



White Water 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., LL.D (Hon.)

32nd YEAR OF CONTINUOUS PUBLICATION

VOL. 32 No. 10

PRICE 15c PER COPY

OCTOBER, 1977

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 399-5181

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: H. Bowman, P. Cade, C. Chrystal, E. Fox, M. Gray, K. Kesteven, G. Stack.

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 MEETINGS: Friday, October 28th, 1977)
Friday, November 25th, 1977) at 8.00 p.m.

At the Gallipoli Memorial Club, 12 Loftus Street, Sydney

1977 COUNTRY RE-UNION - WAGGA WAGGA, NSW

Where does one find new superlatives to describe the fun and fellowship made possible by our annual Country Re-unions? This year's get-together was a beauty, many members and their families arriving on the Friday, getting the weekend at Wagga off to a good start at the R.S.L. Club that evening, well in advance of the booking-in time scheduled for Saturday morning.

Fine and sunny weather heralded the highlight of the week-end - a most impressive march by approx. 100 troops, under the efficient command of Joe WELLS, and led by Sir Ivan DOUGHERTY behind the R.A.A.F. Drum Band to the local Cenotaph, where a wreath was laid, the Last Post and Reveille sounded by an excellent bugler, and a tribute paid to our fallen.

No less than 210 later sat down to dinner at the Police Citizens Boys' Club, where formalities were kept to a minimum by Wagga Committee Chairman Bill COSIER, leaving plenty

of time for some good old fashioned dancing to the music of electronic-organist Stan ANDERSON. Many apologies and well-wishing telegrams received from far and wide were read at the dinner.

Sunday's Bar-B-Q at the Wagga Boat Club, also the Smorgasbord that night (again at the Police Boys' Club) followed by more dancing and making merry, kept the non-stop happy atmosphere of the week-end going.

At each Country re-union there always comes out of the wood-work a troop we haven't seen since the war. This time it was in the form of Arthur POWER of Sigs. (eat your hearts out Meehan and Sadie), who was warmly welcomed by all who served with him. Another great meeting of two old mates took place for the first time in 33 years between Alan KIRK and Pat SYDENHAM. Both have attended a number of re-unions, but somehow never the same one before!

Our roving reporter also came upon a good story involving Sid VALENTINE ("Gunga Din") - a good example of the undaunted enthusiasm of the

2/4th. Sid arrived in Wagga after a long drive from Melbourne on Friday, and after several unsuccessful attempts to find the R.S.L. drove another 43 miles to Humula, knocked on Stan BLACKSLEY'S door and said "Where's the R.S.L.?"

Once again the overall good behaviour of our members was noted and commented very favourably upon by local people concerned, and not one single incident happened to mar a pleasant, placid and perfect weekend. THANK YOU TROOPS.

Finally a very big vote of thanks must go to Stan BLACKSLEY and his assistants for the many hours of sweat and toil that must go into the organisation of the many details involved in such an undertaking, and we congratulate all concerned for their efforts in giving us such an enjoyable weekend. As our Senior Vice President speaking in the absence of President Harry GJEDSTED summed it up at the dinner on the Saturday evening, this must surely have been Stan's "Finest Hour". Well done, Wagga!

ANNUAL LISMORE DINNER AND RE-UNION

Far North Coasters and travellers are advised that this year's function will be held at the East Lismore Bowling Club on Saturday, November 19th, at 7 p.m.

Please get your names in to Doug STEBBING 96 Casino Street, South Lismore, 2480 (Phone 21 5890) by Thursday, November 17, to facilitate catering arrangements.

The 1977 Show promises to be the bet yet, so make it a must.

Fred VARLEY.

NEWCASTLE NEWS

The monthly get together of Association members was held at Waratah-Mayfield R.S.L. Club on the night of September 23rd. The large roll-up of members and their ladies included Alf & Marj CARPENTER, Harry & Yvonne PEARSE, Cliff & Aileen CURRAN, George & Heather MITCHELL, Joe & Gwen BOHLE, Bill & Estelle HAYES, Bill WHITE, Audrey WRIGHT, Jim & Mona SHERRITT. We were also favoured with a visit from Dick MORRIS who had been working in the area. Dick had a great night, and we all certainly enjoyed his company.

