



# White Water Green

MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE 2/4 INFANTRY BATTALION ASSOCIATION

Registered at the G.P.O., Sydney, for transmission by Post as a Periodical, Category "A".  
PATRON: Major-General Sir Ivan Dougherty, C.B.E., D.S.O. & BAR, E.D., B.Ec.

28th YEAR OF CONTINUOUS PUBLICATION

Vol. 28, No. 11

PRICE 15c PER COPY

NOVEMBER, 1973

**PRESIDENT:** Harry Gjedsted, 2/25 Mona Road, Darling Point, N.S.W. 2027. **Phones:** 276350 (Bus.); 32-3977 (A.H.)  
**VICE-PRESIDENTS—Senior:** Bill MacLennan, 2 Amaroo Avenue, Castle Cove 2069. **Phone:** Sydney 406-4927.  
**Northern N.S.W.:** Esca Riordan, 36 Cameron Street, West Kempsey, N.S.W. 2440. **Phone:** Kempsey 62-4671.  
**Southern N.S.W.:** Tim West, "Yarrabundah", Cowra, N.S.W. 2794. **Phone:** Chiverton 42-9240.  
**Queensland:** Tom Provians, 65 Foxton Street, Morningside, Q'land 4170. **Phone:** Brisb. 95-4181  
**South Australia:** Peter Denver, "Wyndgate", Hindmarsh Island, Box 51 Goolwa, S.A. **Phone:** Goolwa 552252.  
**Victoria:** Claude Raymond, 92 Rose Street, West Coburg, Vic. 3058. **Phone:** Melbourne 35-1145.  
**COMMITTEE:** Cec Chrystal, P. Cade, J. Copland, J. Dooley, R. Faulder, E. Fox, A. Heath, J. Meehan.  
**SECRETARY:** George Stack, 40 O'Keefe Cres., Eastwood, 2122. **Phone** 85-5312. **Assistant Sec.:** Dick Morris.  
**TREASURER:** Allen Lindsay, 21A Mirral Road, Caringbah 2229. **Phone:** 524-1937.  
**WELFARE OFFICER:** Jim Cameron, 11 Bannockburn Road, Pymble 2073. **Phone:** 44-2152.  
**EDITORS:** Russ McWilliam, Box 59, P.O. Pymble 2073. **Phone:** 449-5176; and Bill MacLennan.  
**COLUMNIST:** Jim "Cock" Robin, 20 Adderstone Avenue, North Sydney 2060—Author of "Cock's" Column.

## DECEMBER MEETING WILL BE REPLACED BY AN INFORMAL "GET-TOGETHER" ON FRIDAY, 21st DECEMBER, AT THE GALLIPOLI MEMORIAL CLUB AT 7 P.M.

### LADIES' NIGHT

Ladies' Night for 1973 was held in the Club Lounge of the Gallipoli Memorial Club on the evening of Saturday, 10th November. Attended by more than 60 members and guests the evening was voted one of the most enjoyable we have experienced.

Guest of Honour, **Lt. Col. Joan Paige (R) A.R.R.C.**, was welcomed by President **Harry Gjedsted** who recalled the wonderful service performed by 2/1st A.G.H. in the pioneering days of our service in Palestine and throughout the 2nd World War. Joan served with **Mrs. Dorothy Walker**, and **Miss Shirley Ogilvie**, who were also guests for the evening and of course with our **Gwen Pegg** (Ferd's wife) who, with **Ferd**, was also present.

**Marjorie Gjedsted** presented Joan with a sheaf of flowers on behalf of the Association.

Thanking the President for his welcome and **Marjorie** for the flowers Joan went on to say what a wonderful thing it was to retain the comradeship formed in adversity and kept alive through the decades. She felt very proud and honoured to be our guest. **Marjorie** then presented **Lady Dougherty** with a Victorian Posy for which she was thanked.

Among the guests were **Lady Mackay**, widow of the late **General Sir Iven Mackay**, who enjoyed the evening in the company of **Cec.** and **Phyl Chrystal**, and **Miss Peg Hardie**.

An excellent smorgasbord was prepared by Chef **Louis** which, with the first class service from the cocktail bar, made for a truly delightful evening. Our Newcastle members **Harry & Yvonne Pearse**, with **John** and **Margaret Rae** were well pleased with the decision to make the trip.

The Lucky Door Prize was won by **Mrs. Mary Solomons** and a number of bottles of "bubbly" were given away in the spot dance.

