



White Cedar Green

MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE 2/4 INFANTRY BATTALION ASSOCIATION

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NEXT MEETING: Friday, 23rd May, at 8 p.m. at the Gallipoli Memorial Club, Loftus Street, Sydney.

ANZAC DAY – 1980

Once again our Association's most important day of the year has come and gone. Assuredly to most of us it is a day of mixed emotions, indeed how else could it be. The day began as a typical crisp autumn morning, the early rivals witnessed or engaged in the wreath laying ceremony at the Cenotaph. President, Snow Mac LENNAN doing the honours on behalf of the Bn. I find this time honoured ceremony seems to gain in its significance even though our ranks grow thinner.

The march itself was well attended and as usual the Bn presented itself proudly as we have all come to expect. There did appear to be an undue delay before the march, yet this time was spent pleasantly chatting to old comrades. During the march there was an innovative gesture, that of an eyes left to our ladies who have faithfully supported our Association throughout the years. I know this was well received by all. Later, our Ladies attended their own Luncheon and an enjoyable time was had by all.

The Reunion Dinner was a great success. The food was tasty and plentiful, and, it is advert to thank Harry GJEDSTED and all the Staff of the Gallipoli Memorial Club also our Committee men involved in making this

venue possible.

During the dinner the necessary formalities and speeches were ably conducted by our President. Two items of significance, firstly, as previously discussed, the issue of our Banner. The result, decisively to retain our existing Banner. Thank-you Peter COOK and Cec CHRYSTAL for presenting the cases for and against the change. Secondly, the presentation of Life Membership of the Association to two of our most respected soldiers and, in later years, stalwarts of our Association, Ken KESTEVEN and Ted FOX.

As the afternoon proceeded, as can be expected, many memories were stimulated by the presence of old faces and the absence of others. We can count ourselves privileged to enjoy the fellowship of friends welded at times in the violence of our youthful years and now matured in our agedness. So, in all we who are left should regard ourselves as the fortunate from that which we have derived in our experiences over these many years.

Our Anzac Reunion Dinner would not be complete without the presence of our much cared for Patron and ex Bn. Commander, Sir IVAN. We are all aware of his commitments to other echelons of his wartime commands, yet we have grown parochial enough to regard him as the very nucleus of the Bn. in spirit and reality. This is evidenced in

the totality of the men's welcome on every occasion he presents himself at our many functions. Now, on to the second most important event of the year, our Country Reunion. The Canberra Committee are well in to it. A conversation with Jack HUSTON followed with a phone call to Frank CRUTCHETT. These chaps do a lot of hard work preparing our Country Reunion, so as to enable them to expedite their programme, I must emphasize the necessity to send your appropriate deposit to Frank CRUTCHETT, P.O. Box 55, Monaro Crescent, ACT 2603, as soon as possible.

Other items of news, a visit from Alf SCHWEITZER, retired from banana farming, now a keen bowler. Surely, the fittest man in the Bn. He and his wife enjoy the good life on the North Coast. Ted JACKSON was on the scene as always his same convivial self. Consequently three old 'I' Section fellows swapped a few yarns of the past. A letter from Tom MORT, now retired from farming. He is living at Dalmeny on the South Coast. So all you people who have been inquiring as to the whereabouts of Tom, stand easy, he appears to be well and enjoying his new surround, also a keen golfer. Tom, we all wish you and your dear wife a long and happy retirement. We hope to see you both at the Canberra Reunion.

A phone call to Sandy MACNAUGHTON, 'I' Section, still farming at Pokataroo. Despite persistent droughts, floods and the capriciousness of markets, he still manages a cheerful attitude.

Phoned Ken MOSES, his daughter, Gillian, answered and gave me Dad's hospital number. Guess who answered the ward phone? None other than the one and only, CLAUDE, who just happened to be visiting Ken. Good news! Ken was coming home the next day minus a 2½" screw which was taken from his foot (he refused to give me the metric equivalent). Ken, you have had a long and painful time, subsequent to your accident, and we all wish you well. Claude RAYMOND will enclose news re the Bn's Reunion and march in Melbourne in next issue. STOP PRESS..... News just to come to hand re Hugh and Doris BURGDORF. They were taken to hospital after a car accident. Both received broken ribs and bruises. Doris left hospital that day but Hugh had to remain — he was under observation for possible spleen damage. Editor.

