



# White Water 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.)

35th YEAR OF CONTINUOUS PUBLICATION

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## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – Friday 22nd February, 1980 at 8 p.m.

The 1980 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE 2/4th Infantry Battalion Association will be held at the Gallipoli Memorial Club, 12-14 Loftus Street, Sydney at 8 p.m. on Friday, 22nd February.

### BUSINESS:

1. To confirm the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting.
2. To receive and consider the Annual Reports.
3. To receive and consider the Accounts and Balance Sheets for the year ended December 31st, 1979.
4. To elect Office Bearers for 1980.
5. To elect an Honorary Auditor.
6. General Business.

Athol Heath – Hon. Sec.

### THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

In presenting to you my first Annual Report as your President, as the year draws to a close let me re-cap some of the events which have taken place during this period.

Firstly, though not necessarily in chronological order, we had the launching of Sir Ivan Dougherty's biography on April 11th at a very enjoyable function at the Gallipoli Club, and I must add that sales of the book have gone extremely well. To this end we have to thank the late Dick Latimer for the original idea, and Cec Chrystal and

his Committee for steering the whole project through to its successful conclusion.

I approached Anzac Day with a certain amount of trepidation, for the thought of leading the 2/4th Battalion for the first time was quite an awesome one. However, the Battalion presented extremely well on the march as usual, resulting in lots of compliments from the T.V. and radio. Back at the Gallipoli Club for the dinner, we all received an initial fright when Sir Ivan suffered a dizzy spell and was whizzed off to hospital for a check-up under the care of Peter Cade. Peter saw 'Doc' home, and we were all relieved to know that his set back was short lived.

During the official portion of the Anzac Day dinner, Life Memberships were presented to Dick Pinson, Peter Denver, and the late Tom Provians. Unfortunately Russ McWilliam was not able to be present to receive his award. Honorary Memberships of the Association were presented for the first time to Harold Silver, Gordon Maitland and Norm Harries, all of whom were most happy to receive them.

The Annual Church parade of the Association of 4th Inf. Bns. was held at St. Anne's Church of England, Strathfield, on July 1st, and whilst representation of our Association was pretty weak, it was another successful



function, where I presented our Unit Medal to Lieut. Col. Hallinan.

In my absence from Ladies' Night on September 14th, the function was handled very efficiently by our Senior Vice-President, Ted Fox, and our Secretary, Athol Heath, approximately 60 people attending — all of whom having a very good night.

The last function of the year was the Newcastle Country Re-union, hosted by Alf Carpenter and Jim Sherritt and their able Committee, backed by their wives. This was, to say the least, another most enjoyable Re-union — the weather was good and the company better. I take this opportunity of commending to you Canberra and Frank Crutchett for the next Re-union to be held there in October of this year.

My wife and I had the pleasure of attending — along with approximately 60 members and their wives - the Annual Dinner at Lismore in December, ably chaired by our Far Northern Rivers Vice-President, Allan Kirk. A very jolly night in convivial company which I recommend to anyone passing that way next December.

Late in the year I handed over the job of Editor of 'White Over Green' to Bob Fergusson, M.M., and I must say that whilst I received a lot of pleasure and gained a lot of knowledge from doing the job, I was quite relieved — after a period of nine years — to be able to relinquish the responsibility in favour of one in whom we had every confidence. Bob has already proved to be most efficient and dedicated in the job — ably supported by his 'Beaut Bird' typist, Nina. I hope the printer doesn't finally give you a heart attack, Bob.

Looking back, 1979 has been another bad year for our 'Last Post' Parade — we have lost some very old and dear friends in our Battalion Association. To their wives and families we have extended our deepest sympathy. To those who are sick in hospital or at home, I wish you all a speedy recovery; to all members generally, I hope to see as many on parade on Anzac Day as is possible — in fact more of your presence at monthly meetings would be very much appreciated.

As your retiring President, I wish you all good health and happiness in the 1980s.

Bill MacLENNAN President.

### THE SECRETARY'S REPORT

You will already have read the President's Report and he, I am sure, has covered anything topical, current and worth comment. My report is in the nature of a request.

No doubt many members have wondered in the past what had happened to cheques forwarded to me for various commitments, why hadn't said cheques been presented? The reason for this delay is that your worthy Treasurer, Allen Lindsay, does the banking for the Association and we only meet once a month — hence the delay. My request is that in future all subscriptions, etc. be sent direct to the Treasurer - unless otherwise directed. The same applies to Welfare and Editorial matter. To save a lot of time and double handling please forward same to the

the Welfare Officer or Editor.

