



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.

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2/4th BATTALION REMEMBERS

MAJOR-GENERAL I. N. DOUGHERTY, C.B.E., D.S.O. AND BAR, E.D., our **PATRON** and **HARRY GJEDSTED,** our **PRESIDENT,** leading members of the 2/4th Battalion Association in procession to the Kempsey War Memorial to mark the beginning of the 1966 **Country Reunion.**

LAST CALL FOR . . .

THE 1973 COUNTRY REUNION AT GRAFTON

SATURDAY, SEPT. 29 — MONDAY, OCT. 1

Leo Lynch, the Secretary of the Committee organising the 1973 Country Reunion at Grafton, advises that everything points to a bumper event this year — in keeping with the past records of the "White Over Greens" in the North Coast area. The number of book-

ings already received, plus the locals and the official guests indicates there will be more than 200 participants

The following is a list of bookings received up to the middle of August:

(Continued on Page 2)

GRAFTON REUNION (Continued)

Patron: **Sir Ivan Dougherty.**

President: **Harry Gjedsted.**

Senr. Vice-President: **Bill and Gwen MacLennan.**

Nth. N.S.W. Vice-President: **Esca Riordan.**

S. Aust. Vice-President: **Peter and Pat Denver.**

Qld. Vice-President: **Tom Provians and Contingent.**

Allen and Gloria Lindsay; John Copland; Dick and Mrs. Faulder; Athol Heath; Dick Morris; "Bub" and Margaret Graham; Bill and Marjorie Key; "Brick" and Elsie Bradford; Doug and Connie Grove; Jim and Glad Brown; Jack and Joan Chaseling; Frank and Norma Gattenhoff and daughter; Molly Irvine; Harry and Hilda Wright; Jim and Mrs. Faulder; George and Mrs. Sugden; Phil and Mrs. Nugent; George and Mrs. Mitchell; Hugh and Eileen Whittleton; Ken and Dolores Franklin; Peter and Margaret Cade and Family; Ted and Heather Fox; John Meehan; Harold and Delma Silver; Alan and Carma Kirk; Phil and Dossie Solomon; George and Jean Moore; Bruce and Angela Cork; Ian and Edna Wallwork; "Dasher" and Lily Deacon; Alf and Marj Carpenter; Mary Ormiston; Arch and Eileen Lewington; Gordon and Olga Chrisp; Harold and Noni Bowman; Jack and Eunice Dubber; Vince and Ellen Bowman; Alf and Jenny Schweitzer; Chas. and Mrs. Byrnes. Mrs. and Mrs. D. Crosthwaite; "Rusty" and Barbara McWilliam; "Kit" and Mrs. Carson with daughter and friend; Jack Moloney; "Slim" Powers; Lou Dubber; Ted Harris; Bert Gabriel; Bill Sandstrom; Chas. Grove; Les Anderson; Bob Ferguson; Ted McCaffery; Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Hart; Michael and Robin Hill; Max Verney; Vic Frances; K. King; Stan Bowen and nephew; Ewan Wood; Len Johnston; Jack Heaney; Bill White; Rick Carter; Stan Andrews; Peter Foster; Frank Frizell; Ken Webb.

6th DIVISION ASSOCIATION MARCH

The Annual March, Wreathlaying Ceremony and Reunion of 6th Australian Division Association (N.S.W.) was held on Sunday, 2nd September.

Division Association members assembled at the corner of Castlereagh Street and Martin Place at 12 noon and marched off promptly at 12.25 hours. Led by the magnificent Eastern Command Band in brilliant sunshine, and accompanied by a contingent of young men from Papua-New Guinea behind their country's flag, the Parade was a most impressive sight. With W.O. **Norm Harries** (ex 2/1st Bn.) as Marshal it was easy to "put on a show".

At the Cenotaph the Parade stood to attention while Wreaths were placed in honour of the fallen. The Band played a hymn during this ceremony followed by a magnificent rendition of The Last Post by their bugler.

The Parade continued on to the Sydney Town Hall via George, Market and York Streets, and received much applause from the sidelines.