Wagga was discussed, and a large number indicated they would be attending.

We regret to report the passing recently of Heather MITCHELL'S mother (Mrs. Stevens). Association members attending the funeral were Cliff & Aileen CURRAN, Harry & Yvonne PEARSE and Jim SHERRITT. A wreath from the Association was placed.

Jack MANN, an original member of the Battalion is now living at Raymond Terrace. Alf CARPENTER recently met Jack and we expect him to attend a get-together in the near future.

It has been suggested that the Association may see fit to hold a Monthly Meeting in Newcastle by way of a change of venue. Our next get-together is to be held at Stockton R.S.L. on November 25th, and this date has been suggested as it coincides with the normal Sydney meeting night. A large roll-up would be guaranteed from the Newcastle members.

Jim SHERRITT reports meeting Keith MONTGOMERY recently. Although Keith has not been enjoying the best of health in the past, he looks really good at present.

Kind regards,

Jim SHERRITT.

WELFARE REPORT

The following members have been visited in hospital.

NX 13386 FRANCIS, George W. R.G.H.210. Gall bladder op. Discharged.
NX 9829 LAING, Graham D. R.G.H. 230. Of Norfolk Island. Now discharged.
NX 14376 WILSON, Leonard R. R.G.H. 410 Discharged.
NX 14111 SHAYLOR, Norman J. R.G.H. 630. ... further abdominal tests. Discharged.
NX 6922 O'TOOLE, Ronald. R.G.H. 31 "C" Coy. Tests for lung congestion. Discharged.
NX 7001 PETERSON, Noel. R.G.H. 34. "D" Coy. Severe nervous tension. Not at all well.

AT HOME

WX 15860 McKINLAY, John. Is now attending rehabilitation sessions at Mirand R.S.L. Club. A vast improvement since Dick FAULDER saw him at his home in '74.
NX 9874 LATIMER R.W. Pleased to report that Dick is now in full swing again and back to full time duty.

4 BN. W.W.I In hospital -

303 WOLFF, Otto. R.G.H. 110. Prostate. Now discharged.
2134 CHUDLEIGH, John. R.G.H. 630. Very severe skin cancer. Has had skin grafts and now transferred to Lady Davidson Hospital. Latest report is that he is up and about and doing well but cannot be discharged because his wife is in hospital with a broken leg. John is a very young 89 years old.
ARNOLD, George. Skin complaint. Now discharged. Was with 4 Bn. at the landing but later transferred to 56 Bn.
10093 STEWART George, R.G.H.19. Lung tests Discharged.
28773 DAVIS, Edward, R.G.H. 34. Under heavy sedation. In for E.N.T. treatment and nerves.

4086 MOLONEY, Vincent T. R.G.H. 110. Major op. on foot. Satisfactory.
7051 SMITH, Edward W. R.G.H. 210. Prostate op. for second time - 85 and very cheerful.
15667 SHARMON, Percy J. R.G.H. 520. Asleep and not at all well.

John Copland

LAST POST

NX60606 Lieutenant G.W. JACKETT. Further to the Welfare Report in our September magazine, Graham passed away in the Royal Hobart Hospital on Saturday night, September 17th, just two hours before his 60th birthday.

A full church of friends and loved ones attended the service, conducted by Dean Webber of Hobart, at St. George's Church, Battery Point. In the Dean's words he expressed the feelings of all concerned in saying amongst other things that:

"Graham evinced many of the qualities which ordinary people would identify with Christian character. First and foremost courage. Some of us have seen him in hospital, at one time or another, very ill indeed and in great pain yet smiling and confident. He knew perfectly well how great were the odds against him, but he did not complain. I am sure that uppermost in all our minds will be the thought of his courage and his refusal to be beaten. He was on borrowed time, and how he stretched out that loan."

The sympathy of all is conveyed to his wife Jean, my dear sister, and all her family at this sad time. Vale Graham.

Cecil CHRYSTAL.

