



White Water 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.

26th YEAR OF CONTINUOUS PUBLICATION

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JULY, 1971

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

NEXT MEETING: Friday, 6th August, 1971 at Royal Naval House, at 7.30 p.m.

THE PRESIDENT AND COMMITTEE OF THE 2/4th INFANTRY BATTALION
ASSOCIATION REQUEST THE PLEASURE OF YOUR COMPANY FOR THE
SOCIAL EVENT OF THE YEAR

PATRON'S AND LADIES' NIGHT

FRIDAY, 13th AUGUST, 1971, AT 8 P.M.

AT GALLIPOLI MEMORIAL CLUB, 12-14 LOFTUS STREET, SYDNEY

DRESS: Lounge Suit. ADMISSION: \$3.00 each.

A tasty supper and sherries will be provided and Dick Pinson's music will entertain.

Other liquid refreshment will be available from a modern central cocktail bar at normal club prices.

Members are requested to make this function a resounding success. They can do so merely by attending with their Ladies. Everything else is arranged. **Sir Ivan and Lady Dougherty** will be the Guests of Honour and firm bookings have been made for one hundred members and their Ladies—you may also invite the grown up members of your family and friends.

The first floor Lounge of the Gallipoli Memorial Club is set aside for our exclusive use for the evening and those of you who have not visited the Club before will be very pleasantly surprised by the surroundings. The Committee envisage the evening will take the form of a Cocktail Party type of get together and with members and their Ladies moving around, meeting **Sir Ivan and Lady Dougherty** and each other, with **Dick Pinson's** Band playing suitable background music. There will of course be some dancing as the evening progresses.

PLEASE LEND YOUR SUPPORT TO THIS MOST IMPORTANT EVENT — IT
CANNOT BE A SUCCESS WITHOUT YOUR PRESENCE

OUR MAN IN FORBES

The following is an extract from the **Forbes Advocate**.

"A large crowd watched the Anzac Day Commemorative March in Forbes.

"The crowd lined Lachlan Street to watch the impressive march as it moved towards the cenotaph in Harold Street where the remembrance service was held.

"Mr. Bernie O'Mara, B.E.M., was guest speaker at the service.

"Mr. O'Mara emphasized how important it was for the youth of today to realise the significance of Anzac.

"We ask our youth that, while they are enjoying the standards of living, they stop and ponder the meaning of Anzac.

"This they must do if they are to become successful leaders of the future", Mr. O'Mara said.

"Mr. O'Mara said he felt sure today's youth would find the true meaning of Anzac, 'not a day to glorify war . . . but a day when we give thanks to those who have given us this land we hold so dear'.

"A large crowd surrounded the cenotaph and the assembled marchers during the service.

"Mr. O'Mara said the most significant thing to him on Anzac Day was the thoughts of the young.

"He said the young of today were born into a land of complacency when even a flight to the moon hardly made mention in newspapers until it was fraught with danger and men's lives were in jeopardy.

"I feel sure it will only be then that those who have made the supreme sacrifice will rest peacefully knowing that the youth of today will forever champion their cause, for this is their heritage," Mr. O'Mara concluded."

1971 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY AND WALL CALENDAR

August 13 (Friday): Patron's and Ladies' Night. Gallipoli Memorial Club (see front page).

August 20 (Friday): 6th Aust. Division March, Wreath laying and Reunion.

September 25 (Saturday): 4 Bn. R.N.S.W.R. Annual Ball—Formal, 8 p.m., Amaroo Hall, Hurstville.

September 26 (Sunday): Open Day 4 Bn. R.N.S.W.R. a.m.: Competition Shoot, Long Bay Range for 2/4th Aust. Inf. Bn. Assen. Marksmanship Trophy.

p.m.: Noon onwards. Mixed company at 4 Bn. R.N.S.W.R. Depot, Burrows Street, Arncliffe.

October 2-4 (Sat.-Mon.): Country Reunion, Wagga.

October 29 (Friday): Association of 4th Inf. Bns. Drawing of Melbourne Cup Sweep. Slides and Films, Ashfield R.S.L.

