



# 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.

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## THE LAYING UP OF THE QUEEN'S AND REGIMENTAL COLOURS OF THE 4TH INFANTRY BATTALION

"Sir Ivan Dougherty, will you honour the Regiment by carrying the 4th Infantry Battalion Queen's Colour to the Altar, and will you now receive the Colour from my hand, Sir?"

"Lt. Colonel Murray, will you honour the Regiment by carrying the 4th Infantry Battalion Regimental Colour on which are emblazoned Battle Honours won by the 4th Infantry Battalion, . . ."

The foregoing are excerpts from the order of service for the Colours Ceremony.

The Colours of the 4th Infantry Battalion were laid up by the 4th Infantry Battalion (Australian Rifles) in Christchurch, Cootamundra, on Sunday, July 31, 1960.

The Association of 4th Infantry Battalions has now successfully sought the removal of the Colours from Cootamundra to the Garrison Church of the 4th Battalion, St. Anne's Church of England at Strathfield.

The co-operation of the Rectors, Canon B. Boddington, of Christchurch, and the Reverend Angus Tipping, of St. Anne's, has been the major factor in effecting the removal.

St. Anne's, 42 Homebush Road, Strathfield, is a lovely cathedral-like church and on Sunday, March 14, 1971, at 1500 hours the Queen's and Regimental Colours of the 4th Infantry Battalion will be received by the Rector, the Reverend A. C. Tipping, Th.L., from the president of the Association of the 4th Infantry Battalions, Mr. H. E. C. Gjedsted.

This ceremony will coincide with a combined church parade of the 4th Battalion R.N.S.W.R. and the Association of 4th Infantry Battalions.

Invitations to attend have been extended to the Association's patron, Major-General Sir Ivan Dougherty, and Lady Dougherty, Lady Mackay, Lt.-Col. J. C. Hughes, M.C., Commanding Officer, 4th Battalion R.A.R., Mr. Edward Kenna, V.C., Major-General P. A. Cullen, Mrs. D. McAlpine, widow of Captain McAlpine, of the original battalion, Captain George Cartwright, V.C., together with other ladies and gentlemen prominently associated with the battalion.

The parade will assemble at the Homebush Army



Depot at 1400 hours. The depot is in Station Street—right beside the railway station.

Significantly, this depot was the H.Q. of the 4th Infantry Battalion.

The parade will march to the music of the Regimental Band of the 4th Battalion R.N.S.W.R. from the depot to St. Anne's along the route familiar to former serving members who attended the Battalion's church parades at St. Anne's.

The service will commence at 1500 hours.

After the service the ladies of St. Anne's will provide the congregation with afternoon tea at a small charge.

This historic occasion will reveal the esprit de corps of members of all 4th Battalions now banded together in the unique Association of the 4th Infantry Battalions.

On parade on this day will be men who have served or who are serving with the following battalions:

- 4th Infantry Battalion, 1st A.I.F.
- 4th Infantry Battalion, C.M.F.
- 4th Infantry Battalion, A.I.F., 1939-45.
- 2/4th Infantry Battalion, A.I.F.
- 4th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment.
- 4th Battalion, Royal New South Wales Regiment.

All members or former members of these units are cordially invited to attend this ceremony.

### THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting for 1971 was one of the best attended meetings in the long and proud history of our Association. Held on schedule on Friday, 5th February, at Royal Australian Naval House the meeting received and considered the Annual Reports and the Accounts and Balance Sheet for the year 1970. Members were loud and long in their praise of the President and Office-bearers who had guided the affairs of the Association so ably in the year just concluded. Particularly mentioned were Honorary Secretary George Stack, Honorary Treasurer Allen Lindsay and Honorary Welfare Officer Dick Latimer.

Among the apologies received was that from our Patron, Sir Ivan Dougherty, who was, as would be expected, deeply involved as Director of Civil Defence, in the relief operations in the flood areas.

