



# White Cedar 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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**MONTHLY MEETINGS:** Fourth Friday in each month at 8 p.m. at the Gallipoli Memorial Club.

**NEXT MEETING:** Friday, November 24th, 1978

## THE BIOGRAPHY OF SIR IVAN DOUGHERTY

After some disappointment and some real tragedy we are pleased to announce that the manuscript is now in the hands of the Publisher, and it is confidently expected that the Biography will be available to you before Anzac Day, 1979.

We mentioned disappointment. We had hoped, no, expected is nearer the mark, a grant from the Federal Government to assist in producing such a worthwhile contribution to Literature, but unfortunately our expectations did not materialise.

Tragedy we have had a-plenty. The first person to offer to be Author — Major Paul Deschamps M.C. ex 2/13 (Aust. Inf. Bn. and G.S.O.2 to Field Marshall Sir William Slim (then commanding 14th Army Burma), passed away before he could commence the Biography.

After Paul's untimely death, one of his life-long friends, Lt. G.H. (Tim) Fearnside ex 2/13 and 2/3 Inf. Bns., undertook the authorship. Tim had completed 10 chapters when he suffered a heart attack and also passed away.

By this time, besides being sad beyond description, we were also afraid the biography we had planned for so long was a thing of the past.

Some people say miracles don't happen, but now we believe otherwise. When our prospects of completing the Sir Ivan Dougherty Biography project looked blackest, another life-long friend

of Paul Deschamps and Tim Fearnside, and an author in his own right, offered his services.

Lt. Ken Clift, D.C.M., ex 16 Inf. Bde.Sigs., 2/1 Inf. Bn and 1 Aust. Parachute Bn., undertook the herculean task of becoming co-author. You can imagine — or can you — the enormity of the task of taking over in mid stream and adapting your own style of writing to that of another author? Ken has done just that, and we feel — as we are sure you will — that this book is unique and a magnificent addition to our War Histories.

The things that make this Biography so different are firstly the calibre of the subject and the esteem in which he is held by all who have known him; secondly it is written about one of our greatest Infanteers by co-authors, both of whom were Infanteers with service records of which the majority of us can only be envious.

Gentlemen, the Biography is being edited by Col. A.W. Sheppard M.C. ex 2/4 Inf. Bn. and 6 Div. HQ, a very distinguished soldier and literary critic. We feel sure you will want to add this book to your library.

-----Dick Latimer.

## A REPORT ON THE BIOGRAPHY BY THE COMMITTEE PRESIDENT

Since my last report we have had a number of meetings, and I now report progress to date.

1. Ken Clift has been working very hard tying up the loose ends,



arranging for photographs, a further 20 of which I had to get from the War Memorial in Canberra. Jack Huston organised these, and has been a great help with this Biography.

2. Col. Alex Sheppard M.C. has agreed to be the publisher of the book and has already had interviews with Ken Clift and attended a committee meeting.

3. We are very close to getting a title and feel that the one we come up with will be ideal and a pleasure to all.

4. You will be dismayed to learn that we did not get the \$1,000 grant from the War Memorial but we are going into the finance very carefully. We have discussed the price of the book and have had quotes from various printers, and can now state that it will sell at \$16.00 per copy, plus \$2.50 for postage. The book will be available for purchase and pick up from the Gallipoli Club, in which case the postage will not apply.

5. The book flaps have been written by Ken Clift who has done a wonderful job on these as well as the whole of the book since he has taken over.

There is nothing much else I can tell you at the moment, but feel sure you will all be more than pleased with the end result. Incidentally I regret not arriving at Lismore and giving a full report on this Biography, but since have had a visit to hospital and hope now to be right.

Cec Chrystal.

#### ANNUAL LISMORE CHRISTMAS DINNER

##### CHANGE OF VENUE.....CHANGE OF DATE

Far North Coasters and travellers are advised that the venue for the annual Far North Coast reunion has been switched from the R.S.L. Club to the EAST LISMORE BOWLING CLUB, and the date has been put forward to Saturday, December 9th. Please contact Allan Kirk at 179 Dibbs Street (Phone 066 214464) re your intentions as early as possible. A total of 80 voted last year's smorgasbord at the Bowling Club the best ever served at a Lismore function. So be in it — the caterer has promised this one will be even better.