November 7 (Sunday): Association of 4th Inf. Bns. Remembrance Day March. Wreath Laying, Smoko, Gallipoli Memorial Club.

THE GALLIPOLI MEMORIAL CLUB

Members may not be aware that they are eligible to join the above Club in Loftus Street, Sydney, a few doors from the North British Hotel. The Secretary **Mr. Knox** has advised that applications for membership with full voting rights, would be welcomed.

Your President and some of the committee have

already joined. We feel the Club is ideally situated to provide a comfortable and congenial venue for meeting local and country members. For application forms contact your President on Executive members, or apply directly to the Club.

PLAQUES FOR CAPE WOM MEMORIAL

Donations for Plaques in memory of members of the Battalion killed in action or who died of wounds or other causes in the **Papua-New Guinea Campaigns** are still being received by our treasurer **Allen Lindsay**. An everlasting copper plaque has been decided upon at a cost of \$3.50 each. The list of the 55 members of the Unit to be honoured appeared in April W.O.G. and 30 plaques have been promised so far.

The Hon. Treasurer Allen Lindsay would be very grateful for a quick response from members intending to donate a memorial to their fallen comrades; it is hoped to have the plaques completed and ready to hand over by the **Annual WEWAK NIGHT** on the first Friday in September.

The July General Meeting also endorsed a committee recommendation to donate from Unit Funds a Special Plaque of much larger dimensions in memory of those Indigenous Papuans and New Guineans who paid the Supreme Sacrifice in the Wewak Campaign. The plaque will have an inscription in Pidgin as well as English.

N.B.: The Treasurer's address is on the front page.

FROM A QUEENSLAND OLD AND BOLD

Dear George,

Herewith cheque for \$5 in order to wipe off the "X" on the front page of W.O.G. I was under the impression **Tom Provians** had mentioned that I was a T.P.I. In fact, I was made T.P.I. after I came out of hospital in 1964 but I kept on my business until 1967 when the lease ran out. Since then I have spent my time kidding seeds to give of their best with enough success to even win the approval of my wife at times.

In the back garden I have a large mango tree and 'neath its pleasant shade in summer, and other times, I crack a bottle of Australia's finest(?) ale (XXXX) with whoever cares to call upon me after 11 a.m. Please Note!

I am not exactly a chicken now as possibly nobody in the 2/4th knew I was firstly a private and then a 2/Lt. '14-'18 business. In Feb., 1919, I volunteered for the Archangel Force but was knocked back medically a chilblain on my second toe. So I went to warmer climes and forgot soldiering for the time being. Please pass my kindest regards to **Miss Peg Hardie** whom I did not meet. **Jim** was one of my best cobbers and was godfather to my youngest—now 27—girl. All the best to the W.O.G's. and your good self, plus **Harry Wright** whom I notice is Asst. Sec.

Duncan Russell,
22 Burilda Street, Hendra,
Queensland. 4011.

THANKS TO ENID LATIMER

Our very sincere thanks are extended to **Mrs. Enid Latimer** the wife of our Welfare Officer for her noble efforts in visiting Association members in hospital while **Dick** was unable to do so through a combination of illness and business commitments.

THE 1971 COUNTRY REUNION AT WAGGA

Saturday, Sunday, Monday, October 2-4

The President of the Wagga Reunion Committee, **Stan Blacksley**, was a welcome visitor to the July meeting to advise progress and to answer questions.

Stan gave a very clear and concise account of what his excellent committee has done and members can rest assured that the Wagga Reunion will be another demonstration of the solidarity of the Association. Arrangements are:—

1. Report into the R.S.L. Club by 4 p.m., Saturday, 2nd October, and become honorary members.
2. Be transported from the Club to the Assembly point for the 400 yard march to the Cenotaph.
3. March to the Cenotaph with St. Andrew's Pipe Band.
4. Ceremony at the Cenotaph.
5. After the Ceremony members will be transported to the Police & Citizens Boys' Club for refreshments and Dinner commencing at 7 p.m. We will have the sole use of the Club for the evening.

