



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.

26th YEAR OF CONTINUOUS PUBLICATION

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NEXT MEETING: WEWAK NIGHT; Friday, 3rd September, 1971 at Royal Naval House, Grosvenor Street Sydney at 7.30 p.m.

YOU MUST BOOK NOW - YOU MUST BOOK NOW - YOU MUST BOOK NOW
FOR

THE 1971 COUNTRY REUNION

AT WAGGA WAGGA
ON THE HOLIDAY WEEKEND

SATURDAY, SUNDAY, MONDAY, OCTOBER 2nd to OCTOBER 4th

Members (and their friends) of the 2/4th Infantry Battalion Association are asked to make their bookings **RIGHT NOW**, please, for the 1971 Country Reunion. The Secretary of the Wagga Reunion Committee has conveyed his concern that many members who have indicated they will be attending have not yet contacted him to confirm their accommodation booking. It is essential that confirmation be made by 30th of this month as the reservations cannot be held after that date. Also will members who are attending from Wagga and adjacent areas, and who do not require accommodation please advise now so our catering requirements can be estimated??

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 march to the Cenotaph.
3. March to the Cenotaph with St. Andrew's Pipe Band.
4. Wreathlaying 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.

THERE WILL BE AN OPPORTUNITY TO PLAY BOWLS, GOLF, TENNIS ETC. DURING THE WEEKEND.

WRITE NOW TO:

Mr. P. R. JACKSON, 14 THE BOULEVARDE, KOORINGAL, WAGGA WAGGA. 2650
Stating Number in Party, Day of Arrival and Accommodation Required. Enclose \$4.00 per person Deposit.

FOAPELA i WINIM PRAIS

Foapela sumatin bilong Sepik Distrik i bin winim prais long go long haiskul, na sampela arapela man bai i baim skul bilong ol. Em yumi kolim skolasip.

Ol soldia i bin kam long Wewak long mun Septemba long tingim de ol i winim woa, ol yet i givim dispela ol prais.

Ol soldia bilong namba 2/4 lain soldia bilong Australia i givim prais long wanpela boi na wanpela meri. Antonia Siroro i gat 13 krismas i win na bai i go long Yarapos Haiskul. Joseph Kamasi i gat 12 krismas i win tu na bai i go long Brandi Haiskul.

Wanpela soldia bilong dispela lain yet, nem bilong em Mista W. MacLennan, em wanpela laik baim skul bilong tupela sumatin moa. Olsem na Robert Gobout i win na em bai go long St. Xavier Haiskul. Na Philomena Auwinimy bai go long Yarapos Haiskul.

Copy by courtesy of "WANTOK", Wewak.

FOUR CHILDREN WIN PRIZES

Four children from the Sepik District have won prizes that will take them to High School. Other people are paying for their schooling. We call these prizes Scholarships.

When all the soldiers came to Wewak in the month of September and thought about the day when the war was won, they gave these prizes.

All the soldiers belonging to the 2/4 Battalion from Australia gave the prizes to one boy and one girl. Antonia Siroro who is 13 years won one of the prizes and will go to Yarapos High School. Joseph Kumasi who is 12 years won a prize also and will go to Brandi High School.

One soldier belonging to the same Battalion, his name is Mr. W. MacLennan, said he would like to send a boy and girl to High School. Robert Gobout won a prize and will go to St. Xaviers High School. Philomena Auwinimy will go to Yarapos High School.

Translation by courtesy of Mrs. Helen Smith.

LETTERS FROM THE STUDENTS

Yarapos Girls High School,
Wewak,
New Guinea.

