



# White over Green

MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE 2/4 INFANTRY BATTALION ASSOCIATION

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MONTHLY GENERAL MEETINGS: FRIDAY: 22nd AUGUST, 1975  
26th SEPTEMBER, 1975  
AT THE GALLIPOLI MEMORIAL CLUB, 12 Loftus St. Sydney - 8 P.M.

## PRESENTATION OF BATTALION PLAQUE

Esca Riordan (Northern Vice-President) presenting 2/4 Bn Plaque to the President of the Kempsey Macleay R.S.L. Club on Anzac 1975.

De Dick,

I am attaching a photo which was taken on Anzac Day. It was taken on the occasion of a presentation of our plaque to President Frank Ellis of the Kempsey Macleay R.S.L. Club.

As a result of this presentation the Club has decided to make one portion of a wall available for plaques such as this, but, as usual the 2/4 plaque was the first presented.

Kindest regards,

Jim Brown (M.L.A.)



L. to R Harry Dowling (2/4) Jim Brown (2/4)  
Esca Riordan (2/4) Pres. Frank Ellis, Tom Malcolm (2/4)

## WELFARE REPORT

Visited in R.G.H. Concord, since discharged:  
J.W.(Bill) Templeton, N.S.(Stan) Bowen, J.E.  
(Jim) Campbell (Grafton), Harry S. Nicholls,  
Henry S. Taylor, A.R.(Dick) Faulder, Lady  
Mackay, Tom Kennedy (1 BN W.W.1, original  
2/4 Bn, was in the Libyan campaign, then  
transferred to Guards Bn - now 83 years old!)  
Stan Harris.

Still in R.G.H. Concord:-  
Chris Batho, David McGillivray

Sick at Home:- Dick Faulder

In other hospitals:- Jack Keating (B Coy)  
in Lady Davidson Hospital.

Stan Bowen much improved, now at Queen  
Victoria Conv. Depot at Wentworth Falls.

Rex Everson is in Wentworthville Community  
Hospital - doing well.

## LAST POST

Lt/Col. L.J. Loughran (Vide Reveille)  
Pte. J. Treharne (Vide Reveille)  
Michael Curtis (Mike) Richardson  
"Lest we Forget".

## YARRAWONGA COUNTRY RE-UNION - 1975

If you haven't booked yet then now is the  
time. Details of bookings have appeared  
in previous issues this year. Additional  
bookings received since our last issue are:  
Wai Taylor, P. Foster, E.Riordan,  
G.Gillespie, H. Whitman, V. Eason,  
G.Mitchell, F. Gattenhoff, G.Cole, R.  
Ferguson, C.Powers, P. Armstrong.

## MONTHLY DOINGS

Present at the June meeting were Cec  
Chrystal, who took the chair as Harry  
Gjedsted had to attend another function;  
Athol Heath, John Meehan, Harry Wright,  
Ron Barber, George Stack, John Copland,  
Dick Latimer, Dick Pinson, Ken Webb,  
Ted Gamble, Keith (Dasher) Deacon, Jack  
Heaney, Jim (Happy) Davis, Harold Silver,  
and Dick Morris. Apologies from Peter  
Cade, Bill MacLennan, and Allen Lindsay.

There was a touch of sadness when Dick  
Latimer presented on behalf of the late  
Cec (Snow) Whithouse, a 14th Sept. 1945  
issue of "Guinea Gold" and a photo of the  
2/4 men marching Anzac Day 1965. These  
had been suitably framed by Athol Heath.  
The copy of Guinea Gold contained, of  
course, news of the Japanese surrender

ceremonies on Cape Wom where Adachi handed  
over his sword to Horace Robertson.

Dick Latimer also explained his scheme for  
welfare "teams" in various areas who would  
visit and carry out welfare to members and  
so relieve the work of the elected Welfare  
Officers, John Copland and Dick Faulder. A  
meeting to organise these teams has been  
arranged by Dick to be held at the Ryde  
R.S.L. so no doubt we will have more complete  
details next issue.

## LADIES NIGHT

This will be held at the Gallipoli Memorial  
Club on Friday 28th November in place of  
the monthly meeting. More details later,  
but you can count on a really excellent  
night with Dick Pinson's band and Lois'  
superb catering. So make a note of it in  
your diary and attend.

## REMEMBRANCE MARCH

Assn. of Fourth Infantry Bns March and Smoko  
will be held on the 2nd November. This  
deserves FULL attendance by our members and  
all are entreated to be on parade to make a  
worthy show behind that Association's banner  
and our own.