Special mention should be made of **Mr. and Mrs. Faulder Senr.** who attended their first ever 2/4th function and were proud and happy to be in the company of their sons and daughters-in-law, **Mr. and Mrs. Dick Faulder**, and **Mr. and Mrs. Jim Faulder**.

The shoulder sprays which were presented to each lady on entering the room were mainly the work of **Heather Fox** and were the subject of much favourable comment.

### FROM OUR PATRON

4 Leumeah Street,  
Cronulla 2230

Major H. E. C. Gjedsted, B.E.M.,  
President,  
2/4 Infantry Battalion Association.  
Dear Harry,

This is to convey to you and the members of our Association my warmest thanks for the attractive and most interesting plaque you presented to me at Grafton. I shall always value it very much, as yet another reminder of the comradeship which exists within our Association, and which was always present in our Battalion when on Active Service.

I thought the weekend at Grafton went off splendidly and it looked as if everyone enjoyed it.

I'll not write more now, but send the best of wishes for you personally and for all the members of our Association.

Yours very sincerely,  
IVAN DOUGHERTY



## COCK'S COLUMN

October meeting saw in attendance **Harry Gjedsted, George Stack, Allen Lindsay, Dick Morris, Russ McWilliam, John Copland, Ted Fox, John Meehan, Dick Faulder, Harry Wright, Cec "Slim" Powers, Ken Webb, Athol Heath, Stan Bowen, Ken Richardson, Ross Smith** (late Inverell), **Norm Auberson** (C Coy.), **Allan Bowen, Jim Donelly** and myself.

**Johnny Ringrose** went down to Dee Why R.S.L. for a quiet drink on a wet Saturday afternoon and finished up in a "mini" 2/4th Reunion, met **Les Fox, Ted Jackson, Bob Ferguson**, and had an enjoyable session, recounting old times.

**George Stack** reports that **Vic and Eileen Frances** are going on around Australia tour for up to three years. Eileen has fully recovered; they will be leaving Melbourne at the end of Jan. '74. George also told me that Douglas has returned from a week's stay at the Narrabeen Fitness Camp.

Was pleased to see **Ross Smith**, now of Wentworthville, again at a meeting. Ross came along with **Norm Auberson** of Merrylands and they intend to be regular attenders at the meetings in future. Ross sends regards to **Leo "De Lion" Lynch** and family of Grafton.

**Norm Auberson**, NX5555, of Merrylands, was attending his first meeting for 20 years. (Better late than never, "Aub"). Sends his regards to **Hugh Whittleton** of Lynch's Creek.

**Dick Morris** reports that **Mrs. Joy Daven**, widow of the late **Wal Daven**, sends her thanks and best wishes to all members. She is keeping busily employed in Gosford whilst her family, a scholarly group, are all well along the way to a fruitful and, we hope, a happy life. Dick also reports meeting **Frank Iverson**, of 2/1st Fd. Regt., at Top Ryde. They had a natter over old times including the period as "X" and "Y" batteries Anti-Aircraft Regt. in Haifa, Palestine. Dick commented that action was rather heavy at Top Ryde as Frank had some very experienced supporting troops under command. However, Dick likes to feel that the well tried reputation of the "White Over Green" was well upheld. Frank sends best wishes to all W.O.G.'s.

**Stan Bowen** has been laid up for some time with a leg injury. We all hope you are soon fighting fit again, Stan. Brother Allan has been seeing to it that Stan can make the meetings.

**Ferd and Gwen Pegg** of Killara were accompanied to the Grafton Reunion by Lt. Col. Joan Paige, (R), who served with Gwen in 2/1st A.G.H. and who subsequently was our Guest of Honour on Ladies' Night. Also in the Pegg party was their younger son **Lt. Richard Pegg** of Sydney University Regiment. Both Richard and elder brother **John** were recipients of Duke of Edinburgh Awards. Richard is now studying Law while John is in London furthering his Legal Education. Whilst there, John, who is a C.M.F. Captain attached to the 5th Royal Fusiliers, is going with the Regiment into camp in Germany for training. Ferdie plans joining him in England in December and visiting Greece and Crete among other places.

**Tom and Peg Bartlett** of Sans Souci attended their first Country Reunion at Grafton and voted it a winner. They met up with many familiar faces and enjoyed the week-end immensely. Peg was a school friend of **Bar-**

**bara McWilliam** and was bridesmaid at the McWilliam wedding, in 1914.

**Big "Bully" Hayes**, Newcastle, and his wife **Estelle** managed the trip to Grafton despite Bully's bad leg. Also from Newcastle was **Cliff Curran** and his sister, also **Bill White** and friend.