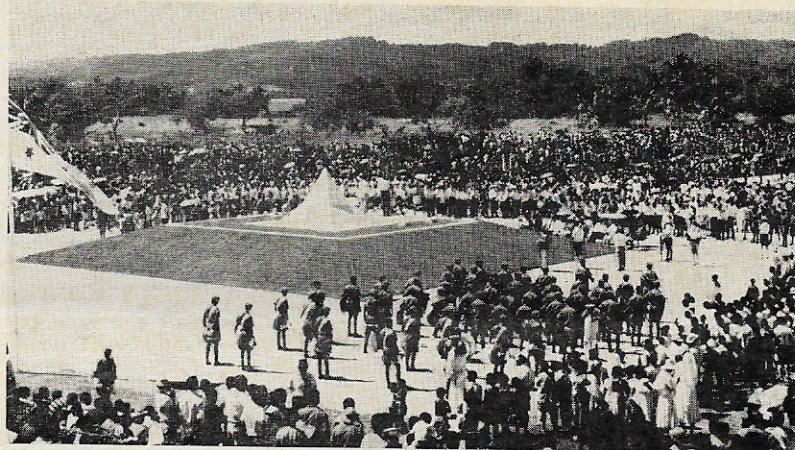
Dear Mr. Gjedsted,

I would like to thank you and all the men of the 2/4th Association for your help in getting me to High School.

I am 13 years of age. I went to St. Mary's School last year. Now I'm in Yarapos High School. Yarapos is quite a big school with two hundred and fifty girls. There are some day girls—about fifty of them. I like my new school because its the wonderful school in the East Sepik District. My hobbies are swimming, dancing and fishing. The subjects which I like best are Commerce, English, Maths and Home Science. The teachers and the students at my new school are very friendly.

In my family there are seven people. They are my father, my mother, my two elder brothers and four small ones. We are all in school except the last girl. My father works as a cook in the D.C.A. mess.

I wrote this letter when I was with Mr. and Mrs.



Cape Wom Memorial Park, 13th September, 1970.

(Block by courtesy of Standard Telephone Cable and

Smith in their home. They went to my school and picked up Philomena and myself to spend a Sunday with them. They took us for a swim at Moem Barracks. After our swim at Moem Barracks we had a ride to Brandi where the two boys are. We went right out to a village called Madi, and on our way back to where Mr. & Mrs. Smith are living we met **Joseph Kumasi**. After a short talking to him we drove on to Mr. Smith's place. From there on we started writing our letters to you.

So once again I would like to thank you Mr. Gjedsted and the other members of 2/4th Association a thousand times for paying my school fees.

That's all I've got to tell you because it's nearly time to go back to school.

I wish you good luck and hope to hear from you soon.

Yours faithfully,

Antonia Siroro.

St. Xavier's High School
Kairiru Island,
Wewak. New Guinea.

Dear Mr. MacLennan,

I would like to thank you for sending me to school at St. Xavier's High. I am very happy now with my school-work. My school is right on the Island of Kairiru about eighteen miles out of Wewak town. In school my favourite subjects are English, Science, Maths and Social Science. Sports I like are volley ball, soccer and basketball.

My age is about fifteen. I came from the village which is called Makopin and my Mission Station is called Dagua, which is out of Wewak about thirty-five miles. My village is about three miles from the sea. Also the Mission Station is right on the beach. There is where I attended my Primary School. Sister Dominique was our Headmaster and also she comes from Australia, in New South Wales.

The people in my area are very helpful people but a very few of them sometimes disobeyed the laws of Government. My village is just on the bottom of the mountains but not really on the bottom—somewhere about seven miles away.

My brothers own a plantation of coconut palms of ten acres. Every four months they make copra of ten bags. Six dollars to ten dollars they receive for each bag. Prices of copra always go and down.

Both of my parents are dead and we are looked after by our eldest brothers. Last year two mothers died and only one was left. First mother had three sons, that's myself and two of my eldest brothers. Second mother had three and the third one have two and the last one with none. My father was a chief man in the village.

The island I'm in is volcanic island but it doesn't erupt. The water which is boiling comes out of the side of the island. That's why it doesn't erupt. It always sleeps.

Thank you,

Yours faithfully,

Robert Gobout.

* * *

Brandi High School,
Wewak,
East Sepik District,
New Guinea.

Dear Mr. Harry,

I'm Joseph writing to you and the other members of the 2/4th Infantry Battalion in Australia.

I received your letter and I was very glad when Mr. and Mrs. Smith drove to Brandi and gave it to me and also I was happy when I heard him say "From 2/4 Infantry Battalion's President."

I am a boarder at Brandi High School, and every weekend we always go swimming in the sea. I play four types of games—Rugby Union, Soccer, Golf and Basketball. The one I like best is Rugby Union.

I'm in Form 1K and following in the alphabet our teacher is Mr. Kiou.

Before I conclude and on behalf of Antonia the girl who won the scholarship with me I can say thank you very much for the Scholarship. I hope I'll try my very best to go through the school and get this position that I chose; to be a Welfare Officer.