The Smoko at the Gallipoli Club which follows  
the march will be a great chance for us to  
renew old friendships with members of the  
other Fourth Infantry Units. This is important  
for we are not getting any younger and should  
take pride in revering the grand men of the  
first 4th Bn., co-operating with our contemp-  
oraries of the 39-45 4th, and encouraging the  
present generation in the 4 R.N.S.W. Reg.,  
that the 4th Infantry name may live on in  
honour.

## PIPE BAND BALL

The Parramatta Caledonian Pipe Band Ball was  
held on Friday 25th July, and our Assn was  
represented by President Harry and his wife  
Marg, and Ted and Heather Fox, winter wogs,  
etc. preventing quite a few others from  
attending. It must have been some Ball, we  
hear Heather spent three days in bed with a  
bad back caused by putting all she had into  
the Eightsome Reel.

## CHURCH PARADE

The Annual Association of Fourth Battalions  
Church Parade at St. Annes, Homebush, was  
well attended - but not particularly so by we

W.O.G's. At the same time it was good to see those who did "front up" - Sir Ivan, who is also Patron of that Assn., Harry and Marg. Gjedsted, Harry & Hilda Wright, Dave Follington with his wife and daughter, Bill and Joyce Luck, together with son Tony, Mick Steele and daughter, John Copland and Bill Parry, Siddie George and brother Richard, Harold Silver and wife Delma and yours truly, Dick Morris. I trust I did not miss anyone.

The best example was set by Lady Mackay not long off the sick list, but well and truly on parade!

Amongst those from other unit Assns. were the well known faces of President Gary Lucas and wife, Cliff & Mrs. Horsley (Past.Pres.), Maj. General Gordon Maitland, Colonel Ray Sharpe, Bede Keary, Pres 4 Btn (14-18) Jim Short (Past Pres.) Len Hadlow and wife, Bob Moore. Also had the pleasure of meeting Bede's grandson, Graham Keary.

There was an excellent turnout of the 4 R.N.S.W.R. under Lt/Col. Vin Hallinan and including "Pancho" Slack, "Blue" Rice and such like "rogues" who do such a good job for us on so many occasions.

The whole parade was, however, rather upstaged by a magnificently turned out detachment of ex 4 R.N.S.W.R. men, now Light Horse. There was many an envious eye before the parade commenced as the P--- B--- Infantry watched the Light Horsemen prepare their beautifully groomed mounts. Needless to say this was how the press saw it also, and the next day's paper gave details of the parade in brief under a heading and photo which was virtually all Light Horse!

I must admit that the banner could be seen, as well as the dark haired north end of a certain bloke with a short rotund figure!

This same person was very proud to see son (Lieut) Rick in the Colour Party.

Incidentally, congratulations to the Color Party for their excellent bearing and discipline. The same must be said of the whole of Vin's boys in uniform.

All in all a colourful and satisfying occasion with the Bishop of Parramatta giving a well chosen sermon in beautiful St. Annes.

A most pleasant afternoon tea in the Parish Hall rounded off a day which should be "ear-marked" every year by every one of our members in a position to attend.

## COCKS COLUMN

In the mail bag.

Letter from Pop (H.C.) Williams, 55 Gascoygne Rd Birrong, with some news, some not so good. Pop writes, "I spent several weeks in Ballina recently. Had the pleasure of meeting up with Ted Flannagan and Doug Groves, both fit and well. Also met Ray Butler, who is now well again after a heart attack. (Pleased to hear that Ray, Jim). From Ballina I went on to Kyogle for a brief stay and visited Charlie Groves in the hospital. Charlie is a very sick 2/4th and will require care for a long time. The sister agree with me, that if his old mates wrote him a few lines every now and then, it would do him the world of good. He may not be able to reply, so remember the Digger spirit and write". Pop was in Ballina on Anzac Day. Thanks for sending in news, good and bad, Pop.

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The following was received from Tim West:-

Dear Cock,

Noticed in the May edition of W.O.G. that Harry and Noreen Dowling mentioned their son Phillip played 1st grade football with Cowra Am a casual 'strapper' for the team, and an admirer of Phil as a footballer, a Sam Catchem and a favorite with the ladies. I could not help thinking what a 'chip off the old Block' he was. The 'long arm of the law' is well in evidence when Phil is among the ladies. Although, from what I have seen, the hands seem to come into it too. Probably gets that bit from his dad.

Anyway, Harry and Noreen your son is a nice bloke. Best wishes.

