



# White over Green

MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE 2/4 INFANTRY BATTALION ASSOCIATION

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**NEXT MEETING:** Friday 22nd January at the Gallipoli Memorial Club at 8 p.m. - THIS IS THE FOURTH FRIDAY in January 1982, NOT THE LAST.



## TO THE GLORY OF CHRISTMAS

SEASONS GREETINGS are extended to all  
WIDOWS, WIVES, MEMBERS and FRIENDS  
of the Association

from

Our Patron, SIR IVAN and LADY DOUGHERTY

from

BILL and GWEN MACLENNAN

and from

THE COMMITTEE

WITH BEST WISHES FOR THE  
FESTIVE SEASON and THE NEW YEAR

**NOTICE;** Would all people who move to new addresses, when informing of the change please give their old address ALSO and the new postcode. Only the few that have handled the addressograph machine know that all plates are in post-code order, NOT alphabetical and it is difficult most times to find the old plate without the old address as we have 500 plus plates to go through. Thanks boys, our despatching department will appreciate the co-operation.

**PLEASE! THIS IS IMPORTANT IF YOU WANT  
W.O.G.**

As President Bill MacLennan was very much involved in the inaugural Scottish Week in Australia, he apologised for his non-attendance and V.P. Ted Fox took the chair. Perhaps the main item that was discussed was the matter of the 2/4 Bn. Medal, and the duration of its issuance. After almost three years, it was felt that those who want the medal have already got it. Accordingly the period for application for the medal will terminate on 31 December, 1982. This medal is unique and is already a collectors item even as a "Specimen", unnamed to any 2/4 Bn. member. And to keep it unique, at the end of the specified period the dies will be recalled and destroyed or mutilated to make further strikings impossible.

The matter of a January issue of W.O.G. or not was also raised. Members may recall that there was no issue of January this year to give W.O.G. toilers a rest. However, as there is a backlog of good material that hasn't been published through lack of space, the January issue will be out, we hope, for the benefit of all.

### COCK'S COLUMN

(This news should have gone into the last W.O.G. which was too full to include it. Apologies to Cock and his readers, Ed.)

Slim Powers and I paid a visit to Penshurst R.S.L. and met Jim Beard. Sitting at the next table, he looked across and said, "Do I see snow on the grass?" I had my Life Member badge on and said, "Are you are 2/4ther?" He said no but he knew many of them. He was in 12 Fld. Amb. and told me George Whitby is now a T.P.I. and is in the Desmond Convalescent Hospital, Albert Road, Strathfield.

Received an airmail letter and postcard from Frank Mallett. He was very pleased to receive my letter and said that W.O.G. is still arriving each month and he says, "The Welfare Report tells the story each month of one of the old gang in hospital and glad to read that they are coming out again in better health." Thanks Frank for the letter and lovely card.

A letter from Paul and Myrna Brooke says ".....have retired and are now living at 26 Cesnock Road, Branxton, 2335 and we may get a few to favour us with a call here. We are half a block from the Golf Clubhouse which Myrna says is too convenient! Tooths Old for me! Hope to catch up with the Newcastle boys soon." Thanks, Paul, You and Phil Cross are the only ones who answered my request for news.

Some time back I had a phone call from Dick Powell of Bankstown. Dick was in 18th. Fortress Coy. Darwin and was attached to 2/4 Bn. and knew many of the boys. After we moved on Dick got a letter from a mate in 33rd. Bn. who had crossed our path and asking after me, he was told that I had been killed and since then he has been putting my name with other friends of his who were killed in action on the Cenotaph in the Rookwood Cemetery since 1946. Dick rang me when he heard that I wasn't dead. Recently Mrs. Powell rang me and told me that Dick had passed away, aged 59 and she was returning the photo I gave him. Any of you boys remember him?

I rang Dick Pinson. Sorry to hear that Rene was not the best. Dick said that Syd Young had retired to Maclean, not far from his cousin, Frank "Pom" Wallace. Dick also met Syd Buckley.

Dick Fenton (Sgt. cook) H.Q. Coy. is now at the War Veterans' Home and is the local gardener for all the widows. This from Ted Jackson whom I met at Dee Why R.S.L.

Teddy Hopkins has now moved to 11 Church Street, Ashfield.