WELFARE REPORT AS AT 25th APRIL 1980

- NX 9824 HEATH, A. Athol is home again after a major operation for ulcers. It will be some weeks before he resumes duty at the Club.
- NX 9693 PARRY, W. Bill too is home after a major spinal operation and making slow progress.
- NX41889 FENSOME, S. was in RGH for a few days for cancer tests — now discharged.
- NX17006 WILLOUGHBY, G. was transferred to RPA for a heart by-pass op.
- NX9681 DRISCOLL, F. at LDH for tests and anxious to get back to GRIFFITH.
- NX9868 RAYMONT, R. at LDH and making good progress.
- NX15424 THEOBALD, R.E. RGH 310. Lung and heart

tests. Dick who was early in B Coy became the Bn. Bandmaster in Darwin. He has left Wellington and now lives in North Ryde.

- NX 5279 DOBBIN, E. RGH 430 was in for a gall bladder op. Has now returned to Bateau Bay.
- NX5363 JACKSON, J.D. was in RGH for a few days for renal tests. Now discharged.

Slim POWERS and Jim ROBIN had a day out on Tuesday 22nd April. They called on Athol HEATH and Bill PARRY at home. They then went to the WVH at Narrabeen and saw Athol HONNERY, Dick CHAMBERLAIN, Buzz BENNETT, John GUEST and Brian WARING. Nice work! I am sure that their visits were very welcome.

4th Bn. 1914—18

- 1808 PYNE, N.H. RGH 310. Lung trouble caused by mustard gas in France. Harry sailed in the first convoy and served 4½ years with the Bn. Extracts from his diary are being published in the 'INFANTEER' at present. He told me that he has been asked to make a broadcast from his bedside on Anzac Day.

LAST POST Lest we Forget

- NX11901 KARANGES, D. Denny died 30th March after a long illness. The cremation was at the Eastern Suburbs Crematorium. Our deep sympathy goes to his wife, Edna, daughter, Roslyn and her family.
- NX5227 PEAD, J. John died 18th April after a long illness. He had been in a nursing home for years following a heart attack and severe strokes. Our deepest sympathy goes to his wife, Ruby, daughter, Robyne and her family.

The following deaths have appeared in Reveille issues for April, May and June:— NX13316 JONES, W.R.J. NX22587 MITCHELL, A. NX42185 FRANCIS, G. NX176248 BROOM, T.P. NX18731 KILKER, D. NX11558 SMITH, R. NX5535 FORREST, H.E. NX47954 LEE, J.R.

On a brighter note — hearty congratulations are due to our Blue Mountains Welfare stalwart, Bob LEVER. Bob has been made Life Member of the RSL. This is a National Honour. Bob was nominated by the Blaxland-Glenbrook Sub-branch. An honour thoroughly deserved.

Yours for all the team....J. COPLAND.

CANBERRA 1980 REUNION REPORT

In the first report on the Canberra re-union, which was published in the April issue of the monthly journal, particulars relating to the tariffs applying to the on-site caravans have been omitted. As stated in my letter dated 25th March, 1980, these are as follows:

2 persons	\$15.00	3 persons	\$17	4 persons	\$19
5 persons	\$21.50	6 persons	\$24		

If the local committee is to house all (or the majority) of the visitors to the re-union at the Canberra Motor Village, it is

imperative that full use is made of this really top-rate type of accommodation.

It is requested that these particulars be published in the May issue of the journal in the hope that intending visitors will appreciate the degree of value and standard that is available.

It is not possible for me to attend the Anzac Day re-union, but Jack Huston will be there to represent the Canberra committee and to act as its liaison.

It would be appreciated if the Association could stress the desirability and the need for early registration from those intending to be present at the 1980 re-union, particularly where a request for accommodation is involved.

Nominations received to this date and accommodated as requested are from John Copland, Jim and Jean Forman and Reta Fox, Ted and Heather Fox, Bob and Nina Ferguson, Allen and Gloria Lindsay, Bill and Gwen MacLennan, Jack and Phyl Ormiston, Esca and Bebe Riordan.

As now transpires, I will be overseas from 4 June to 16 July out, during my absence, requests for accommodation will be dealt with by a member of the committee if forwarded to my address.

Kind regards and best wishes.

Frank Crutchett

6 DIV. ASSOC. REPORT.

1. BATTLE OF CRETE — Functions to be held in conjunction with CRETAN ASSOCIATION.

(a) **Saturday May 24th — Ceremony at Cenotaph.** Form up corner Hunter & Pitt Streets 1400 hrs. Move off for service at 1415 hrs. Cenotaph at 1430 hrs. Break off approx. 1500 hrs.

(b) Sunday May 25th

(i) **Church Parade** Greek orthodox Cathedral, Cleveland St., Redfern. (Just near Prince Alfred Park). Time:— 10.30 (in order to ensure seat).

(ii) **Picnic - Garden Island** (a very fascinating area) Proceed from Church Parade; or if not at Church Parade, be at gates by 1300 hours. Bring your own food and drinks.

