



MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE 2/4 INFANTRY BATTALION ASSOCIATION

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NEXT MEETING: Friday June 27th, 8 p.m. at the Gallipoli Memorial Club, Loftus Street, Sydney.

NEWS FROM SOUTH AUSTRALIA... PETER DENVER, Vice President.

Greetings to all our Association mates and families nearly said Bn mates and then realized how many special people would not be included. The country reons certainly have helped to make friends of people from distant places of great conviviality and mutual respect.

Oldest we met was the Lismore President of the Gallipoli Legion of Anzacs, Norman MELVILLE who at 93 in 1978, he climbed and picked paw paws maintained an outstanding garden and drove with such dexterity as to amaze the examiners. This spot of information should encourage our 'oldies', who, slipping into retirement, may be gasping for another wind.

The Ladies Night held last year at the Gallipoli Memorial Club was a first for Pat and myself. This was possible because of the call at Sydney en route to the Newcastle Reunion. Perhaps the Northern boys will have a similar opportunity as they travel to Canberra. It was such a special night. Phil and Glen SMITH were recently return from several months in Europe — Phil improves with age.

Did Athol and other 'A' Coy boys at Ladies Night realize that condensed in one group at this table were the ladies of our 1st Coy Commander, Bob McCARTY, Colonel PARSONS and General McKAY as well as Glen SMITH, whose husband was similarly associated with that good fighting machine in the New Guinea campaign.

Have relocated a long lost letter from the late esteemed Graham JACKET. Have read and re-read it and do so wish it could be answered. Graham, like so many of the 2/4th had three sons and a girl - be so nice to meet them. Perhaps David or Richard could bring their mother, Jean, to the Canberra Reunion.

A good bloke for thirsty travellers to meet is. Matt BARRY 'B' Coy, lives at Forbes Road, PARKES. He can generally be contacted at the Railway. Bowling Club. Many enquire after Tom MORT, hope to see him at the Adelaide Anzac Reunion.

Being in Sydney last year gave many pleasures and enlivened many old friendships, but made a two year gap in seeing the few S.A. 'WOGS' scattered throughout the state. Saw 'Coffee' ROYAL, he was engaged in the Bush Fire Appeal Bowls Tournament. Glad 'One Punch' ADAMS has at last the opportunity for bowls. Could the Canberra Reunion

Organisers entice us bowlers early, with an organised meet on the Thursday or Friday. With the 1972 Reunion still fresh in the minds and Canberra's multi attractions, I am sure, to contemplate a week there, is little enough, another time is likely to be too late. Be in it fellas and state bowler on your own and partners entry. The dear old 'Horse Dr.', Jack HUSTON will find a good pitch without a doubt.

We all wish you an Anzac Day of fond memories and special gladness in the company you find. May the absent and not so wells meet in your hearts with those who grow not old.

QUEENSLAND REPORT... LAURIE McCOSKER, Vice President

I have been for a trip up to the Sunshine Coast and tried to see all the 2/4ths in that area. I spent some time with Nevis FARELL at Buderim, he is doing quite well and thoroughly enjoying his retirement. He has had a trip to Crete and visited the graves of 2/4. Perce BERICK has left Bribie Island and is now residing in Western Queensland at a place called, 'The Gums', blink your eyes and you miss it. I also had tea and bickies with Wink WALKER at Caloundra. I believe he is now in your neck of the woods — Sydney.

Laurie WATERHOUSE and wife, Joy, together with Vera WALSH, paid a visit to Brisbane during their holidays. I took them around to visit Norm MacINTYRE. He was very pleased to see them. From Norms I whipped them home for lunch and afterwards to Wally McKENZIE's for afternoon tea and back in time to catch the 4.15 p.m. bus back to the Gold Coast, where I believe they had already met up with Bruce CORK.

I have been in formed that Alan KIRK and his wife, Carma, are touring Australia.

After the Anzac March and Service we had a gathering of the 6th Divvy Association at the residence of the Secretary, Bill CAVANAGH and the only 2/4ths who attended were Wall MacKENZIE, Norm EVERSON, Norm McINTYRE, Stan SUTHERLAND and myself. Regards to all.

CENTRAL COAST CAPERS.....Dasher DEACON (Pte.retired)

I marched Anzac Day at Toukley with two ex-staff Sgts., Bert 'Snowy' MOORES, and Geof QUINTON. Being junior in rank, I gave the orders, Bob RYAN, Teddy's twin brother, ex Navy, also marched. Bert invited Teddy's widow, Lee, to join us. She proudly wore her husband's medals. She laid the W.O.G. wreath Bert had made, watched by her two sons.

