



Whiteadder 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. 8

PRICE 15c PER COPY

AUGUST, 1973

PRESIDENT: Harry Gjested, 2/25 Mona Road, Darling Point, N.S.W. 2027. Phone 32-3977.

SENIOR VICE-PRESIDENT: Bill MacLennan, 2 Amaroo Ave., Castle Cove 2069. Phone: 40-4927.

VICE-PRESIDENTS—**Northern N.S.W.:** Esca Riordan, 36 Cameron Street, West Kempsey; **Southern N.S.W.:** Tim West, "Yarrabundah", Cowra; **Queensland:** Tom Provians, 65 Foxton Street, Morningside; **South Australia:** Peter Denver, Hindmarsh Island, via Goolwa; **Victoria:** Claude Raymond, 92 Rose Street, West Coburg.

COMMITTEE: Cec Chrystal, P. Cade, J. Copland, J. Dooley, R. Faulder, E. Fox, A. Heath, J. Meehan.

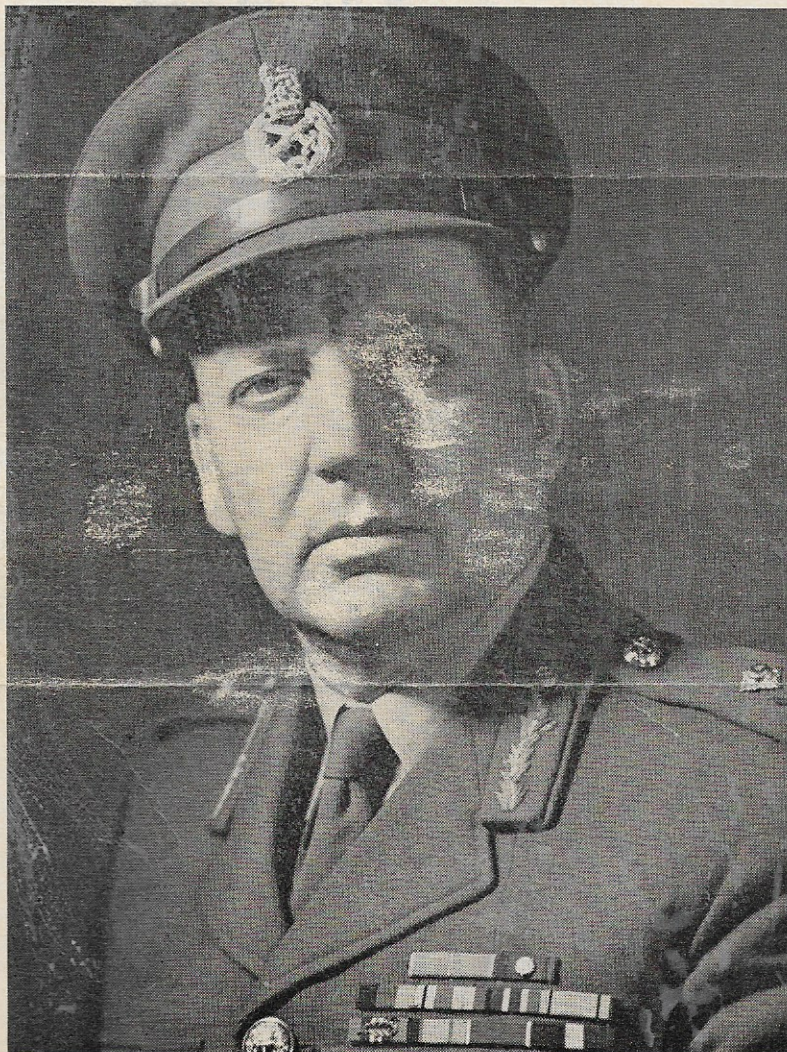
SECRETARY: George Stack, 40 O'Keefe Cres., Eastwood, 2122. Phone 85-5312. **Assistant Sec.:** Dick Morris.

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.



OUR PATRON

Major-General Sir Ivan Dougherty, C.B.E., D.S.O. and Bar, E.D., B.Ec.

