



White over Green

MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE 2/4 INFANTRY BATTALION ASSOCIATION

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APRIL MEETING: ANZAC DAY at Manresa Hall, Carlow Street, North Sydney, at 12 noon

MAY MEETING: Friday, 25th May, at Gallipoli Memorial Club, Loftus St., Sydney, at 7.30 p.m.

ANZAC DAY — WEDNESDAY, 25th APRIL, 1973

N.B. — CORRECTION: In our last issue we advised the incorrect time to assemble for the Wreathlaying ceremony of the 4th Battalions. **THE RIGHT TIME IS 0750 HOURS (Ten minutes to Eight)** at the corner of **ERSKINE & YORK STREETS** opposite Wynyard Park. Arrangements are:

THE WREATHLAYING CEREMONY:

- 0750:** Fall in at corner of York & Erskine Streets — Service Medals & Decorations should be worn.
0800: Proceed to Barrack Street to join 4 Bn. A.I.F. ('14-'18) members.
0810: Led by Parramatta Pipe Band proceed to the Cenotaph where Wreaths will be placed by representatives of both units in honour of departed comrades of their respective units.

After observing one minute silence the Units will march off to their Assembly points for the main march.

THE MAIN MARCH:

- 0930:** Members will assemble at the 2/4 Bn. area in King Street, adjacent to Phillip Street, to meet old friends prior to moving off with the Sixth Division troops.

AFTER THE MARCH:

Buses chartered by your Association will be available in Elizabeth Street to transport members to Manresa

Hall for the Anzac Day Reunion and Luncheon. See the Embussing Officer before the March for the exact location.

THE REUNION

The Reunion Luncheon will commence as soon as members are installed at Manresa Hall. Your committee has selected an excellent menu with a variety of dishes — there will be ample to satisfy even the most eager appetite. The refreshments are in the capable hands of **John "Larry" Dooley** who, as an executive of Toohey's, is in a position to ensure the best quality product will be on tap. Capable stewards will be on hand to keep "things" flowing smoothly. There will also be ample soft drink and ice for those who prefer it.

The charge for everything — i.e.: Bus hire, Hall Hire, Decorations, Luncheon and refreshments is still **ONLY FOUR DOLLARS (\$4.00)** — despite an increase in costs of all goods and services. All you have to do is **TURN UP**. Don't let your Battalion down on Anzac Day, 1973.

6 AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ASSOCIATION OF N.S.W.

Transcript of address by incoming President at Annual General Meeting held on Monday, 26th February, 1973 at Gallipoli Memorial Club.

Gentlemen,

"Thank you for the great honour you have paid me in electing me your President. You may be sure that I realise that I have been able to do very little for the Association and it is to the Medical Services and not to me, that you are paying the compliment.

In spite of never having been in the Scouts, except the Sydney University Scouts, as the Regiment used to be called, I came prepared with this written statement just in case I was elected.

Whether establishing a precedent or not, I would appreciate it if, you would, as delegates, take the gist of it back to your Associations and, if they approve, have the message published in your magazines.

Please get this clear — I was not keen to take this job; I may not be able to do it justice, through ignorance or lack of free time. However, I understand perfectly that a Chairman may make **suggestions**, but decisions come from you and you alone. But I would hope that this means a wide representation of 6 Div. Units.

Now let me get off my chest a few remarks which, as I have just said, you may disregard or act upon in accordance with **your** desires not **mine**.

I think the Association should be kept alive for REAL purposes in addition to our past activities, such as a reaffirmation of our respect and thanks to our Dead at the Cenotaph and a re-establishment of old friendships over a happy reunion. These are excellent, but to my mind not enough. Furthermore, I think the expensive format of the dinner is precluding some of our mates from joining in.

I feel that one of the most important functions of our Association, in these difficult times, I mean times when it is difficult to recruit for CMF, RANVR etc. is to remind the public that WE still serve, we were not just five-bob-a-day murderers, serving for the duration.

