



White over 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.

29th YEAR OF CONTINUOUS PUBLICATION

PRICE 15c PER COPY

PRESIDENT: Harry Gjedsted, B.E.M., 2/25 Mona Rd., Darling Pt., N.S.W. 2027. **Phones:** 276350 (Bus.); 323977 (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: P. Cade, C. Chrystal, J. Copland, J. Dooley, R. Faulder, E. Fox, R. Morris, H. Wright.

SECRETARY: Athol Heath, 5 Akora Street, French's Forest 2086. **Phone:** 451-4466. **Assistant Sec.:** J. Meehan,

TREASURER: Allen Lindsay, 21A Mirral Road, Caringbah 2229. **Phone:** 524-1937.

WELFARE OFFICERS: John Copland, 117 Charles Street, Ryde 2112. **Phone:** 80-3771.

Dick Faulder, 68 Phillip Road, Ryde 2112. **Phone:** 80-1820.

EDITOR: Dick Morris, 1115 Victoria Road, West Ryde 2114. **Phone:** 20922 Ext. 2296.

COLUMNIST:

JANUARY MEETING: FRIDAY, JANUARY 23rd) 8 p.m. Gallipoli Memorial Club,

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH) 12-14 Leftus Street, Sydney.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS AND BEST WISHES FOR THE NEW YEAR TO ALL

Our Patron, Sir Ivan and Lady Dougherty join with our President Harry and Marge Gjedsted and your Committee and their Ladies in extending to all members and their loved ones hearty good wishes for a very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous Peaceful and Healthy 1976.

-----00000-----

EDITORSHIP

Now that Bill and Gwen MacLennan are home again, Bill has been good enough to take over again the hard "yakka" part of W.O.G. taking copy to printer, collecting, wrapping, posting, etc. FURTHER, Bill is prepared to do the actual editing of our magazine - an offer too good to refuse! Due to great changes in my work situation it has become essential for me to concentrate on my profession, which means little spare time. I thank Bill and all who have helped our great little magazine. As with "Cock" my interest will never wane, so no doubt should it become necessary at any time in the

future, I shall be up in the "firing line" again. It is always stimulating to be doing something worth while with people such as have comprised our Executive and Committees over the years. A MERRY CHRISTMAS to all. Good Health and Best wishes for the years ahead. God bless

Dick Morris.

Special thanks are due here to Allen & Gloria Lindsay who have so ably attended to the editing of W.O.G. in recent months in Dick's stead, and who also did the wrapping and posting of same during our recent absence overseas. I shall

endeavour to keep up the high standard set by previous editors, and to assist in this regard may I request that anyone with news worthy of inclusion in W.O.G. should let me have it promptly to my address above, thus ensuring as up-to-date an account as possible.

Bill MacL.

LADIES NIGHT

Ladies night is always a delightful "change of pace" from the normal monthly meetings held throughout the year - charming ladies good company, excellent music, tasty supper and not forgetting the skillfully "White over Green" decorated bottled prizes. Pres. Harry and Marge welcomed members, wives and guests and all proceeded to enjoy a most convivial evening. Present were:

Allen and Gloria Lindsay with friends from Lilli Pilli, Athol & Pat Heath, who shortened their holiday to be present, Harry & Hilda Wright, Ted & Heather Fox, Dick & Enid Latimer, who brought along sister Nell Wilson from Lady Davidson Hospital, (Nell sailed with 6 A.G.H. to Greece on the "Penland", as did most of the Battalion) Ken ("Pluto") & Fi Kesteven, with daughter Lynne and son-in-law Rick Morris, (Ken was one of our earliest presidents) "Larry" & Yvonne Dooley with friends Paul & Marie Rogers (R.A.A.F. types!), Molly Irvine, Sid & Florence Young, John Copland, who was chauffeured by Bill Parry, John & Joyce Ringrose, Bill & Gwen MacLennan, Harold & Noni Bowman, John Meehan, Les Anderson, Harold & Delma Silver (who kindly left a Seasons Greeting card and donation to the Association. Thank you Harold & Del), Dave & Agnes McGillvray (whose Son David was to march into Kapooka on Dec. 3rd to do his rookie's training in the Engineers. Daughter Nance has just completed her Admin. Course at the Royal College of Nursing. Dave brought along friends Stan & Merle Hardy of Parramatta, who thoroughly enjoyed the evening. Merle's father is a 7th Light Horse man. Dave reports that he is now feeling a little healthier and promises to be along to the first meeting in the New Year.

Our thanks must go to Harry for his excellent planning and smooth control, and to the Club staff who made sure all were catered for with cheerful, efficient

service. How can we begin to thank Dick Pinson, Wally and John? Every year Dick and the Boys front up to make sure that we enjoy first class music - many thanks again fellers. (Dick reports that wife Rene still has her chin up and still comes out punching. Good on you, Rene!) All in all it was a really enjoyable evening with gracious friends. Sadly, many well-loved faces were missing, apologies having been received from:

Sir Ivan & Lady Dougherty, Peter & Margaret Cade, "Biscuits" & Mrs. Arnott, Peg Hardy (thank you for the donation Peg), Vic & Eileen Francis, Tom Gowan (Brisbane), George & Marge Stack, Phil & Cec Chrystal, Dick & Shirley Faulder, Keith & Thora Harvey, Bill & Mrs McDonnell and Dot & Vic Pike.

