



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.

31st YEAR OF CONTINUOUS PUBLICATION

VOL. 31 No. 3

PRICE 15c PER COPY

MARCH, 1976

PRESIDENT: Harry Gjedsted, B.E.M., 2/25 Mona Road, Darling Point, N.S.W. 2027.

Phones: 27-6350 (Bus.); 32-3977 (A.H.)

VICE-PRESIDENTS—Senior: Bill MacLennan, 2 Amaroo Ave., Castle Cove 2069. Phone: 407-3320.

Northern N.S.W.: Esca Riordan, 36 Cameron Street, West Kempsey, N.S.W. 2440. Phone: Kempsey 62-4671.

Newcastle: Alf Carpenter, 66 Chatham Road, Georgetown, N.S.W. 2298. Phone: 049-67-1969.

Southern N.S.W.: Tim West, "Yarrabundah", Cowra, N.S.W. 2794. Phone: Chiverton 42-9240.

Queensland: Tom Provians, 65 Foxton Street, Morningside, Qld. 4170. Phone: Brisbane 95-4181.

South Australia: Peter Denver, "Wyndgate", Hindmarsh Island. Box 51, Goolwa, S.A. Phone: Goolwa 55-2252.

Victoria: Claude Raymond, 92 Rose Street, West Coburg, Vic. 3058. Phone: Melbourne 35-1145.

COMMITTEE: P. Cade, C. Chrystal, E. Fox, M. Gray, R. Morris, H. Wright.

SECRETARY: Athol Heath, 5 Akora Street, Frenchs Forest 2086. Phone: 451-4466.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY: 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.

Bill Parry, 5 Blackbutts Road, Frenchs Forest 2086. Phone: 451-2790.

EDITOR: Bill MacLennan, 2 Amaroo Avenue, Castle Cove 2069. Phone: 407-3320.

MONTHLY GENERAL MEETINGS: Friday, March 26th 1976)
" April 1976) 8 p.m.

At the GALLIPOLI MEMORIAL CLUB, 12 Loftus Street, SYDNEY

1976 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of our Association, held on Friday, February 28, was reasonably well attended, despite the inclement weather of late. Approximately 40 members turned up, among them being Tom Provians from Queensland and Novocastrians Alf Carpenter, Harry Pearse and Cliff Curran, also our old friend Russ McWilliam down on leave from Brunette Downs, Northern Territory. The remaining numbers were locals some regulars and some not-so regulars but we keep hoping.

General Sir Ivan Dougherty once more graciously accepted the appointment of Patron of our Association, and took the Chair for the election of officers. There were few changes in the elected Executive and Committee, the one addition to the Executive being the election of Alf Carpenter as Newcastle Vice President - an extremely popular appointment. Committee-man Larry Dooley did not seek re-election

due to pressure of business, and Mick Gray was elected in his stead; in the opinion of all members present Colonel Mick was a very popular choice.

The next item of interest was the nomination of our Treasurer, Allen Lindsay, for the award of Life Membership. This was put to the members present and voted for unanimously, much to the bewilderment and surprise of a temporarily stunned Treasurer. It would be agreed by all those not present at the meeting to hear the letter of nomination read that it is not a matter of the years that Allen has put in as Treasurer (7), but the tremendous amount of work that he has put into the years. Allen's Life Membership badge will be presented to him at the Anzac Day dinner, and will no doubt be accepted with the same acclaim as it was at the Annual General Meeting.

The business on the Agenda of the Notice of Motion by Cec Chrystal and seconded by Allen Lindsay to reduce the quorum at monthly meetings from 15 to 9 was carried unanimously.

much to the regret of the Executive and Committee that such a step was necessary due to the poor attendance at monthly meetings. Sir Ivan put forward a well thought out suggestion that if all members tried their best to attend just one or two meetings per year it would have the effect of building up our monthly meeting attendances, a suggestion which readily found concurrence among all present.