"I am glad, Mr. Speaker, to have had this opportunity of paying my own personal tribute to the lifetime of service given by Sir Ivan Dougherty, both as a soldier and as a citizen of Australia. He has established the Civil Defence Organisation in this State so effectively that I am sure it will always remain as a monument to his ability and dedication to duty. On behalf of the Government and the thousands of volunteers in the Civil Defence Organisation I take this opportunity of expressing sincere gratitude to him for his leadership during these difficult developmental years. All will be very sorry when the time comes for him to lay down his baton, as he must do in the not too distant future."

(Taken from an address by The Hon. E. A. Willis, B.A., M.L.A., to The Legislative Assembly prior to Sir Ivan's retirement.)

Photo by courtesy Govt. Printer.)

SIR IVAN WELCOMED

Sir Ivan and Lady Dougherty were accorded a welcome to the Gallipoli Memorial Club on 26th July on the occasion of Sir Ivan's installation as Patron of the Club. Club Assistant Secretary Manager **Harry Gjedsted** organised the reception as a cocktail party to which Club Directors and their ladies, Gallipoli Legion of Anzacs officers and their ladies, serving members representing the Armed Services and distinguished members of the community were invited; not the least among them was **Lady Mackay**, widow of the late **Sir Ivan Mackay**.

The evening was a tremendous success. **Mr. Robert Dawson** (4 Bn. & 56 Bn. 1914-18), the President of the Club, spoke with great feeling as he welcomed Sir Ivan and Lady Dougherty. It gave him great pleasure to install Sir Ivan in the office of Patron and pinned on his lapel the badge of Life Membership.

Sir Ivan in reply said he was proud to accept the high office and deeply impressed by the representative gathering of guests and members. He said it was an honour to follow in the footsteps of the original Anzacs and hoped that the generations to follow would think likewise. He and Lady Dougherty were especially proud and happy that their son David and daughter-in-law Carol were present as guests for the evening.

GRAFTON REUNION

The Far North Coast Committee organising the 1973 Country Reunion at Grafton has asked us to put out a special appeal to members to advise the **Honorary Secretary, Leo Lynch**, of their intentions **NOW**.

Many members who have indicated they will be at the Reunion have not yet booked officially. As accommodation and catering arrangements are of vital importance for the success of the function your immediate advice would be really appreciated. What about contacting Leo now with the good tidings—

C/- Grafton Districts Services Club,
Mary Street, Grafton, N.S.W. 2460.

6th DIVISION REUNION

Our Patron, **Sir Ivan Dougherty**, appeals to all members to support the Sixth Division Association of which he is also Patron, by encouraging everyone who possibly can do so to participate in the Annual March, Wreathlaying Ceremony and Reunion on Sunday, 2nd September. Members can be assured that this year's function will be worthy of the great traditions of the Division. However **your presence** is needed. We hope the 2/4th will set an example to all 6 Div. units by the number of members in attendance and their appearance and bearing on the March. **DON'T LET THE TEAM DOWN.**

Remember: **SUNDAY, 2nd SEPTEMBER**

Assemble: At 12 noon Martin Place & Castlereagh St.
March: At 12.30 p.m. March to Cenotaph for Wreathlaying.

Luncheon: At 1.00 p.m. at Lower Town Hall.

Guest of Honour: His Honour Sir Adrian Curlewis,
C.B.E.

Cost: £4.50 all in Cost for ample food and drink.

OUR LUCKY DAY

(Excerpt from our War History "White Over Green")

On August 22 Lieutenant-Colonel I. N. Dougherty assumed command of the battalion, and the unit was formally handed over to him by the Commander, 19th Infantry Brigade, Brigadier H. C. H. Robertson. Lieutenant-Colonel P. J. McCormack, who had commanded the battalion while it was "X" Regiment, bade the unit farewell, and the brigadier, in welcoming the unit back to the brigade spoke of the excellent work which it had done in Haifa and Acre.

The new commanding officer was an unknown quantity to most of the officers and men. Some knew that he was a schoolteacher, others knew that he had come over originally with the 2/2nd Battalion where he was already highly esteemed. Few knew that he had forsaken the higher rank of lieutenant-colonel in order to sail with the 2/2nd Battalion with the rank of major. There was a quiet, almost boyish demeanour in this man. He had achieved the rank of lieutenant-colonel in the militia at the unusually early age of 32, and here he was, now 33, facing a situation which might well have daunted lesser men. He was probably the youngest commanding officer in the A.I.F. But he had confidence in the battalion, and in turn, the battalion accepted him immediately as a man of ability, honour, integrity, astute in judgment, fair in outlook, firm in resolve. He was to prove all these qualities, and more, as the unit emerged from its passive role of training and security, its momentary experience of active defence, to this new phase of preparation for action.