Patron Major General Sir Ivan Dougherty; President Colonel C. H. (Tom) Selby; Vice-Presidents Major General John Bishop and Major Harry Gjedsted participated in the march. Their example could well be followed by other members of the Association, many of whom would have far fewer obligations than they.

HELP LEO LYNCH

Leo Lynch, the Secretary for the Organising Committee for the 1973 Country Reunion at Grafton, needs to KNOW WHAT DAY you are arriving at Grafton. If you have not advised please do so **Right Now** to ensure your accommodation is right.

Address:

**LEO LYNCH, Grafton District Services Club
Mary Street, Grafton, N.S.W. 2460**

Phone: Grafton 422066

The Reunion at the Lower Town Hall commenced at 1 p.m. sharp. With **Norm Saunderson** as M.C. and **President Tom Selby** in the Chair, the formal business was dispensed with speedily (but without undue haste). The Loyal Toast was proposed by **Harry Gjedsted** and that to Fallen Comrades by **Max Derbyshire**. Grace was said by **Padre Allan McLachlan**.

President Tom welcomed the Guest of Honour, **Sir Adrian Curlewis**, paying fitting tribute to the services rendered by Sir Adrian in peace and war.

In his response Sir Adrian paid generous tribute to the Sixth Division and I'm sure was delighted by the genuine warmth of his reception by the gathering.

The toast to 6th Division was proposed by **Gil Corey** and that to Guest and Visitors by **Russ McWilliam**. They included **The Lord Mayor of Sydney, Alderman David Griffin**, President of 7th Division Association **Mr. Colin Sandison**, President of 8th Division Association **Mr. George Gettens**, **Major General John Broadbent**, representing 9th Division and the contingent from Papua-New Guinea. The Lord Mayor of Sydney **Alderman David Griffin** responded on behalf of the visitors and was very ably supported by a representative of the Papua-New Guinea contingent.

The Reunion, attended by about 200 people, was a very well organised and happy function. With ample food of excellent quality and an abundance of refreshment it was a bargain at \$4.50 the lot. It is hoped that this demonstration of the ability of 6 Div. Association to stage a successful function at a reasonable cost will result in an attendance next year more in keeping with the great tradition of the Division.

The quality and presentation of the beer was due to the untiring efforts of **John "Larry" Dooley** in whose hands was left the entire responsibility of ensuring the refreshment was served at its best.

The Vice President **John Bishop** and **Harry Gjedsted** with the assistance of some willing members of the Committee were responsible for organising the function and to them is due the credit for a wonderful day.

Among 2/4th members who attended were **Sir Ivan, Harry Gjedsted, John Copland, Dick Morris, John Dooley, Athol Heath, Ted Fox, Harry Wright, Frank Gattenhof, Charlie Yow (Bathurst), Mick Gray, Norm Auberson, "Fergie" Ferguson, R. H. "Ross" Smith, Tom Bartlett, Frank McKinnirey, Joe Rognini, and Rusty McWilliam.**

IN THE MAIL BAG

From **Gordon Chrisp** of Wingham: "A short note to say that **Wal Potts** of Taree died about a month or so ago. What brought it to mind was I saw his and Mrs. Potts' name down among those booked for Grafton. A very large gathering at the church and graveside. His bowling club formed a guard of honour outside the church and the R.S.L. a guard of honour at the graveside. I organised a wreath from the Association and **Chris Geelan**, **Ted Swanson** and myself attended. Mrs. Potts was very pleased at some Association members being present.

See you at Grafton.

Yours in haste,

—GORDON.

From Cootamundra **Wal Taylor** writes: "I have been waiting rather eagerly to see if there was going to be any information on the proposed tour back to Greece which I was under the impression that the 6th Div. had in mind to arrange as I thought would be in 1974.

Do you have any information as I would be interested in going and I think my wife would like to go too? If you have any information or have any idea of what is proposed please let me know. On behalf of my wife Nona, we would like to congratulate you, Harry, on the honour you have received.

I was so sorry to hear of the death of **Dick Bawden** as I have pleasant memories of him at a Reunion a couple of years ago. No doubt he will be missed by a great many.