The Annual General Meeting was preceeded by the last Committee meeting for the year at which the retiring President, Harry Gjedsted, thanked all his Committee for their efforts during the year. These thanks were reciprocated by all members of the Committee.

ACTION NEEDED NOW!

Members of the 2/4th who are also members of the Gallipoli Memorial Club are requested to note that this item is of extreme importance and requires their close and prompt attention and particularly their support. As you are all aware voting for the 1976 election of officers is now due, and the following list of candidates is submitted in order of preference for your consideration:

President: W. MacLennan.

Senior Vice President: E. Fox

Junior Vice President: S. Marshall

Directors - W. MacLennan, E. Fox, J. Dooley
J. Meehan, R. Morris, J. Copland, M. Ebbeck,
K. Huxtable, K. Hill.

Please don't forget that those who nominate for executive positions and fail are still eligible for a seat on the Board of Directors.

FIRST CALL FOR 1976 COUNTRY RE-UNION

SURFERS PARADISE - OCTOBER 1st to 4th

VENUE: Surfers Paradise, R.S.L. Hall,
Scarborough Street, S. Paradise.

RECEPTION AREA: Foyer of R.S.L. - check in
Fri. Oct. 1st, Sat. Oct. 2nd.

ACCOMMODATION: Hotel or Motel as required.

Those who book in early will be accommodated within easy walking distance of the Club.

TARIFF: According to "Uncle Tom", with whom your Editor lunched this week, all accommodation is most reasonable, and well within the means of most members. Accommodation is readily available in single, double, twin or family rooms, also flats if required. That's service for you

isn't it? Whatever home comforts you fail to take with you just contact Uncle Tom and the boys from his cabin and they will attend to your every need. There is even going to be a terrific Sunday Evening Barbecue! Don't forget, though, that when booking there is a \$5.00 deposit required per person.

Private Holidays and Tours. For the lucky ones of this lucky country who may decide to take a little longer break at that time and may wish to tour further afield in the Sunshine State, simply contact your Queensland Committee and you will be inundated with all the brochures you will ever require. For bookings and further information ring or write to:

Tom Provians,	W. ("Wink") Walker,
65 Foxton St.,	59 St. Johns Ave.,
Morningside.	St. John's Wood,
Qld: 4170	Qld. 4060
Phone:	
(07) 399 5181	(07) 38 4812.

Laurie McCosker
60 Hillsdon St.,
Taringa, Qld. 4066
Phone: (07) 70 1395

COCK'S COLUMN

We are happy to have another bulletin of Newcastle News from Jim SHERRITT, who reports that Cliff & Aileen CURRAN have both been well, Cliff enjoying his retirement - spent a week in Sydney over the West Indies Test period and met some of the boys at the GALLIPOLI CLUB. John & Margaret RAE with Bonny spent a fortnight at Fingal Bay over the Christmas holidays and returned nicely tanned and fit. The pre-Christmas dinner organised by Bill WHITE & Athle NOBLE at Tattersalls Club was well attended by all available members. Jim saw Col OGILVY getting into his car in Gosford over the holidays - gave him a toot but doesn't think he was recognised as traffic was very heavy. Jim and Audrey WRIGHT had an interesting holiday in Singapore and Bali prior to Christmas and have planned a 15-day jaunt to West Aust. in the near future.

Even more recent news from Jim is that the February get-together of the Assn's Newcastle members was held at the Adamstown R.S.L. Club on Friday 20th. Those who were able to attend were George and Heather MITCHELL,

Alf & Marj CARPENTER, Cliff & Aileen CURRAN, Harry & Yvonne PEARSE, Margaret RAE, Jim & Mona SHERRITT with daughter Roberta and son-in-law Bill BURGESS. Those unable to attend owing to sickness and other commitments were Jim & Audrey WRIGHT, Bill WHITE & Athlee NOBLE, Bill and Estelle HAYES, Joe & Gwen BOHLE and John RAE.

Jim WRIGHT has had to attend Concord recently for treatment, and is not feeling 100%.

