

2/2 COMMANDO ASSOCIATION.

CIRCULAR NEWSLETTER - NO. 14.

6th May, 1948.

Here we are in the Merry Month of May and winter time is just about upon us. April was a very successful period in our ever growing existence and every month brings its modicum of progress to our fraternal organisation.

Anzac Day with its celebrations has come and gone and we can count it as one of the most successful to date. But life would not be complete without a moan or two from your truly, so I will slip one in right here. Considering the magnificence of the weather the roll up was not up to standard in my humble opinion. One would have to have two wooden legs with white ants in them to remain away from the parade on such a day and really apart from personal illness no excuses could be offered for non-attendance. With a boost from other Squadrons we had an attendance of about 50 in all and with the liquid refreshments on the "N ard" afterwards I think it could be voted an excellent outing.

Of course all this perfection had to be marred eventually as nothing so good can go on forever. All went well until in the late evening your good Secretary Mick Calcutt developed suicidal or homicidal tendencies and drove his car wildly at an ornamental Red Flowering Gum in Kings Park. But either Mick is tougher than the car or something, but I have to chronicle that apart from a few abrasions to Mick and Ron Dook and a complete wreck of the car all is now OK. If you want to buy the remains of one Vauxhall sand in your bids on the Woolworth principle, nothing over 2/6d.

Well the usual monthly meeting took place on the 5th May at Monash Club and I am afraid the Roll up of 15 was below our usual average, but apparently there was an over supply of counter attractions.

For once there was not a lot of business to transact and the Keg was topped much earlier than usual and allowed all to have a good "natter" to one another. But one most portentous letter came forward from the R.S.L. enclosing a copy of a letter from Minister for Army Chambers. This was a direct knock back of the Timor Subsistence. In the light of this your committee has been instructed to take steps to bring the matter before the various Government members of Parliament for W.A. and attempt to have the matter reopened from that angle. If all else fails there is always the Soldier's friend "Smith's Weekly". You can rest assured that no stone will be left unturned in our efforts to get our honest dues paid in this matter and if we do eventually fail it will not be for lack of fight.

In passing let me assure all that the hard sloggng is just about at an end as far as meetings go. The rules and Constitution have been cleaned up as has the Welfare business and it is the Committee's policy to now make the meetings as enjoyable as possible for all who attend. We are at the moment exploring all avenues to find ways and means of providing enjoyable features with which to enliven the meetings.

With this letter you will find numerous enclosures. Firstly the Booklet of Rules and Constitution, please read and inwardly digest especially the particular section dealing with Subscriptions!! Next you will find a questionnaire which you are asked to fill in as soon as possible and return to me. This is necessary as we wish to make personal history records for each man. Your Regimental Number is necessary as in all dealings with the Army on your behalf they require this for reference purposes and to have to write to each person every time such a thing crops up is a waste of time and money. Your occupation is required so that if work is available we can smartly find a printer, painter, etc. and make certain it goes to him. Then to complete our records we want to know whether you are married or single and how many children you may have acquired by now, this of course is all handy dope if we run a social evening or Xmas Tree etc. and want to quickly calculate how many to cater for.

Also included is the Ballot paper and the necessary envelope for return of same. You are especially asked to complete this as soon as possible and return at the very latest to reach me by 31st May 1948, all votes received after that date will have to be excluded from the count and thus you will not have your vote recorded. Please read carefully the

Subscription time has come round again and you are requested to send yours in to Ron Dook, C/- Department of Labour and National Service, 9 Barrack Street, Perth, as soon as possible so become financial for year 1948/49. We have hopes of making this a record year as far as Subs are concerned, so do your little bit by sending your "Oxford Scholar" in immediately.

Now for that correspondance, a very lengthy circular from Jack Hartley in New South Wales, with the following news flashes - Gerry McKenzie now 2nd I/C, 66 Bat, in Japan, where he is living with his wife. Ross Smith is a bus driver at Maitland and has just returned from a round trip to Adelaide. Laurie Peakins is the proud papa of another baby. Lionel Newton sends his regards from Broken Hill. Frank Press has a good job with Pernewan Wright Ltd., at Gulgargambone (Snoreze that one if you can!) Col Holly has returned to Sydney and is settling down to matrimony. Curly O'Neil is still reporting for the "Daily Telegraph", but is not enjoying best of health. Russ Symons has added to the family with a baby daughter. John Darge is doing a Rehabilitation course in Bootmaking. N.S.W. have just had a very successful Ladies Night with a bumper attendance and quite a bit of the "doings".

Geo Timms writes from Katanning and says "Blossom" Lawrence was down his way recently. Geo is an early applicant for the Smiles Poem. Another letter from Dud Tapper in South Aust. giving quite a bit of the doings in those parts. Dud is eager to obtain snaps taken in Timor, we may be able to fix him up when we get the photo scheme going properly. "Bluey" Wilkes writes from Brunswick Junction where is now employed as Railway Fireman. Blue is a married man with two children now. Bert Burgesses address "Blue" is - C/- "Yanget" Station, Geraldton, Jack Ponglass, Heaton, and Harold Newton 1 Short Street, Darlinghurst, N.S.W.

Arthur Marshall comes good with a very interesting letter from Harvey "Marsh" in partnership with his brother is conducting a Wood Yard, so look out for your clothes line props. Arthur had a very successful Cricket Season at Harvey and Averaged 53 for Country Week, and 43 for Club Matches which is a bit tasty. Peter Bardon is going extra well with the footy business down at Harvey. Brief notes to hand from Johnny Moore at Dwellingup and Gordon Holmes at Cranbrook. Gordon Rowley writes from Manjimup says he is driving a timber truck while he knocks his farm into shape. Gordon brings news of Alex Thompson and Ted Loud, who are both with Forestry Department and looking very fit. He believes Don Young is now driving a truck on Main Roads.

Another of the correspondents for the month was Ron Johnson, from Koorda, who says things are going very well with him on the land and enclosing large quantities of dough for future subs. Colin Criddle also wrote in and voiced his appreciation of newsletters etc. and says he is now in the Geraldton Area working.

Have not seen many Country folk about town lately, but did see Tommy Martin down from Milng. Tommy is as lean as a Kangaroo Dog, much different from his tubby appearance in the Army.

Can only find one birth for the month so it seems that last month's effort was a flash in the pan. Eric Waller is the proud papa on this occasion, but afraid I just don't know the sex, Anyhow Congrats, Eric.

Now don't forget your advance orders for the Jim Smiles poem. This is now in the Printer's hands, but we do not expect delivery for a little while yet, but we would like all who require a copy to send in and let me know so that we will be in a position to calculate the requirements and if necessary order extra copies. Quite a few have already ordered, but I would like to hear from all who will be requiring a copy.

Now boys don't forget the change of meeting night for the next meeting (Annual General) it will be Tuesday 1st June 1948 at Monash Club, 10a King Street. We want to see the best attended Annual General ever, so be in it with your mates.

Next Month will see a change of editors as yours truly is about to take a little holiday and therefore will be unable to attend to duty. So until you hear from me again, Good Luck and Au Revoir,

(C.D. Deia).

Editor.