This Association could do more to co-operate with Unit Associations in their philanthropic and other similar activities. By the establishment of an effective Public Relations Sub-Committee we could keep the high ideals of members of our Division more in the public eye, at the same time welding the units together and getting to know what each other is doing.

I regret to say, the feeling I have had is that there has been some sort of purile jealousy — how crazy. Also we want the Units to feel they are getting something for their subscription to our Association funds. Let it be clearly understood that there is no suggestion that 6 Div. should usurp any functions of Unit Associations nor even criticise them nor do anything but help them. There may be services for the Commonwealth that our Association can initiate and with the proper co-operation and liaison with Units we can learn from them and also keep our efforts in the public eye.

We might think about a sub-committee to consider the contact with widows, children and let me remind

you of another frequently forgotten group — our WIDOWERS who may need help. I have recently found several widows who had had no contact with their unit Associations or Legacy and who just appreciated so much, that a contact had been made even though they needed no help. These are my thoughts — the action is for you."

C. H. (TOM) SELBY

ANZAC DAY MEDALS

Every Anzac Day and on numerous other occasions the question arises of where service medals and decorations should be worn.

All service medals and decorations issued by and recognised by the country in whose armed forces the participant served, should be worn on the left breast.

There are, however, other medals such as the Somme Medal, the Dunkirk Medal, other foreign medals and decorations, and the medals of the Royal Humane Society, etc.

These are not to be worn on the left breast, but may be worn on the right breast if it is desired to show them on such occasions.

(acknowledgments to "Reveille")

VALE "JERRY" COUGHLAN

It is with regret we report the passing of our comrade **Arthur "Jerry" Coughlan** of Bondi, after a severe illness. "Jerry", as he was affectionately known by his wide circle of friends in the Association was a firm supporter of all activities of the Association and many happy times were spent in his company at Reunions (both country and city), at the North British Hotel and in later years at the Gallipoli Memorial Club. President **Harry Gjedsted** with members **Ted McCaffery**, **Ron Williams**, **Lang Stronach** and **Russ McWilliam** were among the large number of mourners at the funeral. Our sincere condolences are extended to **Mrs. Coughlan**, son **Bill** and daughter **Mrs. Pat Bakewell** and family.

"O valiant heart who to your glory came
Through dust of conflict and through battle flame,
Tranquil you lie, your knightly virtue proved,
Your memory hallowed in the land you loved."

THE PASSING OF A FRIEND

It is with deep sadness I report the death of a dear friend **Vera Riordan**, the beloved wife of **Esca Riordan**, Northern New South Wales Vice-President of the Association. Vera passed away suddenly at her home at Kempsey — the home where she had on so many occasions been hostess to 2/4th members, their wives and families.

I know I can speak for all members of the Association and their wives, when I extend to Esca our deepest sympathy in his sad loss. May God Bless Her.

B. Mc.

COCK'S COLUMN

MAIL BAG

Country Party Rooms
Parliament House
Sydney, N.S.W., 2000
22nd February, 1973

Dear Allen,

I have just read the February copy of WOG and what a great issue.

The President's report is full of interest and the information contained about colleagues in the Battalion is really great.

We also seem to be holding our head above water financially particularly as we were able to transfer \$900 to the Benevolent Fund and this is in quite a healthy state.

I was very interested indeed to know that we have plaques ordered and I want two of these, one to put in my office at Parliament House and one to put in my home. My cheque for \$14.00 is attached.

I am going to make enquiries as to whether they will allow one to go into the R.S.L. at Kempsey, and if so I will order another one.

I hope you receive this letter before the Annual meeting, and if so I would ask you to please convey to President Harry and all concerned my sincere appreciation of the outstanding work that they are doing to maintain the wonderful spirit that was built up in the Battalion during the War.

