



White Clover 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

VOL. 31 No. 2

PRICE 15c PER COPY

FEBRUARY, 1976.

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:

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, FEBRUARY 27TH, 1976, at Gallipoli Memorial Club, 12 Loftus Street, Sydney, N.S.W. at 8.00 p.m.

The Annual General Meeting of the 2/4th Infantry Battalion Association will be held at the Gallipoli Memorial Club, 12 Loftus Street, Sydney at 8 p.m. on Friday February 27th 1976.

Business

1. To confirm the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting.
2. To receive and consider the Annual reports.
3. To receive and consider the Accounts and Balance Sheets for the year ended December 31st, 1975.
4. Notice of Motion. Proposer - C. Chrystal, Seconder - A. Lindsay, "That the Constitution be amended to reduce the quorum at a monthly meeting from fifteen members to nine members."
5. To elect Office Bearers for 1976.
6. To elect an Honorary Auditor.
7. General Business.

Athol Heath - Honorary Secretary.

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

1975 was another good chapter in our Association's history, highlighted by a well attended ANZAC DAY, the successful country reunion at YARRAWONGA, and our Ladies' night. It was unfortunate that Marge and I missed YARRAWONGA. We had planned our trip so that we would be with you on our return from the U.K., but our schedules were changed and so for the first time in years we were absent from our Annual gathering.

The success of the year's activities again reflects the work and planning that is put into our Association by our Committee, and the continued support given by our Members, families and friends. To our Committee, on your behalf, I extend our Sincere Thanks and Appreciation for all that they have done and are doing for the Association generally and in Welfare. Similarly in conjunction with our Committee, I extend to you all OUR sincere thanks for your encouragement and support - however, I stress the need for better attendances by our Members at our

Monthly meetings.

This was the subject of the Editorial in the June issue of "W.O.G." Your Committee has always given their best in the planning and working of our Association so help us to help you. Make attending our Meetings No. 1 priority in your New Year's Resolutions.

To Peter Denver and all the Team responsible for organising the YARRAWONGA reunion our congratulations on your selection of the venue and a well-planned and successful Reunion and our Thanks and Gratitude for the work and worry involved. Next year we will be the guests of Tom Provians and his Team, and we will keep you up-to-date with their plans as we receive Tom's progress reports.

The past year has taken its toll of our Members, and in sharing the sadness and sorrow with the families of our deceased Members we also share the anxiety and distress caused by sickness and accident to our members, families and friends. On behalf of us all I extend to you our Best Wishes and Hopes that 1976 brings you comfort and good health.

To you all, to your families and the next of kin of our Members, and to our many friends everywhere I send you, on behalf of our Committee, Marge and myself our Sincere Best Wishes for Good Health, Good Luck, Prosperity Comfort, and Happiness for 1976 and the years ahead.

Harry Gjedsted - President.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Once again we have come to the end of an apparently successful year - I say apparently because you will no doubt have read elsewhere in this bulletin reports to that effect and in the main I must agree.

Anzac Day was an unqualified success, and according to all the comments I have heard personally, plus the correspondence I have received from members, Yarrawonga was one of the best re-unions ever. However, I prefer to assess the year as a whole and, in my opinion, it was far from successful. As most of you will know, to hold a general meeting our Constitution states that we must have a quorum, and in our case a quorum is fifteen. When you consider that there are twelve executive and committee members, most of whom attend regularly, you will see that

we only need half a dozen members present to have the necessary number. Yet, on two occasions, we did not achieve a quorum, and on two other occasions we have had the bare fifteen.

Our average attendance for the year, excluding the Annual General Meeting, was sixteen. Any committee, particularly one as dedicated as ours, needs some incentive to carry on and you, the members, can provide this incentive. Just remember that there are over a hundred 2/4thers in the Sydney suburban area, surely a better attendance can be achieved.

If any member has any idea of how to improve this situation I shall be delighted to hear from him, or see him at the Annual General Meeting.