Yours sincerely,

Joseph Kumasi.

* * *

Our Lady of Mercy College,
Yarapos Girls High,
Wewak.

Dear Mr. & Mrs. MacLennan,

I would like to thank you for help in sending me into High School.

I am thirteen years of age and five feet tall. I was at Holy Rosary School last year and now I am in Yarapos High School.

Yarapos is quite a big school. There are 290 girls in Yarapos High School—there are two dormitories and about a hundred girls in each dormitory and the others are day scholars.

We learn many lessons at school and also we have a lot of teachers. Most of our teachers are Mercy Sisters. My favourite subject is Science because we learn much about our own world.

My family lives at But. I have three brothers and one sister and I am the youngest in our family.

At school we play sports and I usually play basketball. I have been picked in the team of Yarapos girls basketball players to go and play in Wewak against their team. Our sport uniform is yellow.

One Sunday Mr. and Mrs. Smith came to Yarapos and took Antonia and myself to their house. At their

house we had some cold drinks and lunch. And after that we went straight to Moem beach to have a swim. After swim Mr. Smith drove us to Brandi and then back again.

At five o'clock we had our tea and then he drove us back to Yarapos. I really enjoyed myself very much.

That's all for now, hear from you soon.

Yours faithfully,

Philomena Auwinimy.

INVITATION—4 RNSWR OPEN DAY

From Lieut./Col. T. R. Chambers

Dear Harry,

This year the battalion is holding its annual Open Day on Sunday, 26th September at the St. George Training Depot, Arncliffe and during the morning the 2/4 Bn. Association Trophy Shoot will be held at ANZAC RIFLE RANGE (Malabar).

After the shoot concludes about midday, the competitors are returning to Arncliffe for a picnic lunch with members of the Unit and their friends.

During the afternoon there will be a further competition in drill and weapon handling for the Arncliffe RSL Sub Branch Trophy.

This phase is expected to conclude at about 1630 hrs when it is planned that both trophies will be presented by the donors after which guests are to be entertained in the Officers' & Sergeants' Messes and the Kenna Club.

We would be very pleased if you could arrange for about a dozen members of the Association to be present at the shoot in the morning and join us at Arncliffe for a buffet lunch and the subsequent activities. We would also be delighted for the ladies and any other members who may care to attend, to join us after the shoot.

It would be appreciated if you will kindly let us know by 14 September the number of Association members who are able to attend the shoot so that we may arrange lunch for them.

Looking forward to spending a happy day with the association members.

Yours sincerely,

TOM CHAMBERS

"CASH REGISTER"

Honorary Treasurer Allen Lindsay acknowledges receipt of:

Subscriptions—\$3.00 each from:—W. Kensell, S. Carpenter, W. Hayes, H. Whittleton, W. Parsons, G. Coles, J. E. Martin, W. Panter, C. McKenna, A. Lewington, W. G. Martin, J. Rae, G. Mitchell, K. Deacon, G. Robbins, G. Chrisp, C. Geelan, R. Green, V. Crowhurst, N. Rogers, E. Wilson, L. McCosker, M. Lane, B. Privett. \$4.00 from D. Martin, and \$6.00 each from R. Ferguson and S. Blacksley.

Life Membership—\$30.00; Vic Crowhurst.

Wewak Memorial Plaques—\$3.50—W. Panter, C. McKenna, F. Foster, P. Cade, W. Wyldman, P. Sydenham, K. Deacon, G. Chrisp, M. Nerney, G. Friend, C. Adams, S. Blacksley, A. Heath.

Donations to Welfare Fund:—W. Parsons, M. Lane, J. Rae, each \$2.00; V. Crowhurst \$3.00; D. Russell \$5.00; W. Wyldman \$6.50; Mrs. D. Naphthali \$10.00.

Donations Wewak Scholarship Fund:—W. Panter, C. McKenna each \$3.00; V. Crowhurst \$4.00; K. Moses \$5.00; J. Humphries, P. Cade each \$10.00; J. E. Martin \$25.00.

WEWAK NIGHT

Friday September 3rd — the night of our September Meeting — has been designated our first **Wewak Night**. Following our successful venture to Wewak last year when a contingent of 45 Association members attended the ceremony at Cape Wom commemorating the 25th Anniversary of the Japanese Surrender, it was decided that the September monthly meeting would in future be known as **Wewak Night**.