Fred Varley has written to say that the R.S.L. Club jumped the gun and on a later check it was found that they would have to share the night with dinner by candlelight starters — hence the switch of venue and date. Do hope you get a good roll-up this year Fred Allan.

#### WELFARE REPORT as at 27th October 1978

The one and only member actually seen in hospital since our last report was —

NX 2055 HONNERY, A.W. Athol was only in for a few days for a check-up.

NX 5151 KEOUGH, W. Bill rang to tell me he had been in R.G.H. for three days for a carpal tunnel operation on one hand. Now home again — has to report back to specialist next week.

It may be that patients are now being referred to their local hospitals rather than to Concord. Should this be so we shall have to rely on families or friends to let us know. With all our helpers we are able to visit most hospitals. BUT we MUST be told. Please ring me — I have a comprehensive list of willing helpers.

NX 5911 BOWEN, Stan. Bob Lever of Glenbrook, a recent addition to our team, called on Stan at the Q.V. Hospital at Wentworth Falls and found him well and cheerful. Bob has reported as follows:-

*I visited Stan at Queen Victoria Hospital on Sunday 15th October. He is in Ward 10A. He said it is a good, comfortable billet, the*

*food and accommodation is good and they get a beer issue about three times per week. We had a yarn for a while about the Lismore re-union as to whom I saw there.*

*'I took him some fruit and tobacco papers, which he appreciated. I will be going to see him again in a fortnight, and he has my address and phone no. in case he should need anything.*

*'Stan said that his brother sometimes takes him home on weekends, so I told him to drop in at my place on the way through if they have time.*

*'Will keep you posted on his condition from time to time. He reports that his 'White Over Green' has been very intermittent in reaching him, so if it was sent to Ward 10A, Queen Victoria Hospital, Wentworth Falls, it should get there.*

*Yours sincerely, Bob Lever.'*

(Ward 10A has been added to Stan's addressograph plate, so we hope he gets better service in future .....Ed)

#### LAST POST

NX 11144 McGRATH, J. Joe died suddenly on Wednesday morning, October 25th, while playing golf, and his funeral took place two days later with mass at St. Clements, Dee Why, thence to Northern Suburbs Lawn Cemetery. It was impossible for me to get there, but Bill Parry attended as also did Mick Gray. The Dee Why Sub Branch Welfare Officer conducted the R.S.L. Service.

Our deepest sympathy is offered to Joe's wife Ina and his family.

John Copland.

#### IN THE MAILBAG

From JIM WHITAKER to ATHOL HEATH:

*'This is to notify you that I have had a change of address — have moved south a thousand miles or so, so any correspondence can be sent to 73 Gladstone Road, Sadliers Crossing, Ipswich. It will certainly make a difference for any Sydney Anzac Days or Country re-unions I attend. I've left Jack Reynolds up on the Atherton Tableland to hold the fort, also Chris White in Gordonvale — at the moment overseas.*

*'Hope the Lismore re-union was enjoyed by all. I was at the last one held there some years back. Hope to attend a few more now. Cheers to all and best wishes.'*

From HUGH BURGDORF, Pascoe Vale, Vic., to BILL and GWEN MACLENNAN

*'Sorry we couldn't have had a good talk at the re-union as you had to get away early, but you both appeared to be your jovial selves and HEALTHY — that's the main thing.*

*'We were at Coff's Harbour for a few weeks and the Harts called in on us when heading south. Had a great time at Lismore, as I'm sure all who attended did. A great show, and a credit to all concerned.*

*'Good to see a new Mortar face in Jim McLaughlin there, and Alf Schweitzer, Pom Wallace, and Len Hart — all of whom I hadn't seen since we were de-mobbed.*

*'When talking to Paul Brooke he told me Tim Ellis was at Dorrigo, so contacted him, and a lunch with him and his wife Pat eventuated at Dorrigo Bowling Club. Another first meeting for us since the war. Both are well and we had plenty to talk about.*

*'On our way home we had the last Saturday evening and Sunday with Max & Pat Sydenham. Both are well and were sorry to have not*



been at Lismore, but we gave them a resume as best we could. We had a lovely week-end at Wagga and it completed a good holiday for us both.