I feel quite guilty that my commitments do not allow me to attend any meetings, but I can assure you that I am extremely interested in the doings of our Battalion of which we all are so proud.

Yours faithfully,
J. H. Brown,
M.L.A. for Raleigh.

761 Sandy Bay Road,
Sandy Bay. Tas.

Dear Allen,

Please find enclosed cheque for 1973 subs. Just for your records I am T.P.I. and have been since mid 1969.

Do see **Em and Caroline Butters** who are well. **Doug Butters** and his wife **Sue** are in Hobart on holidays and all are pretty fit. Caroline is doing well at Uni.

Ted Gamble keeps in touch with the family for which Em is most pleased and would like to hear from "**Massa**" **Brooks**.

As for myself, enjoy W.O.G., but there are only a few "bods" in Tasmania; could be more, I suppose, if one went chasing them up.

Kind regards to all,

Sincerely,
Graham W. Jackett.

N222873
Flt. Off. R. Blackstock,
Aviation Medicine,
R.A.A.F. Base,
Point Cook. Vic.

Dear Mr. Lindsay,

I noticed in the February copy of "White Over Green" that Association Plaques are to be available to members. I wondered if I could become eligible for one. I am enclosing a cheque for \$7 for one and, if I am not permitted to have one because it will mean a member missing out, please accept the cheque as a donation for the Association.

Yours sincerely,
Rita Blackstock.

N.B. We are proud to place you on the list, Miss Blackstock.

Letters to hand also from: **Dorothy Pike** (Searle) with donation to the Wewak Scholarship Fund mentioning also that she is going to be a Nana again via daughter Jacqueline. Congrats. and best wishes from us all.

Tom Clough, Macksville, with subs and news that "**Bushie**" (Bennett), "**Bub**" (Graham) and "**Blue**" (Maloney) were in good health and spirits.

John Storey, Canberra, with advice that he was pleased with his new Association tie and asking if a reproduction of the Plaque can be pictured in W.O.G. Will see what we can do John.

Ted Swadling, Griffith, enclosing cheque for plaque and subs. Will see us as usual on Anzac Day (Ted hasn't missed one yet!). Also asked us to let "**Slim**" **Venn** know he had his tie from Canberra. Ted also asked for a nomination form for the Gallipoli Memorial Club which we have forwarded.

Gary Vance, Rosebud West, Vic., enclosed subs and advised that he has now retired and galloping on in his seventies. Sends regards to all.

Bob Lever, Glenbrook, enquiring for car stickers and sending regards to all.

Doug and Con Grove, Ballina, advising they will be down for Anzac Day. Doug looking forward to seeing all his mates. Doug is manager of the Builders' Hardware and Plumbing Dept. at Elders-G.M. in Ballina, while Con has been costing clerk there for the last couple of years.

Letters with subs and/or donations and greetings to hand also from:

Peter Armstrong, "**Norrie**" **McGregor**, **Selby Dean**, **Mick Weir**, **Don Bundy**, **Keith Michell**, **Bernie O'Mara**, **Stan Doggett**, **Alan Manning**, **Dave Martin**, **Chas. Hood**, **Roy Andrews**, **Chas. Gillard**, **Ian Fitchett**.

THE LAST POST

4 Bn. A.I.F. ('14-'18): 4513 **E. R. Hughes**; 3272 **J. Walker**; 779 **J. F. Williams**.

2/4 Bn. A.I.F.: NX46489 **C. H. Brownlee**; NX5222 **W. "Blue" Benson**; NX135836 **A. H. "Jerry" Coughlan**; NX9056 **R. J. Holgate**.

"We Will Remember Them"

THE 1973 COUNTRY REUNION

The organising committee for the 1973 Country Reunion to be held in Grafton over Labour Day weekend is now fully organised.