CONGRATULATIONS

Members will be pleased to know that our President **Harry Gjedsted** has been appointed to the position of Secretary/Manager of the Gallipoli Memorial Club to succeed the retiring Chief Executive Officer **Mr. Alex Knox**.

Congratulations, Harry. We know you will do the job in the manner to which we have become accustomed to expect from you in all your activities — that is with honesty, integrity and thoroughness. Good luck from us all.

NEW ANZAC DAY VENUE

Members will be pleased to know that the Board of Directors of the Gallipoli Memorial Club has kindly consented to permit our Association to hold our Anzac Day Reunion for 1974 in the Club Lounge on the first floor of the Club premises between the hours of 12 Noon and 5 p.m. We have been granted also the option of continuing with the arrangement if it proves satisfactory.

Your Committee is of the opinion that the move will be one of great advantage to the Association because of several factors: including the close proximity of the venue to the March, the saving of the expense of hiring special buses (which was becoming quite costly) and the benefits which will accrue to the Gallipoli Memorial Club which of late years has enjoyed a very poor patronage on Anzac Day.

It is anticipated at this early date that the function will be staged at less arbitrary cost per member than has been the case to date.

THE 1973 COUNTRY REUNION AT GRAFTON, LABOUR DAY WEEK-END (September 29th to October 1st)

BOOK NOW with Leo LYNCH, CO/ Grafton District Services Club, Mary Street, Grafton 2460

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN REPORT

Our South Australian Vice-President **Peter Denver** in a letter to **Bill and Gwen MacLennan**:

"Since you were here, Anzac Day has passed and the occasion of the Reunion and March of the 19th Brigade Association was just as rewarding to the "sloggers" as it was a year ago, despite the overlapping of Easter and wet conditions. Apologies were tendered by **Max Rungie**, **Jim Atkinson** (abroad), "**Smiler**" **Loiterton** (on duty), and **Owen Harrison** (heart and hearth). The "large-as-lifers", as I recall, included "**Coffee**" **Royal**, **George Walton**, **Fred Dibden**, **Roy Harrison**, "**Blue**" **Hart**, **Ron Maczkowiack** and "**Robbie**" **Robins**.

Ron Maczkowiack is President of the Association this year, very bright and impressive, assuring a successful year. Perhaps I'm cock-eyed but things looked great with the 4th leading with **Ron** out in front, **George Walton** carrying the banner and "**Robbie**" the Brigade Plaque. Our meeting passed a grant of £50 towards the Wewak Scholarship Fund.

The Association wholeheartedly supports the preparation and presentation of **Leonid Denysinko's** Icon "God Is Love" in 48 languages to the Parish last served by our dear old **Padre "Paddy" Reid**. The general layout is planned; the Church and current Priest are thrilled. We need a mint copy of Oct. 1971 W.O.G. with the excellent reproduction of Paddy's photograph. This is the best suggested manner of associating Paddy with the Icon. A very attached 2/7th Fld. Ambulance man also would like a copy of the W.O.G.—Paddy's friendly nature impressed far and wide.

The Icon itself was presented to me at the Gallipoli Memorial Club by **Dick Morris** to be dedicated to Paddy's parish on behalf of the Association.

On the Canberra Reunion trip I intended to do a bit of research at their fabulous Library on Pregnancy Testing of Cattle but missed out. Thanks to our colleague **Jack Huston's** efforts I received all the information I needed by post including a report from **Bob Weston**, Jack's Senior Inspector. The information is very valuable to me and is an additional benefit from Association membership. Bob incidentally was at Forbes for years and is very friendly with **Bernie O'Mara**.

Had a lengthy letter recently from **Graham Jackett**, our first contact since the War when we worked together on the "Bees' Weekly Buzz". It was good to hear from him.

Plenty of rain at last. Our son **Brian** is working day and night to get the crops sown, for which we can be thankful as his Dad's quite useless with a back out of joint again.

All the S.A. WOGs send thanks for the good wishes

expressed for Anzac Day through **President Harry** and on their behalf I send greetings to all.

