

2/2nd COMMANDO ASSOCIATION.

NEWSLETTER No. 21.

21st December, 1948.

Christmas is just about upon us once again and I take this opportunity of wishing everyone the Merriest of Xmas' and the Happiest of New Years in 1949.

This letter is a bit late off the mark and in effort to get it to you before Xmas, it will be slightly curtailed so I crave your pardons for my tardiness, but must plead excess of work and the early onrush of the Xmas Spirit.

Firstly I would like to thank all who took part in the very successful dedication Ceremony in Kings Park on the 5th of December. A Roll up of over fifty took part in a most impressive and simple ceremony and it is an occasion of which we can be justly proud. Our President Jack Denman laid the Plaques on behalf of all members of the unit and the whole ceremony was carried out with a due reverence and a complete lack of ostentation. We can now say that the Unit own a small portion in Gods Acre, which is our very own and while we look upon it as such our Association will live for ever.

The next matter is the Blood Bank Donation Scheme. Quite a reasonable attendance was present when we carried out this Scheme on 7th December. I have been asked by the Red Cross to thank all those who took part and we hope there will be a greater attendance when next we undertake to make Blood Donations. In the words of Tom Nisbet "He couldn't have cared less about the effects of the actual bleeding" which shows what a minor worry it all is.

As a result of the Blood Scheme our meeting last month was most curtailed, but the roll up was excellent. It was decided to make a contribution of £5.5.0 to the Orphans Xmas Cheer Fund, as we did last year. Some discussion took place on the future of the Photographic Scheme, but owing to the lateness of the hour this was deferred until a later meeting.

It is with regret that I have to chronicle the death of Mrs. Murray wife of our Honary Life Member Tom Murray and mother of Don. Mrs. Murray has been in ill health for many years. Our Sincere Condolences go out to the bereaved family.

There were two births to wives of members since last I wrote. Boomer Giles is the proud father of a daughter and Jack Hasson of a son. Sincere congrats to both.

Have heard nothing from the matrimony front for some time so must conclude that for the time being at least we have run out of eligible males.

Had a most interesting letter from Scotty Taylor, who is in the Sports Business in Bristol, England. Scotty says he enjoys the Newsletters and looks forward to hearing the news of all the gang. He is still entirely participating in Soccer and was the leading Goal Scorer in his particular league. Says it all heaps to keep him in the fore front and helps sales in the Sports Business. Scotty reckons they are not exactly starving in England, but that the diet is most monotonous.

Also had another letter from Peter Mantle, who as you know is in Bombay, India. Peter continues to do well and says he got quite a rap up from the Prime Minister for the manner in which he conducts the local Newspaper for the Department of Information ( Better come back to Aussie and edit the newsletter for me Peter). He sends seasonal greetings to all the gang.

Reg Harrington among the correspondents this month. Reg says he is stuck into the harvest and hopes to deliver a couple of

thousand bags of wheat to the Silo. Reg is hopeful of taking over another place next year and says he will need all the scheckles he makes this year to get going properly.

A most interesting visitor to town for the Dedication Ceremony was Nip Cunningham. Nip met with a very nasty accident at work last July and has had quite a bit of grafting etc. done upon him and is still only in the convalescent stage. It was with real pleasure we were able to see him at the Ceremony and we wish him a speedy recovery. Another visitor was Major Gerry McKenzie who was in the state on leave after returning from Japan. Gerry is to take up duties at Puckapunyal after leave. He had fallen away from a spring cart to a couple of waggons.

Sighted Peter Campbell and Tony Bowers in town having a couple of noggins. Rumour has it that Peter has become engaged and might tie the knot any tick of the clock. Tony is going to start a Timber Mill somewhere in the South West, he tells me.

Had a letter from Tony Adams from Queensland. Tony says what with the work, the home and the infant son he is a pretty busy man. He tells me the Hooper is now "mine host" of a Hotel at Roma, Queensland. Says the Hooper is a very settled person these days. Tony also informs me that the newsletters are much appreciated in the Northern State and that all news of the Unit is eagerly devoured at their meetings, which they hold about every six months.

Just another word about outstanding subs. Ron Dook has asked me to jog your memories once more on this subject as he wants to be able to report a 100% effort at our next Annual General Meeting. This also applies to any who have not joined the Association as yet. I think all well agree that since our formation we have done a good job on behalf of all members and I hope that you all make it a New Years resolution to take a more active interest in your Association.

Well boys that will be all for this time so once again I will wish you all the very best for the festive season without too many hangovers and a most prosperous New Year.

So till next time,

Cheerio.

(C. D. DOIG.)  
Hon. Editor.

3.

Alf Graham tells of the recent Annual General Meeting in Victoria, where the Office Bearers for the ensuing year were elected. Peter Krause is President, Jack Servante is Vice President. John Roberts Treasurer. With H. Bickerton, E. Mulcahy B. McLaten and Bob Tarney on the committee. Auditors are Max Davis and Geo Kennedy. Victoria are arranging a Smoko for the 25th September, so I will be able to give you news of that in next letter. Alf had a letter from Baldy (R. Baldwin) from Geelong Grammar who sends his regards to all.

Well chaps that is about all for now so I will just give you a few reminders - Don't forget the next Meeting at Monash Club, on 7th December, prior to which the Blood Donation will take place, this as stated before will be at 25 Bellvue Terrace, (near Kings Park Gate) at 6.30p.m. Then most important, don't forget the Dedication Ceremony at Kings Park on December, 5th. fall in at Forrest Memorial at 2.30p.m.

So till then, Cheerio,

(C.D.DOIG.)  
Hon. Editor.