Tim West.

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Letter from Ken Moses:

Dear Robin,

Just a note as I have finished six weeks mucking about the South West of Queensland, inspecting a few properties, based mainly at my brother-in-laws place at Charleville. Unfortunately I have to leave here shortly and return to depressing Melbourne. A colleague of mine was up from Mildura in his own aircraft and we did quite a bit of flying around as Micheal has an airstrip on the property.

On one of our flits around we dropped in on the

Boatman strip which is on the Nebine between Charleville and Bollon. Got into a conversation there with rather a tall type of character by the name of Tom Smith. He owns "Joondoree" out of Wyandra. Over a few rums he mentioned he was in the first convoy out of Sydney on the "Orcades". I mentioned I was on the "Strathnaver". Turned out he was one of the few QX's in the 6th Div.Cav. It also turned out he was the driver of the Bren Gun Carrier which took MacArthur -Onslow and 19th Brigade I.O. into Bengahzi to arrange for the surrender.

Naturally we had a few more rums and as he is only about 50 miles away from my brother-in-law, who has a copy of the War History he hot-footed it over here a couple of days later and borrowed it. Just goes to show what a small world it is. You put an aircraft down in the Mulga out in the back of Queensland and out of the blue meet a bloke you must have rubbed shoulders within Bengazi 10,000 miles away, 34 years ago. Tom and I must have met here before the war. I was overseeing on Durella while he was overseer on Elmina which was only 40 miles down the Nebine from me.

There is no flying today as there is very low cloud and rain about and we don't want to make headlines yet. Hope to make the reunion at Yarrawonga but I may be back up here.

Kindest regards to all the boys and the very best to yourself old chap.

Sincerely,

Ken Moses.

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Esca Roidan writes:

14.5.75 John "Bookie" Rae phoned me and we arranged to have a few noggins at two of our local clubs. He had just finished an enjoyable holiday at Urunga and spent some of it with Ric Carter fishing. Hi, Bookie, Hi, Rick!

Esca also had a yarn to Chas Hood, who has retired and is hoping to settle in Kempsey-where one of his daughters is living. Hi Charlie.

1.6.75 Esca phoned Tom Provians but he and Norm McIntyre were spending the weekend on Bribie Island. His wife Vera said he is O.K. but gets very tired. At present he is organising a big Golf day for the Meat Trade and does not think he will make Yarrawonga. Hi, Norm, Hi, Tom, sorry to

hear you're not enjoying the best of health, wish you all the best.

11.6.75 Sid Young called at office today, but Esca was at work, he said he would call on his way home. Hi, Sid.

In a letter from Lloyd "Tiny" Eglinton, a few weeks ago, he said he and his wife were preparing for a trip (with about a dozen cane growers representatives to South East Asia (various countrys including Japan), Lloyd mentioned that he sees Frank "Pom" Wallace at Cane Growers meetings at Maclean. Hi, Frank. Lloyd also mentioned that he had seen Charlie Byrnes who has been very ill, but making a slow recovery. He has also see "Chub" Crossthwaite, Bernie Shoebridge, and Stan Andrews. Hi Charlie, sorry to read, mate, that you have been so ill, sincere wishes that you'll have a speedy recovery to health.

Esca sees the local boys from time to time and they are all O.K. Esca is hoping to be at Yarrawonga for the reunion. He will make the trip part of his annual holidays.

Thank you again, Esca, for this excellent report, we can always rely on you.

Esca Roidan was in Sydney recently for a Legacy Conference. He called in to see Harry and was appreciative of the Gallipoli Memorial Club, this being the first time he has seen the club since its remodelling. He sent regards to all members.

Esca was mentioned in a letter from one of the Gallipoli Anzacs Jim McGlone who had been visiting Kempsey district with his wife. Jim stayed on his brother-in-law's property and was concerned for those raising beef in the area as now wholesale prices were making operations most unprofitable.

Tex Richards is unable to attend meetings, but as usual, sent his subs along per George Stack.

Best wishes to all have been received from Bill and Gwen MacLennan who are thoroughly enjoying their overseas holiday.

A big Cheerio to Charlie Groves in rather poor health these days. Chin up, Charlie, you have a lot of mates who wish you well and hope to see your cheerful grin full of health and happiness again in the near future.

Dick Morris reports that son Ashley (Permanent Army) now settled at Sandgate, Queensland following his posting after completing an electronics course No. 2 son Brian recently travelled up to visit Ashley, Rhonda and son Geoffrey, but no details yet.