I would like to thank the President, Committee and members for their co-operation and assistance during the year, and a special thank you to my wife Pat, who as usual has done all the heavy work. In conclusion may we, Pat and I, wish you all Health and Happiness in the coming year.

Athol Heath - Honorary Secretary.

DO YOU KNOW?

There are thirty eight financial members of our Association living within 15 minutes travelling time of the Gallipoli Memorial Club.

There are fifty five within half an hour.

There are thirty within 45 minutes.

There are fifty three within one hour.

That, dear members, makes a total of 176 bodies living within one hour's travelling time of the Club, yet at the January meeting there were not sufficient present for the quorum as apart from Committee only four floor members turned up. Many of the above number attend Anzac Day, so MUST be interested in the Battalion, yet they won't devote one Friday evening per month to attend a meeting.

(The above facts and figures were supplied to me by the lovely Pat Heath, Athol's hard working wife, who is currently compiling a new nominal roll for the Association. Thank you, Pat. - Editor)

DO YOU REMEMBER?

It must have been in '71 not long after the extremely successful "RETURN TO WEWAK" organised by your Committee, that word got around that the same Committee were working

on a similar project, namely the "RETURN TO GREECE". Unfortunately this project, for many reasons, could not be brought to fruition, but DO YOU REMEMBER the numbers who turned up for the monthly meeting at which it was discussed? There were somewhere between 100 and 150, so many, in fact, that we had to move to a much larger room to accommodate everyone. I remember various regular attenders remarking: "Look at them, they've come from everywhere just because they think there might be something in it for them for free." Harsh words, you might say, but I don't think so, for witness the fact that we haven't seen anything like these numbers before or since at a monthly meeting. So how about showing your Committee in 1976 a little more support than just a slap on the back on Anzac Day and Country Reunions accompanied by the words "You're doing a great job, mate!"

Bill MacLennan - Editor.

WELFARE REPORT

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

- NX5882 A.D.MURPHY (Wellington). Seen several times, but died on Christmas Day.
- NX5349 A.R.(DICK) FAULDER. After six months in R.G.H. was discharged early January but re-admitted on Jan. 19th. Only fair.
- NX5866 JOHN PEARCE. Discharged
- NX11482 RICK CARTER. Discharged
- NX115504 CECIL WILLIAMSON Discharged
- 1 7 FERDIE PEGG (Royal North Shore)
After exhaustive tests and treatment Ferdie now well and will resume duty on Feb. 2nd. Sends regards to all.
- NX5582 A.N.(NOEL) HOWELL. (Prince Henry Hospital). Back in for further tests which proved satisfactory - very good news. Seen by Dick & Enid Latimer, also by Jack (Cheeky Charlie) Keating, to whom special thanks are due for his willingness to take part in the visiting in his area.
- NX68764 JOHN SMITH Well and cheerful.
- NX12090 GEO.WEST (1939/45 4 Bn.) Operation pending for ulcers. Cheerful and grateful for our visits.

- NX9763 JOHN MEEHAN In again for Psoriasis (What an impressive word!) Expects to be there for some weeks. Well and cheerful. Sends regards to all.
- 65991 ALFRED GOOCH (1914/18 4 Bn).
Arthritis, not well.
- LEONARD MAWSON (1914/18 4 Bn)
Discharged.
- 5080 WILLIAM FRENCH (1914/18 4 Bn)
Stone deaf. In for tests, but his usual very cheerful self.
- 65976 LYLE EGGINS. (1914/18 4 Bn) Fair

STAN BOWEN. Peter Armstrong wrote to say that he had visited Stan at the Queen Victoria Home at Wentworth Falls. Stan says he is 100% and the place is a home from home. He is allowed leave to Wentworth Falls from time to time. The hospital is bright and cheerful in beautiful surroundings. Rex Rowell has also seen Stan.

