

MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE 2/4 INFANTRY BATTALION ASSOCIATION

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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: 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, September 23rd, 1977) Friday, October 28th, 1977

at 8.00 p.m.

At the Gallipoli Memorial Club, 12 Loftus Street, Sydney, N.S.W.

LADIES NIGHT, 1977, held on August 26th, in the extremely comfortable and pleasant atmosphere of the Gallipoli Memorial Club, was another most enjoyable occasion for those who attended. We were pleased and honoured to the company of our Patron, Sir Ivan and his good lady, also that of Lady Mackay, and special mention should be given to Harry and Yvonne PEARCE and George & Heather MITCHELL, their Son Guy and friend, who made the journey from Newcastle especially for the occasion. On the whole attendance was poor, but what we lacked in numbers was made up for in quality and enthusiasm, and once again we owe a big vote of thanks to President Harry, ably assisted by Athol HEATH, for a very well organised and happy evening.

Thanks are also due once again to Heather FOX and Noni BOWMAN, who were responsible for each lady receiving a most attractive floral corsage.

Dick PINSON, Wally and John were once again

in good form and provided their usual brand of jolly entertainment, including a new slant on the handing out of "champers" prizes in the barn dance, and we congratulate the Club's caterer and staff on a very tasty and plentiful supper.

So how about it for next year? Let's try to have a return to the well attended family night, and make a date with your young folk to join you for a good old-fashioned gettogether. Ample notice will be given, and we're sure your effort to attend will be well rewarded.

RETURN TO INGLEBURN - Saturday Aug. 27th, 1977 Was it the weather? Not really, because it was a beautiful day. Was it lack of info.? Not really, because we have been talking about it for months at our meetings, and published details in July and August "W.O.G." with a "Warning Order" in my report in February issue. Was it lack of Directions? - Not really, because Ken KESTEVEN had taken the time and

trouble to make a Recce. of Ingleburn, contact Brigadier Hallissy and the Staff of O.C.T.U. at Bardia Barracks, plus the 2nd Training Group Hospital - get all the necessary approvals, make all necessary arrangements, and then produce a Location Map, plus giving all details in August "W.O.G.".

What was it, then, that kept you away? Golf? Footie? Races? Too much trouble to make the effort? I know that Athol had an unbreakable commitment, Vice President Bill has one of the numerous viruses that are currently readily available, Treasurer Allen had the pleasure? of being involved in a stock taking within his Company that occupied the whole week-end, Assist. Sec. John in Queensland on business but what about those who were enthusiastic when we talked about it but didn't show on the day? Those who came to Ingleburn with wives, families and friends were:

Myself, John COPLAND, Ken KESTEVEN, Arthur KLEEM, Bill KEOUGH, "Tex" DALLOWAY, Ron STENNETT, George COLES, "Scotchy" McCARTNEY, and Jim SIBILANT.

Arthur and his family left Young at 4 a.m., looking forward to the day and to meeting many 2/4thers. So did George, who made the effort from Lithgow. But all those who DID come, whilst making sure that we enjoyed ourselves - AND WE DID - expressed their disappointment in the small roll-up.

Our attendance at Bardia Barracks coincided with the Graduation Parade of No. 25 Course of the O.C.T.U. Officer Cadets. Thanks to Ken KESTEVEN and his liason with Brigadier HALLISSY we had a key position to watch an impressive parade and have our barbeque. Amongst those who graduated was Officer Cadet E. Meindl who topped the Tactic Wing, received the award, and is posted to 4 Bn. R.N.S.W.R. Sir Ivan and Lady DOUGHERTY who were Official Guests of O.C.T.U.for the ceremony later joined our group. We were also visited by members of the O.C.T.U. Staff, plus Leiut. Colonel Phil CAREY, C.O. 4 Bn. R.N.S.W.R., and our old friend W.O.1 Norm HARRIES, who always looks immaculate in uniform.

Ron STENNETT's family group included his wife, son, daughter-in-law, plus "Cindy" an Australian Terrier and "Daisy" a French poodle both sporting White over Green Collars decorated with Campaign Ribbons!!