Guests will include His Worship the Mayor, the Town Clerk, the C.O. of the Army Centre at Kapooka, the C.O. of the Air Base at Forest Hills, **Padre Paddy Reid** from Adelaide, **Mr. Gus Cowled** (4 Bn. '14-'18) of Wagga, **Mesdames Clem Roddy, Jim Crowe and Joe Crawford**.

On Sunday a bus tour will begin at 10.30 a.m. and there will be a barbecue at the Boat Club at 12 noon.

Monday will be a day for relaxation.

The Wagga Committee has everything lined up. They **now** need your booking.

COMPLETE THIS FORM WITHOUT DELAY

(Unbooked accommodation cannot be held after 30th August)

TO: P. R. Jackson, Date.....
14 The Boulevard, Koorringal, Wagga Wagga
2650.

Please reserve the following accommodation for me/us for the 2/4th Battalion Reunion to be held in Wagga Wagga on weekend 2nd-4th October, 1971:—

Room/s Single/Double

at a: Hotel/Motel/Hotel-Motel

for night/s: Friday, 1st October.

Saturday, 2nd October.

Sunday, 3rd October.

Monday, 4th October.

(Please cross out whichever does not apply).

Enclosed is cheque/PN for \$, being deposit at the rate of \$4 per person for whom bookings are required.

I/We plan to arrive on: (day)

by: car/plane/train

at: approximate time

I/We would like to take part in the following activities if they are being arranged for this weekend:—

Golf	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tours	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bowls	<input type="checkbox"/>	Socials	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tennis	<input type="checkbox"/>	Barbecue	<input type="checkbox"/>

Name:

(Block letters please)

Address:

LETTERS TO THE PRESIDENT

John Copland, on holiday in England, reports to **President Harry Gjedsted** that he had made contact with the **Royal Regiment of Wales** and the **Black Watch**. John presented **The Association of 4th Infantry Battalion's Plaque** designed and made by **Peter Cade** to the **C.O. 3 Bn. The Royal Regiment of Wales** after which he was a guest of the Regiment at a Cocktail Party. John also contacted **Captain F. J. "Sandy" Powell**, Secretary, Chichester Branch of **The Royal Sussex Regimental Association**, and was invited to Chichester by "Sandy" to stay with him and attend the Annual Regimental Reunion at Lewes (Capt. Powell was R.S.M. of 9 Bn. Royal Sussex Regt. when I Joined that Regt. in Poonah, India—President).

John also met **Mike Richardson's** brother **Charles** and **Monty Siems** who is thinking of returning to Australia. John flew from England to Zurich where he was met by friends and taken to Horgen. He is going on from there to Belgrade and Skopje to see friends who were friends indeed in his dark days "in the bag" in Yugoslavia.

John concludes with best wishes to all 2/4ers. From **Capt. F. J. Powell to President Harry**.

"Met John Copland who was my guest during his visit to Sussex. With other members of 9 Bn. we visited the Royal Sussex Regimental Museum, the Royal Sussex Chapel (St. George's) in Chichester Cathedral and then to the Dolphin Hotel where the Lounge Bar is laid out in Regimental Colours.

"Later we attended the Annual Reunion of the Regiment at Lewes where John met **Brigadier Loder** who was in the same P.O.W. camp as John.

"We all took to John immediately and have made a wonderful friendship together," concluded "Sandy".

6th AUST. DIV. ASSOCIATION

The Annual March, Wreathlaying and Reunion of the above Association will be held on Friday, 20th August. Full details will be given to members at our Patrons' and Ladies' Night on 13th August, at Gallipoli Memorial Club at 8 p.m.

VALE ELLIOT SCHOFIELD

Our Association had its beginning during the War when at 2 p.m. on Saturday, the 6th November, 1943 four ex-members of the Battalion met at Ashfield to form the 2nd 4th Australian Infantry Battalion Association. The Conveners were Messrs. Elliot Schofield, John Morrison, Bob Cook and George Russell.

It is with deep regret we have to report that the last surviving member of that illustrious group, Elliot Schofield, has passed to the great beyond.

To Mrs. Schofield and family, we extend our sincere condolences.

"Take up our work, for as we go,
to you, from failing hands, we throw
the Torch. Be yours to list it high!
If ye break faith with us who die
we shall not sleep."

Lest we forget.