JACK PUGH. John Hawkins rang to tell me that Jack had died of cancer in R.G.H. He had been in that hospital several times during the last 1-2 years but we had never known this, which is a pity. His name appeared on the computer list for the FIRST TIME early in January so that Dick Latimer and Ted Gamble called on the 8th. Jack was unconscious and died the following day. Surely some relative could have told us - there is nothing the computer girls or we can do if someone does not mention the Bn. on admittance.

JOE ROGNINI Joe was taken to Manly District Hospital on January 21st but Dick Latimer reported his discharge next day. Had had a slight heart attack.

SID GEORGE. Sid's sister and next-of-kin (Mrs. McCann, 93 Gray Street, Carlton, Phone 587 2631) with whom he lived, rang to inform of his death at home from a Coronary occlusion. Sid was in his 62nd year, a member of Canterbury-Hurlstone Park R.S.L., who arranged funeral on 6th January.

MRS. C.E.(MICK) WELLING. Has been in R.G.H. several times, was discharged on Dec. 20th but expects to go in again in February for further surgery. Best wishes to her - a brave and cheerful woman.

MRS. VERA WALSH Wrote on December 22nd both to myself and to President Harry thanking the Association for our attention to JOHN and expressing her appreciation for the tributes

sympathy and kindness extended to her on his death. She rang again after receiving January W.O.G. to renew her thanks and to say that she may in the future take some part in our social activities, to which she will be very welcome. Meanwhile, Mrs. Walsh has taken our advice and joined the War Widows' Guild, has been in touch with Legacy, and reports that her local R.S.L. have been marvellous to her, as also has a Mr. Rivers from T.P.I. Mrs. Walsh had also had a card from Jim Cameron to which she replied by phone. Missed Jim but had a long talk to Betty.

John Copland - Welfare Officer.

LAST POST

NX5882	ALOYSIUS DENNIS MURPHY
NX9933	SIDNEY A. GEORGE
NX93905	F.L. BRINGOLF
NX5258	JACK A. PUGH.

A.R. (DICK FAULDER)

It is with extreme regret that the Association through Secretary Athol Heath reports having received Dick's resignation owing to ill health, from his position on the Committee and also that of Welfare Officer. Dick writes:-

"I have greatly enjoyed serving in the above capacity, and wish to state that, health permitting any of my Battalion compatriots may call on me at any time for any service or help I may be capable of giving in the future."

You can be quite sure that the best wishes and prayers of everyone in the Association are with you, Dick, for an eventual return to reasonable health. Rest well in the knowledge that your efforts in the past have been deeply appreciated by us all.

Dick's wife, Shirley, also writes to W.O.G.

"I would like to thank all members of 2/4 Bn for their kind enquiries, and especially the Visiting Committee for their unswerving devotion to my husband Dick."

"Dick looks forward to each visit with great anticipation. He has a strong devotion to each and every member of the Bn., regarding them as dear brothers and members of a close knit family."

"I wish especially to thank John Copland for

his kindness, also Bert (Angel) and Gwen Gabriel from Richmond who made terrific effort to visit Dick, coming by public transport all the way from Richmond."

"A letter from Gwen Gabriel today says Bert is in Kurrajong Hospital having suffered a heart attack - has improved a little. Unfortunately Dick is back in hospital after a happy month at home. He's not very well, but we hope always for improvement."

"We enjoy "White Over Green" very much and read every word of it".

COCK'S COLUMN Present at the January meeting were:- Harry Gjedsted, Ted Fox, Athol Heath, John Copland, Allen Lindsay, Dick Morris, Harry Wright, Peter Cade, Wally Taylor (Cootamundra), George Friend, Jack Reynolds, Bill Parry and George Stack. Apologies were received from Committeemen John Meehan, Cec Chrystal, Larry Dooley and Bill MacLennan.

We were pleased to see Andrew Armstrong, with parents Peter and Maude, at the Christmas get-together which took place in lieu of the December meeting. Andrew is doing well at Duntroon.