At Ryde Ex-Servicemen's Club, met Tom McNamara. Had not seen him since army days. He looked well but I was surprised to hear that he was not a member of the Association. So after some super sales talk, got the necessary subscription and Tom is now a member of our Association. He wishes to be remembered to Toppy Crispin, Arty Kleem, Syd Buckley, Slim Desmond, Slim Venn, Dick Parry, Lionel Clarke and all "A" Coy. boys. Tom enlisted at Homebush Drill Hall (I remember that place, I had my first fight there.) Enlisting with him was Wally Honey, Jim Sherritt, Tom's number was NX3958, Bill Wh NX3984, Bill Andrews NX3993. These must have enlisted with Tom. He also sees Jack Eastman, Ted Wilson, Tom Gorman at the club. Tom's address: T. McNamara, 6 Linton Ave., West Ryde, 2114. Pleased to have met you again Tom. Had a ring from Maurice Porter who was down from Pretty Beach. We had a great yarn about old times, mates and places with some "Lite" (free ad!) refreshment. Maurie looks well and has put on weight. He enlisted at Victoria Barracks and said that as acity boy, he is eternally glad that he got in with the country boys of 2/4 Bn. He wished to be remembered to Monty Siems. Write or ring please Maurie. Had a ring from Phil Cross of Cullen Bullen. "Hope you got my letter Phil". Phil did not reply as he was in a motor accident and no fault of his.

### "COCK ROBIN."

THE SIR IVAN DOUGHERTY BIOGRAPHY IS AVAILABLE FROM CEC. CHRYSTAL, 24 THE BATTLEMENT, CASTLECRAIG, N.S.W. 2068 OR FROM ATHOL HEATH C/O GALLIPOLI MEMORIAL CLUB. \$14.50 POSTED OR COLLECT IT YOURSELF FOR \$12.00. DO IT NOW! THIS WILL AVOID THE "SORRY - NONE LEFT" SITUATION AS WE NOW HAVE WITH THE BATTALION HISTORY.

### YOUR HORROR-SCOPE

CAPRICORN: (December 23 - January 20.)

Capricorn, from Capricornicus, meaning "Plenty" or something else stupid. A tropic line through Queensland was named after it. The banana-benders are still skiting about it! Jo is not a banana-bender. He bends (and vends) peanuts which he throws at demonstrators and politicians who are not pro Jo and Flo.

Most Capricornicans are expert peanut throwers. Most of them are "peanuts" anyway. Fifteen point six percent of 2/4 Bn. officers were Capricornians.

The Capricorn Birthday Boy: If you were born on

January 1st at 0001 hours you must missed out on being a year older. You also messed up your Mother's New Years Eve Party! Hope this haunts you for the rest of your life. You would be the most inconsiderate Birthday Boy in the Battalion. Are you sure you weren't a W.O.I? You certainly have the qualifications you lousy spoil-sport. The Queen should be told about people like you!

"Seer-sucker".

### THE SECRETARY'S MAILBAG.

Correspondence from members has been light, no doubt everyone recuperating from the Kempsey show or saving themselves for the many and varied Christmas functions which are about to come our way. First out of the bag was a letter from Ron Coutts of Castle Hill sending in a supplement to his Life Membership also letting us know that Mrs. Clarice Leibick, wife of the late Cecil, passed away. Thank you Ron for the information and the cheque. Will see the information is directed to the right people.

Another letter from Ted Burbidge of Henty sending a cheque for the battalion medal and a Greek miniature to be forwarded to him. He would like any member of the Bn. to call in if passing along the Olympic Highway through Henty. Your medal is on the way and should be in your keeping by now. Best wishes to you and your wife.

Stan Blacksley took time off to write in regarding a letter I sent to him seeking information regarding the possibility of Tumut as the venue for a future Country Re-union. Stan and I had the pleasure of joining up together at Wagga in 1939. Consequently he had a lot to say. I will get around to writing again, Stan.

Kelvin King of Fivedock phoned and later wrote in with news of Frank Frizell being in a nursing home after having a stroke some time ago. Frank was a great mate of Kelvin's hence his action in footing the bill for a floral arrangement to cheer Frank up a little and let him know we are thinking of him. Thanks Kelvin, I am sure Frank would appreciate your gesture.

