



# White Water 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., LL.D (Hon.)

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**MONTHLY GENERAL MEETINGS:** Friday, October 22nd, 1976 ) at 8.00 p.m.  
Friday, November 26th, 1976 )  
At the Gallipoli Memorial Club, 12 Loftus Street, Sydney.

## 1976 COUNTRY REUNION - SOUTHPORT, Q'LD

Once again the Country Reunion is over and for one to say that it was extremely successful and most enjoyable is to be the master in the use of the understatement. To those people who, through various circumstances, could not attend let me say that the general consensus of opinion was that '76 was a great year for country reunions and the venue and functions will be long remembered by those who did attend.

For the five days that your Editor was in Southport the weather was near perfect, which did set the tenor for a terrific reunion. At least 110 of our members formed up behind the Southport Pipe Band for the short march to the Shrine where Sir Ivan laid the wreath with due ceremony. The dinner was held in the main dining-room of the Southport R.S.L. where 232 people were seated, plus the band—a sterling effort by Tom Provians and his group of happy helpers to whom we, their guests all owe a very big "thank you".

Sunday's informal arrangements to Sea World for a barbecue, and to witness aquatic displays, etc., were attended by 227 of the total, and were voted most enjoyable. That concluded the official functions of the reunion and left the remainder of the time to pursue one's own pleasures and do one's own thing, including getting together at the R.S.L. or elsewhere. Further comments may be forthcoming upon receipt of Tom Provian's report of the reunion, which is not yet to hand. Those in attendance were as follows:

Sir Ivan DOUGHERTY	Sid BUCKLEY
Harry GJEDSTED	Clive BROWN
Jack AGNEW	Ragsy BUTLER
Roy ANDREWS & party	Cliff & Aileen CURRAN
Peter & Mrs ARMSTRONG	John COPLAND
Stan ANDREWS	Frank & Enid CRUTCHETT
Dot AMIES	George & Mrs COLES
Les & Ena ANDERSON	Chub & Ella CROSTHWAITE
Ron BARBER	Bill & Wyn CAVANAGH
Elsie BRADFORD	Gordon & Olga CHRISP
Harold & Noni BOWMAN	Max & Phyl COOK
Bush BENNEETT	Peter & Margaret CADE & family



Alf & Marj CARPENTER	Tom CLOUGH
Fred & Peg CATLEY	Russ McWILLIAM
Bruce & Angela CORK	Sid & Kit McCARTNEY
Jack & John CHASELING	George & Mrs MOORE
Ron & Alma CHAPMAN	Laurie & Evelyn McCOSKER
Jack & Eunice DUBBER	Norm MacINTYRE
Ken & Lily DEACON & friend	Jack MALONEY
Peter & Pat DENVER	Dave & Nan MacGILLIVRAY
Selby DEAN	Ted McCAFFERY
Rex & Mrs. EVERSON	Snow MOORES
Norm EVERSON	Wal & Betty McKENZIE
Charlie & Win ELLWAY	Jim & Mrs MORTIMER
Jim & Jean FORMAN	Bill & Mrs. NUGENT
Peter FOSTER	Jack & Mrs ORMISTON
Frank FRIZELLE	Slim POWERS
Vic & Eileen FRANCIS & friend	Bill & Beryl POPLIN
Ken & Dolores FRANKLIN & family	Dick & Marie PARRY
Frank, Norma & Sandra GATTENHOF	Allen & Gloria LINDSAY
Doug, Kim & Bev GROVE	Harry & Yvonne PEARCE
Mick GRAY	Vic & Dot PIKE
Tom & Sheila GORMAN	Tom & Vera PROVANS
Bub & Margaret GRAHAM	Esca RIORDAN
Bob & Dawn GARDNER	Chas & Marcia ROBINSON
Len & Mary GOODWIN	Jack & Marie REYNOLDS
Newton HOWARD	Claude & Nan RAYMOND & friends
Della HAMER	Harold & Del SILVER
Bonnie & Mrs. HUTTON	Bill SUMPTER
Jack HEANEY	Jack & Beryl SHERIDAN
Jack & Mrs. HUMPHRIES	John & Belle SHINGLES
Jack & Joan HUGHES	Phil & Glen SMITH
Mert & Betty HARRIS	Bill & Una SHEAFFE & family
Len HART	Doug STEBBING
Molly IRVINE	Harry & Mrs. SUNSTROM
Norm & Wilma JOHNSTON	Wal & Mrs. SINCLAIR
Ted & Heather KNOX	Bill & Ivy TRAPP
Wem & Mrs KEAST	Allan & Enid TOBIASEN
Arthur & Muriel KLEEM	Alf & Mrs SCHWEITZER
Allan & Carma KIRK	Ian & Edna WALLWORK
Tim LAMOND	Vera WALSH
Leo & Eileen LYNCH & family	Harry & Hilda WRIGHT
Dick & Enid LATIMER	Jim WHITTAKER
Perc & Eileen LANSLEY	Wink & Wyn WALKER
Margaret & Kel LAVIS	Chris & Pat WHITE
Bill & Gwen MacLennan	Ken WEBB
Dick MORRIS	Butch & Cheryl WARREN
Doug & Deidre MILNE	Pom WALLACE
John MEEHAN	Harry & Ada WHITMAN
	Bill & Mrs. WINTER
	Ken WATT
	Lloyd & Lorraine YELLAND