Rick Morris, No. 1 son of Dick, and Lynne (plus Leonie), daughter of Ken ("Pluto") and Fi Kesteven, have moved from North Ryde to Dundas, from home unit to a full home - garden, flowers, vegs, weeds - and the most comfortable "dog house" one could wish.

John Copland reports on a recent 8-day conducted coach tour of Tasmania - a lovely place, good weather and a most interesting journey. One night at the Wrest Point Casino where he actually had a modest win. John writes:

"Spent a couple of hours with Graham and Jean Jackett, who sent their kind regards to all. Mrs. Butters was away in Sydney, so did not see her. However, Graham did drive me round to see her house, an old stone place, beautifully restored. On the return journey I spent a few days in Melbourne - saw Claude Raymond and Ken Moses, who send salaams to all, especially the Chrystals and Latimers. Ken is anxious to meet any of us visiting Melbourne - his home address is 37 Edinburgh St., East Bentleigh. Of all the Moses in the phone book, he is the only one listed as KEN, and he can be rung during office hours on 42 8630."

Quite a number of 2/4thers in Melbourne had gone back to Mulwala for Christmas - must have liked the place! A couple of pairs of Melbournian eye-brows raised and comments made

at this Northerner wearing tropical weight suit to their Southern city, but it was hot, beautiful weather all the way in Tasmania and Melbourne. Perhaps they are not used to it"

Bill and Bonnie Panter recently up in Sydney to celebrate their 28th Wedding Anniversary also grand-daughters 1st birthday and daughter-in law Jeanette's birthday. Bill reports that the Lyle "Baldy" Thomas has been in hospital with dermatitis.

Dasher Deacon writes: "Lily and I were in Inverness in November, 1975. My brother-in-law lives in Glasgow and took us to Inverness to show us his old army barracks - he was in the Camerons. When my wife Lily and her sister were P.O.W. with the Japs in Java, Eddie was a Major with a Gurka Regiment. He rescued them and married Lily's sister. I really enjoyed Scotland best of all - will be going back next year. At present am staying in Brigadoon caravan Park, North Haven - had to cut my stay in Greece short, was going to live on the island of Spetsai for 3 months but became sick and decided to come home - finished up Blanch "D" Coy, who wishes to be remembered to everybody. Also met in North Haven George Sugden, Glen Ackerman and Gordon Crisp. Wrote to "Cock" Robin from Holland, did not receive a reply - has he been sick? Will be coming home to Maroubra in early February and won't be sorry, am looking forward to seeing all the boys again. Got a dose of malaria or something similar from the East was very sick with it in Wauchope Hospital.

Harold Conkey writes from Cootamundra: "As 1975 draws to a close, I was reading my copy of W.O.G. and thought how little I do to keep the Bulletins going, so decided to drop a line and send Christmas greetings to all friends and members alike. I was shocked to read of Max Rungie's death and somehow feel that that "was a close one" as Max and I were very close during the war years, where his stirring qualities were very evident. Also would like to add my thanks and best wishes to Cock Robin for his constant flow of news of people for so many years and wish him well. I still sit in my office in Cootamundra watching time go by and wonder when it would be prudent to retire, and apart from that am happy and well. By the way, I saw where Lou Laughrin died in U.S.A. You know, he contributed a lot to the Battalion in the early days and was a most colourful character. I often wonder why he does not feature more in the reminiscences of the Battalion's history - perhaps because he left us to live in the U.S.A. Cheers to all."

Yes, Harold, the Editor agrees that up to date you've done very little to keep the bulletins going, but better late than never. Let's hear from you a lot more regularly. Retirement, the Editor retired in 1974 and heartily recommends it. Re Lou and the History Much has been left unwritten of many Battalion characters. Few care to write of themselves so it was up to mates and those who remembered

John Robertson writes from Broken Hill:

"Please find enclosed my subs. for 1976. With them go my best wishes to the Association its executive and all its members for the present year. Also a big thank you to Dick Morris for his invaluable work as editor of our lifeline ("W.O.G") over the years. Another to commended is Bill MacLennan for stepping into the breach and taking more of the load. Dawn and I are going overseas in September. We fly to Greece, do Europe and after five or six weeks in Britain return by "Oriana" through the Panama. We should be able to renew a few ex-P.O.W. friendships." Lucky you, John and Dawn. We know you will have a wonderful trip...Ed.

