

Hodgson. Albie really did his share of the hard going on these three arduous campaigns. With his most pleasing personality and ready wit he was always great company and a steady morale booster.

On return from active service he returned to his old position as a salesman with Makower, McBeath, at that time located in William Street over Bethel Thurstons (all now long demolished). After a few years Albie was transferred to Adelaide and then to Melbourne. He resigned to take up a position with his wife's family firm Donalds & Sons at that time located in the Commonwealth Bank Building on the corner of William and Hay Streets. He continued with this firm until his retirement quite a few years ago.

When the 2/2nd Commando Association was formed Albie was one of the original committee men and served the Association in this State well until his transfer to the Eastern States. He also took a keen interest in Association affairs while in Melbourne. Albie was a most valued member of the Association and we have lost a good reliable member.

Albie was a keen member of the Anglican Church and served on the Diocesan Committee of St. George's Cathedral for many years. He was also a reader for services held at the War Veterans Home at Mt Lawley.

He was predeceased by his wife a few years ago and had quite a large family of brothers and sisters and many in-laws, although no family of his own.

We say a fond farewell to a thoroughly nice bloke and send our condolences to his family.

Col Doig

The following attended Albie's funeral at Karrakatta on Friday, September 17th: Ray Aitken, Tom Bateman, Tony Bowers, Ernie Bingham, Arch Campbell, Jack Carey, Jess Epps, George Fletcher, Jack Fowler, Gerry Green, Jack Hasson, Keith Hayes, Bill and Elvie Howsell, Bernie Langridge, Wilf and Lorraine March, Tom Martin, Don May, Ted Monk, Joe Poynton, Bob Smyth, Henry and Thelma Sproston, George and Colleen Strickland, 'Dusty' Studly, Vince Swann, Don Turton, Eric Weller, Merv Wheatley, Jack Wicks. Apologies were tendered by Col Doig and Reg Harrington.

VALE ALBERT MATTHEWS

Another of the old gang in the person of Bert Matthews passed away in his 78th year on September 15th. Bert was an original member of 1 Section 'A' Platoon and served only on Timor.

After the Timor campaign Bert left the 2/2nd and was later allocated to the 2/16th Battalion and served with that show in New Guinea, especially at Shaggy Ridge.

After hostilities Bert married and lived in Adelaide Terrace for some time and worked at Metters for many years as a sheetmetal worker. He moved to Doubleview and apparently spent most of his leisure time with the Scarborough R.S.L. He was also a very keen lawn bowler and a member of the Innaloo Bowling Club.

Bert did not take any interest in the 2/2nd Commando Association, although he was always on the mailing list of the Courier.

We extend our condolences to wife Jean and the family.

Col Doig

The following attended Bert's funeral at Karrakatta on Friday, September 17th: Tony Bowers, Arch Campbell, Jack Carey, Keith Hayes, Bernie Langridge, Ted Monk, Joe Poynton, Vince Swann, Don Turton and Eric Weller.

VALE COLIN RAYMOND CRIDDLE

Again it is a sad duty to advise of the death of one of our original members, Colin Criddle. So the sad saga goes on. The deep decimation of our ranks continues.

Colin died on September 21st after a severe heart attack. He had just had his 72nd birthday. Colin joined our Unit and trained on Wilsons Promontory and was a member of No. 2 Section under Gerry McKenzie after training and that momentous trip north to Katherine and the building of that camp. He served the whole time of the Timor campaign, being with No. 2 Section on that memorable night of the Japanese landing.

After that arduous and debilitating campaign Colin was left with the Training Squadron at Canungra for some time. He was recruited into 'Z' Force and trained in 'Z' establishments in the eastern states before being allocated to the Darwin area. He did one foray in Timor disguised as a native and returned to Darwin where he underwent further training for a projected parachute landing in Timor. He was sent home on pre-embarkation leave but the Armistice was signed and his parachute jump was frustrated. It was probably this frustration that engendered his desire to enter this sport at a later date.