### OFFICERS FOR 1971:

**Patron:** Major-General Sir Ivan Dougherty, C.B.E., D.S.O. & Bar, E.D., B.Ec. **President:** Harry Gjedsted. **Senior Vice-President:** Russ. McWilliam. **Vice-Presidents:** Northern N.S.W.: Esca Riordan; Southern N.S.W.: Tim West; **Queensland:** Tom Provians; **South Australia:** Peter Denver; **Victoria:** Claude Raymond.

**Honorary Secretary:** George Stack. **Assistant Secretary:** Harry Wright. **Honorary Treasurer:** Allen Lindsay. **Honorary Welfare Officer:** Dick Latimer. **Committee:** Chas. Adams, Cec Chrystal, Rex Everson, Ted Fox, Vic. Francis, Athol Heath, Bill MacLennan, John Meehan. **Honorary Auditor:** Harry Stafford (4th Bn., '14-'18).

### ALTERATION TO CONSTITUTION

As foreshadowed in the January issue of W.O.G., a committee recommendation to increase the annual subscription was carried unanimously. The subscription rates now are Three Dollars (\$3.00) per annum and Thirty Dollars (\$30.00) for life.

### LIFE MEMBER

Honorary Secretary **George Stack** was accorded the highest honour the Association can bestow on a member when he was unanimously elected an Honorary Life Member. George, who has given (and continues to give) such sterling service to the Association over many years, in responding to the President said that his wife Marjorie shared any honour he was given as she contributed continually to his work as Secretary. George now joins the distinguished company of Honorary Life Members who in order of bestowal are "Nedda" Kenna, V.C.; Fred Staggs; the late Johnnie Morrison; the late Fred Searle; Cec. Chrystal; and Jim "Cock" Robin. Congratulations, George.

### 1971 COUNTRY REUNION

At the Annual General Meeting, **President Harry Gjedsted** reported that **Stan Blacksley** had confirmed with him that a committee of members in Wagga and District were prepared to promote the 1971 Country Reunion in Wagga. The meeting received the news with acclamation. Remember, folk, the 1971 COUNTRY REUNION AT WAGGA ON 2nd, 3rd AND 4th OCT. NEXT. Details in later issue.

### YOUR NEW EDITORS

Because of increased business and family commitments, Dick Morris, who has been your Editor for the past year, has been forced to hand in his resignation. In thanking Dick for the work he had put into the publication over the period, President Harry Gjedsted pointed out the magnitude of the work involved each month and congratulated Dick on his efforts. In an endeavour to make the task easier in the future, it was decided to appoint Bill "Snow" MacLennan and "Rusty" McWilliam as joint editors. Members can assist greatly in the publication of "White Over Green" if they will send items of interest, legibly written (typed preferably), to either of the editors or to **Jim "Cock" Robin**. The address of each is always on the front page of W.O.G.

### THE TREASURER REPORTS

**Honorary Treasurer Allen Lindsay** reports receipt of the following membership subscriptions: \$2.00 each from Charles McKenna, John Jordan, Harold Westwood, Tim Woods, C. Barwick, Ron Small, Jack Crowley, Frank Wright, Geoff. Ings, J. S. Clarke, Jack Heaney, Tom Barber, Ken Webb, Sid. Young, Vic. Francis K. Franklin. M. Porter.

\$3.00 each from John Holland, Percy Lane, Norm Johnstone, Stan Doggett, Doug. Grove, Jack Chaseling, Bert Gabriel, Charlie Adams, Reg. Angel, Ted Fox, John Meehan, Ted McCaffery, Ron Williams, Athol Heath, Norrie McGregor, Reg. Cole, Ted Jackson, Mat. Meyers, Harry Gjedsted, Ken Kester-ven, Dick Faulder, Jim Cameron, Tom Saunders, Rex



Everson, Bill Fogden, Terry Sparks, Charlie Scully, Dave McGillvray, Mick Steele.

\$4.00 each from Jerry Coughlan, J. Pead, Monty Siems, Vic. Forbes.