Ken Moses rang from Melbourne a few weeks ago. He and Claude Raymond had just "Entered" John Copland on John's return trip to Tasmania. Ken considers there is a lot a merit in the Association producing a book of humorous happenings that took place within the Battalion during the war. Both he and Claude send their Best wishes to all and if any member is visiting Melbourne ring Ken - as mentioned previously he is the only Ken Moses in the phone book.

Tom Bartlett, who last year was fortunate in spending many weeks away on a world trip, has written a very interesting screed on the numerous countries he visited. You will quite understand, Tom, that as this covers many pages, it is quite impossible to publish it in "W.O.G." However, if any reader is interested, we are sure Tom would be happy to make his literary effort available. You may pick it up at the Club at or after the Annual Meeting, Tom.

CASH REGISTER Our Treasurer advises having received \$6.00 Subscriptions from the following:

E. Fox, A. Heath, Jack Reynolds, Ron Small Roy W. Lane, C.K. Calver, T. Bartlett, Ted Swadling, Bert Gabriel.

Also \$30.00 Life Membership from:
Frank Mellett, U.K.

2/4TH INFANTRY BATTALION ASSOCIATION

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1975

GENERAL FUND

<u>Receipts</u>		<u>Payments</u>	
Balance 1.1.75		Printing cost - W.O.G.	1416.09
Bank Account	190.97	Postage - W.O.G.	176.83
R.S.L. Building Soc.	<u>300.00</u>	Subscription - 6th Div. Assn.	10.00
	490.97	Classified Advertisement	62.70
Subscriptions received		Purchase Ties, Badges, Name Badges	695.57
Association	423.00	Cost of Functions	773.54
W.O.G.	<u>1606.00</u>	Donations	72.00
	2029.00	Balance 31.12.75	
Income from Functions	681.98	Bank Account	347.88
Donations Received	190.50	R.S.L. Building	
Sales of		Society	<u>300.00</u>
Ties	112.00		647.88
Badges, etc.	<u>38.00</u>		
	150.00		
Bank Interest received	12.16		
Country Reunion Committee			
Refund Deposit	<u>300.00</u>		
	3854.61		
			<u>\$3854.61</u>

BENEVOLENT FUND

<u>Receipts</u>		<u>Payments</u>	
Balance 1.1.75		Benevolence	250.00
Bank Account	66.63	Hospital Comforts	108.76
R.S.L. Building		Balance 31.12.75	
Society	<u>4585.72</u>	Bank Account	112.95
	4652.35	R.S.L. Building	
Donations Received	169.00	Society	<u>5069.69</u>
Proceeds Tin Hat - Anzac Day	31.21		5182.64
Sale of Plaques	168.00		
Sale of War Histories	33.00		
Interest received			
Bank	3.87		
Building Society	<u>483.97</u>		
	487.84		
	5541.40		
			<u>\$5541.40</u>

WEWAK SCHOLARSHIP FUND

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1975

<u>Receipts</u>		<u>Payments</u>	
Balance 1.1.75		Refund to Donor	200.00
Bank Account	92.96	Balance 31.12.75	
R.S.L. Building Soc.	<u>300.00</u>	Bank Account	366.36
	392.96	R.S.L. Build. Soc	<u>300.00</u>
Donations received	107.00		666.36
Bank Interest received	16.40		
1975 Scholarship Cheque			
Unclaimed, now rebanked	<u>350.00</u>		
	866.36		
			<u>\$866.36</u>

H.E.C. Gjedsted - Chairman
A.F. Lindsay - Hon. Treasurer.

AUDITOR'S REPORT

I have audited the above Accounts and found them to be correct. C. Chrystal - Hon. Auditor.