A great day in the company of great people, and I'm sorry for those who missed it. Thanks Ken, for your wonderful work, and to all those who made the effort.

Harry GJEDSTED.

WE FAREWELL ANOTHER 2/4 JET-SETTER

On Sunday, August 28th, Ferd PEGG and his lovely wife Gwen left Sydney on a well-earned "around the world" trip for approximately 12 months. Ferd visited your Editor to obtain the name and address, blood group and rifle no. of the MacLennan chief in Scotland, where we know Ferd will be given a very hearty welcome. The best wishes of go with Ferd and Gwen for a most enjoyable and interesting trip.

FETE AT LADY DAVIDSON'S HOME.

On Saturday, September 24th, a fete will be held at North Turramurra in aid of the Lady Davidson Home. Having participated in voluntary work there, I know how very important this fete is and we are hoping it will provide some of the aids so badly needed. My daughter Julia and I (and probably Athol) will be on the book and record stall. Please, if you can spare some time, come up and see us - there will be many stalls and voluntary workers staff are working very hard to make the day a big success. The fete opens at 11 a.m. and closes at 3.30 p.m. If anyone on the North side of the Harbour has any old books or record they would care to donate, I will willingly come and collect them. Just ring 451 4466.

Pat HEATH.

LAST CALL FOR WAGGA REUNION - Oct. 1-3 1977

This being the last call for our Country Reunion for 1977, Stan BLACKSLEY reports that everything is under control and in the final wrap up stages for another bumper week-end. The programme is in the printer's hands, so the will be posted to all bookings by the middle of September. Booking received to August 25th are as follows:-

From Sydney Harry & Hilda WRIGHT John COPLAND Vera WALSH Jack & Mrs. DUBBER Mollie IRVINE Harold & Del SILVER Peter & Margaret CADE and family Elsie PARSONS Marjorie McCARTY Cec & Phil CHRYSTAL Sid BUCKLEY Bill SUNDSTROM Sir Ivan DOUGHERTY John & Mrs HAWKINS Harold & Noni BOWMAN

Jack HEANEY

Phil & Glen SMITH Sid & Mrs YOUNG Dick PINSON & Niece Ron BARBER Jim GRAHAM Harry NICHOLLS Bill & Gwen MacLENNAN Ted & Heather FOX Cecil (Slim) POWERS Ted McCAFFERY Ken WEBB Fred HUDSON Ewan WOODS Gladys TWIST Keith & Mrs. McINTOSH Bob and Nina FERGUSON & Son.

R. (Scotchy) McCARTNEY R. (Slim) VENN and Wife From Newcastle: Bill WHITE Audrey WRIGHT George & Heather MITCHELL Cliff & Aileen CURRAN Alf & Marj CARPENTER From Brisbane: Tom & Vera PROVIANS From Victoria: Hugh & Doris BURGDORF Stan CARPENTER Jack & Beryl SHERIDAN Gordon ROBBINS Vic & Gwen EASON Norm & Verna GILLESPIE From A.C.T. Frank & Enid CRUTCHETT Roy & Mrs FINDLAY Jack & Joan HUSTON From South Australia: Peter & Pat DENVER Tom & Dot HART & Party From N.S.W. Country: W. & Mrs. REID, Kamarah Jac. & Phil ORMISTON, Cowra Ted HARRIS, Cowra, Esca RIORDAN, Kempsey Jim & Jean FORMAN, Warragamba Frank FRIZELLE, Taree Chic & Dot SLEEMAN, Warragamba Alan & Carma KIRK, Lismore Ian & Mrs. WALLWORK, Iluka E.L. (Bub) & Mrs. Graham, Bowraville Leo & Eileen LYNCH & family, Grafton. Ron & Alma CHAPMAN, Grafton Arthur & Mrs. KLEEM, Young Ron & Mrs STENNETT, Young Ray & Mrs. WOODS, Young Arch & Eileen LEWINGTON, Corowa Wal & Noni TAYLOR & Family, Cootamundra George & Jean MOORE & party, Mollymook Vince & Ellen BOWMAN, Warialda Peter FOSTER, Tamworth O. ed) SWADLING, Griffith From Wagga & District Stan & Cath BLACKSLEY Roy & Bev. MOORES Bill & Mrs COSIER Joe & Mrs. WELLS Perc & Betty DALLA Jock CUMMINS Bob & Enid JACKSON Bruce STEWART Pat & Pat SYDENHAM Barry HALE Stan expects at least another 30 bookings, but