After demobilisation Colin joined the Midland Railway Company as a bus driver, eventually rising to the position of Superintendent. When the Midland Railway Company was taken over

by W.A.G.R., Colin continued with the railway bus service, again becoming a superintendent. In 1973 Colin retired because of ill health at the age of 52. He had open heart surgery in 1977 and unfortunately, in 1979 he suffered a stroke which left him somewhat crippled, although he carried on quite manfully. He also suffered very badly with ulcerated legs which did not respond to treatment. He was made T.P.I. quite a few years ago.

Colin was a keen member of our Unit Association and although his job and later his health precluded him from an executive position he contributed wherever he could and was a most generous donor to Association funds.

Apart from his early sport of parachuting he was involved with the Wembley Bowling Club and the R.S.L. Bowling Club. He was keenly interested in the Wembley-Floreat R.S.L. and the T.P.I. Association where he was also a most generous donor to funds.

Colin was a loving and affectionate husband of wife Bonnie and a great father to sons Terry, Gerg, Bret and their families. He was a gentle gentleman and a very sensitive person who made friends easily and kept them all his life.

So, we say farewell to a good bloke, a loving husband and father and a top citizen.

We extend our most sincere sympathy to Bonnie and the family in their sad loss.

Col Doig

The following attended Colin's funeral at the Norfolk Crematorium Chapel, Karrakatta on September 23rd: Ray Aitken, Len Bagley, Betty Illsley, Tony and Gwen Bowers, John BurrIDGE, Archie Campbell, Jack and Delys Carey, Joy Chatfield, Col Doig, Ron Dook, Jess Epps, George Fletcher, John Fowler, Les Halse, Jack, Ken and Kay Hasson, Keith Hayes, Bill Howell, Don Hudson, Mark and Elsie Jordan, Charles and Mary King, Bernie and Babs Langridge, Gerry Maley, Wilf and Lorraine March, Ted Monk, Nellie Mullins, Don Murray, Joe and Helen Poynton, John and Cath Roberts, Gordon Rowley, Rob Smyth, Henry and Thelma Sproxton, 'Dusty' Study, Don Turton, Roy Watson, Barbara Goddard, Merv Wheatley, Jack Wicks, Joe and Dot Barron 2/5th, Jim Lines 2/5th.

R. Bayliss, Mandurah 6210

The President and Members, 2/2 Independent Company

On behalf of Mum, myself, brother, sisters and families, I would like to extend our sincere thanks to you and your members for your support during recent days.

My father (George) was always held his army mates in highest regard and whilst my military service was undertaken away from the conflicts you all experienced, I can respect and understand the importance that such comradeship held for him and holds for yourselves.

George had been looking forward to his trip away with you and even though his time spent with you was brief I know he could not have wished it to be any other way.

Again, my thanks to you, his mates, for your kind regards and assistance in making his parting so memorable to all who attended the service on Wednesday.

Best wishes to you all.

Rod Bayliss

ALBANY COUNTRY CONVENTION

Monday, August 30 - Friday, September 3

Forty members and friends boarded the coach 'Ride a Rainbow' at 9 a.m. on Monday, August 30, in pouring rain and good spirits, for the 'Five Day Experience in Albany' which had been expertly arranged by Julie and Bill of Halls Head Coach Lines, Mandurah.

At 10.30 a.m. we were enjoying morning tea in the sunshine at Quindanning, after which we were taken on a conducted tour of Ye Olde Quindanning Inne, an 80 year old beautifully furnished English Pub.

Back to the coach and through green countryside, fields of lupins, colourful everlastings and flowering peach trees, on the way to Kojonup where Julie and Bill produced a lovely lunch of cold chicken and healthy home made salads which we consumed, al fresco, at the old railway station Tourist Bureau. An enjoyable drive in changeable weather via Mount Barker and the Porongorups, arriving Albany at 4.30 p.m. The bar staff at Ryans Premier Hotel were startled when a coach load of thirsty travellers descended on them for a Happy Hour but rose to the occasion admirably, produced tasty hot nibbles and made us most welcome. Accommodation and dinner at the Albany International Motel was superb and added the finishing touch to a great day.

On Tuesday, after a hearty breakfast we enjoyed the sights of Albany, a guided tour of Whale World Museum, a delicious fish luncheon and a free afternoon and evening.

Wednesday, a fascinating visit to the Princess Royal Fortress which brought back to our members many memories of their army days. In 1956 the Fortress was closed and