



# White over 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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**Next Meetings: Friday, 9th October, 1970 at Royal Australian Naval House, Grosvenor St.,  
Friday, 6th November, 1970 Sydney, at 7.30 p.m.**

## AN ACHIEVEMENT

Members were keen to attend the Return to Wewak Ceremonies, some making deposits for the air fare and there were those prepared to try their luck in the \$10 Guessing Competition in the hope of winning their fare. However, there were insufficient starters to ensure the block booking fare of \$232 and also air fares were increased just prior to the trip. Therefore your Executive, led by President Harry and through our Patron, Sir Ivan and Jim Brown (M.L.A.) approached the Government to make available Service Transport.

The two-pronged "attack" directed at the Prime Minister, on the one hand and the Minister for Air on the other, brought a sympathetic response, but many hours of phoning, writing and worrying on the part of Pres. Harry, Bill MacLennan and others were required before a V.I.P. plane was made available. This was smartly filled with V.I.P.'s—back to square one!

More sweat, blood and tears finally achieved a Hercules Transport for the trip, which was a better proposition in any case, as it could carry at least 60 personnel.

In the meantime, your committee, as directed by a General Meeting, had drawn up a priority list, headed by George Stack as our selected representative, followed by those who had paid deposits, then

those who had entered the Wewak sweepstake, followed by those whom the Committee in their wisdom felt should be included for various reasons.

Many members were contacted to check on availability and interest. Doubtlessly, there were many who could well have been just as entitled to consideration, but the Committee did the best it could in the circumstances.

Well, finally (about two hours before Harry's hair would have turned grey with worry), miraculously the Hercules was ours for the trip.

All this was achieved by your President and Executive for the benefit of members and in the name of our grand unit. However, it was felt that, whilst the V.I.P. list included high-ranking representatives of the Divisions and various organizations some 6 Div. personnel should be included in the Hercules flight.

To this end 15 seats were allocated with 45 for our members, headed by President Harry. (Actually, there were 68 on the Hercules, including 46 of our members.)

I'm sure all members will join in congratulating and thanking Harry Gjedsted and his co-workers, who, by a tremendous and sustained effort, afforded at least a reasonable number of our members the opportunity to return to Wewak.



### CAPE WOM MEMORIAL PARK

Early in 1969, the Wewak Sub-Branch of the Returned Services League commenced plans for "THE RETURN TO WEWAK" and the rebuilding of that area at CAPE WOM where the Japanese Armed Forces in the Sepik area formally signed official documents appertaining to the cessation of hostilities, before Major General H. G. H. Robertson on the 13th September, 1945. These particular plans provided for the overall development of the area into a Parkland and the erection of an imposing base for the existing Memorial, which marks the exact spot where the official documents were signed. This Memorial was erected on the 21st January, 1946.

On the 31st March, 1969, His Honour the Administrator, Mr. David Osborne Hay, C.B.E., D.S.C., by virtue of power conferred by the Land Ordinance of the Territory of Papua New Guinea, reserved an area of approximately 1.9 hectares for the purpose of a Memorial Park, and officially appointed as Trustees—(a) the Officer for the time being holding the position of District Commissioner, East Sepik District; (b) the President of the Wewak Sub-Branch of the Returned Services League (Mr. Danny Barnard) and (c) Mr. James Lindsay Crawford, to control and make by-laws for the carrying out of the objects of the Trust.

The area is now officially known as "THE CAPE WOM MEMORIAL PARK", the road leading into the Park from the WEWAK/DAGUA Road is officially known as "CHOWNE V.C. DRIVE" (both sanctioned by the District Advisory Council and the Place Names Committee, Port Moresby). The entrance to Cape Wom Memorial Park is known as "STEVENS GATE", after Major General E. S. Stevens, G.O.C., Australian Sixth Division from October, 1944, to August, 1945, in the Sepik area. The internal road within the Parkland is known as "ROBERTSON DRIVE", after Major General H. C. H. Robertson, who took over the Division from Major General Stevens and conducted the official ceremonies relating to the cessation of hostilities.