NX 5900 G.A.HAZEL. (Ex Carriers)5.10.77

LEST WE FORGET.

COCKS COLUMN (Thank you, Tom PROVIANs)

Wal McKENZIE is now retired in Brisbane and is playing an active part in 6 Div. Assn. affairs.

Norm & Jean EVERSON have had a busy and somewhat uncomfortable time fighting fires which came alarmingly close recently.

Max NERNEY has another wedding on his hands in December but is bearing up quite well.

Jack REYNOLDS has had a bit of a run of out healthwise but is going full steam ahead again.

Laurie MCCOSKER is still pounding his money sucking beat for the Deputy Commissioner - doesn't reduce the girth any though.

Wink WALKER, still has his castle in the Valley from which to pound the poor unfortunate staff of the Big One in that area.

Duncan RUSSELL copped a dose of pneumonia recently, but that doesn't keep a man of his calibre down and he is now plugging along gamely again.

Ken FRANKLIN and gang have been going quietly at Woody Point in Queensland.

Norm MacINTYRE can still give anybody and all comers a very interesting couple of hours on his snooker table - that is after he has freely plied them with cans of draught (The Hound).

Spied on the wayside have been Merv McINNES and Herb HOATHER. Merv and Tom PROVIANs were having a chat when Herb, who also lives in Ballina, came across the street and Tom was able to introduce them as they had never met before.

Doug GROVE sends regards to all the gang.

Hugh WITTLETON was found by Bill CAVANAGH recently in Townsville and is quite happy in the Sunshine State.

Ian WALLWORK reports the fishing is lousy at Iluka at the moment so is going to take up golf. Better get Dasher to give him a few lessons. Keeping the head down bit seems to be Dasher's main clue to success - particularly the morning after!

Jack HUGHES of the Gold Coast is trying to keep the Southport R.S.L. Club solvent - doing quite well too.

Bill SUMPTER and daughter Patricia have been touring the ridges via Sydney, Grong Grong, Wagga and were on their way home via Melbourne. Bill, incidentally, has acquired a taste for lolly-water. (One good reason, it was compulsory for health reasons).

Bruce CORK was feeling lonely at Palm Beach so decided to jump on the bus and made Wagga the easy way.

Esca RIORDAN, Ian & Edna WALLWORK, Harry & Ada WHITMAN, Harry & Hild WRIGHT, Phil & Cec CHRYSTAL and Noni & Harold BOWMAN were all leaving Wagga to have a slightly extended tour home via South Australia. We feel sure S.A. can suffer the invasion. Could be that Peter DENVER is having his own extension of the re-union back home! Incidentally, we are all worried about Esca and his "Sin Bin".

Ron MacZKOWIAK had an apology from "Coffee" ROYAL for non-appearance at Wagga - Ron has not been in the best of health. All the best "Coffee" for a return to good spirits.

It's good to know Ted McCAFFREY hasn't lost his sense of humour. Listening across the table to one of the many discussions of the Wagga re-union, this one concerning the Pope, during which another member admitted to not knowing much about the Pope as he had never been an Altar boy, Ted's rejoinder came quick as a flash "No, and you've never altered since either!"

Guess where "Biscuits" ARNOTT lives these days - Kippa Road (Ryde)!

One of the many telegrams received with good wishes in Wagga came from "Rusty" McWILLIAM

now residing at Snake Bay, Melville Island, N.T. with three of his family (and their families), Virginia, Phillip and David. Hope you are still getting your W.O.G. Russ.

CASH REGISTER The following acknowledgements bring the list of receipts by the Treasurer up to date with the exception of some moneys received over the Wagga week-end, which will be acknowledged next month.