Athle NOBEL has had a serious operation and is still under treatment, which necessitates her visiting Sydney each week. We all wish Athle a speedy recovery.

Bill & Estelle HAYES have had daughter Alicia and grandchild with them for a couple of months. Alicia plans to fly out to join hubby in Singapore early in March.

George & Heather MITCHELL met Cyril KENNINGALE and Ted SWADLING at Griffith recently.

Alf CARPENTER, Cliff CURRAN and Harry PEARSE will try to make the Annual meeting at the Gallipoli Club if possible. All Newcastle members send regards to all. (Thank you, Jim, for a newsy letter. As reported earlier the three boys all made the A.G.M., much to the delight of all the locals. Jim also sent an excerpt he wrote for the "Thirtyniner" published in September, 1964, which we shall endeavour to include later in this issue if space permits...Editor.)

Further news from Tom PROVANS:

"Have held talks with Esca RIORDAN and Leo LYNCH and Ian WALLWORK who has seen Doug STEBBINGS in Lismore and all have promised to do some rounding up.

"Haven't tracked down Len GOODWIN yet, but will next time down the Coast, Bruce CORK has his address, so will be on his hammer.

"Have seen Chris WHITE on his way back from West Aussie where he has a daughter - will be chasing Jack REYNOLDS and Jim WHITTAKER.

"Had the usual Xmas Four with Duncan RUSSELL and we were hosted by his lovely daughter Anne who turned out to be one of my customers.

"Norm MacINTYRE is worried about not receiving WOG as he has paid up for Life Membership. I promised to check - has been done.

"Have seen Ted WERNE, Stan SUTHERLAND and Mert HARRIS - ROSS SMITH also called for a few minutes, and have had news of and from Bush BENNETT, Selby DEAN, Perc LANSLEY, Harry

WRIGHT (as always), Fred VARLEY, Nancy SMITH Russ McWILLIAM. Charlie BYRNE from the Tweed has been seen and is not real well. As "Wink", Laurie, Mert HARRIS and Fred CATLEY are part of our Queensland Committee I see them all frequently

"Have also to report that the well-known 6 Div. gang of Bill CAVANAGH, Max COOKE, Chas ROBINSON and John SHINGLES are all going well and send best wishes. Must get around to chasing Bill SUMPTER after all his wanderings and also check on Harold COX. One of my wandering friends met Nick ALLARDICE in Tamworth - all well over there.

"I hope I haven't missed anybody - I'll bet we don't by October as we will be issuing a Bulletin on my return from Sydney."

(Good luck in your efforts, Tom. With regard to Norm McIntyre, a check of the Addressograph file shows that a copy of each month's W.O.G. has been going off to his registered address at 21 Cathie Street, Petrie Terrace, Brisbane, 4000, ever since this address was established with us. The Editor and his Staff can do nothing more at this end - we suggest Norm makes a check on his Postal arrangements to ascertain what is happening to his mail up there, as his WOG is not being returned to us unclaimed as is the usual practice.

From our original "Cock Robin" we have a belated message from Roy MOORES who sends his regards to the Executive and Members of the Association. "Cock" also reports having received cards from the U.K. - one from Monty SIEMS and the other from Frank MALLETT (Monte has now returned to his old address at 152 Marsden Road, Dagenham, Essex, U.K.) "Cock" has had a visit from Bill SUMPTER and his pretty daughter Patricia from Ipswich. He has also visited the Lithgow R.S.L. where he was made very welcome by steward Jack PERRY to whom he spoke of 2/4th. Jack told him Tom OUSBY who is a member has not been enjoying the best of health - in and out of hospital. Sorry to hear of this Tom, so will your Sig. mates be - sincerely hoping that you'll soon be well again. The late "Tich" BAYLISS was also mentioned - he was a member there too. "Cock" was sorry he missed Mr. Wilson and Mr. Willoughby, but thanks Jack Perry again for his very warm welcome.