The Trustees, several R.S.L., working Committee, supported by Wewak Service Clubs of ROTARY, APEX, LIONS, BUFFALO LODGE and hundreds of indigenous ex-servicemen and school children and members of the general public carried out the vast preparations, beautification and building of the area; landscaping, based on on-the-spot advice from Mrs. Andree Millar, of the Botanical Gardens, Lae, was effected by the Service Clubs aforesaid, Public Works Department, many town businessmen and Mr. Noel Butler, supervised by the indefatigable President, Danny Barnard. The golden crotons and other plants came from Mrs. Andree Millar and the "traveller palms" from Sheedy's Nursery, Port Moresby.

The coconut palms lining the sides of Robertson Drive represent "Red" Robbie's 3000 troops plus that lined the old pre-war airstrip on the 13th September, 1945. The Yar and Blue Gum trees are "The Silent Sentinels" and the Golden Crotons to the rear of the Memorial are the Living Wreaths to the Fallen

—they will all bloom and grow in the future as surely as Peace Among Men of All Races.

Bronze Remembrance and Honour Plaques will be placed on the Memorial monument for unveiling on the 13th September, 1970. It is anticipated that eventually there will be fountains positioned in the Park; also a Flame of Victory, but more as a Torch of Peace Among Men of All Races.

THE CAPE WOM MEMORIAL PARK will be officially opened at exactly 10?? hours on the morning of Sunday the 13th September, 1970, twenty-five years to the day, to the hour, to the minute of the formal cessation of hostilities in the Sepik area, conducted at CAPE WOM.

The official ceremony and pageantry will be in the presence of Australian, American, Papuan, New Guinean and Japanese Pilgrims and it is hoped a representative from India (Major Chint Singh)—see post), units of the R.A.N.—Pacific Islands Regiment—Royal Papuan and New Guinean Constabulary—Papua New Guinea Volunteer Reserve—Brandi High School Cadet Unit and representation from the Royal Australian Air Force. Indigenous ex-servicemen from the Sepik districts, headed by Warrant Officer YAUWIGA, Distinguished Conduct Medal—Loyal Service Medal, and Sgt. PITA SIMOGUN, British Empire Medal, Loyal Service Medal, will be to the forefront.

The official ceremonies will be to the Fallen of all races (combatant and non-combatant) who paid the supreme sacrifice for Peace; there was racial unity in their sacrifice, let this Memorial forever be a tribute to those men and a lasting symbol of racial unity and Peace.

It may well be asked by the present younger generation, why after 25 years it is considered necessary to commemorate the cessation of hostilities in the Sepik area—reliving, as it were, the stark tragedy of friend and foe and non-combatant who were killed or maimed in battle.

**The answer is very simple. If this war had been lost, the younger generation of this country would not perhaps be progressing as they are today in the political, social and economic spheres towards governing their country themselves—the fact that they are so progressing is based on the sacrifices made, which is also the foundation and heritage of the unborn generations of the future.**

Words seem inadequate to pay tribute to those who died for this heritage, as words no sooner spoken are lost in memory, thus what these men died for and suffered for should not be forgotten in the annals of history of this country, Australia and America.

If there was no remembrance, no anniversary of the Fallen in a cause for Peace, and the CAPE WOM area overgrown and neglected—then surely those who died would haunt our minds with the words of Wystan Hugh Auden—

**"TO SAVE YOUR WORLD YOU  
ASKED THIS MAN TO DIE:  
WOULD THIS MAN, COULD HE SEE  
YOU NOW — ASK, WHY?"**

(Author: Kerry Leen—Wewak)