Subscriptions \$6.00

N.Rogers	S.Sutherland	F.Driscoll
J.Graham	M. McAllan	H.Bowman
T.J.Taylor	H.Pearse	W. Capper
R. Kingsley	M.Green	G.Jackett
M.Siems	S. Dean	J.Crowley

Subscriptions \$12.00 G.Sanderson

Subscriptions \$18.00 C.E. Loughnan

Life Membership \$30.00

R. Denyer	W.Hayes	A.Power
L.Waterworth	H. Hoather	C.Sleeman

(\$5.00 balance)

Donations

L.Jones \$4.00	C.Sleeman \$5.00
D. Milne \$4.00	R. Denyer \$10.00
F.Driscoll \$4.00	Nance Smith \$10.00
H.Bowman \$4.00	Molly Irvine \$10.00
H.Pearse \$4.00	C.Raymond \$10.00
J.Crowley \$4.00	Dick Parry \$10.00
W.Hayes \$20.00	Anonymous \$10.00

IN THE MAILBAG

Bill MITCHELL writes from Bingara: "I don't seem to have had much contact with any of the boys since coming out here. Have met Nick ALLARDICE in Tamworth a couple of times, but that's all. Believe Selby DEAN is in INVERELL but haven't met up with him yet. Maybe I don't frequent the right places. See Doug MILNE's name in June W.O.G. Hadn't heard of him since the war. Kind regards, Doug. Also notice Norm EVERSON's note in April issue. How are you, Norm? Good to hear Dasher DEACON is still fighting on - pick on something a bit softer than cement next time, Dasher."

Nancy SHEARWIN wrote from Long Jetty: "We spent some weeks up at Evans Head welcoming another grandson, and Bill enjoyed some fishing. We had a letter the other day from Jack DELPH up at Milngimby Island, N.T. He's busy building houses and teaching aborigines to do the same. He and wife Bonnie are loved by all up there according to great welcome and "Red Carpet" out when they returned once more. Bill is busy on renovations of our house here, so can't take time to write. Regards from him."

Laura WALLACE wrote from Maclean: "Herewith \$4.00 to help defray costs of postage of W.O.G. which I do enjoy reading. So many of the names are familiar. Neil spoke about different ones often when he was alive that I feel I do know most of

you. Keep up the good work."

Tom BARTLETT wrote from 5 Iris Place, Woy Woy "Up to date I haven't met any 2/4ers since moving up here, but guess I will in time. Should you be up this way any time be sure to look us up."

N.ROGERS Narrandera and Stan SUTHERLAND of Capalba send best regards to all.

Roy DENYER writing from Temora: "Arnold (Curly) GORMAN checked me into reality by letter and a card autographed by 21 members of the Association at the Anzac Day reunion, that I was no longer pulling my weight as an ex 2/4er. Am rectifying this situation somewhat by enclosing Life Membership and donation. Arthur HARRIDINE, Bill WILSON Lionel HOWE are the ex 2/4ers who still live in Temora and are seen about town frequently. I trust I will be able to attend the next reunion to renew friendships." Monty SIEMS wrote from Clacton-on-Sea, U.K.

"Was pleased to have a few hours in Sydney on my round trip - will hope to be there on the fiftieth anniversary in the year 1989!"

Bob DAVIES of Strathfield sends regards to T FOX.

Jim BROWN of Kempsey wrote: "Yes, it was a sad day when we paid our final respects to Jack CHASELING. He was one of the great men of the Battalion, whose wonderful support did so much for so many people. On Saturday night 17.9.77 I am going to Bowraville as the Local Member to unveil a large portrait of Jack MALONEY, M.M., who, of course, was a member of our battalion. It would normally be quite an honour to have been asked to unveil any photo, but being one of our own blokes who showed great courage to win his award, makes it an occasion of great honour for me. Kind regards to all.

"Chick" SLEEMAN wrote from Warragamba: "SORRY I missed Anzac Day this year, but Dot and I were in Canada for daughter Petria's wedding. We prolonged our stay to have a look at Southern United States. All very nice but I am even more convinced that there is no country in the world to equal Aussie."

Bill HAYES wrote from Georgetown: "My regards to all the boys. Sorry I have not been able to make any meetings or functions of late. Am now an Insulin Diabetic, so Wagga is out this year. As soon as Estelle can manage the diet etc., I will be back in the fray."

(Glad you managed to get to Wagga after all, "Bully" - it was great to see you there. Look after yourself, mate. Ed.)