An interesting note to "Cock" from Cyril McCOSKER reads as follows:

"You are right that I didn't rate a mention

White Over Green not even in the nominal roll. The monthly W.O.G. acknowledged that a few of us had missed out and listed some names shortly after the history volume was released. I can think of some good reasons why I should be disowned, but the facts were - NX 27975 C.L. McCosker. Len Goodwin and I joined together and you will note our numbers differ only by two. Knowing the vagaries of clerical work I can well imagine a marching in order being overlooked. There was a batch of us who moved out of the training battalion to join the unit when it was pulled back from the desert to go to Greece. We were held back at Amariya and subsequently sailed with the evacuation fleet from Alexandria. Some got to the unit via "Slamat" but I was on "Ascanius" which drifted off as a submarine decoy and put into Port Said. Then it was back to Amariya and eventually to Palestine where we were the lost souls to welcome the unit when it returned after Crete. So maybe I never really joined the unit but was just there. Seems such a long time ago! I never met the L. McCosker on the books - think he was "Laurie" and perhaps came in after the unit got back to Australia. I piled up on a motor bike while on the advance guard moving out of Syria down to the boats and was lost to the battalion thereafter - finally made it home in April '45".

Another interesting letter to "Cock" came from H.C. ("Pop") WILLIAMS, and reads:

"Our only Son Rob has lived in London ever since 1962. He is an authority on Modern and Ancient History - plans at Easter to fly out to the Island of Rhodes for one week then onto Crete for one week where he will do research work. He particularly mentions KNOSSOS on the Eastern end of the Island. I will give him some details which took place during the 2/4 Bn, period on the Island and if any 2/4er has anything helpful to impart concerning Crete, kindly ring me at 644 3273.

Grahame & Joyce Woodward of Devon, U.K. are now very proud grandparents." (Congratulations, Grahame & Joyce, and welcome to the Club.)

A day late for inclusion in last month's WOG was a report received from a Port Macquarie paper dated 2nd February, reading as follows: "KILLED IN FIJI." The son-in-law of a Port Macquarie woman was electrocuted in Fiji on Thursday last, Jan. 29th. He was Ronald Michael Hawkins (31), husband of Peta, the

elder daughter of Mrs. Ruth Bawden, and the late Mr. R. (Dick) Bawden of Port Macquarie. Mrs Bawden received the sad news late last week. Surviving are Mr. Hawkins' wife Peta and their three children - Mark, Dimity and Rebecca. Mrs. Bawden expected her daughter and grandchildren to arrive back in Sydney last night." The sincere condolences of all members of the Association are extended to Ruth and her daughter Peta in their tragic loss.

Ken MOSES writes: "Will do you a piece on the Battalion Tie as soon as I come back from my next trip which starts from Moorabbin Airport tomorrow. A recent issue of W.O.G. stated the tie should be worn on all official occasions, such as funerals and country reunions. I have different ideas. I have been experimenting with it and have been complimented on my taste in neck wear. It has colour combination that matches anything. Dapper John Copland dropped in on his way back from Tasmania and disrupted Claude and self. John looked like a fashion plate about to read the BBC News on Camera. I had to leave the two 'oldies'. They were too good for me. Both were in retirement and I still had to work!"

John STOREY advises having retired from the Army and going to settle in Nollamara, West Australia. Our best wishes, John. Bob LEVER sends apologies for not attending meetings. He is Secretary and Welfare Officer of the Glenbrook R.S.L. Sub-Branch whose meetings fall on the same night as the Association's.

Percy LANE and Roy FINDLAY both send best wishes for a successful and happy year to all members of the Association and their loved ones.

David acGILLIVRAY reports having persuaded Jock MacPHERSON at long last to join the Association. Good work, Dave. Jock was one of the original pipers in our band.