Congratulations to the new members of the Board of the Gallipoli Club. I was a member of the Club during the War. I still remember **Ted Campbell** of the Camel Corps, **Johnny (Found A Trey) McGrath**, of the 3rd Light Horse, **Tiny Lamb**, **Jim Burnie**, **Arthur Aberdeen** and the group of fellows who made it the best club in the world. So I can truly say "Go to it and help it back again".

All the very best to WOG wrappers. Remind Rusty re the request of **Tim West** and myself re phone numbers appearing in WOG.

Looking forward to a visit from somebody soon,

Cheers,

PETER DENVER.

"Wyndgate",
Hindmarsh Island,
Box 51, P.O. Goolwa, S.A. 5214.
Phone: Goolwa 5522.

AMENITY

Thanks to **Peter Denver** our South Australian Vice-President for this condensation of a letter to the Mildura T.P.I. Sub-Branch by **K. Pendrill**:

"One available amenity to ex-servicemen is not generally known. This is the P.O.W. Trust Fund, consisting of a large sum of money. Converted from seized German assets, to be used solely for the distribution to service personnel who were in P.O.W. camps in Germany between '39-45.

Over the years this fund has been increasing, as the interest mounts up, and the claims upon it are few. In my opinion the reason for the paucity of claims is that the majority of ex-P.O.W.'s have not been informed of the existence of the fund. I found out about it entirely by chance. Since then several of my members as well as myself have received grants for various reasons. To quote a few of the largest: "\$500 to pay off a car; \$300 for a member's holiday after hospitalisation; \$160 for roof repairs to a house; \$250 for holiday—and many smaller amounts. Personally I have received \$250 for a holiday two years ago and a further \$60 this year for reasons unstated.

I would strongly advise any members, ex-P.O.W.'s Germany '39-'45, to apply for an application form to the Secretary, P.O.W. Trust Fund, Box 63A, G.P.O. Melbourne. The officers of the trust only meet at lengthy intervals and it may take a couple of months for your application to be considered." Peter adds: "Let's hope this avenue will help somebody. Maybe a Mercedes ride to the Gallipoli Club for **Athol Heath** or a holiday to South Aust. for **Eric Gumbleton** (who I'd love to see again, especially at the expense of Lord Haw Haw, Adolph & Co.)."

COCK'S COLUMN

July meeting: Those in attendance besides myself were **Harry Gjedsted**, **George Stack**, **Allen Lindsay**, **Dick Morris**, **Russ McWilliam**, **Ted Fox**, **Jim Cameron**, **Cec Chrystal**, **John Meehan**, **Dick Faulder**, **Harry Wright**, **Stan Bowen**, **Athol Heath**, **Sid Young**, **Don Baxter**, **Harry Silver**, **John Jordan** and last but not least **John Copland** (miss the bus, John?), and also **Reg Davenport** (ex-R.A.A.F.) and Snr. Vice-President of the Gallipoli Club.

Some of their news: **Sid Young** reports **Rex Gilliland** has been in hospital for the past month and is now out and resumes work on Monday. (We are very sorry to hear that you have been ill, Rex, but pleased to know you are well enough to return to work.)

Sid also met **Frank "Pom" Wallace** at Maclean who sends his regards to all and hopes to see them at the Grafton Reunion. Sid's daughter **Jacqueline** is getting married in January to **Steve Brady** in the Marish Chapel, Young St., City. We extend our heartiest wishes to Jacqueline and Steve for good health, luck and happiness.

John Jordan frequently sees "**Slim**" **Venn** at the Railway Hotel, Lidcombe. Anyone can contact Johnny at the Railway Hotel at any time.

Reg Davenport reports "Since I last reported to you I have been honoured with my appointment as Senior Vice-President of this, our Club. I can assure you that my aims and objects for this Club are unchanged and I know that I will have your full support in the full progression of our Gallipoli Memorial Club".

Recently met **Jack Dubber** who is in the best of health as is his brother **Lou**. Jack has recently seen **Bill Loy** of Woy Woy. He also reported **Sid George** has moved to Ultimo from Marrickville. Jack made enquiries at Woy Woy re **Col Burrows** and was informed that "**Bunny**" is now Secretary/Manager of Davistown R.S.L. Will check. I told Jack I had the day before had a letter from "**Spanner**" **Graham** who wished to be remembered and sends regards.