(c) **Saturday May 31st — Cretan Ball** Chevron Hotel, Macleay St., Potts Point Time 2000 hrs. Bookings phone Ken Kesteven 412 4892 Grog-purchase at function.

2. **GREEK MEDAL/MEDALLION** A limited number have arrived and a presentation will be made during Battle of Crete Week. Recipients will have been advised of date, time, place and arrangements. The remaining medals are expected late May/early June with another presentation ceremony taking place; again recipients will be advised by post of details. The controversy of if and where the medal may be worn continues. You will be advised of final decision.

3. **GREEK PLAQUES.** The Greek Government has presented two plaques to the 6 Div. Assoc. It is proposed

to approach The Garrison Church to have these plaques, together with the 6 Div. Plaque hung in the Church. Units will be advised of full details when this has been organised.

4. **THE AUSTRALIA — PAPUA NEW GUINEA FRIENDSHIP TRUST.** The Trust has been organised by a Sub-Committee of the 6 Div. Assoc. and the approval of the Papua-New Guinea Government. The object is to provide suitable books to School Libraries in Papua-New Guinea as a gesture of friendship.

It is the intention of the Committee that the books be plastic covered, displaying the Trust's Logo and a message advising readers of the appreciation of Australians for the co-operation and help given to our Servicemen in that area during the 1939-1945 War.

Burns Philp Trustee Co. Ltd. have kindly agreed to Act as Trustees for the Fund.

Donations are already rolling in and the Trust are naturally anxious to receive as many more as possible — these may be sent to The Hon. Secretary, John Burrill, 7/10 Isabell St., Ryde, N.S.W. 2112

Approval for such gifts to be tax deductible has not yet been received; however, receipts will be issued for all donations - such receipts can be held in case the approval is received. Geog. Stack and Ken Kesteven.

ROBIN'S COLUMN. On Wednesday, 9th April, Cecil (Slim) POWERS, Ron BARBER, and myself visited our mates at the LDH at Turramurra. First one we visited was Ron RAYMONT (Band.HG Coy). Ron has been in LDH for some considerable time and has had both legs amputated. One artificial leg has been fitted and is now waiting for the other one. Ron came from Blakehurst and enlisted at Victoria Barracks with brother, Ken, Harry RUSSELL, Jack Renny and Bill PARRY. Teddy HOPKINS and Bill PARRY often visit him. George STACK and Harry WRIGHT came to see him but he was away. Ron corresponds with his brother in Adelaide and says Ken is keeping quite well. Ron wishes to be remembered to Ivan (Slim) POLLOCK, Dick PINSON, and all his mates. Ron is in Ward 'E', LDH.

We then visited Fred DRISCOLL from Griffith. Fred often sees Tom (Nedda) ERSKINE. Fred is in Ward 'D' and wished to be remembered to all his mates. He has had visits from George STACK, Harry WRIGHT and Bill PARRY.

We went across to RGH Concord and saw Bill PARRY, Association Welfare Officer. As previously reported Bill had a spinal operation. Bill enlisted at Victoria Barracks with Russ McWILLIAM, George STACK and Ken MOSES. HE is in Ward 130 and has received visits from Vera WALSH John COPLAND, Cec CHRYSTAL and Laurie WATERHOUSE. Bill is looking forward to seeing his mates at the Gallipoli Club on Anzac Day.

On Tuesday 22nd April, went with Cecil (Slim) POWERS and visited Athol HEATH (A Coy) at his home in Frenchs Forest. Athol is convalescing after an operation for ulcers. He will be out of action for some time and sends his kind-

est regards to all his mates also an apology for missing the Anzac Day Re-union. We visited Bill PARRY at his home - seems quite bright and sorry he missed Anzac Day.

We then went to the WWH Narrabeen and saw Dick CHAMBERLAIN (Bn. R.S.M.) He did not look very well so we only stayed 15 minutes. A visit to Athol HONNERY and what a pleasant surprise. The last time we visited Athol he was very ill but today he looked extra well, up and around. He feels that well he has made arrangements with Brian WARING to attend the Anzac Re-union. We met Jack GUEST and Buzz BENNETT. Both are keeping well and wished to be remembered to all their mates. We saw Brian WARING who confirmed his arrangements with Athol HONNERY. Brian is well, wished to be remembered to his mates. He is looking forward to seeing everyone on Anzac Day.