*'Back to the grind on the Monday, but hope to be out of the rat-race by February. Will ring Norm Gillespie and Len Hill at the week-end — both are going alright and in good health. Len was in Cairns last week, so should have something to talk about.*

*'Guess that's all for now — the best of health and happiness to all from self and Doris.'*

(Hope to see something of you in Sydney early in your retirement, mate. Meanwhile we look forward to more from the 'Burgdorf Bugle' ..... Bill MacL.)

From BOB LEVER Glenbrook, to BILL MacLENNAN:

*'Received a reply to my letter to West Australia last week. He thanked me for the photos and letter, then went on to mention a few names of 2/4 members he knew. They were Ray Robinson, Por Porky Holland, George and Norm Catts, the late 'Uncle' Jim Hardie, Norm MacIntyre and Danny Karanges.*

*'I wonder if you could put a small item in W.O.G. saying that Les Shand, late 2/11 Bn. 19 Bde. H.Q., sends his regards to those of the above who are still with us.'*

From BUB GRAHAM, Bowraville, to BILL MacLENNAN:

*'I have a little bit of news for you which I should have sent to you last week. After the Lismore do I took a little holiday and part of it I had at Narrabri where I spent Sunday night with Snow and Linda Lovelee who have just moved into a beautiful new home. Snow has had a clot to his heart and has slowed to a walk.*

*'I twice visited Murray Naismith in hospital, where he has been for more than eleven months, and he is a very, very — I repeat, very sick man. He is mindful of the fact that he will not get well. His son was with him when we went in — he is a chip off the old block.*

*'Also saw George Frater who was going through the hospital — also went up and saw Ron Witt. He looks well, is still working at the Flour Mill. He said to tell Jackie Dubber not to get too old before he carries out his ambition.*

*'Linda Loveless sees Murray each day. She wrote a few months ago regarding Murray, and as he reads W.O.G. she was very disappointed that there was no mention of him. She sent it to the Treasurer with Snow's Life Membership, and would like this acknowledged in next W.O.G. if possible.*

*'That's about all. Had a very good time at Lismore. Took Norm MacIntyre back to Brisbane on our way North. Went prepared as there was a Beer strike, so took an Eskey and a couple of cartons of Cold Gold.*

*'If you cannot read this, come up and see the Missus and she will read it for you.'*

(That won't be necessary, Bub, thanks to Margaret for the good typing job she did. Sorry Snow Lovelee's subscription has not been acknowledged yet in W.O.G. — it obviously has been received since the last 'Cash Register' was published — no doubt our Substantive Treasurer will produce another one shortly. We are also very sad to hear of Murray Naismith's ill health and send him our sincere good wishes for all the comfort and happiness life can hold for him. ....Bill MacL.)

#### A SPECIAL MESSAGE FOR OVERSEAS TRAVELLERS

Planning a trip to Europe, with the prospect of doing some driving while you're there? The 'Open Road' journal of the NRMA recently published a brief glossary of German motoring terms.

Perhaps it'll help you:

INDICATORS ....Die Blinkenlighten mit tickenfurturnen  
EXHAUST PIPE ....Das Spitzenpoppen bangen tuben.  
SPEEDOMETER ....Der Egobooster und Lineshootinbackeruppen  
CLUTCH ...Das Kupplinverk mit Schlippen und Schitcken  
AIR HORNS .... Der Vhatderhellvosdat Klaxonfanfaren  
PUNCTURE ... Das Pflatt mit Dammundblasten  
LEARNER DRIVER ....Dumkopff mit Elplatz

**COCK'S COLUMN** (Via Lismore, from our Roving Reporter Tom Provians — our worthy Queensland Vice-President)

LONG distance traveller, Russ McWilliam, N.T. down on holidays for a couple of months and in the pink. Also Peter (S.A. Vice-President) and Pat Denver, who are regulars, all the way from Hindmarsh Island S.A., specially for the 'Do' report all is well down their way including family — particularly new grandson. Peter had all but a couple of copies of 'Bee's Weekly Buzz', which interested Ted Fox and Tom Provians greatly and 'B' Coy. wallahs can look forward to some extracts in W.O.G. Peter reckons 'Blah' wouldn't stand the strain of a 'D.' without him!

Esca Riordan in the pink after his overseas tour, accompanied his lovely new wife, Beb, on the scene — that bloke MUST have something more than that yellow waggon going for him. Cheers to both of them.

Alf Carpenter, accompanied by Marg, noted keeping a 'weather eye' on proceedings — as was Harry Pearse — these Newcastle boys probably having the next one on their hands don't intend to miss any tricks.