Marge SCHULTZ, Lily's friend, often comes to the Country Re-unions, met Arthur BUNDY, ex 2/1st Bn., Don BUNDY'S brother, He was visiting Crete with his wife, Dulcie. Don had a heart attack but is well again. I met Squizzy TAYLOR at Matraville R.S.L. Asked him did he have the W.O.G. lately, he replied, not since New Guinea. After much sorting out, he thought I meant did he have the flu lately. Also bumped into him at Toukley R.S.L. Lilly and I called into Forestville R.S.L. for lunch, met John COPLAND. If you want to dodge meeting any ex 2/4 members — keep away from R.S.L. Clubs.....Regards to all.

NEWCASTLE NEWSAlf Carpenter, Vice President.

The Russians allowed me to return to Australia, after a great cruise aboard the 'Ivan Franko' on the 1st of April. The cruise took us around Cape Horn and took in the Sou American Ports, including Rio at Carnival time, then the Caribbean Ports, through the Panama to Tahiti, Tonga and Noumea before the glorious sight of Sydney Heads.

The old 19th Brigade were well represented for we had wi us ex members of the 2/8th and 2/11th Bns. and of course with a couple of Vodok's under our belts we fought a few Battles.

The last meeting of the Newcastle Brigade was held at Wallsend R.S.L. and seeing that the date coinsided with Yvonne Pearse and my birthday naturally a great time was had by all. All the team were present with the exception of Jim and Mona Sherritt, (Jim's Brother had died at Fork and he was away attending the funeral) and Bookie and Margaret Rae, had a previous appointment.

Our next meeting will take the form of a send off to ck and Mary Mann who will be leaving in the near future for residence up the North Coast, So the Big Fella Kirk might take them under his wing, they come highly recommended This meeting will be on the 30th May at the Raymond Terrace Bowling Club, anyone in the vicinity will be made welcome.

I certainly missed the ANZAC Day march in Sydney, have Sciatic problem at present and until the problem is fixed a couple of hundred yards is about all I can manage without spell, however we were well represented here in Newcastle Joe Bohle and Jim Sherritt attended the Dawn Service in Newcastle. Bully Hayes and myself the Dawn Service at Hamilton R.S.L. and the Stockton contingent supported their local R.S.L. where Bookie is a director.

Bully Hayes is having some trouble with his other leg and will be in the Hospital shortly for artery by-pass operation he is in good spirits and one of the regulars at Hamilton R.S.L. where he holds the distinction of being a par president.

That is about all for the present Bob, many thanks to you all the committee for the sterling work being done on beh of the Association, we all here in Newcastle appreciate it.

QUEENSLAND'S ROVING REPORTER... Vera PROVIA

Laurie and Evelyn McCosker called on 29th April. Laurie was very happy with Brisbane roll up on Anzac Day. Tom sister and I left on 30th to try out her new 'Subaru' on a trip to Sydney. Called into Ballina to see Herb HOATH Ada and Harry WHITMAN. Harry was hospitalized for a fortnight in Portland, Victoria, recently. He intends now stay in Ballina. Stayed two nights with Ian and Edna WAI WORK at Iluka. Visited several lovely beaches, lunched w Frank 'Pom' WALLACE. He had taken out several prizes day before at Maclain Show for his potted plants, he has quite a healthy 'Green House' which matches his own con

at the moment. Rang Leo and Eileen LYNCH at Grafton... all well in their camp. Missed Esca and Beb RIORDAN, left a note at the RSL Club - assured both are well. Stayed at Kincumber among the Bell birds for a week, and now in Sydney visiting and catching up on news from the south.

WELFARE REPORT AS AT 23rd MAY, 1980

It has been a quiet month. On two occasions there has been none of ours in RGH. It may be that patients are being referred to hospitals nearer to their homes. But, we are not told about these. There are stand-by welfare visitors in many areas who would call, if only we knew so that they can be informed.

- NX 5911 BOWEN, Stan, Bob LEVER writes that he saw Stan. Stan is now driving himself around the hospital in an electric arm chair. He said the Bn. looked well on T.V. on Anzac Day. Sends salaams to all friends, especially, Bill NEWTH, Ron BARBER, Jim ROBIN, Slim POWELL.
- NX 68764 SMITH, Jack B. Harry WRIGHT reports that Jack is in Ashbury Nursing Home and seriously ill. Harry has visited him.
- NX 5085 SCULLY, Chas. R.G.H. 12. Check up for nervous condition. Discharged.
- NX 5145 ROBIN, J.J. Slim POWERS reported that Jim had a severe heart attack on 14th May and was in intensive care at the Mater Public Hospital, North Sydney. Jim was later transferred to the Men's medical ward and doing well. Many members had rung or sent cards.
- NX 9681 DRISCOLL, F. LDH ward 'D'.
- NX 9868 RAYMONT, Ron. LDH ward 'E'.

