



White Over 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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COMING MEETINGS: Annual General Meeting - to be held on Friday February 25th, 1977.

Full Notice and Agenda Published in January "White Over Green."

General Meeting - Friday, March 25th, 1977.

Both of the above meetings will commence at 8 p.m., at the Gallipoli Memorial Club, 12 Loftus Street, Sydney.

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As we leave 1976 behind us and come into another year, I am sure that we all reflect back and remember the many happy occasions that have brought us together, not only in 1976 but over the years in the lifetime of our Association. Similarly, we remember with sadness all those who are no longer with us, but we also remember them with pride and affection, for they were our comrades, possibly the best friends we will ever know, and we will always miss them from our ranks.

The continued success and strength of our Association demands maximum support of our Members throughout the year. We have highlighted this need in "W.O.G." since last year, and I sincerely hope to see many more members in attendance at our monthly meetings. We have the reputation of being the strongest Association in the 6th Division, we are held in high esteem and respect and in many cases in

envy by other Unit Associations both within and outside the Division for the many Activities we motivate and participate in, the appearance and bearing of our Battalion on parade on ANZAC DAY, the high standard of "W.O.G." and the regularity of its issue. These things just don't happen—they reflect the work planning and dedication given by your Committees over the years, and all that we ask in return is your encouragement and support at our Monthly Meetings.

Southport was another successful Re-Union, with full marks going to Tom and all his Team, their families and friends for their untiring efforts to ensure that the occasion was the great success that it was.

In this year of 1977 we are scheduled to meet again at Wagga, and know from experience that this will again be a great occasion. We are giving much thought to a re-union in

Sydney for 1978 and in this current year are planning a "Return to Ingleburn" barbeque - we will keep you informed through "W.O.G." (and at our Monthly Meetings).

As always I cannot speak too highly of our Committee Team, particularly our Welfare Team of John COPLAND, Bill PARRY, Dick LATIMER, Len SMITH, George STACK, Harry WRIGHT, and Ted GAMBLE, who have done so much for our ill and distressed Members, and I know I have your complete support in extending to them our appreciation, thanks and gratitude for all they have done and are doing for our Association and our Members.

To the wives and families of our Members, to the next-of-kin of our Members, to our Members and our many friends I give you our sincere thanks for the support, work and encouragement given by you all, which does so much to hold our Association together. So many to thank - and express gratitude to - for all that you do for the Association. To all of you - Sincere Thanks from all of us, and may 1977 bring you all Good Health, Happiness and Prosperity.

Harry GJEDSTED, President.

THE SECRETARY'S REPORT

Once again your Association has had a reasonably successful year. I say reasonably because, although, as you will read elsewhere in this issue, Anzac Day was the best attended for a long time, the Country Re-union at Southport was highly successful, and the Ladies Night function was so well attended that extra seating accommodation had to be organised, we still have not improved our attendance at the Monthly General Meetings. Our average is still about fifteen.

I know that the Executive members and the Committee receive plenty of letters telling us what a great job we are doing, but this does not alter the fact that a better attendance should be possible - and most certainly would be appreciated. I would like to thank those members who do attend regularly, and ask them to keep doing so. After all, if we don't have a quorum we can't hold a meeting and consequently cannot run the affairs of the Association.

I would like also to thank my Wife, Pat, who makes my job so much easier.

May I wish Health and Happiness to all Members and their families, and hope to see you all in 1977.

Athol HEATH, Honorary Secretary.

NEWCASTLE NEWS

The Newcastle members of our Association held their final get-together for 1976 at Tattersalls Club.

The Dinner Dance was arranged by Bill WHITE and the largest number ever of members and friends were in attendance. A couple of familiar faces were missing owing to sickness.

During a recent visit to the Central West I met Bernie O'MARA at Forbes. Bernie now looks fit and well after an ulcer upset and is planning an overseas visit with his wife within the next three months. He has promised a news item for "W.O.G."

Newcastle members and friends send kindest greetings to all for 1977.

Jim SHERRITT.