My second request is relative to Anzac Day. In the past a percentage of our members have made a habit of paying subs. buying histories, plaques, etc. on this day, which keeps some of us very busy, and as a consequence we are not able to join the early conviviality. I for one miss seeing quite a few blokes I would like to have a yarn to and a drink with. Please give us a go and allow us to enjoy this special occasion, as you do, by paying your subs. etc. beforehand. Athol HEATH, Hon. Secretary.

### WELFARE REPORT at 25th January, 1980

NX 5911 BOWEN, Stan. Bob LEVER keeps in touch. Stan was able to go home for Christmas and is doing well.

NX 25308 PINSON, R.J. Dick now recovered. It was not a heart attack as at first advised. Dick had a stoppage of a food duct. This has now cleared up.

NX 6922 O'TOOLE, Ron. Was back in RGH.. Then TRANSFERRED TO Gladesville Psychiatric Hospital. He has responded to treatment. Hopes to be discharged soon.

NX 2038 SYMONS, F. RGH 120. Middle ear trouble and loss of balance. Fred (from Cobar) is now discharged.

NX 5085 SCULLY, C.K.M. RGH 120. Nerves and abdominal checks. Discharged.

NX 4012 KESTEVEN, K.L. Ken suffered a slight stroke. Was in the MATER Hospital. Now home and well. Ken has been ordered two months of complete rest.

NX 9824 HEATH, A. Athol has had another ulcer attack. Now back on the job. Expects to enter RGH early Feb. for surgery.

ALEXANDER, T.C. RGH 7 Tom lives at Graithwaite Red Cross Hospital is back at RGH. Not at all well.

HANSEN, Charles. Charlie is the popular saxophonist in Dick Pinson's orchestra and the expert twirler of bottles of champagne at our social functions. He has been in Hospital with a heart attack. Dick reports that Charlie is now all right.

NX 9868 RAYMONT, R. Ron was on leave when visited in Lady Davidson Convalescent Home Christ WHITE from Gordonvale, Queensland, missed seeing him.

### 4 BN. (1914—18)

COLLINS, Albert R. RGH 8. Slight stroke, recovering well. A very cheerful and young 84. Bert belongs to the Kogarah R.S.L. He says he was doing too much, mowing lawns etc....

JOHN COPLAND



## FROM QUEENSLAND'S ROVING REPORTER

The 1970's which brought both joy and sadness to many of us have now passed. May health and continued mateship be our wish for the new decade.

Our Queensland WOGS ever a close-knit let, met or get in touch over the Festive Season and did their good deeds for their less fit mates. Wally and Betty MacKENZIE picked up Bill SUMPTER from Ipswich and brought him to the 6th Division breakup. Bill facing life with a great deal of courage. Norm and Jean EVERSON later visited him and Jean shared some of her delicious fare. Jim WHITTAKER is just back from Milla Milla and Rawson's Waterhole, known to many who trained on Atherton Tablelands. Called on Norm MacINTYRE yesterday. Norm has been housebound for six weeks with heart and respiratory troubles. His active brain is doing advanced mathematics to help fill in the days.

The Queensland boys wish to extend to Enid TIMER their deepest sympathy in the loss of her husband, Dick. They appreciated that Dick was always a great force behind the forming of the 2/4th Association and worked very hard for its successful continuance.

My family and I are proud to say there is now a 2/4th plaque on the wall of the Coorporee R.S.L. Club with the words inscribed 'IN MEMORY OF TOM PROVIAN'S'.

Health to all.....Vera PROVIAN'S.

## IN THE MAILBAG

From George SUGDEN to Athol HEATH.

A short note asking for application form covering Greek Medallion. Congratulations to Alfand his team for their great effort at Newcastle. Also to Bob in his Editor's Chair. Very short of 2/4th in this area — Peter FOSTER, Morny PETERS all getting older.... mostly retired. Cheers and all the best for 1980

From Les ADAMS to Athol HEATH.

Just a few lines to let you know that I have changed my address from 180 South Parade to 20 Susan Street, Auburn. After 26 years of growing seedlings, I have to give it away, no option, as the powers that be have decided to build a school on the site. From now on, its bowls, fishing and golf.

All the 2/4ths from Auburn R.S.L. are still going O.K. I don't hear very much from Bunny BURROWS these days. Hooky BOWEN has retired from the Railway and living on the Central Coast. Jock PARKER is still going quietly at Dora Creek. Brian MURPHY, Jimmy SADLER, Charley WALLER are all O.K.

All the best to everyone for 1980. I hope to attend the meetings from now on.

From P. THEODORACOPOULOS, Consul of Greece. Dear Mr. A. Heath, On behalf of the Saint John the Theologian Chapel Trustee Committee I

would like to thank you for your kind donation at the opening ceremony of the Chapel on June 4th, 1979.