I rang LDH. Through the courtesy and kindness of the two ward sisters I was able to speak to Fred and Ron. Ron is doing well and awaiting his second artificial leg any time now. Fred said he was 'cranky' and counting the days till he can get back to a nursing home in Griffith. There is a waiting I so it may be some weeks. He was most grateful for the call, enjoyed Anzac Day, sends his kind regards to all. Ron will keep in touch with him.

NX 9693 PARRY, W. Bill is making slow steady progress at home. Has to have Physiotherapy at home for six weeks. Then to report back to the specialists.

4th Bn. 1914-1918

5670

1808 PYNE, N.H. RGH 310. Discharged.

CAUSE, Conway. RGH 3. Discharged.

Jolly good health to you all.....John COPLAND.

CANBERRA 1980 REUNION REPORT

Since my last report in WOG I have received the following bookings for the reunion. Those who have requested accommodation have been placed as instructed. Ron BARBER, Alf and Marge CARPENTER, Perce and Betty

DALLA, Molly IRVINE, Cecil (Slim) POWERS, Ferd and Gwen PEGG, Jim (Cock) ROBIN, Harold and Delma SILVER, George and Marj STACK, Wal and Nonie TAYLOR W.A. (Snow) WELLS and Wife, Vera WALSH, Frank WRIGHT, Harry and Hilda WRIGHT, Dot AMIES, Lyn and Edna BLOOMFIELD, Cec and Phyl CHRYSTAL, Henry and Maisie ELLIOTT, Vic and Eileen FRANCES, Bill FOGDEN and wife, Harry GJEDSTED, Bub and Margaret GRAHAM, Athol HEATH, Norm and Wilma JOHNSTONE, Artie and Muriel KLEEM, Leo and Eileen LYNCH, Kel and Margaret LAVIS, Norrie and Lorna McGREGOR, Chris and Christine McGREGOR, John MEEHAN, Vera PROVIANS, Ray and Una SUMMERFIELD, Irene STANTON, Wink WALKER and Wife, Sid YOUNG and Wife.

It would be appreciated if you could publish the nominations as they are notified, as this could well influence mates of those named to also attend, thereby ensuring a successful reunion. Several of the Canberrans are members of Bowling Clubs, and there is a choice of several venues for those who wish to roll a bowl during their visit. Likewise, there are a number of golf courses in the city, and a fine public course is available should a player be unable to gain admission to a club. The committee does not feel that there is a need to arrange these sports, but will do what is necessary if a particular request is made

While I am away, Cyril McCOSKER will be handling bookings and all requests for accommodation, if addressed to me, will be handed on to Cyril for his attention.

Kind regards and best wishes. Yours sincerely,
Frank CRUTCHETT

CASH REGISTER LIST of SUBS and DONATIONS

\$6.00 B. Greedy (donation \$1.00), R. Andrews, G. Moore, K. Kesteven, D. Bundy (donation \$4.00). J. Heaney, P. Lane, (donation \$4.00), D. Jackson (donation \$4.00), A. Gibson, B.Graham (donation \$4.00), M.O'Regan (donation \$4.00), J. Graham, R. Everson, N. Johnstone (donation \$9.00), T. Harris (donation \$4.00), K. Watt, R. Lane (donation \$9.00), C. Pollock, J. Huston (donation \$4.00), H. Williams, H. Nichols, L. Stronac (donation \$4.00) L. Jones (donation \$4.00), H. Bloomfield (donation \$4.00), A. Sheppard, J. Dooley (donation \$4.00), G. Ings (donation \$4.00), G. Mitchell, G. Willoughby, S. Young (donation \$4) G. Robins (donation \$4.00), A. Schweitzer (donation \$4.00) R. Windeyer, N.McGregor, J.Sadler, T. Fordham, C. Mc-Cosker (donation \$8.00), N. Everson (donation \$4.00). W. Shaw (donation \$3.00), C. Kenningale, J. Eastham, C.Davies, A. Manning, B. Connor (donation \$4.00), T. Watson, R. Williams, K. Richardson, K. Venn, W. Fogden (donation \$4.00), J. M. Hicks (donation \$10), T. Swadling J. Morgan, B. Mitchell, N. Smith, N. Alavoine, G.Cole, E. Hopkins, W. Little.

- \$10.00 H. McLaughlin.
- \$12.00 P.Lahey (donation \$8.00), D. Milne, C. Cameron
- \$18.00 W. Poplin (donation \$2.00)

im sends best wishes to all his mates and many thanks

Life Membership — \$50.00 K. Deacon (donation \$10.00) V. Forbes.

Donations: D.Follington \$10.00, A. Bohle \$10.00, H. Smith \$6.00, H. Silver \$14.00, E. Jackson \$2.00

Allan LINDSAY, Treasurer.