**HONOUR ROLL (AITAPE-WEWAK)**

**Killed in Action**

- |                           |                            |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Addison, R. N., 20.6.45.  | Juster, G. L., 12.6.45.    |
| Andrews, E. T., 5.6.45.   | Kinkead, F., 3.5.45.       |
| Beecham, T. G., 19.12.46  | Longstaff, O., 19.12.44.   |
| Brown, S. H., 6.5.45.     | McKerlie, J., 28.5.45.     |
| Bullock, A., 20.6.45.     | Morris, J. W., 12.5.45.    |
| Bye, C. E., 19.12.44.     | Murphy, H. F., 7.6.45.     |
| Dack, J. E., 8.5.45.      | Paff, T. E., 21.12.46.     |
| Dunstan, L. E., 7.5.45.   | Plant, N., 19.6.45.        |
| Gellie, H. I., 8.5.45.    | Rayner, H. H., 8.5.45.     |
| Green, G. E., 22.6.45.    | Royal, H. H., 25.5.45.     |
| Hall, B. C., 26.6.45.     | Schmenke, F. E., 8.5.45.   |
| Harlock, P., 6.5.45.      | Shepherd, R. M., 18.12.44. |
| Hawkins, D. C., 18.12.44. | Tindall, E. A., 23.12.44.  |
| Hayes, L. P., 22.6.45.    | Topp, W. J., 10.5.45.      |
| Hinchey, F. T., 19.12.44. | Whalan, G. O., 25.5.45.    |
| Holst, J. A., 8.5.45.     | Whalan, S. C., 19.12.44.   |
| Hood, F. W., 7.7.45.      | Williams, O. V., 3.7.45.   |
| Hughes, H. O., 11.5.45.   |                            |

**Died of Wounds**

- |                            |                            |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Abnett, J. H., 11.5.45.    | Harvey, J. M., 22.6.45.    |
| Clark, K. A., 19.6.45.     | Lavrey, A. E., 9.6.45.     |
| Coultherd, W. G., 4.7.45.  | Taber, R. B., 10.5.45.     |
| Cummings, C. H., 19.12.45. | Whitehouse, B. R., 5.6.45. |
|                            | Wright, W., 18.5.45.       |

**K.I.A. (with other units)**

- |                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Hall, V. R., 23.3.45.    | Rolfe, C. B. N., 8.8.43. |
| Howlett, L. F., 21.6.45. |                          |

**Died of Other Causes**

- |                          |                         |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Byass, A., 19.8.45.      | Peters, C. J., 22.8.45. |
| Cassidy, J. J., 25.5.45. |                         |

K.I.A. ....	46
K.I.A. (other units) .....	3
Died of other causes .....	3
<hr/>	
Total .....	52
Wounded .....	126

As the design of the Cape Wom Memorial Park includes Unit Plaques, a Bronze Honour Roll inscribed with the above names should be prepared and suitably installed in the Park.

**WAR DIARY (AFTER WEWAK-WIRUI)**

War Diary: Lt./Col. Cox: "During the past three months the morale of the men has been very high indeed, the result of repeated successes, vigorous battles and good supply condition. Early in the campaign it was noticeable that many of the troops and officers, too, considered the campaign not worthwhile and consequently morale dropped. At that time, however, there were restrictions on ops. and supply was not of very high standard and, although there were many reasons for this, they were not known or appreciated by the majority of personnel.

"For gallantry during these operations, I have submitted recommendations for one V.C., four M.C.'s, four D.C.M.'s, five M.M. and two M.B.E.'s."

Col. Cox was himself recommended for and awarded the D.S.O. for his skilful planning and handling of the Bn's. attack on Wewak and Wirui Mission.

(The attack on Wirui Mission, involving the Bn. with arty. and tank support, was organised in four hours from the decision to attack to "H" Hour!)