It is fully expected that **all** members **particularly** those who took part in that wonderful pilgrimage to the scene of their victory 25 years before, will be present at Royal Naval House on September 3rd. Formal business will be kept to a minimum. The night will be devoted mostly to Wewak affairs. It is anticipated that two or perhaps three indigenous members of the Papua New Guinea Education Department will be in attendance.

Since the visit to Wewak last year the Association has made some important decisions, not the least among them being the creation of the 2/4th Battalion Association Scholarship Scheme for the education of children of that area. A report on the Scholarship scheme appeared in the Wewak paper "Wantok". The article is repeated elsewhere in this issue together with an English translation kindly made available by **Mrs. Helen Smith** whose husband **Ern** is chairman of the Scholarship Committee in Wewak.

Another decision made since the visit to Wewak was to supply memorial plaques to honour those of our battalion who paid the supreme sacrifice in Papua New Guinea during the war. Association members have already subscribed for 42 plaques—it is hoped that the 13 plaques still required will be spoken for by Wewak night. The cost is \$3.50 each and donations may be made to our Treasurer **Allen Lindsay** whose address is on the front page.

In addition to those for our own members the Association has provided a much larger plaque for placement on the Cape Wom Memorial Monument in honour of those Indigenes who served their country, and ours, so valiantly. It is hoped to have this plaque available on **Wewak Night**.

May we repeat that it is expected that **all** those who were privileged to make the trip to Wewak last September are expected to attend this inaugural **Wewak Night**.

STOP PRESS

Our Treasurer **Allen Lindsay** has been advised by Taxation Department that donations of \$2.00 and over to the **2/4th Battalion Wewak Scholarship Fund** are allowable deductions for Income Tax purposes. Receipts for monies already donated will be forwarded to donors and they may claim the amounts in the 1971-1972 Taxation year.

LAST POST

2/4 Bn. A.I.F.: NX1972 **J. Lovelee**, NX68841 **W. T. Osborne**.

2/11 Bn. A.I.F.: WX926 **R. Anderson**.
"We Will Remember Them"

WAGGA WAGGA

The date is 23rd October, 1939, the place is Wagga Wagga, where 17 Bods are being driven down Bayliss Street in various cars to where, at the Railway Station, a crowd of 1,000 people, plus dignitaries and the Salvation Army Band, wait to give them a send-off as we (the Bods) board the train for Sydney. A number of these Bods won't be here to attend the Reunion this year, some are buried in the M.E. and other theatres of war, some have just passed on, but we shall remember them!

We, in 1939, boarded the train and at every major station, to around about Goulburn, were joined by other parties in various stages of exultation and most of us had no sleep that night. Many others from around the Riverina who had been in camp as members of the 56th Battalion, came down later but we were the first Riverina Rookies to be marched into Liverpool Camp, by Cootamundra's **Lieut. Conkey**. The more veteran "Soldiers of a few days" greeted us with cries of "You'll be sorry" as we passed their huts.

These days and many others will be brought to mind by the boys of the good old Battalion when we meet at Wagga on the long weekend in October. Wagga Wagga will be proud to entertain you, for it is one of the towns which is proud of its honour in providing so many of the original boys to help form the Battalion on 3rd November, 1939. Remember the days at Julis L4, where we decorated the areas around our tents. Our tent in Don Coy. lines held a (supposedly) Wagga Coat of Arms which I made in a very amateur fashion, the birds of the emblem looking more like magpies than crows.

You who came down in 1960 for the first Wagga Reunion will find that the city has grown considerably since then and more particularly in the newer areas around and south of Willons Hill. You will see some lovely gardens and attractive suburbs. The Australia Hotel where we then congregated is no more and in its place is a modern building, shopping centre and arcade.

We hope that our visitors will return home with pleasant memories of a pleasant town and of a very successful reunion. I am glad to hear that **Paddy Reid** is coming over from Adelaide, this will be his second visit to Wagga at a reunion. We country folk are really looking forward to meeting all the old mates of the cities and other country areas and, don't forget, there is no crowd like a 2/4th crowd! I think that for most of us who served with 2/4 Battalion it was the greatest experience of our lives and one we are glad to have happened. We who are here still are very fortunate people.