"Pommy", R.A. Cole of Padstow, a very ardent worker with Bankstown Legacy dropped me a line to let me know of the passing of Thomas Fitzpatrick in September last. He only found out about his death through Mrs. Fitzpatrick going to Bankstown Legacy House to enrol as a widow. Pommy Cole also let me know that he was to enter R.G.H. Concord for a new hip joint also a new knee joint. Your information has been passed on to the Welfare Officer. Many thanks for the news of Tom Fitzpatrick's death and of your own hospitalisation. I'm sure you will be well attended by John and his team. Good luck, Reg.

Jock Naseby has penned a few lines and forwarded a cheque to see if we can get him some ribbon for his battalion medal. No trouble Jock, will be despatched to you. Thank you for your message of good will.

Prior to writing this report I received a letter from Gordon Chrisp sending in a change of address from Wingham to Umina, also enquiring about Frank Frizell and his address. This will be forwarded to you

Gordon with our very good wishes.

Mrs. Molly Perram wrote in to advise me that she has been notified to attend Tamworth R.S.L. for the presentation of the Greek Medal. Very good of you to let me know that at last you will get it. Good luck to you and good wishes.

I have had a battalion medal returned to me quite recently. It was sent to Hugh Wittleton at a change of address that he had notified us about some three months ago. It was sent back as address unknown at Kalangur, Queensland. Where are you Hughey, I am anxious to hear from you.

Last but not least, I must acknowledge on behalf of the members a "Return Thank You" card from Yvonne Pearse following the death of husband Harry in October. We all hope that the future will erase the sadness you have suffered Yvonne.

This is my last report until the New Year, so to all our members where 'ere you be, very good wishes for a happy and enjoyable festive season. Good luck and good cheer for '82.

Laurie Waterhouse, Hon. Sec.

### WELFARE REPORT

As at 27th November, 1981

**NX1983, CLARKE, Lionel, R.** He had a hernia op., 23rd October. All well and now home.

**NX14111, SHAYLOR, Norman, L. R.G.H. 310.** Has had a very bad time but has now been discharged. He lives at 79 Pozieres Road, Umina. Phone (043) 41-8915. He would like to hear from Mick Shirley who is not on my nominal role of members.

**NX160169, O'KEEFE, Reginald R.G.H. 330.** Blood clots. Joined "A" Coy in New Guinea. Sends salaams to Peter Cade. (Salaams to you too Blue! What about getting down to a meeting. I might even buy you a beer - or two. Ed.)

**NX5191, FRIZELLE, F.G.** Peel Nursing Home, Tamworth. Kevin King told Laurie Waterhouse that Frank was in the nursing home after a couple of heart attacks and a stroke. Laurie rang Frank's sister, Mrs. Mary Conway who told him that Frank had a heart attack in December, 1980, so she took him to her home. He had a more severe one in April, '81 and she could no longer care for him so had him admitted to the nursing home. I wrote to George Sugden in Tamworth and he saw Frank. He also asked Nicky Allardice and another "D" Coy friend to call. George intends to take Frank on outings when he feels up to it. Bob Ferguson rang. He has seen Frank too in his perigrinations.

**NX5911 BOWEN, Stan.** Bob Ferguson also called on Stan and spent some five hours with him.

**NX2002, DEAN, Selby. R.G.H. 230.** Has had an Operation for gall stones. Expects to go to L.D.H. soon.

**NX41503, WILLIAMS, H. (Pop)** Had an op on his hand. Discharged.

**NX1183, CHAMBERLAIN, R.** Is in the W.V.H. Hospital and not at all well.

**NX4013, LOW, J. L.D.H. Ward B** doing very well.

**NX5162, DAWSON, T.** Also at L.D.H., Ward "B" and doing well although his foot is only healing slowly.

after six weeks in R.G.H. and L.D.H. he is now in Camelot Nursing Home, Anzac Parade, Maroubra. He had a stroke and his left leg and speech are affected but is fairly mobile on a walking stick. Slim Powers and Jim Robins saw him and took him out for a while. I rang his sister, Mrs. Barbara Paucsh, with whom he had been living to explain that his name had not appeared on the computer sheets. They had not told the admissions section that he belonged to us. She will hopefully advise me of any change.

4 Bn. W.W.I. LEFORT, Eugene. In W.V.H. Hospital and not at all well.

#### LAST POST:

NX5577, FITZPATRICK, T.P. Pommie Cole rang Laurie Waterhouse to say that Tom had died 15th. Sept. '81. He was a member of the Chester Hill R.S.L. who handled the funeral. His wife says she would like to go on receiving W.O.G. but he is not on my nominal roll of members and we do not know the address.