Stan expects at least another 30 bookings, but if your name does not appear above, you intend to go, but have not already done so, send your deposit off to Stan C/- Humula Post Office, 2654 immediately. For instance how can we possibly have a Mortar reunion without Tom Mort, Fred TAYLOR, Larry DOOLEY, Billy PANTER, Baldy THOMAS, Paul BROOK, Lindsay POPE, etc.? And where are you Claude RAYMOND, Frank SADLER, Bully HAYES, Bill POPLIN, Vince QUINN, Lou DUBBER, etc.??? Get off your "Kybers" and get booked! See you there!

WELFARE REPORT (As at August 26th, 1977)

Members visited in Hospital since last report are as follows:-

NX 5266 <u>WILLIAMS, H.</u> Heart tests. Discharged NX 6514 <u>MAIDENS, V.</u> Heart & kidney troubles Discharged.

NX 37974 LOFTS, Cedric. Heart trouble. Transferred to St. Vincents.

NX 5460

REYNOLDS, John. In for another op.

Mrs. Reynolds rang - Johnny has been discharged 8th Aug. just in time for his birthday on the 9th. He had his last birthday in the Masonic Hospital at Ashfield. I rang John today - he is not feeling all that well. Is to report for further tests next week. Sent regards to all.

NX 31263 SANDISON, George, of Lidcombe.

Insisted on giving Mrs. Walsh his association subs. Has now been transferred to Lady Davidson Home and is making good progress.

NX 5266 WILLIAMS S. Now discharged.

NX 28429 BUTCHER, W. Hernia op., also has slight Parkinson's disease. Joined the Bn. after Crete.

NX 41882 FENSOM, Stan. In for re-check. Discharged.

NX 9829 LAING, Graham. Lives at Norfolk Island only comes to the mainland when he needs Repat treatment. Has hip trouble

NX 13386 FRANCIS, George "D" Coy. P.W. Germany - in for gall bladder op.

NX 14376 WILSON, Leonard, R. from Gosford. Was "A" Coy. then in cook house. In for tests.

4 Bn. (1914-18)

66084 WOOLER, William. Heart condition - not too bad and very cheerful Bill is only 77 years old! Discharged.

2134 CHUDLEIGH, John. Very bad skin cancer John is 89 years old and was wounded at Lone Pine on 11 Aug. 1915. Both ear drums shattered. Very brave and cheerful.

DUCKWORTH, Edward. Hernia. Discharged.

DAVIES, Ernest A. Skin cancer and grafts - due for discharge 23.8.77.

OTHER WELFARE NEWS

NX 5151 KEOUGH, W.I. Bill rang 23.7.77

He has been in R.G.H. but as his name never appeared on the computer lists none of us saw him. He broke his neck at Haifa, diving into shallow water and has not been right since. Has had several spinal ops, and now his right arm is useless. Nothing more can be done except to keep on taking pain killers. Also has had two coronaries and ulcer trouble. In spite of all

this he was determined to come to the Ingleburn Barbecue by train and Cab. However, I rang our stalwart Ron STENNETT, who is only too happy to call for Bill. Thanks, Ron.

MATRON FALL, - 2/1 A.G.H. Lady Mackay rang on Aug. 1st to say that Matron Fall had been transferred to Coorabel Rehabilitation Hospital, Ryde. She had spinal surgery at R.G.H. and a couple of angina attacks. However, yesterday she told me she was due to go home today. She has made a remarkable recovery and is most grateful for visits by us. A brave and gracious lady.

MRS. FINNIGAN. Larry Dooley's mother is at Lady Davidson making slow progress. Dick and Enid LATIMER have kept in touch with her. Larry told me this morning they expect her to be there another three months.