\$5.00 each from Selby Dean, Frank Mallett.

\$6.00 from Sid Thompson, \$10.00 from George Ormiston, and \$20.00 from "Sluggo" Wyldman.

Additional payments of \$10.00 each have been made by Alf. Carpenter, Phil Smith, Bill MacLennan and Russ McWilliam to bring their life membership payments to \$30.00 each.

Donations to Wewak Scholarship Fund are as follows: \$1.00 from Reg Cole, Bert Gabriel; \$3.00 from John Copland; \$5.00 from Charlie Adams; \$10.00 from Leo Lynch, Bruce Barnes, Ted Fox, Gordon Chrisp and Nance Smith.

Donations to Benevolent Fund from Percy Lane \$2.00, Norm Johnstone \$2.00, Fred Staggs \$3.00, Jack Fitzgerald (2/1st Bn.) \$5.

Members are reminded that subscriptions for the current year are now due. It is essential that all members who are not financial rectify the position without delay to enable us to comply with the law regarding bulk postage. In case some of you are not aware of your present standing regarding dues, we shall be putting a cross in the square in the next issue if you are still in arrears. Remember, the subscription is \$3.00 per year or \$30.00 for life membership.

### COCK'S COLUMN

At a recent monthly meeting **Dave "Rocky" Tearall**, Merrylands, asked me to let **Norm "Buck" Rogers**, Narrandera, know that he would be pleased to see him anytime he is in town. **Bob Lane** and "Rocky" would like to tee up a meeting with you for Anzac Day, Norm.

**Peter Cook** reports meeting an old "A" Coy. identity in "**Bluey**" **Ewings**. "Bluey" has happy memories of the days with **Ken Casey**, "**Slim**" **Desmond**, "**Tex**" **Morton**, **Johnnie Lane**, etc. "**Robbie**" (R.S.M.) always referred to "Bluey" as "the Strawberry Roan".

**Peter Cade**, with Margaret and family, spent a pleasant holiday at Port Stephens. While there they met **Cec.** and **Phyl Chrystal** and **Harry** and **Yvonne Pearse**.

A very pleasant surprise at the December meeting to find **Padre "Paddy" Reid** over from South Australia. "Paddy" brought news and best wishes from 19th Brigade Association. Had recently seen **Peter Denver**, **Roy Harrison** and **Allan Turner** (2/8 Bn.). A measure of the esteem the boys hold for our "Padre" could be gauged by the spontaneous acclamation with which he was greeted at the meeting.

**Dick Faulder** on a trip to the Snowy Mountains met **Jim "Stumpy" Agnew** at the Tumut R.S.L. and recalled old times.

N.P.—Many thanks to all my friends who sent Xmas Cards and greetings. Space has been short since the festive season with official reports and the information about the possible Return to Greece project, so I will not be able to name everyone—but again my very sincere thanks to you all.

**Roy Moores**, "The Silent One", from Adelong, advises they have three noisy boys in their bowling

club in **Rupert Chapman** (2/4 Bn.), **Reg Edwards** (6 Div. Recce.) and the quietest of the lot is himself must have been imbibing I think!!).

**Bob Griffith**, Mildura, advises that he met **Bill Griffith** (H.Q. Coy.) on a trip to Adelaide; Bill sends greetings to the boys, as does Bob. Thanks, Bob.

**Monty Siems**, London, U.K., sent over a B.B.C. Promotion Pack of Brochures on colour TV. Thanks, Monty, I will do as you request.

**Frank Frizell**, of 30 Old Wingham Road, Taree, extends an invitation to any of the members to call and see him if in the vicinity. Sends best wishes to all, not forgetting Eileen at N.B. Thanks, Frank. Hope to see you on Anzac Day.

**Frank Mallet**, of Liverpool, U.K., enjoys reading W.O.G. and sends greetings to everyone. Thanks for the \$5.00 subs., Frank. Kindest regards to your mother and father, and yourself. Robin.