Perc Dalla (Wagga) his usual self and Betty keeping a 'weather eye' on him. Reckons he can't afford to be in the coop too long as it is too late and costly, and not worth the effort to split the double bed down the middle!

Jack & Phil Ormiston (Cowra) regular re-unionites — Jack is a master of the art of building stone walls — given time, Phil reckons Jack has a new invention called a two-way toilet — his words.

Ian & Edna Wallwork (Iluka) could only stay the one night — playing bowls as President in that country. Ian reckons he has always been 'Mod' with his see thru hair cut

Herb Hoather is thriving in his cabbagepatch on the bank of the river at South Ballina. Fancy him sneaking out of the auditorium while the lights were out. He could have walked like a crab without too much notice being taken any way.

Snow Moores (Gorokin) starts the day with a pint to keep his bowls on bias. He is the local Coach these days — probably he starves them into submission.

Cuddly Corner at the New Olympic was seen to contain our Girls Elsie Parsons, Marj McCarthy, Mollie Irvine and Vera Walsh — hence all the complaints about the noise....? Elsie and Marj ducked the pre-arranged drivers at the station by getting off the train and shooting out the back way — they MUST have paid their way surely! Elsie Bradford was also present, and her means of arrival are not questioned.

David MacGillivray and wife performed the same act, however was forgiven, and was able to hitch a ride with Bonny Hutton to Broadbeach on the Gold Coast where they have a daughter.

Norm MacIntyre's donation of \$50 towards the cost of the band was very much appreciated by Allan and Co. Norm also was agreed assistance on the Reception desk. However, he reckons he got touched when he bought some left over cans from Max nerney (Urbenville), who devious routes arrived back just in time to help him drain them. Max has been having one of those runs lately and will probably have to join the ranks on the Service pension. Nobody has earned a rest more, as we all know the timber game is not easy.



Harry and Hilda Wright (Carlingford) on tour again. Harry has joined the ranks of the 'Choko Pickers'. For the uninitiated he plays midweek bowls.

Peter McWilliam arrived unexpectedly — booked into the same room as Russ — played the drunk on the floor and was nearly booted out by the brother he hadn't seen for ten years. They had two reunions — and how!

Young George Sugden (Tamworth) had seen Nick Allardice, who had recently undergone an op. but is O.K. again. George is a ball of muscle at 75 years young — his words also.

Tom Clarke wants news of Stan Sutherland and now has his address so we will leave the matter to them.

Claude (Vic. Vice-President) and Nan Raymond proceeding to daughter in Brisbane, then driving leisurely home.

Hugh & Doris Burgdorf also up from Victoria, and Ern Mackie also in evidence. Claude reports news of Ken & Rosemary Moses.

Tom & Dot Hart (Adelaide) drove up via Broken Hill and were proceeding leisurely home via Melbourne. Have seen Sar.Maj.Robbie and Millie, who send best wishes to all.

Aub Priest (Bonalbo) now the 'Tired' retired saddler shot off to Mallanganee to Centenary Celebrations — not to carry out any particular duty known — probably some weight lifting with 10 oz. per.

Vic & Dot Pike located in Caravan Park, as were Harry & Ada Whitman and Vic & Dot Forbes. The Pike flat at Lower Macdonald availed of by the Provians and Shingles on tour immediately after Lismore, and thoroughly appreciated. Vic & Dot are much appreciative of the help Harold and Del Silver gave them to clean up after the disastrous flood in their area.

Leo and Eileen Lynch (Grafton) and family on deck as usual. The retired gent advises that he has his own cabbage patch — remote from Herb's.

Harry & Ada Whitman proceeding to Victoria by bus to a friend's wedding and then returning to the good country!

Norm & Wilma Johnston have installed the family in their News-agency and were at Lismore for a break — strenuous job after retiring from the Bank days — however, coping well.

Dick Pinson, to Irene's delight, is not blowing his trumpet much these days and taking things easy. Ted McCaffery reckons he shakes too much and too hard!

Noticed Slim Powers checking the joint out — must have passed inspection as Slim says he will be back.

Frank Frizelle (Taree) gave the parade a once-over, and his decision far too much surplus in the middle ranks.

Ted Harris (Cowra) reports Tim West tied up in the political field as a candidate for Young in the State Elections.