With regards and Seasons Greetings to all from the Welfare Gang and special thanks to all who have helped throughout the year.

John Copland.

#### ASSOCIATION OF 4th. INFANTRY BATTALION MEETINGS FOR 1982

Meetings start at 7pm and are as follows

8th January,	at Combined Services Club
12th March.	(Annual Gen. Meeting) at Arncliffe Depot.
14th May,	at Combined Services Club
9th July,	" " " "
10th September,	" " " "
12th November,	" " " "

President Brian Dooley, son of our Larry, is really active and hopefully more 2/4 members will be able to find the time to take an active part in this Association.

#### SITREPS.

From Laurie McCosker: "Now that my eyesight has improved, I decided to drop a line about what has happened here recently. After the Kempsey Re-Union, Claude Raymond and his wife visited Brisbane and whilst here, met some of the locals for drinks and bickies at Wally and Betty McKenzie's residence. I have recently met Norman Everson who is in the process of shifting from Wynnum to Thornlands, also Stan Sutherland, Wally MacKenzie and Gordon Bladen. Had morning tea with Vera Provians who tells me she has had visits, letters and phone calls from several 2/4thers. Had a phone call from Harry Whitman while he was up in Brisbane for medical reasons and heard on the grapevine that the results of the tests were better than expected. Called on Norm MacIntyre the other day and found him well. Wishing all, the best for the Festive Season. Regards, Laurie."

And the mighty man himself, Norm that is, sent a letter to the Editor and a cheque (not to the Editor's retirement fund, curse it, but to the Association) pre-

Thanks Norm. Thought you were a paid up Life Member already. Anyway, Allen Lindsay will latch on to that and sort it out. Norm didn't make the Kempsey "do", however, Bruce Flude called in and gave him and Norm Everson, who happened to be visiting a full run down. He also produced some good photographs. One that pleased Norm very much was one of Kenny Webb and Ted McCaffrey but as he said "It didn't look quite complete without Jack Heaney." Norm sends his regards to all.

And from "Gentleman Jim": "November W.O.G. arrived today and I really enjoyed it. Sorry I could not make the Kempsey Reunion. Hope to be right for Orange in 1982. Items from November W.O.G.: As a fairly regular Cork soaker (but I prefer the bottles to the 'Chateau Cardboard'), I was very happy to read of the CORKS (Bruce and Jack) success in putting the stopper on World War 11. I suggest they should be immediately seconded to the United Nations in order to bottle up any possibility of World War 111! (Editor suggests that if the beer allocation is adequate, the U.N. will have a couple of effective starters.) Item 2. As an undeniable Sagittairryass (Jim can't spell, probably because he was expelled from 6th. Class Primary.) of almost three score years and ten, I must lock Bows and Arrows with "Seer-sucker". Perhaps I might qualify as the Birthday Boy of this group. As a "Saggo" officer, I recall the incident of the Don-R from the Trick Cyclist Platoon" 1 Aust. Psycho. Unit. who arrived at 2/4 Aust. Inf. Bn. HQ. with a signal addressed to the 'Intelligent Officer.' The V.I.P. he encountered in the Bn. Orderly Room was a well known R.S.M. who thundered 'What fool sent this? Intelligent Officer? Don't they know there is no such person?' Seer - yer - Sucker.

Regards, Jim Graham

Editorial Comment: That makes three readers our Seer has (including the Editor) and three and half if the wise one himself is included.

#### 1982 COUNTRY RE-UNION - ORANGE.

PETER AND PAT DENVER ARE AWAITING YOUR BOOKINGS FOR THE ORANGE RE-UNION. CONTACT THEM AT 15 ADMIRAL TERRACE, GOOLWAY, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 5214. THE DATES ARE FRIDAY, SEPT. 24th. TO MONDAY, SEPT. 27th. PLEASE ADVISE DETAILS OF ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE, ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED ETC. \$10 PER PERSON DEPOSIT WILL SECURE YOUR BOOKING.

(As a sort of a foot-note, don't think it odd that the Denvers in South Australia are organising a Re-union in Orange. They did the same in Yarrawonga and could probably organise one at Marble Bar if required. Ed.)

#### THIS MONTH'S BEAUTIFUL THOUGHT

"Most women wear a sweater to accentuate the negative and eliminate the positive."

"The Buckshee Philosopher"