**AWARDS (WEWAK AREA)**

- V.C.: Edward Kenna, Pte., Wirui Mission.  
 D.S.O.: Geoffrey Souter Cox, Maj. (T.) (Lieut. Col.), Wewak-Wirui Mission.  
 M.B.E.: William George Martin, Capt., Wewak Campaign.  
 M.B.E.: Owen Upcott Williams, Capt. (R.M.O.), Wewak Campaign.  
 M.C.: Alan Ferguson Blackwood, Lieut., Koigin.  
 M.C.: Geoffrey Jordan Hawke, Capt., Wewak attack.  
 M.C.: Donald Graham Healey, Lieut., Danmap R.  
 M.C.: John Grenfell Wright, Lieut., Wewak.  
 M.C.: Eric Phillip Arundel Smith, M.B.E., Capt., Wirui Mission.  
 D.C.M.: Randall David Duvanel, Pte., Koigin.  
 D.C.M.: William Alexander Wells, Sgt., Mt. Tagaki.  
 M.M.: William Edward Barton, Pte., Wirui Mission.  
 M.M.: Robert David Ferguson, Pte., Wewak Area.  
 M.M.: John Runge Graham, Wewak attack.  
 M.M.: John Maloney, Pte., Danmap R.  
 M.M.: Granville John Shearer, Sgt., Wewak attack.  
 There were also many outstanding men mentioned in Despatches.

**CARDS, G.P. TPS. FOR THE USE OF**

General Purpose Cards are being prepared bearing the 2/4th Bn. Colour Patch and our Assn., name on the front, using good quality card.

These will be available at 20 for \$1 and will fit standard size envelope.

It is envisaged that members will find many uses for such a card; for Xmas and other greetings, congratulations, birthdays, anniversaries, condolences, etc. Those who have a long list of friends with whom they normally exchange Xmas cards may care to have their local printer imprint their message on the inside. Useful for a short note to friends also.

You would help your hard-working Secretary (and the Benevolent Fund) if you enclosed a stamp or two and self-addressed envelope with your cheque and order.

Proceeds will go into the Benevolent Fund.  
**PLEASE ORDER NOW.**

**LAST POST**

NX16052—Geoffrey Roy King (B. Coy.), after a long illness. (See Welfare Report.)

NX46336—Jim Keevers, of Byron Bay, 21.9.70, after a long illness. Jim loved the sea and was a powerful swimmer, as many will recall. (Info.: Bill Scheaffe.) Thanks, Bill.

Vale, Geof and Jim!

**WELFARE REPORT**

It is with regret I have to report the passing of NX16052, **Geoffrey Roy King**, ex B. Coy. I have visited **Geoff** in Concord many times over the past two years and found him uncomplaining and very optimistic



despite the gravity of his illness and the constant pain he suffered. **Geoff** passed away at Sutherland District Hospital on 10th August and I extend the sympathy of the Association to his family. My sincere thanks to his sister, **Miss J. L. King**, for her kind letter.

My sincere thanks to **Mrs. Anthony** for information relating to **Jack** and **Mrs. Joscelyn** regarding the death of **John**.

Thanks also to **Shirley Vaughan** for information regarding the disabilities of her father, **Bill Hyde**, ex HQ Coy., also to **Graham Jackett**, ex B. and HQ Coys., **Reginald Roberds**, ex D. Coy., for completing their medical history sheets.

My request for information is still going unheeded by lots of people and I'm going to start pointing the finger. We are currently sending the W.O.G. to approximately 50 next of kin, but to date I have only had a reply from nine of those people I appeal again to the rest of you to please assist our efforts and let me have the information we so urgently require.

It also seems to me, to say the least, bloody incredible that from a membership of approximately 500 only 12 can give any information about the deaths of at least 250 of our ex members since the end of the war, I'm beginning to wonder if we are such a close knit Association as we like to skite.

Regarding medical history sheets, that trickle has also dried up and this time I point the finger at all members of the Association, including the Committee.