I would also like to congratulate you personally for your participation at this patriotic as well as religious function commemorating Greek-Australian bonds forged in the battlefields in Greece during the second World War. His Eminence Archbishop Stylianos Primate of the Greek Orthodox Church in Australia requested us to convey to you his personal thanks and also his blessing.

6th DIVISION MEETING 21.1.80. ...George STACK  
There were 14 members present including Sir Ivan Dougherty. Suggestions from West Australia that Pews donated by various units have colour patches mounted in suitable manner on them. This matter was deferred until Mr. Johnston arrives in April from W.A.

CRETAN WEEK 24th to 31st May, 1980.

Donations Creck Medal	\$1,000.76
	126.00

Bank Bal.as at 31.12.79	<u>\$1,126.76</u>
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Sir Ivan reported that he had spoken to Mr. DOVEY local M.P. re wearing GREEK MEDAL with other Medals and in order of foreign Medals as applied during the war. Mr. DOVEY referred matter to Mr. KILLEN. General Murchison will approach P.M. regarding same as soon as possible.

140 Medals have arrived - mostly for issue to country ex-servicemen. More are expected to arrive in near future.

Presentation Greek Consul? New Constitution for 6th Division? Annual General Meeting, 20th Feb., 7.00 p.m. Discussion, 2nd A.I.F. Council. Floor members not very keen — Papua New Guinea project considered.

## EDITOR'S REPORT

This has to be short because of the necessary end of year reports.

At this time when all positions automatically become vacant, I feel it is advert to bring to your attention the continuing work that has been done over the last thirty five years. Your presence is needed at the Annual General Meeting to show your support for the incoming Executive and Committee. We are looking forward to some new members nominating their services to our Association.

As a free loader for the last thirty five years, I have sat on the side-lines enjoying the fellowship our Association makes possible. It is only on the last several occasions have I become conscious of the work done by our Executive and Committee. The conduct and efficiency of our meetings are of a standard that any professional board meeting would be proud of. I am sure the Association has continued to expand and thrive because of the dedication of the few in the past and present.

It is pleasing to note that attendance at our meetings have increased, noticeably.



A thank you for Tricia HEATH for compiling the Nominal Roll of our members. The twenty five foolscap sheets represented many hours of work on your behalf. Once again, thank you!

It is with regret that we report the passing of Butch WARRAN'S wife. Mrs. Warren had been ill in the Prince Henry Hospital and died on Friday, 1st February.

**DATE TO REMEMBER:**— The Association of 4th Infantry Battalions Annual Church Parade for 1980, will be held at St. Annes Church, Strathfield on Sunday 24th February at 2 p.m. Please make sure the 2/4th Battalion is adequately represented.

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## 2/4TH INFANTRY BATTALION ASSOCIATION

### RECEIPT AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS for the year ended 31st December, 1979

#### GENERAL ACCOUNT

##### RECEIPTS

Bank Balance 1.1.1979		2372
Subscriptions — Members	513	
W.O.G.	918	1431
Functions and Raffles		1507
Donations Received		773
Sales: Ties, Badges etc.		59
Refund: Biography Committee		4000
Bank Interest		87
Proceeds: Battalion Medals		1120

11349

##### PAYMENTS

White Over Green — Printing	1974
do — Postage	638
Classified Advertisements	43
Purchases - Battalion Medals	910
Cost of Functions	192
Postage, Telephone, and Stationery	130
Subscriptions: 6th Div. Assn.	10
do Assn. 4th Bns.	10
Floral Tributes	58
G.H.Fearnside Memorial	100
Bank Balance 31.12.1979	5556
	11349

#### BENEVOLENT ACCOUNT

##### RECEIPTS

Balance 1.1.1979		7832
Bank Account	484	
RSL Building Society	7348	
Sale of Plaques		257
Tin Hat - Anzac Day		101
Interest — Bank	15	
Building Society	338	
Sales of War Histories		35
		8578

W. F. MacLennan — President

#### Auditor's Certificate.

I have examined the books of Account and supporting vouchers of the 2/4th Infantry Battalion Association for the year ended 31st December, 1979. From such examination it is my opinion that the above accounts are full and fair statements of the Association's financial affairs for that period.

##### PAYMENTS

Advance: Biography Committee	3500
Donation Church Pew	130
Hospital Visitations	217
Legacy Donation	20
Balance: 31.12.1979	4711
Bank Account	525
RSL Building Society	4186
	8578

A. F. Lindsay — Hon. Treasurer.

Signed. H.Silver,

Honorary Auditor.