So, roll up all you WOGS and bring your wives if you can and help us to make it one of the "best ever" Country Reunions!

ROY MOORES, Adelong.

WELFARE REPORT

A fair amount to report this trip so here goes—

VISITED IN HOSPITAL—**John (Frog) Clark** ex B Coy had a nasty heart attack but I'm pleased to say is home again. All the best **John**.

J. McNamara 2/4 Bn, **Tony Creasey** 2/4 Bn, **A. McGovern** 4 Bn A1F, **A. H. Churcher** 4 Bn A1F.

Johnnie Ringrose is back in for another op on his back but is as cheery as ever—hope this one is 100% successful **Johnnie**.

VISITED AT HOME—**Harry and Blanche Stafford** who are both very chirpy after a beaut holiday on the north coast.

SICK AT HOME—**Irene Pinson** wife of **Richard**, is not enjoying good health at the moment. Chin up **Irene**, and if the thoughts and good wishes of **Dick's** old mob help, you will be back on deck in the very near future.

APPEALS—**Bill Leonard**. I'm very pleased to report we were at last successful with **Bill's** appeal. Repat. have accepted the amputation of one leg as due to war service and the pension, which is yet to be assessed, is retrospective to October, 1970. Our next move is to appeal for acceptance for the amputation of his second leg.

George Halsall. Through **Sir Ivan Dougherty** we discovered **George** has been a very sick boy for eleven years, in fact, he has not worked in all those years, and is living on a Social Service Pension.

George was wounded in the head in Crete, but was very vague on details, also, due to prevailing conditions he did not report his injury to the R.A.P. At the time he was wounded he was **Max Rungie's** batman. I appealed to **Max** and he sent me a Stat. Dec. setting out most clearly and concisely the details of **George's** injury. The matter is in the hands of Anzac House and thanks to **Max**, I feel sure we will chalk up another success.

Ken Kesteven. I'm sorry to say **Ken** is not enjoying the best of health and has asked for a little guidance. **Ken** is a pretty difficult case, because on many occasions when he was ill, he soldiered on instead of reporting to R.A.P., consequently Repat. have no medical records for us to work on.

It is a strange anomaly in the Repat. setup, that the conscientious soldier who avoided the R.A.P. is the hardest bloke to get a pension for, but the malingering or cunning so and so, who reports sick on the slightest pretext gets a pension at the drop of a hat, because they built up a file like **McNamara's** Papers and have records on anything from ingrowing toenails to mobile dandruff—stinks doesn't it?

Jim Cameron. We are lodging an appeal on **Jim's** behalf for a nervous condition, I feel fairly confident we will trace back to Darwin Days.

Charlie Adams, is far from being a well boy and is deserving of a more generous pension. **Chas** lives at Woy Woy and, because of the distance we are apart, I suggested he take his case to the Welfare Officer of his RSL Sub Branch. Let me know how you are going **Chas**.

MAIL BAG—**Bill Andrews** ex C Coy now living at Lugarno. A very interesting letter and comprehensive medical history. Thanks **Bill** and it was great to hear from you after all the years.

Rick Carter is now back in Urunga after another sojourn in hospital. From the tone of **Rick's** letter and

his excellent standard of typing, he is a much improved bloke. Good luck **Rick**, and regards to **Ruth**.

Jack Huston. A letter of appreciation and encouragement to our Welfare Dept. Thanks **Jack** it's always nice to hear from you.

Rex Robberds kindly rang and gave **Enid** the info I had requested on **Dave Barry**. Thanks **Rex** and I hope we'll meet up some day soon.

Mrs. A. G. Staggs, Mother of **Fred**, sent a delightful card to **Enid** thanking her for visiting her during her recent hospitalisation. I haven't yet met **Mrs. Staggs** but from **Enid's** remarks and the tone of her correspondence she must be a very remarkable and charming person. Thank you for your kind letter to me, **Mrs. Staggs** and I assure you what little we have done has been our pleasure and privilege.

CONGRATULATIONS — **Dick Bawden's** sterling work as Secretary and Welfare Officer of Port Macquarie RSL was tangibly recognised recently when he was presented with the RSL Commendation Certificate. Well done **Dick** and well deserved. Please let me have some newspaper cuttings. Love to **Ruth** and **Sue**.