Country Party Rooms
Parliament House
Sydney
4/6/71

Dear Allen,

I am enclosing cheque for Seven Dollars to cover the cost of two plaques:

VX47600 Hawkins, D. C., killed in action
18/12/44.

VX70621 Addison, R. N., killed in action
20/6/45.

Both of these members were in A Coy. Danny Hawkins was an English seaman prior to the war and was probably the first Bn. member K.I.A. in New Guinea.

He was killed whilst on a small patrol with me on the day we crossed the Dananap River. A number of C Coy. personnel were killed and wounded the next day.

Dickie Addison was a young Victorian who came to the Bn. from 23/21 Bn.

I leave for overseas with my wife shortly and expect to be away about 3½ months.

Who knows, I might see a familiar face or a White over Green badge somewhere?

Regards to all,
Jim Brown

A WORD FROM WEST AUSSIE

Peter Willan (A Coy.) of 73 Waratah Avenue, Dalkeith, W.A. 6009, writes enclosing cheque for subs and comments:—

"Apart from **Cec Chrystal, Jack Huston, Johnny Meehan, Max Rungie, Vic Francis, 'Bully' Hayes** and one or two others—oh, yes **Bruce Cork** (still have a photo of Bruce, Johnny and myself on a stone wall at the 'back' of Palestine)—there would not be many of the Association members who would know me. However, I do get a kick out of reading W.O.G. coming along so regularly as it does.

"Full marks go to the editors—I have a little bit to do with monthly journals and I know the work entailed and the dedication necessary, but I've yet to see a more readable result than W.O.G.

"In passing I would mention that I was particularly interested to read the address by the **Rev. Neville Chynoweth, E.D.**, at the recent colours ceremony organized by **The Association of 4th Infantry Battalion**. Some years ago I acquired a copy of the book, put together by the late **Lord Slim** while he was G.G., from which the quotes were taken. I still have the book at home and even my youngsters (now grown up of course) have enjoyed and appreciated reading it.

"Anytime any Association member is passing through Fremantle I hope he would feel free to look me up. I'm in the shipping game myself at No. 16 High Street, Fremantle, phone 35 5044. I can usually rustle up the price of a glass or two of 'Swan'. So far **Jack Huston** and **Noel Goudie** are the only ones to seek me out but I'm always ready for more. Best wishes to all. **Peter Willan.**"

THE REINFORCEMENT

John Pugh, Rooty Hill, told Dick Morris the following story: Scene—Middle East. John had been sent back to camp from one of the many "doovers" to prepare a meal for the boys and was toiling away stoking up a row of cookers, with darkness setting in.

The camp was not quite deserted for John looked up to see a chap standing and watching him. "Have you just marched in?" queried John.

The answer was a quiet affirmative.

"Well, how about lending a hand with this firewood, sport?" said Jack, grasping the chance to have some help. The "Reo" quietly set to with a will and Jack was happy.

On Parade next day he learned just who the "Reo" was when "Doc" (now Sir Ivan) took the Parade, having marched in **the previous day** from 2/2 Inf. Bn. to assume command of the 2/4 Inf. Bn.!

NEW CAR STICKERS AND CARDS

Members are advised that a batch of new, improved design car stickers is on hand and available at 3 for \$1.00. The presence of stickers on members' cars has proven, in the past, a great factor in bringing together old comrades who otherwise may not have known they were near one another at the time. We welcome orders from members, their wives, sons and daughters. Keep the "White Over Green" to the fore.

Also available to members and their families are utility cards of good quality to suit normal envelopes. These cards are similar to a greeting card with the Association name and the unit colour patch reproduced on the front. At 20 for \$1.00 they are really worthwhile being quite suitable for almost any purpose.

As well as the stickers and cards mentioned above we still have supplies of Association Ties and Badges which are available for \$2.00 each and 50c each respectively. For \$5.00 therefore, you can have a complete new set of everything—20 cards, 3 car stickers, new Regimental tie and new "White Over Green" Lapel Badge all posted to your address.