Apologies were received from:-

Marj McCARTY	Ferd PEGG	Max HERNEY
Elsie PARSONS	Joe WELLS	Athol HEATH
Eileen BYRNE	Ted FOX	Sailor HARVEY
Marj GJEDSTED	Jack MANN	Lofty TAYLOR
Des CUNNINGHAM	Gladys TWIST	Jim BROWN
Ken KESTERVEN	Ewen WOOD	Sid YOUNG
Stan SUTHERLAND	Harold COX	Cec CHRYSTAL
Sid VALENTINE	George MITCHELL	

6TH DIVISION RE-UNION

To be held at PORT KEMBLA Returned Soliders Club on Friday, November 12th, 1976.

Form up 1830 Hours for short march and service at 1900 Hours.

Tickets for Dinner \$4.00 - buy your own drinks.

For more information re this reunion contact.

Tom SELBY - 90 1407 (Sydney)

Bill POPLIN 042,96-4330 (Wollongong)

THE FAR FLUNG FOURTH By Ken MOSES

Allen LINDSAY is an Accountant and a nut. (That is his own self analysis, not mine) but one must admit it is a description worthy of a Pulitzer prize. He has other quotable sayings worthy of mention, such as "Anyone who joined the signal platoon had to be big and silly". That little gem should end a few beautiful friendships for him! Allen recently paid us a visit and while sitting around the Moses table slurping curry and quaffing claret the conversation drifted to the far flung and scattered membership of the Association. It was hard to avoid the discussion as Allen had positioned his little card index systems strategically on the feastive board between the cruet and the claret.

Allen confessed to me that he was never without his little boxes wherever he went. As he removed droppings of curry from his Lindsay tartan scarf he always wears at the table to protect his battalion tie, he remarked: "You never know when you are going to hear of an alleged "deceased" member who will be good for a life membership". But you must admit that this self-confessed nut had a point. To prove it he reached for the box between the chutney and the lemon and extracted the following at random.

South Australia has a fair contingent of those who fled the home base for various reasons, such as Bill BLACK of Eight Mile Creek, Point McDonnell, Jim ATKINSON of Felixstone, the Squire of Hindmarsh Island, Peter Denver, Fred "Dr. Death" DIBDEN of St. George, Ken "Coffee" ROYAL of Glengowie, to name a few, and at the same time not forgetting Bill ROBBINS and Ron MACKZOWIACK at Loxton on the Murray. Still in that State's borders are Tommy MORT at Keith and Ray McADAM at Mannum.

Further West we have Peter WILLAN at Dalkeith, Len WATERWORTH at Koolan Island, Fred STANWELL at Double View and also with the Sandgropers, John STOREY.

On the Victorian scene the scatter boys include Harry WHITMAN at Heathmere via



Portland, Lyle "Baldy" THOMAS at Mt. Beauty, A. SAUNDERS at Port Fairy, Ted KENNA at Hamilton, Guy VANCE at Rosebud West, Gordon ROBBINS at Flinders, Jack REYNOLDS at Mitta Mitta, "Private" PERCEY at Kyabram, Bob GRIFFITH at Mildura, Jack MATTHEWS at Talangatta, Eddie DALTON at Warrnambool, and because he has an occasional pot in Wodonga, Vince QUINN of Albury.

