

*The* SECOND-SECOND  
COMMANDO ASSOCIATION  
*General Newsletter*

No. 20.

10th November, 1948.

Here I am again with all the news and doings of the Association to keep you abreast of what is being done on your behalf and to try and give you the usual monthly round up of news of your mates.

The November meeting was held at Monash Club on the 2nd but the roll up was much below expectations, but all who attended voted it one of the best nights yet. With Calcutt, Ron Dook and Joe Burrige in top form the night was nothing if not lively. There was a terrific amount of Correspondence mostly from people returning sweep tickets and this took up a majority of the evening. Not much business of real importance was brought forward except that Bill Epps was elected to fill the vacancy on the Committee caused by Alby Martin moving to Adelaide.

Now to draw your attention to the Blood Donation Scheme which the Association is organising in conjunction with the Red Cross. Arrangements have been made to have the Actual Bleeding done prior to the December meeting on the 7th. You are asked to be in attendance at the Centre 25 Bellvue Terrace, Near King's Park at 6.30p.m. so that the Doctors can go to town on you as early as possible. Now lads dont let the Association down, make this a bumper roll up. I dont need to stress the excellence of the cause you all know how important it is to the community to have an adequate Blood Bank, so do your share by the Association and be present on the 7th December.

The next matter is one of supreme importance to all members of our Association. You will all recall that not so long ago the Association decided to get sufficient Trees in Kings Park to Commemorate our War Dead. The actual plates are now ready and the Dedication Ceremony is to take place on Sunday December, 5th, in Lovelock Drive, Kings Park at 3pm. We have decided to parade as a body on that date and we ask you all to be present. To date we have not made very great demands on our members, but we do so on this occasion. No excuses will be accepted for non attendance as this is a most important occasion and all our War Dead were your mates and it is up to you to make a small sacrifice to be present at this Ceremony. The Arch Bishop of Perth the Very Reverend Dr. Molone will perform the actual Dedication and the Governor, Sir James Mitchell will also be present together with leading R.S.L. Executives. Dont forget the date Sunday 5th December, and we will fall in at the Forrest Memorial Kings Park at 2.30p.m. Tom Nisbet will marshall our Parade.

Just a few details of the Sweep. This was an outstanding financial success something like £130 finding its way into the coffers which you will agree is a bit tasty. I wish to thank all who did so much towards making this Sweep such a success. There are still a few unsold books still outstanding and if you have one please forward to me with-out delay, as these are required for Audit purposes.

Photos of the Dinner are now available from Ron Dook who will be only too pleased to forward you one on receipt of a 3/- Postal Note. These Photos are excellent and will make a good souvenir.

To those people who have enquired re the Smailes Poem, I have to advise that owing to unforeseen delays this has not yet been printed, but we hope to get it out very soon and all who have ordered copies will have them forwarded to their address.

We still have a couple of our Members in hospital. Kev Waddington is in Ward 1. Hollywood and King McCaig is in Ward 16 of the same hospital and they will be only too pleased to see a few visitors, so rally round lads and go and see them and give a little cheer to our bedridden mates.

I notice that three of the members in Joe Burrige, Ron Nenzorling and Barry Lawrence have become proud parents during the month. Our Congrats to all these and hope the sleepless nights are at a minimum.

The usual matter of subscriptions arises again also to those chaps who have not yet joined, this is just another reminder to send Ron Dook the necessary dollar to make themselves financial. We have hopes of achieving a 100% effort before the next Annual Meeting in May.

Another most important matter is the outstanding Subscriptions on the Annual Reunion. As our Treasurer wishes to close the books on this function, would you please forward your Subscriptions if you have not already done so. I gave this matter a write up last letter but the result was disappointing.

