see you at the meetings and North British.

In Eileen's notebook: "Called into the N.B. on the way to the meeting. Pleased to see **'Cock' Robin**, **Bob Lane** and **Jack Fitzgerald**, and thank you Eileen for a glance through your boook. Hope your arm is better soon. **Jack Crowley**, ex Dubbo."

"**'Wimpey' Willmott**, Point Clare (phone 22 3841), first visit to the N.B., 10/8/70. Friend of **Ellicott** and **Murray Naismith**. Will call more often."

—COCK ROBIN.