Now is the time to place your order with **Allen Lindsay, 23 Ramsgate Road, Kogarah Bay. 2217.**

THE WEWAK SCHOLARSHIPS

Donations are still being welcomed by your Treasurer **Allen Lindsay** towards our **Wewak Scholarship Scheme**. Our two students—**Antonia Siroro** and **Robert Kumasi**—are progressing well in their first year. Antonia is attending Yarapos Girls' High School and Robert goes to Brandi High. **President Harry** has received letters from the students and photographs of them from **Mr. Ern Smith** which we hope to reprint for you as soon as space permits.

The September meeting each year is designated "Wewak Night" at which we will plan the next year's educational commitment for the scheme. Keep your spare dollars rolling in to help build up the fund for this most worthy cause. No amount is too small.

MESSAGE FROM MELBOURNE

From **Ken Moses**, 37 Edinburgh Street, East Bentleigh
Dear "Cock",

I am sending you a copy of the paper which helps me support the Government with a considerable amount of tax. On page 28 there is a full page story by me on the **Costa Rica**, the day it hit the streets, being the actual 30th Anniversary of the sinking.

I was down at the club tonight, and it was amazing the number of blokes who came up to me and said that they didn't know I was on the Costa Rica. A few of them were; and quite a few others were on the **City of London** and **Dilwarra**. This is just the reaction in one club, so one of the blokes reckoned we should circulate a few other clubs and have a bit of a reunion. Heaven help us.

As I always back the 2/4 doubles, that is No. 2 in the first leg and No. 4 in the second, there was a meeting at Werribee that day, and I reckoned it was a monty that it would get up on such an occasion. So I had a few units on it. Sure enough Stanaswa won the first leg and Rickshaw Lad the second and paid \$12.45 for a 50c unit. I have quite a bit of success with my 2-4 doubles and usually punt a unit each way on the TAB with any horse that was fourth at its last start and was second the start before (e.g. 724 in the form guide).

Rajah Sahib in the Melbourne Cup was a 2/4 and when I found out that the jockey's colours were white and green I had ten units each way and he paid \$19 odd for a win for 50c and \$4 odd for a place. Very handy when my second daughter Jillian is getting married in August.

Can't give you any Anzac Day news as I was wonky at home for a week with a bung knee, with fluid spreading down the leg. Dr. said it could have been caused by any old injury, even back to football days. So no reunions and no march. For the first time in 25 years, my wife Rosemary had a decent birthday as my eldest daughter drove us to a mate of mine who has a hotel-motel in the hills and we had a beaut lunch. Did not even see the march on TV. **Claude Raymond** rang me the night before and said that **Doug Miller** was host at the Elwood R.S.L. for any of the boys before the march so I presume there was a gathering.

I hope "**Blah**" Smith told you the truth about the 34 Manly diggers who were the guests of the Bentleigh Diggers' Swimming Club for a weekend. Although our club had only been formed six weeks, we thrashed them in the three individual events, but they got the seconds and thirds and won the relay, so they took home the perpetual trophies. It all was on a handicap basis. Manly had two one-legged codgers from World War 1, and a bloke near 80—and they all swam. There was a very impressive ceremony before the competition started and I'm enclosing pictures of same. There was quite a good crowd and the kids of the Moorabbin Swimming Pool were amazed at the speed of the old codgers. They were standing by ready to give us mouth to mouth resuscitation. When we finished, their general comment was, "Thank God they are not in our club. We would not have a show." Since then we have been inundated to give exhibitions at quite a few country and metropolitan pools, just to show kids that there is no need to retire from swimming at 17 or 18. The only trouble is that the kids cheer like mad and we

can't keep up with the encores. Our recovery rate is not what it used to be 30 odd years ago and about six 50 metres flat out in the one night is a bit strenuous at 52. But it is good fun and we are doing something for the kids anyway.

The Manly boys were really beaten by hospitality. The Mayor of Moorabbin put on a mayoral reception for an hour, and four hours later both teams departed to the R.S.L. at Bentleigh, with the Mayor, who reckoned we drank out his mayoral allowance for the year. "**Blah**" has become a bit of a legend and his stories are still being told time and again around the City of Moorabbin. After the event there was another 7 hour "ding" and we poured them on to the train, and from what I can make out, all but one failed to return to work, and he did not make it until mid-day. The rest made for Manly and spent the day cracking the waves off Bluefish Point and drying out until it was time to retire, rather early I believe, to the Manly Hotel.