**Captain Michael Hill** and his wife **Robin** were guests of Robin's parents **Russ and Barbara McWilliam** at the Grafton Reunion. Mike is O.C. Supply Company, 6th Task Force, Enoggera, and has just been advised of his appointment as Honorary Aide to the Governor of Q'land, **Sir Colin Hannah**.

### IN THE MAIL BOX

37 Springwood Street  
Mount Gravatt 4122  
Q'land.

Editor, White Over Green,

Although I was never a member of the 2/4th Infantry Battalion A.I.F. I have been receiving your monthly journal, W.O.G.

In the July 1973 issue there was a letter in it from **Ken Moses** stating that he had been to the Atherton War Cemetery and had taken a photo of a grave of a 2/4 Bn. soldier named **Pyffe** and he couldn't find his name in the in the back of the history. I have most of the Register of War Graves Books and in the Atherton War Cemetery Register it reads: "**Pte. Samuel Thomas Fyffe** NX191589, 15th March, 1944, age 20". So here is hoping that this answers Ken Moses's questions.

Cheers.

TOM O'SCOTT

P.S. Has the 2/4th Batt. Association got a badge that I might obtain (buy) for my collection? (Yes, Tom, one is going off to you by post.—R. McW., Ed.)

\* \* \* \* \*

36 Cameron Street  
West Kempsey.

Dear George,

Just a brief note to say "Thank You" to the Association for honouring me with Life Membership; I felt so humble but proud on being presented with the Bodge—but still wonder what I received a tfor. I feel the Grafton "DO" was an outstanding success, and as you will have learned, left nothing to be desired.

With best wishes to the Association and hoping to have a drink in our Club in the not too distant future.

With kind regards to yourself and good wife.

ESCA

\* \* \* \* \*

Newcastle.

Dear Allen,

I have somehow overlooked the time re forwarding our Newcastle Wewak Scholarship money. Generally I notice in WOG reference to a Wewak meeting night, however, I am enclosing a cheque for \$50.00 and hope late arrival has not inconvenienced you much.

Yvonne and I were, of course, very disappointed not going to Grafton this year. Our thoughts were with you all that week-end. Have no doubt whatever it was another bumper show. Newcastle reps were up there



so we will hear all at our next meeting night.

Next year's Country Reunion will be a must and we both intend to make Ladies' Night this year. So until then all the best to your good self and wife and regards to all The Wogs.

Yours sincerely,

HARRY PEARSE

24 Schnapper St.,  
Ettalong

Dear Harry,

Received W.O.G. yesterday and read it coming down in the train this morning. Thanks for the timely reminder re 6 Div. Reunion.

Enclosed find \$4.50 for ticket. However, Harry, as I am an official of Umina-Ettalong R.L.F.C. and on that day we are hoping to have at least two of our teams in Grand Final of Group competition—if this happens I will have to reluctantly give reunion a miss. Please use funds to help along. If I do happen to turn up then I will weigh in again. Please give my regards to the boys and of course my apologies to President Tom.

It made me feel very proud to read your name on Honours List—you certainly deserve it, Harry, and from me thanks again to you for giving the Association the dignity it deserves.

Will drop in one Friday night as soon as weather warms a little.

Kind regards to all.

BOB LANE

168 Wentworth St.,  
Blackheath.

Dear Harry,

I was pleased to receive the Association card with good wishes from yourself and the Association members. Over the past 10 years I haven't been able to cope with late nights (that is later than 10 o'clock), and the early rising at 5 a.m. required as a postman.

That is why it is such a long time since I attended a meeting.

The humid climate in Mosman was becoming a nuisance to my health, so I decided to retire at 60 and chose Blackheath where I find the climate suits me much better.

I get a lot of interest and pleasure out of gardening. At present I am fairly busy as I haven't been here very long, but will get down to a meeting some time in the near future.

Kind regards to yourself and members.

Yours sincerely,

RON BARBER

Dear Jim,

Following on my last letter in which I said **Bill Hyde** had died; well, I attended a funeral for him and a combined service at the graveside was conducted by **Mr. Anderson** who is the President of the Coffs Harbour R.S.L. He said that he was representing the R.S.L., the Coffs Harbour R.S.L. Club of which he was a member and also the 2/4 Bn. Assoc. **Bill Hyde** was interred in the Urunga Cemetery almost beside his late son-in-law **Fred Vaughan**. Fred's wife was **Bill Hyde's** daughter and for the last few years of his life was his nursemaid and helper, took him for trips in the car and generally looked after him. Fred, her late husband

pre-deceased **Bill** by two years and eleven months almost to the day. He was also a member of our unit and Assoc. I believe **Bill** was, too.