At the far extremes are Graham JACKETT of Sandy Bay, Van Dieman's Land and Henry "Cyclone Tracey" ELLIOTT at Darwin.

In God's Own State, avoiding the sins and debauchery of the Gold Coast are located Ken PEACOCK at Mt. Eliza (a very handy man to know) affectionately known as the King of Mt. Isa, Chris WHITE at Gordonvale, practically a neighbour of Jim WHITAKER at Atherton. At Toowoomba is the ex-New Guinea "white tracker" Newton "Knuckles" HOWARD in retirement in cooeee of Bill SUMPTER at Ipswich.

Then there are those who really wanted to get away, such as Bill GIBBS of Long Beach, California, Frank "Pommy" MALLETT of Norwich U.K., Geoff WOODWARD at Dawlish, South Devon, U.K., with Monty "Never-Stay-Put" SIEMS at Holland-on-sea, Essex, U.K.

Capital city identities have been ignored because they are enjoying the pleasures of smog and transport strikes and likewise the "Far Flungers" in N.S.W. don't warrant a guernsey because that is where they started from and where they should be. If there are any other "Far Flungers" who missed out on a mention a cheque to the "Nut-Accountant-Treasurer" will change the situation, and President Harry says to you all "Come home, all is forgiven, especially for Anzac Day, Country reunions and annual meetings". For errors and omissions, blame the claret.

#### VALE JACK KEATING

On Wednesday, 8th September, we laid to rest one of our most colourful and lovable characters, NX 11849 Jack "Cheeky Charlie" KEATING. No soldier was more aptly nicknamed than "Cheeky" and he retained his irrepressible sense of humour till the day he left us.

Jack's philosophy was that K.R. and R's and A.M.R. & O's were acts not to be broken but bent and he was a past master at bending them.

To have known "Cheeky" was a privilege and his passing makes another sad gap in our

ranks and a particularly sad one to Enid and myself.

There was a very good roll-up of Jack's friends at the Church Service and at the grave-side. They included Dasher (The Mon-goose) DEACON, Dennie KARANGES, Peter COOK, Ted McCAFFREY, Jack HEANEY, Ken KESTERVEN, John COPLAND, Bill PARRY and Dick LATIMER. John Copland gave a short but very touching oration at the grave-side which was very much appreciated by Jack's family and the members of his R.S.L. Sub-Branch. Rest in Peace, "Cheeky Charlie".

Dick Latimer.

#### A THANK YOU MESSAGE

"We were pleased to hear good reports of yet another country enjoy themselves. Cecil is progressing slowly but does have to have some further x-rays and investigation for his old eating trouble, so we are hopeful he will be a new man in the New Year and are even setting up a small office at home here (having sold the business at Northbridge) in anticipation of doing valuations - meantime pretending we are retired!

"Could you put a tiny note in next W.O.G. for me "with a sincere thank you to all the kind people who have made so many enquiries about Cecil with letters, cards and telephone calls, just in case I did not reply personally."

Phyl (Chrystal).

Phyl and Cec dropped in to see your Editor the other day - both are looking relaxed and well, and it was great to see Cec even back behind the wheel of the car again.

#### WELFARE REPORT

NX 5302	GABRIEL, A.E. Discharged from Kurrajong Hospital, but far from well.
NX 5294	ROBERTS, Henry A. R.G.H. Ward 18 Diabetic and leg ulcers. Sends kind regards to Cec Chrystal.
NX 7001	PETERSON, Noel. Ward 34. Discharged
NX 2005	HONNERY, A.H. War Veterans Hospital, Narrabeen. Not well.
NX168151	DURHAM, Joseph. Ward 18. Severe stroke, much improved after last two weeks.
NX 13386	FRANCIS, George. Ward 24. Operation to mouth (Hit by German guard in P.W. camp.) Discharged.
NX 73212	BURNS, Leonard. Ward 24. Joined "A" Coy. in Julis after Greece. Nerves bad. Condition fair.