Had a note from **Dick Bawden**, Port Macquarie, in which he asked me to thank **Dick Latimer** and those other friends of the 2/4th who visited him while in R.G.H., Concord, recently. Pleased to hear from you again, Dick, and to know you are improving in health.

Extract from "The Sun's" Sydney Today Column—"How's this for devotion to Duty? Yesterday we found **Major General Sir Ivan Dougherty**, State Director of Civil Defence, at his post at 5.30 a.m. And he'd been on duty most of the night helping co-ordinate flood information at Civil Defence headquarters in Bathurst Street."

North British News: Met **Colin Campbell** (recently discharged from R.G.H., Concord), who called in to see some of the boys. Col. mentioned that he had seen **Dick Bawden** in Ward 320. Among Dick's visitors were **Dick Latimer**, **Athol Heath**, **Bruce Mulquaney** and **Ferd Pegg**.

**Stan Innes** called in and left \$3.00 with Eileen as a donation to the Association. Thanks, Stan.

**Don Ellicott** reports having met **Hylton Harrison**, who works at Lithgow Small Arms factory, also **Athol "Biscuits" Arnott**, who is Security Officer there. Had also run into **Ernie "Trap" Dawe** at Bathurst, **John Hough** at Narromine, "**Bully**" **Hayes** and "**Bookie**" **Rae** at Hamilton. All of these chaps are anxious to hear news of **Joe Galvin**. Earlier Don had met an old school mate from Inverell in **Jack Fitzpatrick** (2/13 Bn.), whom he had not seen for 39 years. Jack knew **Selby Dean**, **Darby Bevan**, **Ross Smith** and **Ollie Blowes**.

From Eileen's notebook—**John "Bookie" Rae** reports having met **Charles McKenna** in Melbourne at Cup time. Nipped him for \$2.00 membership. Welcome, Charles, and thanks John.

**Dick Latimer** called in to say "good-day" to our girl Eileen on his way to R.G.H., Concord. Sends regards to all.

**Ken Moses**, Melbourne, called and met **Ted McCaffery**, **Ron "Porky" Williams**, **Jerry "Fangs" Coughlan**, **Joe Rognini** and **Sid Young**. "Fangs" was on his way to hospital to meet his fifth grandchild—a girl this time.

Another country visitor, **Frank Frizell**, now of Taree, called on his way home. Also "**Dasher**" **Deacon**, of Campbelltown.



**Rex Gilliland** reports having bumped into **Bill Eslick** (A. Coy.) in Pitt Street. Best wishes for the future happiness of your newly married daughter and her husband, Bill.

**Bill "Snow" MacLennan** reports having received letters from **Frank "Sadie" Sadler**, Dubbo, and **Pat Sydenham**, Wagga, expressing their thanks to the Association for the wonderful Wewak trip.

**Ken Moses** reports news of Victorian members **Jim Barrow**, **Arthur Reilly**, **Russ Maddern**, **Allan "Puddin" Watson** (Sigs.), **Stan Carpenter** and **Claude Raymond**. Stan stakes a claim to being the last officer to join the 2/4 Bn.

**Noel Ford** and **Alec Matheson** (2/11 Bn.) called in. Alec drove from Perth to see his old mate. They met **Bruce Mulquiney**, **Phil "Blah" Smith**, **Gordon Murray**, also quenched their thirst with **Ted McCaffery**, **Jerry Coughlan** and **"Porky" Williams**. (Sorry to hear you were not so well, Gordon, and hope you are O.K. now.—Robin.)

**Don Ellicott** reports meeting **Ron Bowler** at the N.B. They recognised one another, although the last time they met was Darwin in 1942. Don mentioned meeting **Ken Carrington** (Rupe's brother), **Ralph "Farmer" Richards** (Tpt.). Also mentioned that **Mick Miles** is a relieving Manager for Tooths Brewery Hotels.

**"Snow" Moores** advises that **Ted Ryan** can be found at Toukley R.S.L. about 5 p.m. **Rex Robberds**, Castle Hill, paid his first visit here recently. Hope to see you at a meeting soon, Rex.