I hope you do not mind me writing to you as I believe you are on the committee of the 6th Div. and I thought you may have some advance information that as yet has not come out and if I could learn anything of what may be doing I can make plans for the future.

My best to all the W.O.G. members and hope to see them at some future time.

—WAL TAYLOR

Also, to **Harry Gjedsted**, from **Tom Provians**, our Queensland Vice-President: "Many thanks for yours of about 5-6 weeks ago and the usual sincere apologies for late response. Many thanks for good wishes which are heartily reciprocated to self and Marge and congratulations of the highest order from all the Queensland WOG's on your special mention in the Queen's Birthday Honours List—well deserved, my very good friend.

Within the next five days you will be receiving a call from our 6 Div. President, **Bill Cavanagh**, as he is on a tour around the village and you will be able to discuss all aspects of 6 Div. Association with him as I was unable to do so before his departure. He has a couple of badges with him and you can vet. them for yourself.

Regarding the subject of broadening the 6 Div. Association, I can see nothing but good can come from such a move and must be of some help to us up this way. I feel this has been lacking for a long time and we have had a hard row to hoe in keeping our Association going with little or no support from anywhere — I sometimes wonder how we have survived. I know the 2/11 Bn. Association in West. Australia are very interested and that is only a start.

Grafton is drawing close so I must get to work on the WOG's up this way. a

Best wishes to all."

Dear Mr. Stack,

I am writing on behalf of my father **Charles William Yow** as he never seems to get around to putting pen to paper. This letter is a little late but he wanted all his friends in the battalion to know how much he enjoyed meeting them again, after so many years, at this year's Anzac Day March in Sydney. You can't realise for how many years he has been going to attend the march; but something always seemed to crop up as can so often happen when you have a family of seven girls and one boy.

This year the last of the family was married—that was me — so there were no more problems. He enjoyed himself so much that he is even thinking of staying for the Reunion Dinner next year.

Dad looks forward to the day "White Over Green" arrives and he reads it from cover to cover. When he recognises some of the names he often recalls some of the amusing incidents that occurred during those horrible days of war — incidents that made it at least a little more bearable when so far from home.

He is keenly interested in a trip to some of the old theatres of war in which the Unit fought and would be most grateful for any information you might have on this. Dad would also like to purchase a Tie and a Badge. Mother and I have already bought him a War History so you can see Dad is still very much part of the scene and keenly interested in the 2/4th and its doings past, present and future.

Yours sincerely,

Bathurst.

DAWN BROWNLOW.

(Note—Charlie was a welcome visitor to the 6th Div. March and Reunion on 2nd Sept. It was very good to see you again, mate.—Ed.)

THE ASSOCIATION PLAQUE

Supplies of Association Plaques, or Wall Shields as is their proper designation, are now to hand and awaiting your orders. Hand crafted in England by one of the world's foremost manufacturers of Heraldic Shields (established 1894) they are truly a must for every 2/4th family.

Attractively boxed with a transparent display window they would make an ideal gift for the 2/4th man. Now is the chance to secure a lasting memento of the grand old 2/4th Battalion.

Honorary Treasurer **Allen Lindsay** will take your orders at \$7.00 each.

His address:

21A Mirral Avenue, Caringbah, N.S.W. 2229

LADIES' NIGHT

Ladies' Night for 1973 has been arranged for Saturday, 10th November, commencing at 8 p.m. at the Gallipoli Memorial Club (1st Floor Lounge).

Full details will be given in the next issue of "White Over Green", but it has been decided to reduce the price to \$5.00 per double for starters. Reserve the date now —

**SATURDAY, 10th NOVEMBER at the
GALLIPOLI MEMORIAL CLUB, 12 Loftus St., City**

WELFARE REPORT

Dear Members,

There have been a number of reasons for non-publication of reports, but it is to be hoped things will settle down to normality now. The first half of this report was written on 4th June and the second on 18th August, so please read accordingly.
4/6/73—

Since the last published report, we have had quite a number of "casualties", but it was noticeable that hospitalisation was avoided immediately prior to Anzac Day! Good management, no doubt.