NX 9874 LATIMER, R.W. Dick has been in Newcastle for the past week for further investigation by a specialist. Enid reports that results are encouraging and optimistic. Dick due home 27.8.77.

Len SMITH of Parramatta, who is one of our Hospital teams, has had a couple of weeks laid up at home with this strange new virus. Now fit again and ready to get back on the hospital job.

NX 60606 JACKETT, G.W. Cec Chrystal reports that Graham entered hospital recently and is not a well man. We wish him all the best for a speedy recovery and return home.

THE LAST POST SOUNDS FOR A TOP SOLIDER AND FRIEND

On Sunday, August 28th, we received the sad news that the fight for life of NX 46527, J.K.CHASELING had come to an end. I asked Esca RIORDAN, as our North Coast Vice President, to report on his wonderful send-off.

Esca wrote as follows:-

"Firstly, I must apologise for not being in contact more regularly, but news has been very scarce. However, this news is on a very sad note, as I am reporting the passing of one of our very well known and esteemed members in the person of Jack CHASELING of Kyogle. Jack had a nature and personality that endeared him to all those who had the pleasure of knowing him. He was born in Kyogle, lived there all his life and loved his town. He was an active citizen in a number of the town's organisations - particularly the R.S.L. Movement, of which he was made a Life Member in He has been an active member of the committee which organised the annual get together of the 2/4th boys in Lismore each November. He was one of those who was always ready to assist his fellow man when in need. His family ties were very strong and he has a very closely knit family.

"Jack was laid to rest in Kyogle on Tuesday after a packed service in the Church of England and the number of 2/4th boys who were in attendance from all parts of the Coast were sufficient tribute to the respect in which Jack was held. Those present included Bill & Gwen MacLENNAN, Jim & Glad BROWN, Tom & Freda CLARKE, Leo & Eileen LYNCH, Jack & Joyce LISTER, Ron and Vera ELLEM, Ian & Edna WALLWORK, Bob & Dawn GARDNER, Tim & Aislie LAMOND, Chas HOOD, Edie SLADE, Alan KIRK, Aimee FACEY, Aub PRIEST, Roy KINGSLEY, Tom PROVIANS, Bruce CORK, Jack HUGHES, Mick ANTONELLI, Max NERNEY, Roy ANDREWS, Fred VARLEY, Doug STEBBING, Frank (Pom) WALLACE, Doug GROVES, Bernie SHOOBRIDGE, "Chub" CROSTH-WAITE, Bill PACEY, Horrie CAMERON, Vince SLADE, Jack REYNOLDS, Mick GREEN, Norm McINTYRE and myself. Apologies were received from Harry DOWLING, Sam HUGHES and Gordon CAMPBELL. Esca RIORDAN."

We extend our love and sympathy to Jack's lovely wife Joan and her fine family,
Vale Jack.

Bill MacLENNAN.

NEWCASTLE NEWS. Jim Sherritt reports as follows:

"Our monthly get together was held at the Walls-end R.S.L. on August 12th. Those who were able to attend were Alf & Marj CARPENTER, George and Heather MITCHELL with son Guy, who was enjoying a short leave from Ingleburn camp, Harry & Yvonne PEARSE, Cliff & Aileen CURRAN, Jim & Mona SHERRITT with son-in-law and daughter Bill & Roberta BURGESS.

"Word was received from Bill WHITE that he was attending to Legacy matters at Lightning Ridge, also Audrey WRIGHT who was holidaying in Queensland. Quite a few of those present indicated that they would be attending Ladies' Night and the Bar B Q on the 28th and 29th. Also names were taken for bookings to be for to Stan for the Wagga Reunion.

"All local members are well and send their kindest regards Jim SHERRITT."

LEGION OF FRONTIERSMEN

Further to my call for recruits for the Legion I wish to report that whilst the response has been fairly slow, the quality of the recruits interested include some outstanding names of our Battalion. Whilst in all attempts at an effort such as this, one will always get the expected knockers and stirrers, it is gratifying to see that those who have submitted names were class troops during the '39-45 war.

Bill MacLennan.