Have written too much already "Cock". Keep up the good work and hope to see you at Wagga, if there is any petty cash after the wedding. Cheers to all the boys and love to Eileen at the North British.

Kindest regards to all.

KEN MOSES.

THE CASH REGISTER

Hon. Treasurer **Allen Lindsay** acknowledges receipt of the following:—

Subscriptions: \$3.00 each from **E. A. Reaves, Johnny Ringrose, G. Moore, Bill Mitchell, Fred Apthorp, Fred Driscoll, Bob Davies, W. Mitchell, Frank Gattenhoff, K. Franklin, F. Varley, Bill Stewart, P. Betts, H. Beggs, C. Grandquist, C. Pollock, Dr. Dick Hodgkinson, Bill Reid, Vince Unicomb, "Tiny" Bleakley.** \$6.00 from **Jim Atkinson, P. Willan, C. Hood, "Snow" Lovelace** and \$4.00 from **Wem Keast.**

Donations to Welfare Fund: **L. Dunn**, 50c.; **Fr. Apthorp** \$1.60; **P. Betts** \$2.00; **C. Grandquist** \$2.00.

Memorial Plaques in memory of comrades killed in action in New Guinea: Each \$3.00—**L. Dunk, F. Apthorp, A. Lindsay, H. Wright, S. Bowen.** Each \$7.00—**P. Cook** (2); **J. Brown** (2).

Wewak Scholarship Fund—**Ken Moses** \$5.00; **Jack Humphries** \$10.00.

THE LONELY WATCH

In lonely watches, night by night,
Great visions burst upon my sight,
For down the stretches of the sky,
The hosts of dead go marching by.

Strange ghostly banners o'er them float,
Strange bugles sound an awful note,
And all their faces and their eyes,
Are lit with starlight from the skies.

The anguish and the pain have passed
And peace hath come to them at last;
But in their stern looks linger still
The Iron purpose and the will.

COCK'S COLUMN

Sorry to hear from **Dick Pinson** that his wife **Rene** has been very ill in the Prince of Wales Hospital, Randwick. Our sincere wishes for a speedy recovery to the best of health.

Stan Bowen met **Tex Richards** (Ryde) who has now retired from the transport department. All the best Tex. Meeting next stop!

John Copland has contacted **Dick Faulder** advising that he was in Wales and off to Europe.

Brian Morris (Dick's son) reports meeting **Archie** and **Eileen Lewington** at Corowa on a recent trip to Victoria. Archie mentioned that he had seen **Jack Webb** of Parkes who had just been discharged from hospital. Hope you have recovered completely Jack. Our best wishes to you Arch and Eileen and thanks from Brian for making him so welcome.

Peter Cook often sees **Lou Evans** and "**Bing**" **Riley**. Peter's son **Bruce** recently won the N.S.W. Golf Cup and the Brighton Cup. Congratulations Bruce.

Matt Myers had been speaking to **Ted Jackson**. Ted was unable to attend the last meeting as his son was home on leave for a few days prior to going off to Malaysia. Matt sends a word to **Scotty Smith** to come along to a meeting for a chat.

"**Larry**" **Dooley** often sees "**Lofty**" **Taylor** who still puts away his small quota of J.W. "Larry" also had a card from **Tom Provians** our Queensland Vice-President with best wishes to all.

A letter from **Ted Swadling**, Griffith, with regards to all his old mates.

Bill Key was a visitor to the July meeting and was given a special welcome. It was good to see an Hon. Secretary of past years back in circulation. Bill intends to attend regularly in future.

Cec and Phyl Chrystal's son **Rolfe** is travelling to Europe and England overland via India. By a strange coincidence Rolfe is booked to travel from Singapore to India on the old "Rajula".

Congratulations to **Bill Luck**, Ashfield, on his award of the R.S.L. Merit Certificate for service to Ex-servicemen.

Congratulations to **Ted Jackson** and "**Bub**" **Graham** on being awarded Life Membership of the R.S.L.