A meeting of groups from Grafton, Kyogle and Lismore was held at the Lismore R.S.L. Club on Wednesday night, February 28th. Present were: Allan Kirk, Doug Stebbing, Roy Andrews, "Blue" Saul, Jack Garvey, Fred Varley, (Lismore); Leo Lynch, Noel Howell, Mick Green, Cec Hogan (Grafton); Jack Chaseling, Jack Lister, Charlie Grove, Hugh Whittleton, Doug Grove (Kyogle group).

Apologies were received from Roy Kingsley (Grafton) and Mel McInnes (Lismore).

It was decided that the three groups would combine to organise the big weekend. Leo Lynch will be in charge of accommodation and will combine with Noel Howell; Roy Kingsley, Mick Green and Cec Hogan to arrange entertainment; Allan Kirk and Jack Chaseling will direct operations and Fred Varley will handle general correspondence and publicity.

Leo reported plenty of accommodation available in hotels, motels and caravan parks. He is now ready to take bookings for same. It was decided that a deposit of \$5.00 per person should accompany all requests for accommodation, which should be addressed to:

LEO LYNCH,
C/- GRAFTON DISTRICT SERVICES CLUB,
MARY STREET,
GRAFTON. N.S.W. 2460.

To those not familiar with the "Jacaranda City" it has a population of 17,000 and is situated on the Clarence River, referred to in the days of the pioneers as "the big river".

There are several beach resorts within an hour's drive of the city, including Yamba and Iluka — regarded as one of the best fishing spots on the eastern coast.

Plans were discussed at the February meeting for a ferry boat trip on the Sunday, either up or down the Clarence, with a barbecue lunch and a good supply of liquid at one of the stopping points — possibly one of the many islands that dot the river. (Pom Wallace lives on one of these islands, so there wouldn't be too much room for others on that particular "piece of dirt".)

Grafton is situated 423 miles from Sydney on the Pacific Highway and is on the main rail line to Brisbane. East-West Airlines have a morning and afternoon flight daily to and from Sydney, using Fokker Friendships.

A recent innovation on the rail line was the introduction of the Gold Coast Motorail Express between Sydney and Murwillumbah. This train carries cars of passengers not wishing to make the journey by road but requiring their use on reaching their destination. It off-loads at Grafton.

Elsewhere in this issue a form for accommodation needs is included, so don't delay, get it in the post as early as possible.

FRED VARLEY.

To: Mr. Leo Lynch,
District Services Club,
103 Mary Street,
GRAFTON. 2460.

Please reserve the following accommodation for me/us for the 2/4th Battalion Reunion to be held in Grafton on the weekend Sept. 29 — Oct. 1, 1973.

Room/s Single/Double
at a: Hotel/Motel/Hotel-Motel
for night/s: Friday, 28 September
Saturday, 29 September
Sunday, 30 September
Monday, 1 October

Please cross out whichever does not apply

Enclosed is cheque/PN for \$....., being deposit at the rate of \$5 per person for whom bookings are required.

OR I/we have made our own arrangements for accommodation.

I/we plan to arrive

on: (day)
by: car/plane/train
at: approximate time

Name:

(Block letters please)

Address:
.....
.....

CASH REGISTER

Honorary Treasurer Allen Lindsay acknowledges receipt of the following subscriptions etc. \$3 each from: F. Gattenhoff; R. Lever; C. Waller; W. Weir; N. McGregor; R. Perram; R. Andrews; J. Hine; D. Martin; A. Manning; S. Doggett; C. Adams; C. Powers; P. Armstrong; S. Dean; C. Gillard; A. Heath; D. McGillivray; E. Fox; J. Meehan; M. Porter; J. Dooley; E. Wood; F. Hudson.
Donations — \$2.00 each from: C. Gillard; S. Dean; P. Armstrong; C. Powers; F. Gattenhoff. \$3.00 from: J. Copland; G. Jackett.
Wewak Fund.
C. Adams, J. Dooley each \$2.00; Dorothy Pike (Searle) \$3.00; F. Gattenhoff \$5.00.