Perhaps we may see some of these good folk at the Christmas get-together at the Club on Dec. 19th, which is in lieu of the December meetingDick Morris.

LAST POST

NX 152 MAXWELL K. RUNGIE.

Everyone will be shocked to hear of the death of Max Rungie, who was one of our earlier Presidents. What a sad loss for us all! Our hearts go out to Betty & Max's fine family.

NEWS FROM OUR NORTHERN V.P. ESCA RIORDAN

Had a few drinks with Bill Cosier at the Karingal Pub. at Wagga recently. Also called on Gordon Vesperman for a few noggins and lunch, also Marcia Crowe at Cootamundra. Marcia and a friend are going to Hong Kong for a holiday. On Nov. 1 I attended the Annual North Coast Dinner of the 2/4th Members and their wives, a very enjoyable and successful occasion. Fred Varley has been good enough to send me a list of those in attendance, which was as follows: Mel & Lyla McInnes, Carl White, "Blue" Saul and wife Wilma, Tim Lamond, Bill & Almee Facey, Jack & Joyce Lister, Vic & Beryl Slade, Vince & Nancy Slade, Tom & Freda Clarke, John & Doreen Hughes, Bill & Una Sheaffe, Roy & Doris Andrews and family, Esca Riordan & brother Ray, Max Nerney, Mick Cusack, Aub Priest, Ian & Edna Wallwork, Jack & Joan Chaseling, Dick Simmons & wife, Doug Stebbing, Fred & Laureen Varley, and the President of Lismore

R.S.L. Club, Bob Wighton and wife Fran. Apologies came from Lloyd ("Tiny") Eglinton and his wife, also from Jim Brown and "Chubb" Crossthwaite of Tweed River, also from Reg Murphy of Kyogle who has been very ill in Lismore Base Hospital but is home again now. Allan Hughes and his wife were involved in a serious car accident some months ago, which nearly cost them their lives. Two young Victorians were killed in the same accident. Allan and wife are making a slow recovery.

I also attended an R.S.L. Dinner at Macksville a few weeks ago and had a few noggins with Bob Graham, who told me that the Bowraville-Macksville boys are O.K. Heard on the grape vine that "Pom" Wallace has sold his cane farm and is taking life easy, has furnished his home and is looking for someone to put in it.

Doc Groves' son Russell was married on Nov. 1. (Congratulations to Russell - a fine lad who attended a meeting in Sydney recently.)

About a week ago I had a letter from Jean Irvine, in Orbost (Victoria) to say that her brother John (Bill's brother) passed away on Oct. 2. He was a W.W.1 veteran.

James Brown will be busy during the next four weeks, campaigning for the Election. As far as I am aware all the Kempsey Boys and their families are well. Haven't any more news, but will keep my ears to the ground. (Thank you Esca, for a most enjoyable bulletin. Good luck to all the North Coast boys, and best wishes to Allan Hughes and his wife for a speedy recovery. Dick Morris comments that with "pom" retired there's now no argument as to who is the biggest cane grower on the Coast!!)

I would just like to express my appreciation to the Association, and in particular the organisers, for a wonderful reunion at Yarrawonga. With best wishes to the Association, and looking forward to a wonderful 1976. Regards.....Esca.

NEWS FROM "COCK" ROBIN!

It was most pleasing indeed to hear from Jim "Cock" Robin who enclosed a selection from several letters from members who have written to him of lateRoy Moores, Fred Apthorpe Cyril McCosker, Dasher Deacon and Tim West. "Cock" would like members to know that he is still keenly interested in the Association, W.O.G. and all his old mates. He has promised to send on any further letters he receives, should they contain news worth publishing. I

know he would want us to pass on Seasonal Greetings to you all and his best wishes for the New Year and the futureDick M.

Here are a few excerpts from "Cock's" mailbag. Fred Apthorpe writes:

I was rather surprised and disappointed to read in one issue of W.O.G. that your column had slipped through lack of news. Well, perhaps I am as much to blame as others. My apologies, old sport. Well, from the Irrigation Area the first piece of gossip is that Fred Driscoll has taken off on a trip to the "old dart", so bon voyage to you Fred. Our most recent visitors have been Bill Sumpter, now domiciled up Ipswich way, also "Stumpy" Wright (excuse the expression, cannot recall the correct Christian name) not quite the "Stumpy" as of yore. He's shed considerable weight since I saw him last. Peter Denver has been a regular visitor to these parts must be about five times now, not bad for one living so far off.