Pat O'Keefe of the bow and arrow 4 Bn, and **Mrs. Pat** celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 23rd July. To you **Pat** and **Mrs. Pat** our sincere congratulations and I look forward to writing up your Diamond Wedding Anniversary.

WEWAK PLAQUES—Our next monthly meeting on Friday 3rd September, has been named "Wewak Night" as all future September Meetings will be known, and we would like to announce at the meeting that our Plaque Project is an accomplished fact.

To date, we have received subscriptions for 39 plaques out of a total of 55.

Quite a few people have promised to donate a plaque but to date have not forwarded their donation. To enable us to know exactly how we stand, we do ask you to forward your donation immediately to our Treasurer **Allen Lindsay**.

Any member who has not so far donated a plaque and would like to do so, please forward your donation to **Allen**.

Besides the plaques to our fallen comrades we are donating a plaque to the Indigenes who assisted our cause so magnificently. The inscription on this plaque is to be in Pidgin and English, but more of that in the next WOG.

WELFARE TEAM—The calls on our Welfare Section are increasing at a great rate and as I told you in my last report, **Dick Faulder** had been appointed to assist me. **Dick** himself is far from fit, but his heart and guts are in the right places. However, because of his arthritic condition **Dick** is unable to walk long distances or move quickly, so we had problems about covering the entire Concord Repat. area in an hour and a half.

It is said if you pray hard enough you'll get answers, and sure enough I did—in the form of **Jim Cameron**, who volunteered to assist **Dick** on Hospital visiting. The arrangement now is that **Dick Faulder** looks after the multi storey building, **Jim Cameron** the duck boards and I look after appeals, home visits, Lady Davidson Home and relief visiting at Concord when **Dick** or **Jim** are unable to visit.

We still had a problem as far as the Eastern and Western suburbs were concerned, but that has been

solved by **George Friend** volunteering to look after that area.

Welcome to the group **Jim** and **George** and I feel between us we've got the game sown up.

The sincere wish to all members from the Welfare Group,

Good Health,
Dick Latimer.

COCK'S COLUMN

North British News: At last I met **Harold Stuart** (H.Q. Coy.) at the N.B. "Stewey", of 34 Charles St., Ryde had recently seen **Don Ellicott** and **Ross Smith** at Inverell. Wants to contact **Charlie Scully** (late of Mudgee)—Can anyone help?

Notes from **Eileen's** note book included pars from **Rick** and **Ruth Carter** who called in to leave **Scully's** "White Over Green" and mentioned they may be calling in the Friday night. I handed the W.O.G. in at the next meeting. Sorry I missed you **Rick** and **Ruth**.

Arthur "Jerry" Coughlan met **Fred "Blusto" Hudson**.

Joe Rognini had seen **Jack Fitzgerald** (2/1st Bn.) at the York Hotel. **Stan Harris**, Manly, called but did not meet any 2/4thers.

Others noted as visitors were **Ron "Porky" Williams**, **Ted McCaffery**, **Jack Heaney**, **Bill Sandstrom** and **Ken Webb**.

At the August Meeting—those attending were **Russ McWilliam**, **George Stack**, **Allen Lindsay**, **Harry Wright**, **Cec. Chrystal**, **Dick Faulder**, **Dick Pinson**, **Jim Cameron**, **Bob Lane**, "Larry" **Dooley**, **Stan Bowen**, **Peter Cook**, **Bill MacLennan**, **Athol Heath**, **Ted Fox**, **Bill Key**, **Rick** and **Brian Morris** (sons of **Dick M.**) and **Ron Thatcher**.

NEWS FROM SOME OF THEM: **Rick Morris** had a yarn with **Rex Everson** at Merrylands R.S.L. **Dick Faulder** made a trip to Richmond to visit **Albert "Angel" Gabriel** who is o.k. and sends regards to all.

News of the **Chrystaleers:** **Cec** reports that son **Rolf** has left Penang for Madras on the "Rajula" (That ship brings back memories, eh?). **Sue Chrystal** is home from Melbourne on 3 weeks leave after completing a 4 months post graduate course in gynaecological diseases. **Sue** will continue nursing at the Royal Women's Hospital, Melbourne starting a midwifery course later in the years.