During the last month I have visited the following boys in Hospital:

**Alan Headlam.**

**Peel (Bull) Duncolmbie.**

**John Hine**, ex B. Coy., who paid \$2.00 subs.

**Henry Roberts**, ex HQ Coy.

**Harry Stafford**, who, I'm pleased to say, is home and recovering very well.

**Arthur McLean**, 2/4 Bn. reinforcement Bn. and 2/4 Pioneer Bn.

**Snow Moores**, ex B. Coy., who also paid \$2.00 subs.

**Richard Fenton.**

**James McBride**, 4 Bn. A.I.F.

**Ernest Paine**, 4 Bn. A.I.F.

**Bill Leonard**, ex Carrier Pln, who recently lost his second leg. **Bill**, I'm pleased to say, is remarkably well physically and mentally and is currently being fitted for artificial legs and looking forward to going home. Nothing but bloody sheer guts. Good luck, **Bill**.

At the moment I'm processing Pension appeals for **Bill Bartlett** (increase), **Henry Roberts** (T.P.I.), **Bill Leonard** (recognition).

I recently received a very interesting and appreciative letter from **Ken Moses** regarding the information we have compiled in support of his appeal. **Ken** made two very interesting observations. Of the 240 names of deceased members supplied, 81—or over 33½%—were originals, 180—or 75%—took part in the first Desert Campaign and/or Greece and Crete Campaigns. Makes you think, doesn't it?

**Dick Bawden** sent me some very interesting letters from the personal papers of the late **Les Russell**, whom I mentioned in the last copy of W.O.G. and extracts from these letters will be published in later W.O.G.'s. Many thanks, **Richard**.

Again I would like to say thanks to **Dick Faulder** and **John Copland** for their assistance with our Welfare Work.

I have received a letter from the Crematorium Society to say the remains of **Bill Barrett** have now been placed in their final resting place at the Northern Suburbs Remembrance Garden, and **Dot Searle** has informed us that a plaque will soon be placed at the Rookwood Remembrance Garden in memory of **Fred**.

The Committee has decided to hold a simple ceremony at these two spots in the near future and notice of times, etc., will be published in the next copy of W.O.G.

To all our members, my sincere wish,

**Good Health,**

DICK LATIMER.

#### WELFARE REPORT

I'm afraid this report is going to read like one of Paul Tomlinson's Sick Parade Reports, but here goes—

**Sir Ivan Dougherty**, a very serious tummy upset contracted during the Return to Wewak.

**Fred Stagg**, quinine poisoning resulting from anti-malarial precautions he took for the Wewak trip.

**Alan Lindsay** put his foot in it and was stung by a stone fish in Wewak.

**Gentleman George Ormiston**, at present in Manly District Hospital recovering from a nasty ticker attack (no visitors at present).

**Dick Bawden**, R.G.H., Concord. **Richard** is in Intensive Care under observation and, at writing, is not allowed visitors.

**Geoff Hawke**, at home in Inverell, but not enjoying good health.

#### VISITED IN HOSPITAL:

I would like to thank **Dick Faulder** and **John Copland** for taking over for me in the last three weeks, during which time I've had Mao's Plague and, as you can imagine, one is not welcome at a Hospital with any contagious wog.

**Bill Leonard**, now home and learning to use his tin legs.

**Harold Brown**, **Jim Forman**, **Alan Headlam**, **Tom Arnold**, 2/1 Fd. Regt. of X and Y Regt. fame.

**Richard Harris**, **Charles Arthur**, **Len Wilson** and **W. M. Cairey**, all 4 Bn. A.I.F.

Since my last report I have received medical history reports from **Ken Rayment**, HQ Coy. and **Robert Lever**, B. Coy.

**Ken Moses** wrote re his appeal and enclosed copies of letters from two of his politician friends and after reading them the more I hear and see of politicians the more I believe in birth control.

I recently attended a lecture given by **Mr. Bruce Auld**, Deputy Commissioner of Repatriation, and in my next report will give his salient points and I sincerely hope it will induce you members who have not yet answered our appeal for your Medical History to put pen to paper (aren't I getting refeened).