John Copland reports having met **Jack Reynolds** at Paddington R.S.L. after the Royal N.S.W. Regiment March. Jack is now living in Sydney and will be attending meetings in the future, also is joining the Gallipoli Memorial Club.

An interesting letter with some news of the boys from **Ken "Spanner" Graham**, Pindari Dam, Box 50, Ashford 2360. I have not seen or heard of Spanner since we met at the Reunion at Port Macquarie and was sorry to hear that he has been very ill. Ken writes: "I am still in the land of the living but only just. I nearly threw the sponge in last Christmas. I had a ruptured ulcer—however, it is OK now and I am back at work again". We are all sorry to read that you have been so ill, Ken, and happy to know that you are OK once more and back at work. Ken still sees a few of the boys in Inverell. Called on **Selby Dean** and **Ross Smith** a while back; as far as Ken knows, Smithy is in an R.S.L. Club in Sydney now, Wentworthville. he thinks. Ken writes he hasn't seen **Wally Lambourne's** name in the column lately and sends his regards Wal. He hopes you are OK. He is pleased to read of a lot of old mates. although there are a lot he cannot place; still a long time now since we were all together. He sends his regards to all the boys and

will be at the Grafton Reunion for sure to catch up on further news. Thanks, Ken, for your letter, you should have my reply by now. All the best, Cock.

Had an "Hullo-Goodbye" visit from **William Noel "Mick" Weir** of 94 Burdett St., Wahroonga. He has been up to Cairns and Atherton Tablelands; called around to see **Jim Whittaker** at Milla Milla, but his wife **Margaret** said that Jim was in Atherton Hospital with a bad back. We are sorry to hear of this, Jim, and trust that you're well and home again by now. Mick only stayed for a short time; he looks well, solid as ever. I had the pleasure of meeting **Mrs. Weir (Mary)** who was waiting in the car.

To **Jim Whittaker** when you read the above, give my regards to the Reynolds family. Cock Robin.

George and Marge Stack were very proud of **Douglas** who took several parts in the Annual School Concert recently.

Norrie McGregor saw one of our Association Plaques when he called in to see **George Stack** recently. The plaques are certainly a credit to those who organised the design, production, etc. **Harry Gjedsted**, **Peter Cade** and **Dick Morris** to name those chiefly involved.

Sorry to report that **Yvonne**, wife of **John "Larry" Dooley** is not in the best of health. Our best wishes are extended to you Yvonne and to your family for a speedy recovery to the best of health.

Sorry to report that **Cec Chrystal** is not so well again. Best wishes from all, Cec. **Cec and Phyl** were thrilled to have **Rolfe** home for **Amanda's** wedding but sad to farewell him—back to Europe—last month.

John Copland reports that he met **Keith "The Red Steer" Beaty** at the recent Congress of R.S.L. (He always attends) and **Ian Wallwork** who reports that all is going well for the Grafton Reunion. John says that **Dick Faulder** and he were delegates from the Ryde District Sub-Branch.

A further note from **John Copland** advises that he noticed in the T.P.I. journal "Salute" that **Glen Ackerman** and **Allan Creasy** have been declared T.P.I.

We haven't seen our old mate **Keith "Sailor" Harvey** for a while and hope he is in good fettle. All the best to you "Sailor" and to your good wife **Thora**.

Athol and Pat Heath of French's Forest have announced the engagement of their only daughter **Julia** to **Colin Booth**, eldest son of **Mr. & Mrs. Stewart Booth** of Wahroonga. Our best wishes are extended to Colin and Julia for their future happiness.

Heard a whisper that **Ted Gamble** is improving after a recent illness. Your multitude of friends in the Association wishes you a speedy return to the best of health, Ted, and trust we will see your cheery countenance again in the near future.

Bill MacLennan called in at Coffs Harbour on a recent trip to see "**Massa**" **Brooks**. Massa is well and extends best wishes to all. See you at Grafton Reunion, "Massa".

Bill Cavanagh, who is President of 6 Aust. Div. Association, Queensland, paid a visit to Sydney and Canberra recently. Bill reports that **Tom Provians** and the Qld. WOG's are in fine trim and looking forward to the Grafton Reunion. Bill knocked off three Jackpots in one night at the Gallipoli Club.