Cec. had a yarn with **Bill Parry** who asked him to pass on his best wishes to all. Another contact **Cec.** has had is with **Henry Sharp** who is now in the War Veteran's Home at Yass. Cheers from us all, **Henry**.

Peter Cook had a noggin with "Banjo" **Patterson** at Brighton. Hope I've got the spelling right "Banjo". There are four names in the nominal roll. Perhaps all the **Pattersons** will drop a line and let's see who is who. **Peter** said "Banjo" is a supervisor on the new Airport Runway, extension at Kingsford Smith. **Peter's** son **Bruce** recently won the N.S.W. 1971 State Foursome Championship. Congrats, **Bruce**.

Dick Pinson each Sunday visits **Monty "Basher" Boyd** in convalescent hospital at Marrickville. Good effort **Dick**. Sorry **Rene** is still in hospital. I received a very nice letter from her in reply to a card I sent. Thank you **Rene**. We all hope you are on the improve again and will be back to the best of health soon.

Rick Morris often sees "Gentleman" **Jim Graham** who follows **Rick's** football team.

Russ McWilliam reports having a phone call from **Esca** and **Vera Riordan** on their return from Europe. Had a tremendous time but are glad to be home again. Send their best wishes to all their friends.

In the Mail Bag:

From **Sam F. Ridley**, Clandulla—"Hombre Sam". "I guess you will get quite a surprise getting a letter from me. I was speaking to 'Tich' **Williams** about army days and he gave me a copy of 'White Over Green'. I was very pleased to get your address **Jim**, or should I say 'Cock Robin' as we used to call you in the old days. And did the 'White Over Green' bring back memories! I can still see you, with that kitbag of elephants, walking up the Mount Lofty Ranges. Remember that jewelled Arabian dagger I gave you for your collection of souvenirs? All I brought back **Jim**, was the malaria bug.

Well **Jim**, I haven't had so much enjoyment for years as I had reading the W.O.G. I would like to know how I can get on the mailing list.

Incidentally I was very sorry to hear about the sad passing of 'Colonel' **Butters**. What a great fellow he was. All the best to members of the Association and yourself **Jim**, from 'Hombre Sam'. (I have written to you, old mate, giving you the drum on membership—**Jim**).

From **Dick Bawden**, Port Macquarie to **President Harry**: "A pleasant surprise this morning to receive your card with the signatures of those 'fine gentlemen' of the 2/4th. Please convey my sincere appreciation to them for their kindly thoughts.

I'm off to the R.S.L. Congress on 9th August and then go in to Concord so will see **Richard L.** or one of his helpers during my 'internment'. Maybe I'll hear how our Grecian adventure is developing. ('if'). Enclosed is a cheque for \$5.00 for a Plaque for the Cape Wom Memorial and donation to the Wewak Scholarship Fund. Hope to see you soon. **Ruth** joins me with best wishes to **Marj** and yourself."

From **Ted Swadling**, Griffith. "Enclosing a cheque for \$24.00 which was won in the lottery after deciding on Anzac Day to take a ticket. If the boys are agreeable I suggest we put it all back into tickets including **Mrs. R. Butters** in the holders. The subscribers were the late **Dick Butters**, **Ted Gamble**, **Ted McCaffery**, **Jim Robin**, **Dick Morris**, **Dick Pinson**, **Jack Heaney**, **Ken Webb**, **Fred Hudson** and **Ted Swadling**. Best of luck, 'Swado'."

From **Jack "Brig" McAtamney**: "A little bit of news for the column, **Jim**. Was holidaying at Grafton and **Scone** recently and called on 'Pom' **Wallace** and **Craig Clark** who are well and send regards to all. We all missed you on Anzac Day, **Jim**, and hope your troubles are now over. Best wishes to all. **Brig**".

From **Rev. Bill Mitchell**; The Manse, Bowraville; mentioning he had seen **Tom Clough** recently and occasionally runs into "Bub" **Graham**, **Jack Maloney**, **John Smith** (Macksville).

Congratulations to **Dick Bawden**, Honorary Secretary of the Port Macquarie Sub-Branch of the R.S.L. on being awarded the League's Certificate of Merit for loyal service to that organisation.

Congratulations to **Bill Luck**, **Ashfield**, on being selected to represent the Australian Blinded Ex-service-men's Organisation at the World Conference in London.