To all members my sincere wish,

**Good Health,**

DICK LATIMER.



## RETURN TO WEWAK

I was one of the fortunate members who took part in the Return to Wewak Celebrations and would like to record my thanks to those responsible for our trip.

My appreciation for their untiring efforts to **Sir Ivan Dougherty, Harry Gjedsted, Alan Lindsay** and **Jim Brown** (completely exempt from remarks re politicians).

My sincere thanks and full marks go to **George Friend**, who set the ball rolling, and **Bill MacLennan**, whose impossible plan became a wonderful reality.

—DICK LATIMER.

## TRIPLETS

Gordon Ted Chrisp has been on holidays on the Central and North Coast. At Terrigal Bowling Club met Ted Ryan from Toukley, Jim Sadler from Auburn, and Lang Stronach from Mittagong.

Also saw "Curley" Day, who is well and lives at Terrigal. Gordon caught up with Curley in the bar of the Florida Hotel.

Gordon heard that Wal Daven was very ill. (Wal since passed away.)

He met Dick Bawden at Port Macquarie and Ted Swanson, who is blooming, at Nabiac.

Had a few beers at Macksville with "Bub" Graham, but, through a bit of bad luck, missed Esca Riordan at Kempsey.

By the time this script is printed, Gordon will be the proud owner of the Wingham Newsagency. As a matter of interest, the Foundation Stone at Wingham Ex-Servicemen's Club was laid by our Patron, Sir Ivan Dougherty. Well, Gordon, we sincerely wish you and Mrs. Chrisp (Olga) every success in your new venture. Thanks for news. I am very sorry you are going—our loss, their gain. Hoping to see you at the Newcastle Country Reunion and on Anzac Day.

—(COCK ROBIN).

## COCK'S COLUMN

## Eileen's Book:

"Wimpey" Willmot (the only one in the book), NX5905. First visit to the North British, 10.8.70. Friend of **Don Ellicott** (also friend of **Murray Naismith**), PH22384, Point Clare. Will call again often." Hoping to meet you next time, "Wimpey" to get some facts and news.

"19.8.70. Bert 'Snowy' Moores. Down to go into Concord. Being admitted 25.8.70 for operation." (Sorry to hear of this "Snowy"; we all wish you all the best.)

**Ted Ryan** and myself will be at the Newcastle Reunion.

21.8.70. **Ken "Dasher" Deacon** called in. "Dasher" wrote that he had been an in-patient at Concord for past two months. Sorry to hear of this "Dasher", we also all wish you all the best.

**Joe Rognini** called in also.

Having a drink and yarn with **Ken Webb** when **Jack Fitzgerald**, 2/1st, found us. Jack said he had recently seen **Sid Zartman** at the York Hotel, opposite Repat. Sid was having one of his many visits there. They spoke of "Stalag" 383, Hohnfels. Jack also gave a copy of "History of Royal Naval House", which he is presenting to our Association. Many thanks, Jack, for your nice gesture. **Allen "Babe" Williams**, 2/2 INF. BN., who is a friend of ours at the N.B., sends regards to **Jack Blakeney**, Sec. Man. of Kandos R.S.L., and other 2/2 boys in that area.

**John "Larry" Dooley** (H.Q.G.B. COYS.), Fivedock. I met Larry in Haberfield; he has recently seen **Fred "Lofty" Taylor** at Wyong. Lofty is going South of the Border, down Vic. way, via Wagga, and will look up some of the boys. Hopes to see **Pat Sydenham**, **Norm Gillespie**, and **Hugh Burgdof**. Thanks, "Lofty".

Arrived at the N.B. and met **Frank Frizell**, **Jim "Happy" Davis**, and **Ron Anderson**, a little later **Bill Duffy** (A. COY.), Marion Street, Enmore, came in. Bill had been there before, but I had not met him. With Bill was **Peter Ward**, ex-Casino and 2/1 INF. BN. Bill reports that "**Gilly**" and **Bob Vaughan**, brothers of **Fred**, are O.K. Bill would like to see **Dick Latimer**.