ASSOCIATION OF FOURTH INFANTRY BATTALION

On Boxing Day, Harry and Hilda WRIGHT and I attended a barbecue held by "A" Coy (THE Company) at their new location at Signal Hill Depot at Vaucluse. A large crowd of members families and guests had a really fine day with the added attraction of a grandstand view of the start of the Hobart Yacht Race.

We had the pleasure of meeting Major Geoffrey COPELAND (Not COPLAND), to whom congratulations were the order of the day. Geoffrey had just won the Sir Thomas Blamey award and sword for coming top in the T.A.C. Examination for promotion to Lt. Colonel.

Notice of this function was short and not many of our members could be informed. It is an ideal site, plenty of parking into the depot, so well worth keeping in mind for Boxing Day, 1977.

SPECIAL NOTICE

The Annual General Meeting of the above Association will be held at the ARNCLIFFE depot on Friday, 11th March 1977, at 2200 hours. Present and prospective members please make a note of the date.

John COPLAND.

PROPOSED 2/4TH LADIES AUXILIARY

In answer to the Notice in November "W.O.G." regarding the formation of a Ladies Auxiliary so far five have been forthcoming (one from Darwin). We estimate there should be approximately 100 wives in local areas so unless we know that many more of this number would be willing to participate in this venture, it will be scrapped.

2/4th INFANTRY BATTALION ASSOCIATION
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31ST DECEMBER 1976

GENERAL ACCOUNT

Receipts

Balance as at 1.1.76		
Bank Account	347.88	
R.S.L. Building Society	<u>300.00</u>	647.88
Subscriptions received		
Association	459.00	
W.O.G.	<u>2544.00</u>	3003.00
Income from Functions		1444.85
Donations received		477.50
Sales of Ties, Badges, etc.		194.80
Bank Interest received		50.29

\$ 5818.32

Payments

Printing cost - W.O.G.	1105.00
Postage - W.O.G.	403.45
Postage - Sundry	31.46
Subscription - Association of 4th Inf. Bns.	30.00
Name Badges	108.00
Classified Advertisements	61.90
Cost of Functions	1535.00
Stationery & Telephone	20.00
Donations -	
Gallipoli Memorial Club	250.00
Pipe Band	<u>78.00</u>
	328.00
Locker Fee	5.00
Balance as at 31.12.76	
Bank Account	1890.51
R.S.L. Building Society	<u>300.00</u>
	<u>2190.51</u>

\$ 5818.32

BENEVOLENT FUND

Receipts

Balance as at 1.1.76		
Bank Account	112.95	
R.S.L. Building Society	<u>5069.69</u>	5182.64
Donations Received		40.00
Sales of Plaques	28.00	
Sales of War Histories	<u>35.00</u>	63.00
Proceeds Tin Hat - Anzac Day		5.10
Transfer from Wewak Fund		667.42
Interest Received		
Bank Account	4.92	
R.S.L. Building Society	<u>516.81</u>	<u>521.73</u>

\$6479.89

Payments

Benevolence	320.00
Hospital Comforts	111.23
Balance as at 31.12.76	
Bank Account	162.16
R.S.L. Building Society	<u>5886.50</u>
	6048.66

<u>H.E.C. GJEDSTED - President</u>	<u>\$ 6479.89</u>
<u>A.F. LINDSAY - Hon. Treasurer</u>	<u></u>

AUDITOR'S CERTIFICATE

I have audited the books of Account of the 2/4 INFANTRY BATTALION ASSOCIATION for the year ended 31.12.76. From this audit I am of the opinion that the above Financial Statements are correct.

H. SILVER, Hon Auditor 29.1.77

REMEMBER!

The Annual General Meeting at the Gallipoli Memorial Club on Friday February 25th 1977 at 8.00 p.m. LET'S SEE YOU THERE!

CASH REGISTER

The Treasurer advises having received Subs. Donations, etc. from the following members:-

Subscriptions \$6.00 - A.E. Coyle, J. Holland, W. Poplin, K. Harvey, J. Robertson, R. Findlay, A.E. Gabriel, J. Kearney, D. Jackson, R. Lane, F. Pohlmann, P. Lane, N. McGregor.

Subscriptions \$12.00 - C. Hood.

Subscriptions \$18.00 - D. Baxter.