I have been attending quite a few funerals lately and soon I will be on my way to Lismore for the funeral of the President of the Far North Coast T.P.I. Assoc., which has now closed its doors and in its place three Clubs have been formed. One at Lismore, one at Murwillumbah, and the other at Coffs Harbour; I belong to the latter.

Well, Jim, if I'm to go to Lismore I'd better shut up and get ready or miss the boat.

I rang Harry, our President, and told him that I would attend **Bill's** funeral for the 2/4th Bn. Assoc. The wreath was in the usual Laurel leaves and had the Bn. colours stretched across the centre. Everyone remarked how well the colours stood out.

Yours,

RICK CARTER

### VICE PRESIDENT REPORTS

Our Northern N.S.W. Vice President **Esca Riordan** in a letter to **Jim "Cock" Robin** reports:

"Several weeks ago I was speaking to **Billie Bennett** of Macksville and she informed me that they are grand parents. Their son **Rowley** and daughter-in-law **Jan** presented them with a grandson.

**Bill Hyde** passed away since I last wrote. I was unable to attend the funeral but arranged for a wreath from the North Coast Boys.

Have had several ales with **Charles Grove** at Kyogle. Have also seen **Hughie** and **Eileen Whittleton**, and **Tim** and **Ainslie Lamond** at a dance at Lynch's Creek. Both families are well.

Saw **Jack Chaseling** briefly on a trip recently and also **Eddie Slade**. Moved on to Brisbane where I visited the **Provians** family ending up at Tom's weekender on Bribie Island, where **Ted Werne** joined us in a fishing trip. Caught enough for a feed before adjourning to the local Golf Club for a few noggins. On the way home I called in to see **Chas. Ellway** (chemist at Southport). He was extremely busy but sends his best wishes to all.

Next call was on **Bruce** and **Angela Cork** at Palm Beach, Qld. for a short while. They are fit and send greetings. At Tumbulgum I called on **Lloyd "Tiny" Eglington**. He has had a spell in hospital with a serious illness but is on his way to recovery again. His brother-in-law **Laurie "The Horse" Stephenson's** youngest daughter was married on the day of the Grafton Reunion so they were unable to attend.

It was grand to see **Sid Bailey** and his wife **Dolly** at the Reunion at Grafton (their first). I called on them at Harwood the evening before and twisted Sid's arm a bit — with good results.

Since returning home I have seen the **Dowlings** and they are proud grandparents again, and keeping well. Also have seen **Sam Hughes** — they were kept from Grafton by a 21st birthday in the family.

A friend of mine in Port Macquarie is Legacy adviser to **Ruth Bawden** and he reports she is settling in to her new home quite weyy; busy with the garden and other chores.

**Mrs. Isobel Nelson-Slee** is keeping well except for her slowly deteriorating eyesight.

Best wishes to all Association members".



## GRAFTON GLEANINGS

The 2/4th Inf. Bn. Assoc. Country Reunion was held at the Grafton and Districts Services Club Ltd. on the Labor Day weekend, 29th September, 1st October, 1973. Amongst those present were included our Patron, Major-General **Sir Ivan Dougherty**, President **Harry Gjedsted** (wish you did not have such a hard name to spell, Harry), Senr. Vice-President **Bill MacLennan** and his good wife, Nth. N.S.W. Vice-President, none other than **Esca Riordan**, Sth. Aust. Vice-Pres. **Peter Denver** accompanied by his better half Pat, Qld. Vice-Pres. **Tom Provians**, alias the Flame-thrower, and his happy throng to drink good N.S.W. ale made and brewed at Grafton. Hope all these had a glorious time and enjoyed our beautiful sunshine, which can at this time of the year provide better than the so-called Sunshine State.

Better tell you now "**Cock**" **Robin** has asked me to fill in for him, so if I omit anyone's name blame "**Cock**" for not being there to do this, as only he knows how to formulate this report. Sorry, "**Cock**", that you are not present for we all miss you. I'll try to do the best I can. Bit of a baloney artist says all and rightly so too. May I remind all members who have not ordered their Plaque to do so as mine has pride of place in my lounge and does credit to the designers.