**Clarrie** and **Tom Brownlee** are O.K., have recently seen **Terry Sparks**. Bill sends regards to **Jim** and **Mrs. Brown**, of Kempsey. Bill was there through the efforts of **Jim "Happy" Davis** and has promised to come to the next meeting. Keep up the good work, Jim; bring them in.

We are losing **Frank Frizell**, as he is leaving Ettalong and going north, up Taree way, but will be going to Flinders Island first to see his mother and sister. Keep in touch, Frank. Wishing you all the best in your new territory. Their gain, our loss.

Met **Jack "Smasher" Davis**, Chester Hill, who is a new member of the Auburn R.S.L. and knows **Col ("Bunny") Burrows**. **Bill Duffy**, when at the N.B., said he came in to see **Jim "Happy" Davis**. Why? Once seen and heard never forgotten. (Only fun, Jim—you've got broad shoulders.)

At the N.B., 4.9.70. I arrive and meet **John "Larry" Dooley**, **Rick Carter**, **Ken Webb**, **Ron Stennett** and **Don Ellicott**. Ron paid me his Life Membership subs., \$22.

At Narrabri, Ron met **Duncan "Snow" Lovelee**. "Hullo to **Ken Northrop** at Glen Innes." It was the first time Don has seen **Rick Carter** for 25 years. **Wal Taylor** visited Rick at Urunga. Rick took Wal out for the "Briny" and Wal got seasick. Larry, Don, Rick and Ron gave me their apologies as they would not be able to go to the meeting. Well, all turned up bar Larry! We can "blame" **Jim Cameron** for that, for he calls at the N.B. and brought them along.

Larry and I went up to the 6 Div. March. The boys at the March: **Harry Gjedsted**, **George Stack**, **Harry Wright**, **Bob Lane**, **Larry Dooley**, **Vic Thomas**, **Reg Cole**, **John Copland** and myself, **Noel Limley**, 2/11 BN.



An excellent roll-up at the September meeting. Those in attendance: **Harry Gjedsted, George Stack, Harry Wright, Cec. Chrystal, Bill MacLennan, Dick Latimer, Vic Frances, George Friend, Sid Young, Rex Gilliland, Cecil ("Slim") Powers, Don Ellicott, Ron Stennett, Rick Carter, Ken Webb, Bob Lane, Athol Heath, Reg Cole, Dick Faulder, Stan Bowen, Don Baxter, John Meehan, Ted Jackson, Ted De Satge, Rex Everson, Dick Morris, Dick Pinson, Jim Cameron, Ted Fox, Fred Staggs, John Copland, Gus Ferguson, John Ringrose, "Sailor" Harvey, Jack Humphries, Ron Taylor, Charlie Hanson, Peter Armstrong, Ron Raymond, Charlie Scully, Ron Thatcher** and myself.

Ron "Ronga" Stennet, Hurstville, first meeting at Royal Naval House, but, as Ron says, not his last.

Fred Staggs received the sad news that Bill "Robbie" Leonard, in Concord Hospital, has now lost his second leg. We are all very sorry to hear of this, Bill, our thoughts are with you always.

Jim Cameron's report: Jim met Brick Bradford at North Ryde R.S.L., which seems a haunt for 2/4ers.

Any 2/4ers visiting Port Kembla are very welcome to introduce themselves to Col. Warrington, Sec. Man., who was a friend of 2/4ers in the Islands.

Jim and Betty were celebrating their Silver Wedding Anniversary at C.L.A. Club and met Paul Blain, son of Sgt. Bill Blain. Jim invited father and son to Sept. meeting but they did not make it.

Dick Pinson reports that Monty "Basher" Boyd, A. COY., is now in Willandra Convalescent Hospital, George Street, Marrickville. Monty has been there since last Christmas. Dick has been a constant visitor to Monty.