Fred Bidewell, Ted Pearson, David McGillivray, Lionel Clarke, John Walsh and Bert Crawford (4 Bn. 1914-18) were all cleared before Easter.

Since then, **Harold Miles** has been a patient several times, and **Ernest Sinclair** (Hexham), **David Kneale, Les McNamara, with David McGillivray** are our latest admissions, the last named being observed pointing at the M.O. demanding a discharge "Tomorrow".

Mike Richardson has also been a patient, but as he has three (3) service numbers (2 Army, 1 RAAF) it is not surprising he did not show up on our computer list. Thanks, **Harry Wright**, for the info. My visit at 9.30 a.m. was to find him packed and ready for discharge.

It was indeed a pleasure to meet **Mrs. Ellen Parkinson** during her stay at R.G.H. Her son was killed in action, Libya, 26/1/1941, and our Association Banner was a gift from this charming lady. And here I must thank **Mrs. Dot Pike** for this news.

Athol Heath has undergone a bone graft and we sincerely hope that this will bring about the desired improvement.

Dick Latimer is due in Hornsby Hospital for an operation on Thursday, 7th June, to "tidy up" his earlier ones. It was nice to see his weight improve with his stay at home.

I'm sorry to report that **John Read** suffered a stroke recently. In spite of efforts by numerous people, admission to R.G.H. was not possible and John is recovering in Lidcombe Hospital.
18/8/73—

It is with regret that I report the passing of NX71815 **Henry James Launt** late of 34 Brancourt Ave., Bankstown. Henry was a patient at Concord for several weeks, before answering the final call.

John Read, earlier reported, is making satisfactory progress under therapy. **John Walsh** has been in twice since last report, and was feeling a little low on my last visit. **Ernest Downie**, who is a resident at Cherrywood Convalescent Home, Turramurra, underwent a scalp operation recently, with good recovery. **Peel Duncombe** and **Dudley Kings** were sharing Ward 7 and send regards to all mates. "**Oliver**" (**Ernie**) **Twist**

has at last been granted 100% pension, and is undergoing tests at Concord, where he expects to be for several weeks.

Dick Latimer is now back "toiling" and is looking very fit. **Athol Heath** is also making progress and we hope the improvement will continue.

Wishing all good health,

JIM CAMERON

GALLIPOLI MISSION

R.S.L. Holiday Tour

In March this year R.S.L. National Travel Officer sent out a Bulletin to gauge possible interest in a tour to the Middle East and Gallipoli.

The 25th April, 1975, the 60th Anniversary of the first Anzac Day, would be spent at Gallipoli with suitable ceremonies.

The response has been encouraging and planning has reached the stage to start costing the tour. It is proposed to charter a Boeing from Sydney to Cairo for a five day visit, then to Athens (8 days), Israel (8 days), Lebanon (5 days), Istanbul (3 days) and Anzac Cove (2 days).

A full day will be spent at Alamein, with a quick "shoofti" at Tek el Aisa. The Greek sector will be highlighted by an organised "evacuation" from Kalamata. The old haunts in Palestine such as Jaffa, Kilo 89, Tel Aviv, the Hotel Fast, the new-look Western Wall will be visited again, plus places that weren't there in 1940.

Beirut, The Dog River, Balbek and Tripoli are on the list for the Lebanese visit.

In Istanbul it will be bazaars and belly dancers, Mosques and monuments before the tour goes to Anzac Cove, Lone Pine, Shrapnel Gully, Quinn's Post and Ari Burnu.

Interested persons are invited to have their names recorded at the National Travel Office for the mailing list of future Bulletins.

The address is:

P.O. BOX 303
CANBERRA CITY
A.C.T. 2601.

You can cure a woman of almost any illness by mentioning that its symptoms are a sign of advancing age.

A woman wears a sweater to accentuate the positive and a girdle to eliminate the negative.

Have you ever noticed that some women always enter a room voice first?

The man who is not dominated by woman is not a bachelor. He's a liar!

October, MEETING: 7.30 p.m., Friday 26th, at
Gallipoli Club, 12 Loftus St., Sydney.