Ha! Ha! See that **Alf Schweitzer** is to be present, also his lovely wife Jenny. Does anyone have a spare golf ball in their pocket? If so, hide it fast from Alf. He either wins them or acquires them, don't really know which. How pleasing to read that our very good ex-Welfare Officer **Dick Latimer** is back on deck and "toiling" once more; my very good wishes to you and your wife, Dick.

Now here we are at Grafton and on the door was Esca doing a very good job too. Amongst the first I saw was **Max Nerney** who imparted the very sad news that **Wally Potts** had passed away some two months previously, also "**Frog**" **Clarke** who we all remember as having transferred to the R.A.A.F. at Darwin. Very sorry to learn of members having been called to those Immortal Mansions above.

The march got away to a good start with a Junior Girls band who did a most excellent job and we had no difficulty in keeping step. At the Cenotaph an address by the Bishop of Grafton, **Bishop Shearman**, who spoke of the battalion after having had only three days of reading from our Official History "W.O.G." This followed the laying of the wreath to the eternal memory of "Pals". Reg. Sarn Major **Alf Carpenter** took the parade and it is noted that he has not lost any of his sting in his commands.

Quite a surprise to see **Dick Latimer** at the Reunion after his ops. He looked remarkably fit and healthy and as gained weight. The one who really looked off-colour and very tired was our one and only **Sir Ivan**, but on parade looked his usual self I am pleased to say. **Tom Provians** arrived with his team and was soon in the thick of things. His voice could be heard everywhere and so was his laughter. Good to see you again, Tom, after so many years. **Gordon Crisp** from Wingham, **Stan Blacksley** all the way from Wagga, and from S.A. **Peter Deramore Denver**. Hope I have spelt that middle name correctly, Peter.

I made a suggestion to Esca that the 1975 Reunion be held at Coffs Harbour and with the help of those

present on the N. Coast I feel that we can make a "Better-Than-Ever" Reunion in that year, subject to the approval of the Committee.

See you soon,

RICK CARTER

## TO GRAFTON AND BACK

**Athol Heath** and **Dick Morris** on their trip to the Grafton Reunion called in on **Glen Ackerman** and sampled his hospitality and cooking. "**Ackie**" sends his best wishes to all the boys.

They also visited **John Smith** and **Tom Clough** at Macksville and then spent several hours, cans, corned beef and pickles with **John "Bush" Bennett** on his property at Taylors Arm.

On their return trip Athol and Dick checked that "**Massa**" **Brooks** was using the right medicine at the Coffs Harbour R.S.L. Club. "**Massa**" and his family are running a very successful Delicatessen at Coffs.

Next visit was to see **Ruth Bawden** at Port Macquarie. Ruth has settled in to her delightful home in Granite Street. She and daughter **Sue** made the boys most welcome — the "rum issue" was reminiscent of Dick's generous hand. At Taree, time was taken to locate the late **Wally Potts'** widow who is in poor health, but otherwise satisfactory circumstances.

Final port of call was Stockton and **Harry Pearse** (Yvonne was in Newcastle). Again the hospitality was the usual 2/4th generous standard and the boys were well fed for the final leg; through heavy rain, to home. Harry handed over a cheque for \$50.00—the Newcastle Group's annual commitment for the Wewak Scholarship Scheme.

Athol and Dick wish to express their sincere appreciation of the hospitality extended to them at all 'ports of call'.

## REMEMBRANCE DAY

The Association of 4th Infantry Battalion's Annual Wreathlaying Ceremony, March and Smoko was held on Sunday, 4th November. Despite heavy rain in the morning and a very threatening sky immediately prior to starting time the weather remained dry and clear for the whole of the proceedings.

Accompanied by the Band of 4 R.N.S.W. Regiment the marchers stood at attention while President **Cliff Horsley** placed a wreath on the Cenotaph, in memory of the fallen, and Reveille and Last Post were sounded.

After marching via George and Bridge Sts., to Macquarie Place, members moved to the Gallipoli Memorial Club where a Reunion Smoko was held. The Loyal Toast was proposed by **Cliff Horsley**, a Toast to Fallen Comrades by **Harry Gjedsted** and a Toast to 4 Bn. by **Brigadier Gordon Maitland**, O.B.E., E.D.

A feature of the March this year was that the Banner of the Association of 4th Infantry Battalions was on display for the first time. It is indeed a credit to those responsible for its design and completion, especially so to **Mrs. Garry Lucas**. It and the individual Unit Banners were carried by members of 4 R.N.S.W.R. in uniform. A uniformed party of 4 Bn. R.N.S.W. Regt. added lustre to the March.