Nx 9763 MEEHAN, John. Ward 31. In for regular treatment skin complaint. Satisfactory.

NX 5164 WOOD, Ewen. Ward 330. Improving after second severe coronary occlusion.

NX 3941 HOGAN, Frank. In Parramatta Hospital Discharged after removal of diseased bone from leg.

4 Bn. 5648 ANDREWS, John. R.G.H. 2. In for tests and discharged.

1914-18 2430 POTTER, Alan. R.G.H. 17. Broken pelvis. Condition fair.

4086 MOLONEY, Vincent. R.G.H. 230 Discharged.

7246 HILL, Percival, R.G.H. 23. Satisfactory.

5236 WEIRICK, Raymond. R.G.H. 520 In for tests. Satisfactory.

#### LAST POST

NX 11849 KEATING, Jack

NX 72595 DAVIS, C.J.

NX 5919 ROWBOTHAM, B.F.

4 Bn. 14/18 HADLOW, Len. LEST WE FORGET

#### IN THE MAILBAG

Lindsay MOON of Tambo Upper, via Bruthen, Vic. recently wrote:

"Sorry that I cannot make the reunion at Southport. All the best for a happy and successful weekend".

Ken WATT wrote from Upwey, Vic. with his new address: 84 Fitzroy St. Cleveland, Q'ld 4163:

"Unfortunately we will only be getting settled at time of the reunion but may get a day to have a look. All the best to 2/4 members."

Bill "Bloody Robbie" ROBBINS recently wrote from Myrtle Bank, S.A. to Treasurer Allen as follows:

"Herewith cheque for yearly sub - am not sure if I am due this year or next, but you are younger than me so I can trust you to work it out. By the way, it's very interesting to read our monthly journal but quite sad to see the boys passing on. I suppose we all have to face it. As for myself I am still enjoying my second childhood, with my good wife making sure I do. Please accept my best wishes to all you boys working so hard to keep the Association going."

Peter WILLAN also wrote to Treasurer Allen from Dalkeith, W.A.:

"NX9883 Peter C. Willan reporting in and b.....nearly qualifying for the "Last chain-dragger". There'll be some with vague memories of me who will comment appropriately! Anyway,

hastening to make amends, herewith cheque for \$25 to bring me up to date and anything left over to go to "Donations". If "Cane stalker" CORK can dig a bit deeper so can his erstwhile tent-mate of Julis days.

"I get over to Sydney up to half a dozen times a year nowadays; who knows one day I'll succeed in organising it to be there for Anzac Day. Was very sorry to read that Cec CHRYSTAL had been on the sick list. Please give him my greetings and hopes for full recovery by now. Say Cec, don't suppose you remember selling me my first house in Jan. 1946 - a weatherboard place out at Hurstville for £900? Betty and I were in Sydney for a week nearly 12 months ago and on a Saturday afternoon hopped on a train and made a "sentimental journey". It's hardly changed a bit, and certainly not for the worse. It must have been a good buy. It was a sentimental journal worth making - often they are an anti-climax and disappointing. We were in Europe earlier this year and our 10 days in England (3 of which were business) must have been about when Cec was in Edinburgh. We were re first half of May.

"Thanks to all for keeping up the good work with W.O.G. It certainly keeps us in touch in spirit if not always in action. But if blokes like me in far away W.A. can suddenly "come to life" so can a lot of others. I am a shipping agent with my office in Fremantle. Often take visitors up to the hill where the War Memorial is - and I always recall mid-January 1940, when we were marched in our winter uniforms and with fixed bayonets up from Victoria Quay, up the High Street hill - and back down again. It certainly got the beer out of us - which was no doubt the purpose of the exercise. "See yer" Treas. Best wishes to all."

#### COCK'S COLUMN

This year's reunion was no exception in bringing to light old faces not often seen since the war. Amongst those whom it was very pleasing to see were Selby DEAN, Len GOODWIN, Bill SUMPTER and Herbie HOATHER who arrived in the nick of time on Monday to be present for the final "Mopping up" operations.

SORRY! Your W.O.G. is a little late in arriving this month, due to the fact that your Editor and his typist took time after the reunion to soak up another week of beautiful Queensland sunshine at Noosa Heads.