Correspondence for the month was terrific, but it was mostly from chaps who were returning Sweep Tickets and therefore the news angle was not so hot. The following is a brief summary of the various letters: Fred Humfrey is now at Yampi Sound and expects to head for Darwin any day. Keith McEachern is a Light House Keeper at Cape Naturaliste Lighthouse Busselton. Keith is a married man with a pigeon pair. Don Turton writes from West Pingelly to say the season has not treated him too badly. Ron Sprigg from Albany, says he is going along quite well, often sees Potts, who is working at a Boarding House at Albany. Alf Hillman is still the busy farmer at Broomhill, Paddy Doyle from Kalgoorlie wishes to be remembered to all the gang. Bert Burges was sorry he couldn't make the Annual Do owing to shearing in Kojonup Area. Alec Thomson who is now a married man writes from Pemberton and sends his regards to all. Don May who is on the Railway Station at Clackline writes briefly and hopes you are all doing well. Bob Smyth who is with Vacuum Oil at Carnarvon and places distant, says he recently had a few beers with Bill Drago and Boomer Giles at Northampton. Bob says there is an opening for a good Motor Mechanic at Carnarvon and the wages are excellent. From Norm Thornton at Denmark who gives a commentary of his movements after the Dinner in Perth in which he was escorted to a Taxi by an obliging copper. From Doc Wheatley who is busy planting the Tomatoes and Gerkins at Byford. Wilf March who is holidaying at Geraldton and enjoying it immensely. Norm Wallace writes from Jarrahwood where he says he is working up a nice thirst fighting fires. Geo Lewis from Lake Grace to say the Season has assured the crops in that Area but that the water position is not so hot. Jack Wicks writes from Bassendean and sends his best to the gang. Tom Crouch writes from Manjimup and suggest a change in date for the Annual Reunion to February. Tony Davidson from Kalgoorlie writes and included a Photo of his hopeful - Very nice too Tony - Says he met Jack Denman at Kalgoorlie not so long ago. Geo Timms is doing the Rural Training School at Harvey and hopes to get a property ere long. Alf Blundy writes from Katanning where he is going along OK. hopes to pay a visit to the big smoke soon and meet some of the gang. Keith Beacham was sorry not to be able to make the Reunion, but is hopeful that he will be in attendance next year. Ernie Denwoodie writes from Kalgoorlie where he says the grog is as good as ever. Bob Palmer sends regards to all from his Cow Farm at Cowaramup. Bob says he is doing quite well.

Had two Interstate Newsletters during the month one from Jack Hartley in N.S.W. and one from Alf Graham in Victoria. Jack sends news of the N.S.W. Lads who have been a bit poor with the pen recently and therefore there was not much to recount. John Greig writes from Japan and sends his regards to all. Jack gives news of Dave Dexter who was heading for London and Geneva - What a Job Dex. Jack apparently does his own typing by the type of yarn he usually ends his screed with. Sorry cant reciprocate Jack as my ability with the typewriter is a minus quantity and therefore have got to watch the Languango.

A letter from Ning McCaig, who is in Hollywood Hospital, Ward 16, and looks like being there for some time. What about a few visitors to see him? Gordon Rowley writes from Manjimup where he is working while trying to knock a block of land into shape to eventually go on the land. Alf Hillman writes from Broomehill and apologises for not being able to make the Re-union, but says he was doing battle with the blow-flies and grass-seeds for his wool clip. Kev. Waddington is another who is in Hollywood, Ward 1. Kev. says Fred Napier is also an inmate in Ward 4. We wish all these chaps a speedy recovery from their various ills.

A long letter from Kev. Curran, who wishes to thank the W.A.ites for the way they treated him while he was here with the Victorian Team. Kev. says he played particularly good footy on his return to Victoria, and won the Trophy for the fairest and best player in the Hawthorn Club. Just another success to the popular Kevin.

Scotty Wares, who is now driving a Railway Bus in the South West, writes from Bunbury to say all is going well with him, and gives news of quite a few of the chaps he has met in the various towns. Notably, Ted Loud, Geo. Merritt, Alex. Thompson, Roy Watson and Bob. Palmer. All are going well and send regards. Dick Darrington is another of my correspondents, and he is in the baking business at Bridgetown. Dick reckons we should hold the Re-union at the week-end to suit the hard working country folk.

That reminds me - if you have any suggestions for a more suitable date for the Re-union, please let me know as soon as you can, as it is the Committee's intention to go into the matter of the Annual Re-union, and, if necessary, make an alteration of date to suit the greatest number of people.

The next meeting will be held at Monash Club, on Tuesday, 2nd November, (Melbourne Cup night) and we would like to see a big roll up to enjoy a really good evening.

Well, enough for now, and I will say cheerio until next month.

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( C. DOIG )  
HONORARY EDITOR.