WELFARE REPORT

Members visited by the four teams in R.G.H. during February included:-

NX 5349 A.R.(Dick) FAULDER. Discharged
 NX 68764 John SMITH - Sends regards to Dick WILLIAMS and Tex RICHARDS.
 NX 5326 E.(Vince) SPARKES. Satisfactory.
 NX 15367 C.T.(Curly) DAY. For discharge on Feb. 26th. Sends his regards to Ted McCAFFERY and Len GOODWIN.
 NX 6028 A.E.(Stumpy) WRIGHT. Not well but

(continued /insert)

active and cheerful as ever.

NX 86210 T.(Buddy) KING. Discharged.
NX 5233 W.(Buzz) BENNETT. In for heart
check. Satisfactory.
NX 10358 Cecil REILLY. Discharged
NX 1988 Charles HOLZIGAL (Inverell)
Sends regards to Cec Chrystal.
Discharged.
A. GUNNER (4 Bn. WWI) Discharged
5080 W.FRENCH Discharged
C.WATSON Fair
* J.GREEN (2/4 Field Workshops)
* T.KING (2/3 INF.BN.)
* These were on computer list.

Visited in Prince Henry Hospital:

NX 5582 Noel HOWELL. Seriously ill but
very cheerful and confident.
Visited Sir Ivan Dougherty, Dick
& Enid Latimer and Jack Keating.
Dick's latest report is that Noel
expects to return to Mudgee this
week.

On Feb. 7th Mrs. Leo CARTER rang from
Kiama to report Mrs. Cyril STILLWELL
very ill in Eastern Suburbs Hospital (Bondi)
Cyril on way up to see her but involved
in car accident and taken to Wollongong
Hospital with broken leg and other injuries.
I made contact with Bill POPLIN of Warilla
who will be delighted to visit anyone on the
South Coast and will also contact other
members in the vicinity. Goods news indeed
thanks Bill. Card sent to Cyril and letter
to the Carters. Leo CARTER to enter Port
Kembla Hospital Feb. 12th for surgery.
Bill Poplin will see him too. Latest news
from Eastern Suburbs Hospital is that Mrs.
STILLWELL has been transferred to Wollongong
Hospital to be near Cyril who has improved
and now getting about on crutches.

Mrs. (Mick) WELLING. I rang her at home.
Not at all well - in a lot of pain. Local
doctor talking of putting her back into
Concord R.G.H. A brave woman, Local R.S.L.
and Legacy wonderful to her.

Mrs. VERA WALSH. She is well and cheerful
Active in Miranda R.S.L. and the Women's
Auxiliary.

LAST POST

NX 5984 W.E.(Bill) DEMERY. Jim
FORMAN of Warragamba rang
Athol HEATH to say Bill had
died on Feb. 7th He was Tpt.
Section and was driver for
Major MONTGOMERY ("D" Coy.)
and a friend of Bob ROACH.

NX 8747 C.H.ROUTER - Notice in 'Salute
the T.P.I. magazine.
NX 2034 H.G.MILES)
)
NX 11950 H.E.SHARP)Ex "Reveille"
)March 1976.
NX 9540 R.A.THOMAS)
)
NX 51617 Keith COSTELLO)

CASH REGISTER

Our Treasurer acknowledges receipt of the
following:

\$6.00 subscriptions from Merv LANE, Roy
FINDLAY, Stan DOGGETT, Cyril McCOSKER
David MacGILLIVRAY, Jock MacPHERSON.

\$10.00 Subs and donation from: Percy
LANE, Chas GILLARD, G.L. ROBINS

\$30.00 Life Membership from: Bob LEVER.

As Subscriptions are now well overdue
and many are still to be received, would
all those still "dragging the chain"
please make an effort to become financial
immediately.

STOP PRESS

As this issue goes to print, we regret
to announce the deaths, on Friday, March
5th, of two of our members.

NX 5582 A.N.(Noel) HOWELL.

NX 5349 A.R.(Dick) FAULDER.

Our Patron, President, Executive Committee
and all members of the Association extend
deepest sympathy to the widows and families
in their sad loss.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

A different world cannot be built by
indifferent people.