PRESENTATION OF GREEK COMMEMORATIVE MEDALLIONS IN BRISBANE

A splendid function, with womenfolk included, was organised by the Consul General of Greece in conjunction with the RSL and Sixth Division Association on Monday evening 26th May, at a Riverside Ballroom. Almost one hundred medals were presented (the writer was eighty six on the alphabetical list) and amongst the recipients were three Nursing Sisters. Battalion recipients included Fred CATLEY, Jim WHITAKER and Yours Truly. At least two other battalion members received their medals and whilst I spoke to them, their names now escape me. Wal MCKENZIE was also present with the Sixth Division Association Executive. His medal will presumably arrive in the next consignment.

The official party included five visiting Greek Parliament - arians, representatives from Federal, State and Local Government, Navy, Army and Air Force Officers. The medals were presented by a visiting Senior Greek Army Officer, Lt. Gen. Tsepapadakis and he accompanying certificate (diploma) were presented by a Greek Naval Officer Commodore Papas.

(The Brisbane Courier Mail, Tuesday, 27th May, 1980 made mention of the above.)

The RSL provided liquid refreshments and their Ladies Auxiliary served a tasty supper.

Regards....Wink WALKER

ROBIN'S COLUMN

On Thursday 15th May, I received a phone call from Jim (Cock) Robin's sister Mrs. Cath HOCKLEY, telling me that Jim had had a severe heart attack earlier in the morning and had been taken to Mater Misericordiae Hospital and admitted to the intensive care ward. He was therefor five days and later transferred to the mens medical ward. Only close relative were allowed to visit him.

Jim said he received phone calls from Cec CHRYSTAL and Harry WRIGHT and while I was with him, Nurse brought in a call from Athol HEATH. He also had visits from Bill (Snowy) MacLENNAN, President Bob FERGUSSON, Harry WRIGHT Teddy HOPKINS, Ron BARBER and phone call from John COPLAND. I visited Jim on Friday 23rd May and he looked amazingly well. He was out on the balcony and has an 'Eleven Day Programme' to fulfil - he had just completed the fifth day and provided no unexpected complications set in will be due for discharged on 29th May. I stayed with Jim about 2 hours, then had to leave for personal reasons and to prepare this report in time for our Editor so as it may be in time for the June issue of our Journal 'WHITE OVER GREEN'.

Jim sends best wishes to all his mates and many thanks

to all who visited him and sent phone calls during his illness.

All the best, kindest regards and hope to see many of you at the 'CANBERRA REUNION. Sincerely Cecil (Slim) POWERS

IN THE MAILBAG

From BRUCE CORK to ATHOL HEATH: I met a cousin of mine last week and I mentioned I served with the 2/4th Bn and she said her husband was also in the 2/4. His name was MATHERS, H.F.T. NX 5361 and had passed away about 5½ years ago. Beryl said Howard used to get the WOG but when he died she didnt let anyone know. Would you check if his death has been recorded with the Bn. and if not put a line in the WOG. I am sure a lot of his mates would like to know. Best wishes to all.

From Ben CONNOR to ATHOL HEATH Because of ailing health and earlier than planned retirement I have moved to the Central Coast from South Strathfield, address C/— 94 Hutton Rd., North Entrance, 2261 have enclosed a cheque for 'whatever' as I must be in arrears of something. Although I havent taken an active part in the association I have a keen interest in events and old comrades and would be very disappointed if W.O.G. didnt find me. Warmest regards.

From Dasher DEACON to ALLEN LINDSAY Many thanks for your letter. Am enclosing a cheque for \$60 Would like to pay for Life Membership. The other \$10 towards Bn fund. Do hope you have a good holiday I wont be marching Anzac Day. Hope to see you in the future. Lily and I both send our regards to yourself and your family. Many thanks for the good work you have always done for the 2/4th plus the ex PTES. Unfortunately we will be in Perth and will not be able to attend the Canberra Reunion. Regards.

FROM THE EDITOR Phone call from Ken MOSES regar Vic FRANCIS. Unfortunately Vic has been hospit, ed again, apparently an abscess formed necessitating the removal of the eye. He has been in the RGH Heidelberg t a fortnight and is home again. Vic it is difficult to find words to express our concern for you, yet if it is helpful to you and Eileen, then the concern of old friends and comrades is constant. To Claude RAYMOND and others interstate, thank you for your care in visiting comrades whose health is failing, and of course our own welfare team for their continuing efforts. The Association is aware that welfare as a total will become an increasing concern, particularly as our members grow older. On a lighter note, Ken will not be able to attend the Canberra Reunion, and it is not because of his prior years in the parliamentary press gallery, you cant draw this fellow out reckons he is a political atheist. He has a lot of mates in that area, thank you Ken for Selby DEAN's phone number I phoned Selby, he is currently on leave and very busy attending to matters concerning the forthcoming Federal Election. Selby DEAN is the endorsed Labor Candidate for New England.