Greg MacLennan, the son of our joint editor **Bill** and **Gwen** is "doing it hard" in the Port Hedland area of North-west Australia. However, Greg says he'll make up for it in November when he takes a trip to Honolulu.

Keith "Sailor" Harvey is recuperating after a broken leg laid him low for several weeks. Good luck, "Sailor". Hope you're soon A1 again.

Lieut. Ian McWilliam, son of our Senior Vice-President and Barbara has returned from Singapore with 1 Bn., R.A.R., and is now posted to Townsville where the unit will prepare for further operational service.

Stan Bowen passes on a message to our Patron **Sir Ivan** from an ex-member of 2/2nd Bn. (and a mate of Stan's at the Water Board): "NX1580 ex **Sgt. W. H. Donnelly** sends regards and respects to Sir Ivan from a proud member of Doc's old Battalion and wishes 2/4th members all the best."

John Meehan recently spent a most enjoyable week with **Bruce Cork** and his family on the Gold Coast and reports that Bruce is beginning to see the silver lining.

President Harry Gjedsted has had a letter from **Monty Siems** in England. Monty reports having met **John Copland** and attended Morning Service in the Guards Chapel. Monty also was pleased to see **Esca** and **Vera Riordan** who send best wishes to all.

NEWCASTLE NOTES

Was speaking to **Vince Unicom**, recently Ex 2/4th and now a successful Building Contractor of Cardiff.

Vince had just returned from Wellington and reported meeting **Herb Thomas**, also had news of **Frank Forrest**, **Morrie Court** and **Bill Lang**.

Apparently Bill lost his wife and children in a very bad car accident sometime back in the Broken Hill area.

All Newcastle members of the Association are well and meet regularly with their ladies each fortnight at Tattersalls Club.

Kindest regards to everyone.

Jim Sherritt.

When in Kandos recently I met **Ron "Tich" Williams** who gave me the name of workmate **Sam F. Ridley—"Hombre Sam"**—of Clandulla, who is an ex 2/4th member and intends to join the Association. I later received a letter from Sam which will be printed when space permits.

Sat next to a chap in the train on the way to work. He looked at me, nodded and said: "You were 'B' Company 2/4th." It was **Bert Milner** (Mortars) of 39 Sherbrook Road, Hornsby, 2077. Good to meet you again Bert. Hope to see you at a meeting on the first Friday in any month.

Joe Maher, Manager of the North British Hotel, told me he had a few ales with **Fred "Lofty" Taylor** at Tatts Hotel. During their talk Joe mentioned the N.B. and "Lofty" spoke of the 2/4th. Small world.

Visitors to N.B. lately—**Jack Heaney**, **Ted McCaffery**, **Ken Webb**, **Ron Williams**, "**Sailor**" **Harvey**, **Bill Sundstrom**, **Alf Brendell** of 219 Carrigan Street, Noble Park, Victoria, **Harold Stewart**, **Jack Maloney** (Don Coy.), **Chas Adams** (Woy Woy), **Phil "Blah" Smith**, **Joe Rognini**, **Norm Lane**, **Reg Cole** and **Stan Blackslay** (Humula).

IN THE MAIL BOX:

An interesting letter from **Fred "Happy" Apthorp**, Griffith. Fred mentions meeting **Bill Newth** (C Coy.) who was revisiting his old stamping grounds. Bill lives at Goulburn.

Bernie O'Mara (Forbes) informed Fred that he would be pleased if a Reunion of the Signal Platoon could be arranged. Fred thinks it would be a good idea, despite the difficulties of arranging a venue to suit the distances involved for everyone, age and infirmity. Fred wishes everyone a happy time if it is possible to arrange. (What about all ex Sigs who are interested in writing to Bernie with any suggestions?).

Bernie informed Fred that his family consists of three daughters (two married) and a son who is in the Bank of N.S.W. at Darlington Point.

Fred has forwarded to **Allen Lindsay** a donation for a plaque for the Cape Wom Memorial in memory of **Jim "Hoppy" Cassidy** who was well known to members of the Signal Platoon. Fred concludes with best wishes to all members of the Association and their families. Thanks Fred for your news. Keep up the good work—

Jim.