**Ron Barber** called in and had a few drinks with **John "Bookie" Rae** and **Don Ellicott**.

#### LAST POST

4 Bn. A.I.F.: 2163 **H. Fraser**; 5753 **R. S. Nurcombe**; 754 **R. R. Passau**; 137 **B. J. Shakespeare**; 5098 **V. A. Goman**; 2609 **C. A. Harveyson**; 2169 **T. J. Hunt**; 4871 **R. G. Perry**.

2/4 Bn.: NX46636 **E. J. Keevers**; NX6038, **M. W. Linsell**; NX5194 **R. J. Graham**; NX23775 **J. H. Rogan**; NX85667 **W. C. Russell**.

"We Will Remember Them"

#### WELFARE REPORT

It is with pleasure I report we are still enjoying a very "healthy period"—the number of members either hospitalised or ill at home is the lowest in any month since I took over the Welfare job.

**R.G.H., Concord**—**Harry Nichols**, ex A. Coy. Harry has a pension problem which is now in the hands of the Legal Service Bureau. **Jack Wilson**, ex C. Coy., has returned home after a very painful abdominal operation.

**Lidcombe Hospital**—**Bill "Tiny" Bleakley**, who is suffering from diabetes, is having a toe lopped off here and there. **Tiny** has gone home and is being cared for by his very charming daughter **Roslyn**. A Pension appeal has been lodged on **Tiny's** behalf.

**Callan Park**—I regret to say that **Robert Kirk**, 4 Bn. A.I.F., passed away three days before I called.

**Angus (Fergy) Ferguson**, I'm pleased to report, has been discharged.

**At Home**—**Harry Stafford**, who, despite the fact he had been on a shopping expedition on one of our most humid days, was looking much more like his old self and is gaining strength fast.

**Bill Leonard**, who is still his cheery old self. I'm having great trouble getting satisfaction from Repat. regarding **Bill's** pension, but am hoping for early results.

**A. T. "Brownny" Lawrence**. I had a ring from **Ferdie Pegg** to say **Brownny** was a very sick boy and was having pension worries and could I assist. **Brownny** is certainly extremely ill but the pension matter has been taken in hand by the Welfare and Pension Officers of Dee Why R.S.L. I approached these gentlemen through **Ted Jackson** and ran into the greatest brick wall of bureaucratic humbug I have ever encountered and was refused any co-operation or information.

#### Members' Wives.

**Gloria Lindsay** is home and looking very fit—**Alan** finally got around to buying her a light axe. We all trust the improvement is permanent, **Gloria**.

**Eileen Francis**, wife of **Vic**, is due to go into hospital any day. All our love and good wishes, **Eileen**.

**Mail Bag**—A very nice letter of appreciation from **George Ormiston**. Many thanks, **George**.

A letter from **Mrs. B. Ings**, wife of **Geoff**, enclosing subs. on behalf of her brother-in-law **Bruce Makin**, who is living in New Zealand and not enjoying good health. The letter took four and a half weeks to reach me from Fairfield and prior to its arrival I had a ring from **Geoff** asking me to send some back numbers of WOG to **Bruce**. I trust these proved of interest, **Bruce**, and you are feeling a lot fitter.

I had a phone call recently from **Rocky Denyer**, of Temora, for information re his Repatriation file number and requesting claim forms for a Pension claim.

In my last report I mentioned a letter I had received from **Bruce Barnes**. **Harry Gjedsted** requested this letter should be published in full and I have pleasure in doing so:

Dear Dick,

Firstly, please find enclosed medical history form. Many thanks for the good work.

Secondly, enclosed is a cheque for \$10 towards the "Wewak Scholarship Fund", and for which my wife and self are prepared to contribute annually (whilst ever able). A reminder when due would help.

I am sure many of us would not be here to-day were it not for the courage and assistance given by these wonderful people.

Kind regards,

**BRUCE BARNES.**

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