Life Membership \$30.00 - Brig. J.E. Martin

Donations - C. Hood - \$4.00, J. Storey - \$5.00
J. Holland - \$4.00, H.H. Elliott - \$20.00,
D. Christian - \$10.00, D. Baxter - \$2.00,
J. Robertson - \$6.00, A.E. Gabriel - \$2.00,
R. Findlay - \$4.00, P. Lane - \$4.00, B. Sumpter - \$10.00,
F. Pohlmann - \$4.00, B. McAtamney - \$5.00, K. Moses - \$10.00

WELFARE REPORT 28.1.77

Members visited since our last report:-

- NX 13262 NICHOLLS, Harry F. R.G.H.2 In addition to his chronic heart condition, Harry has spinal trouble. It may be sciatica. Having treatment and very cheerful.
- NX 31233 HEALEY, Stanley, R.G.H.3. Dick Latimer called 22.1.77 but Stan had been discharged that morning.
- NX 6048 WEBB, Arthur L. Ward 24. Not at all well. Arthur has had several ops. for ulcers but now has hypertension and is undergoing tests for blackouts. Will be going home for a while this coming weekend.

4 BN.

1914-18

- 66068 SANDERSON, William J. Heart condition. A very sick man. He is only 79 years old.

John COPLAND.

IN THE MAILBAG Ken Moses writes:

"Will you please put the name of Tom MORT, 'Coola Coola', Keith S.A. on your list of Welfare Officers, Hospital Visiting MK1. On December 29 I was in his area on a job and promptly invited myself out for a feed and a bunk down for the night.

"Having rung Tom from the town to see if there was anything they wanted brought out, I set out to cover the 20 miles to Coola Coola. I got three miles out, went off the road when the driving side tyre went, hit the only two trees for miles around and spent the next 13 days in the Keith District Hospital Inc. The hospital was trying to get Tom to tell him why I was late and Tom was paging the town haunts

looking for me. At about nine he received the news I was nearly minus the left ear, had about sixty stitches in the head, four broken ribs, bruised lungs, a sprained ankle and a broken left foot. Also I had a headache, and the Doctor thought it would be a good idea if I skipped tea at Coola Coola.

"For the next 13 days Tom was in and out of that hospital, a round trip of 40 miles, a couple of times twice a day. When he could not turn up, Wife Joan would, and when both could not turn up, Son-in-law Jim Ashby turned up. Tom provided the pyjamas, the disposable razors the fruit, smuggled in the cigarettes and tobacco under the guard of the matron, provided the literature - including a choice anthology on limericks which kept the night staff entertained. When not doing all that, Tom took over what was left of the car, arranging for police reports, breaking the news to my family, offering beds for my family if they wanted to come up and genuinely letting them know I was in good hands and there was really no need for Rosemary to return from a holiday in Queensland. As she had met Tom at Yarrawonga she knew that.

"On the 13th day I finally made Coola Coola for that beaut meal. As Joan and Tom said on my arrival 'If you had crawled the 20 miles on elbows and knees you would have got here faster! My host and hostess would not let me return to Melbourne by train and the following day Tom drove me to Naracoorte, had two new tyres put on the front end of the cat - very thoughtful - drove me 380 miles to Melbourne, stopped the night after a meal provided by Jillian and returned 380 miles next day to a meeting in S.A. Apart from that, the Morts did nothing to help. However, I feel with a bit more practice he could make quite a good member of the Association and develop into a promising Welfare Officer! I can assure you it is very handy to have a '4th' man in the area if you are determined to hit a tree.

"I can also recommend the Keith hospital to any members who should need it. Firstly, Dr. Don Walker would be the best stitcher in the game and my ear looks a damn side better than it originally was, since he put it back; it is the only hospital I have ever been in where you can put on weight on the tucker, and if Rosemary could have seen the talent that was looking after me she would have been back off that beach at Alexandra Headlands life a flash. They even staged a couple of decent grass fires at the back of the hospital to entertain the patients. "I should be back at work on Feb. 1 as the ribs and foot are still a bit tender and my new employers do not want me back until I am 100%.

(To be concluded)