Had a yarn to Arnold 'Curly' GORMAN of St. Marys. Curly had a phone call from Ray 'Rocky' DENYER of Temora... wished to be remembered to all the boys, especially 'C' Coy. Hi 'Rocky'! If you have any news any time of the boys I would appreciate it if you would let me know. Address J. ROBIN, 20 Adderstone Ave., North Sydney, 2060 (others please follow suite). Many thanks to Cecil 'Slim' POWERS for his valuable help. Regards to all,
Jim ROBIN

IN THE MAILBAG

From KEN MOSES — Sorry I can't be with you all on Anzac Day for the get-to-gether. Something I must really alter some day when Rosemary changes her birthday. But would you please convey to all present my sincerest best wishes for a beaut day for the get-to-gether and the best of good fortune and health for the ensuing 12 months. Things are much the same down here. A table is being saved for the members of the 2/4th able to attend the 2/8th show next Friday night and no doubt there will be the usual assembly at the Caulfield RSL after the march. Unfortunately I will be at neither gathering as I am awaiting to hear from my specialist as to when I go into hospital again for another operation on the foot. I was beginning to get a bit worried that I would be missing out on an operation this year, but now I have nothing to fear. This could be the last, with a bit of luck, I don't think I will be in that long this time as he just wants to add some new sinews or something or take some out. Again have a beaut time up there. Rosemary joins me in sincerest wishes to all.

From H.C.(Pop) WILLIAMS... Birrong — Recently we had great pleasure in a visit from Joyce and Graham WOODWARD, together with their sister and brother in law, Joyce and Ernie PARSONS of Telopea. They have now returned to Devon.....yours truly.

From Dasher DEACON. Lily arrived back safe and sound from Holland. I am feeling better, at least I know what is wrong with my head. The Neurologist said that they can do nothing about my condition. Harry WRIGHT rang me about Denny KARANGES for which I was very grateful. Regards to all.

From Bill and Gwen NEWTH: Just a few short notes to say Hello to all the boys. A special howdy to Stan BOWEN, Harold and Noni BOWMAN, Frank and Ann FOSTER. I have decided at long last to come down to the March, but yesterday at 3 pm Gwen was admitted to Bowral Hospital suffering from a heart attack. So far she is progressing well. We won't be able to carry out our intentions, but hope to see you all at the Canberra Reunion. We were quite amused at Claude RAYMOND'S impressions of Duntroon. Not bad at all, Claude, for an old bloke. All the best.

From R.R.COUTTS Just to put the record straight, I phoned Dasher DEACON re the death of Cecil LEIBECK, NX13565, of Castle Hill (not NX135655), Cecil enlisted the same time as me and served in the first campaign to Benghazi in the desert as an RP with the 2/4th Bn. He was hospitalized after that campaign and didn't get to Greece or Crete, but rejoined the Bn. later. He was discharged and settled in Castle Hill at war's end as I did for the next 30 years. He was buried on 15th October at Castlebrook Castle Hill area, a silent sufferer to the end. Kind regards to Norm McINTYRE and the Newcastle Team. Sorry I couldn't attend the reunion as we were moving. We spent Christmas and New Year at Canberra and Mollymook with the family - saw Garnie MOORE who lives down that way. Regards to all.

From Allan & Carm KIRK..ANGLESEA. Will try and be as newsy and at the same time as brief as possible. As you can see we are through Melbourne and on our way to Adelaide. Caught a couple of trout near Cooma but nothing to skite about. So far the trip has been really great, we are thorough enjoying it. Made a hurried trip from Phillip Island (saw the penguin parade) on Anzac Day morning, caught up with a dozen of the 2/4th at Caulfield RSL about 1.30 p.m. missed the March unfortunately but these are the boys I saw Leo DUNN, Bill PANTER, Sid VALENTINE, Merv HICKS, Vic HILL, Stan PRETTY, Stan CARPENTER, Ken WILLIAMS, Jack HOSKING, Claude RAYMOND, Dick PARRY, Bill STEPHENS. Bill PANTER and Leo DUNN wrote this list for me on Sunday when we were at Bill and Bonny's home for lunch. There is one name missing, so please accept the apologies whoever you may be. It was terrific to meet up with them again and I spent a very convivial afternoon I can assure you. They say the best laid plans of mice and men etc. and unluckily for Hugh and Doris BURGDORF this applied on Sunday. Bill and Bonny had arranged for them to come to dinner also, as I had missed Hugh on Anzac Day, but on the way over they were involved in a car accident. A chap came through a red light and hit them on the offside, smack on Doris's door. Both received broken ribs and bruises. However, Doris, was allowed home the same day. Hughie stayed in hospital under observation for spleen damage. Carm and I visited him on Monday afternoon and while we were there the nurse removed a drip that he had been having and said that it was a good sign when the Dr. ordered it to be discontinued. Hugh said he was feeling very sore but was getting better every hour. Their coming to dinner was to have been a surprise for the KIRKS and also for the BURGDORFS. We had a wonderful day with them.