Was pleased to see Don Baxter at the Meeting. Johnny Ringrose recently met Les Fox. Les is a regular customer on John's bus.

Athol Heath reports that daughter Julia has achieved a First Class Pass in Nursing at Hornsby Hospital and included in the Pass were Distinctions. Needless to say, Athol and Pat are very proud.

Congratulations, Julia, we are all very proud of you.

#### NORTH BRITISH NEWS

17.9.70. I arrived to hear that Joe Wells (June), Tom Provians, Bill Cavanagh and John Shingles (Brisbane) had just left a minute earlier. I raced out down to the taxi rank and bus stop but no sign of them. Gee, I was disappointed. Eileen told me they would be in next night. Joe was going home next morning. Sorry I missed you, Joe; let us know next time you're coming.

18.9.70. This time I was luckier. I met Tom Provians and Bill Cavanagh from Brisbane, and Vic. Frances. Vic. said he had a drink with Joe Rognini. Harry Wright arrived; then Ken Webb. Next, Jerry "Fangs" Coughlan came in to say "Hullo and good-bye"; then Peter Armstrong arrives for a short stay.

Tom, Bill and Harry said they had an appointment at Chatswood R.S.L. to see Fred Staggs.

Tom had his report all written out. Thanks, Tom. (Others take note, please!) The report: "Tom has seen Ted Werne, Max Nerney, Laurie McCosker, Bill Sumpter, Winston "Wink" Walker, Duncan Russell and he had letters from Selby Dean, Chris White and has been kept very much up to date by a combination of W.O.G. (Cock's Column) and Harry Wright and also notes from Frank Gattenhof and Sailor Harvey. Must thank Bill Cavanagh and John Shingles, who came down from Brisbane with me for the Wewak expedition.

"Selby Dean came to Brisbane for the Football Test, but I was away, so my son John arranged tickets for him and his party. Chris. White is well, but his good wife Pat has not been so for quite some time but is on the improve now. Caught Duncan Russell at Coloundra having a quiet one with his brother. We are very sorry to hear, Pat, that you have not been well, but are also very pleased to learn that you are now improving in health; we wish you all the best, —Robin."

Tom continued: "Had a good day yesterday with Joe "Blow" Wells. (He will love me for that.) Eldest son, Jim, doing N.S. and is stationed at Euoggen at present."

Thanks, Tom, also for the "plug" for me. Hope to see you at Newcastle.

Mat Myers wishes to be remembered to Reg Angel. He said to tell you he still has the wallet that you used to mind for him, Reg.

Ted Fox reports having discovered that one of his business competitors is Bob Davies, who was the original BN. Pay Sergeant. Ted is trying to persuade him to come to the next meeting. (Twist his arm, Ted.)

Was pleased to see Ric. Carter, Urunga, at the Sept. meeting. Down for daughter Alison's Graduation from King George V Hospital. Congratulations, Alison, we are all proud of you, too. Regards to you, Ruth. I am sorry to say that Gus Ferguson is now in the Repat. Hospital. Wishing you a speed recovery to the best of health again, Gus.

—"COCK" ROBIN.

#### "GENTLEMAN JIM"

Rick Morris passed on to Editor Dad the following extract from the latest Rugby News.

"CONVERSATION PIECE": Scene: Eastwood Club Verandah. Occasion: Second Division Grand Final,

Brian Palmer (Coach, Bankstown) to Jim Graham (Canterbury): "What are you doing at Canterbury these days, Jim?"

J.G.: "I'm fifth reserve for the under 57's. We play 10 seconds each way, then make a bee-line for the Big Marquee. We train every night at the local R.S.L. Club from 1800 to 2359 hours."

"How about coming over and giving us the benefit of your experience, football-wise I mean?"

B.P.: "If you can rake together an Under 70's I'll have a run with you."