Noted regulars with Ted were Ken Webb (Toukley) and compatriot Ted McCaffery performing their usual function of sampling the local brew — passes their standards too, ably assisted by Jack Heaney

Tom Gorman was engrossed in the scenery on a recent visit to Wrest Point, until his better half discovered it was the shapely attendant at the Pool table and NOT the game that was the subject of his attention.

Bonny Hutton (Gold Coast) linked up with Bill Burton (Oakey, Q'ld) Bill had never been to a reunion before and wont miss again. Neither regret having swollen jaws on the Monday — the compensation was well gargled throats.

Laurie & Evelyn McCosker (Brisbane) are regular attenders, and have been for years. Laurie is not so convinced that the march was of such a high standard that Ev had to slip over in the road channel — the

'Do' hadn't even started!

Noted attending to Reception Desk on Friday and Saturday were the smiling faces of Norm MacIntrye, Harry Wright, Jack Hughes, Fred Varley and Doug Stebbings, who were occasionally assisted by Allan Kirk and Tom Provians. Information on the grapevine is that a Mr. T New ably assisted the smiles, though an occasional Old or Resch's were in evidence.

Carma Kirk has to be congratulated on the layout of the tables for the dinner — especially the floral arrangements — hear, hear Carma thanks Joan Hughes, Hilda Wright, Vera Provians and Mrs. Myers for their assistance.

Allan Kirk and his gang of renown, aliases Fred Varley, Doug Stebbings, Mel McInnes, Jack Lister, Roy Andrews, Leo Lynch, Jack Hughes and company wore smiles to suit the occasion of having catered for the largest number ever — all or nothing for those far North-Coast W.O.Gs they say.

Bub & Margaret Graham were guests of Allan & Carma, as were the Hughes family, and Bub was able to go back a few years by being in the reception party to Sir Ivan at Casino Airport — to the days when he was Doc's driver and the occasion when, new to syphoning petrol, Bub had to be driven for treatment by that Gentleman himself!

Also in that party were Wink & Win Walker, Laurie McCosker and Harry Wright — alas, not enough passengers. Not to worry, dinner provided by Bob Wighton, President of Lismore R.S.L. Club, was enjoyed on return.

Notable early arrival Ned Kenna V.C. soon became engulfed in the local hospitality. Ned was on hand with the assistance of our 'polly' Jim Brown — who unfortunately couldn't be there himself — and we are sure that Club Manager, Ken Fuller, and his staff made his journey well worth while.

President Harry Gjedsted and Cec Chrystal were two notable absentees and we wish them both a return to good health.

News also has it that Allan Kirk's rum pouring has the quantity of Swaddo and his whisky. A recent Interstate and local committeeman can vouch for that — ensures good sleeping!

Chris and Pat White, recent callers into Brisbane on way home to Gordonvale, N. Q. after extensive overseas tour, report there is no place like home sweet home.

Jack Reynolds reports Jim Whitaker moving camp from Atherton to the coastal pastures of Hervey Bay — Queensland also.

Tourists Harry and Hilda Wright have been far north, sampling the sunshine and scenery of the Sunshine State.

Thanks to Norm and Jean Everson (Manly, Q'ld) for attendance and flowers at the funeral of Bill Anderson. Bill had been in Caboolture RSL Home for fifteen years and had only an elderly brother in Victoria, who was unable to be present.

Duncan Russell was buried privately in Brisbane, having passed away on Sept. 10th. Queensland Vice. P. has been, and will, keep in touch with May and family.

Wal and Betty McKenzie are trying their hand at farming at Chinchilla, Q'ld., helping out for the family. What about some news of your escapades for W.O.G., folks?

Joe Blow Snow and Bobbie Wells (Temora) were away quite early, hoping for some fine weather to harvest — do hope you have had good luck, folks.

Notable absentees AFTER Saturday night at Lismore were Senior Vice President Bill MacLennan and Gwen. Bill did a good job in Harry's stead at the dinner, but unfortunately had pressing commitments which necessitated their early return to the 'Big smoke'

**INFORMAL CHRISTMAS GET-TOGETHER.** In lieu of the December meeting, your Committee invites all members of the Association to call at the Gallipoli Club with wives and families on Friday, December 16th at 5 p.m. for an informal Christmas drink. See you there!