I am very sorry to hear of so many deaths of our members. Jack Bradford is called to mind, as we shared a very long association, firstly as schoolmates here in Griffith over fifty years ago, and then having worked together at various times and at one time I was employed by him for about six months. Our extreme condolences to Mrs. Bradford and family. Another called to mind is Sid Thompson, quite a while back. Sid was an original member of the Battalion but transferred to 6 Div. Sigs. after reaching the M.E., and did a sort of Cook's tour of the Army as he was with Postal Services for a short time, did quite a time with 9th Div. Sigs., including Alamein, and finished the war with a wireless section. I met him in 1945 whilst going through the process of discharge and again at Wagga about 15 years ago. See Ted Swadling, Tom Erskine, Nevis Farrell, Arthur Webb and Jack Hamilton at times. Well, Cheers for the present Jim. Will try and keep in touch more frequently. Regards to all...

Fred Apthorp.

("Stump's" real name was Jim, FredEd)

Stan Blacksley writes:

Jim, I thought I must write you to tell you how sorry I am to hear that you have decided to give up your column in W.O.G. Not that I blame you, you have done a great job over the years and none of us can go on for ever.

I feel the same about my job as secretary of the local sub-branch of the R.S.L. I will be 70 next February, so someone else can take over at the next Annual Meeting. However Jim, you have done a wonderful job for the association. I see they reckon on keeping your column going. I doubt very much if they can. Perhaps I'm wrong - let's hope I am.

Have been to Adelong and seen Roy Moores since his operation - he looks well. The op. hasn't done his vocal chords any damage, I can assure you. He reckons on getting his other hip done about the end of the year.

Bruce Stewart is the only Wagga member I see - he works at the R.S.L. Club where I lunch when I go to Wagga - the others are a bit hard to run to earth during the week, and I am never in at the week-end.

Very best wishesStan Blacksley.

Tim West writes:

I enclose a letter from the sister of Al. Murphy, NX 5882, A.Coy.8 Pl. "Murph", approaching 70 years, is, I believe, a T.P.I.

You will have heard that Hylton Batcheldor has gone to that great R.A.P. in the sky, and Ted Harris is back in Concord. Regards Tim West.

Excerpts from the letter to Tim West from the sister of Al. Murphy, Mrs. Tess Perks, P.O. Box 148, Wellington, 2820.

"Al had a stroke on Saturday, Sept. 20 right down his left side. However, he has persevered fighting all the way, and now can move his arm and leg and his speech is right, his mouth is normal again, and his eye is under control and he can now see with it. He asked me to write to you and say it may be a long time before he would be able to write to you as he expects to be in hospital until about next Easter, and he wanted to wish you all the best in your campaign. Perhaps your friend Fred Hubbard might bring you to see Al. while you are visiting Wellington on Dec. 7th".

WELFARE REPORT

Members visited by the four teams since last month's report:

NX5349	A.R. (Dick) Faulder	Not so well
NX165865	Len Smith	Discharged
NX164	John Copland	Discharged
NX9814	John Walsh	Not so well
NX5935	Charles Reynolds	Discharged

NX5882	Al. Murphy, Wellington and T.P.I.	Improving
	John Pearce	Discharged
	Harry Taylor	"
	Geo. Carroll	"
	Vic. Francis	"
	Harcourt Turner	"
	(2/4 Pioneer Bn.)	"

HARRY NICHOLLS was taken ill on the train back from Yarrawonga, was off-loaded and spent some days in Junee District Hospital.

AL. MURPHY of Box 148 Wellington, N.S.W. wanted to renew his membership. Being a T.P.I. Pensioner he should be made an Honorary Member - I trust this will be done. A good and popular soldier. I was delighted to meet him again. The first time since April 13th 1941. (We shall make sure Al. gets his W.O.G. in future, beginning with this issue...Ed.)

JOHN WALSH was back in on another of his regular visits for blood transfusions - looked very well and quite cheerful. He and his family expressed their appreciation of the Association's visits.

DICK FAULDER - Same old report, still bright and cheery, but unfortunately no noticable improvement. (A special cheerio from everyone in the Association to you DickEd.)

CHARLES REYNOLDS, Ex. "D" Coy. P.O.W. sent special regards to Athol Heath. Charles was down from Narranderra, suffering from a painful arthritic condition due to his P.W. days, although he said he was one of the more fortunate ones who spent most of his four years farming in Austria.

On a personal note, may I express my thanks for the many kindnesses shown to me during my recent sojourn in R.G.H. and L.D.H. Our thanks are due to the girls in the computer room at R.G.H. for their cheerful and efficient help in supplying list of our friends every week. I shall be in Tasmania and Victoria for a couple of weeks from Dec. 21. Bill Parry (Phone 451 2790) will be pleased to take calls in my absence. Finally, every good wish to everyone for Christmas and the coming yearJohn Copland (Welfare Officer).

A SPECIAL APPEAL Finally let us all make a special effort to keep in touch with our Assn. during 1976, so that as many names as possible can appear in future issues of W.O.G. Never forget that this paper is the life-line of our Assn, and for a life-line to live it has to be fed, so come on fellers, get your fingers out!"