

2/2 COMMANDO ASSOCIATION.

CIRCULAR NEWSLETTER NO. 25.

14th April, 1949.

Well boys here I am back into harness again after a three weeks' holiday; must admit the collar portion of the harness is inclined to chafe a bit and the shoes fit a bit tightly after knocking around in racing plates, but feel revived and ready to bash your ears and pockets again for another twelve months. I managed to trick the Calcutt on the venue of my holiday, gave it out was going to Albany, and then doubled back and went to Bunbury and scared all the fish in the Southern waters away, as they just wouldn't look at my hooks. Other than the fishing had a marvellous time and can thoroughly recommend Bunbury to any requiring a really grand holiday. Only member of the Association I struck on my travel was Freddy Sparkman who had brought a train from Bridgetown to Bunbury.

The usual Monthly Meeting was held at Monash Club on Tuesday, 5th April, with quite a good roll up. A good time was had by all and the "Ten" went down smartly. A discussion took place on the brightening of Meetings to stimulate attendances at same. It was agreed that we try and arrange for the showing of short films on topical subjects, also to arrange talks of general interest to all members; other ideas were also suggested and these will be incorporated from time to time. Generally, quite a bit of business of importance to the Association was completed and I can assure you that these Meetings are of real importance to all members.

Now for the matter of Anzac Day. We will be marching as a body again this year, and I appeal to all members to make the effort to attend. Anzac Day is on the Monday this year and the Parade will take place in the morning. Markers will be called for at 9.30 a.m. Fall-in at 9.45 a.m. and move-off at 10.0 a.m. Tom Nisbet will marshall our parade again this year and Mick Morgan will be Standard Bearer once again. A "Drop of the Doings" will be had on the Esplanade afterwards as in past years and we invite members of other Commando Squadrons to march with us again and take part in the little "Shivoo" afterwards.

A wreath will be laid on the War Memorial on behalf of the Association at the Dawn Service and if you can attend this function you are asked to do so. Well roll up lads and make this Anzac Day the record one yet.

Next Meeting will be held at Monash Club on Tuesday, 3rd May, and once again I request you all to attend and enjoy yourself with the gang. The Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 7th June, and as the Election of Officers, Presentation of Reports and Financial Statements, etc., takes place at this Meeting it behoves all members to make the effort to get to this Meeting. As subs. for this year are due now and we will be closing the Books at the end of April, if you have not paid your subscription you are asked to do so without delay. Also subscriptions for year 1949-50 will be payable as from 1st June, so we will be only too pleased to receive these as early as possible.

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Had quite a bit of correspondence this month including a newsletter from Jack Hartley. Ivor Goodall, who will all remember, left us after Foster with Meningitis, writes from Katanning where he is one of the local Gendarmes. Ivor says the Police Force is a most interesting job and always gives you something new to learn. He wishes to be remembered to all. Peter Mantle once again writes from Bombay to tell us that he is a Daddy. A bouncing baby girl. Says his Wife has not quite the troubles of Australian Mothers as quite a large proportion of the work is done by the Indian servants. Peter has been hobnobbing with the heavyweights of late including McGirr, Premier of New South Wales, Lord Huntingfield, ex. Governor of Victoria and others. Peter reckons the Indians have plenty of holidays with their mixed religions, each celebrating on different days. Recently the Moslems had their New Year, when flying of kites seemed to be the main amusement. Kev Curran writes from Victoria and wants to be remembered to all. Kev has just moved into a home of his own and is like a dog with two tails. He says the footy clubs in Victoria are in full training and hope for a victory over us this year. Kev has split the webbing in one of his hands and was off training at the moment.

Some points from Jack Hartley's newsletter. The Annual General Meeting was held in New South Wales recently and the following Officers elected. President; J.S. O'Brien (re-elected)-Secretary; J. Hartley (re-elected)-Committee; A. Stewart, A. Luby, H. Newton, N. Bray and G. Maloy. New South Wales Branch has affiliated with Aust. Armoured Corps and this gives them certain advantages in the way of Club Rooms etc., and I think quite a good move from their point of view. It was also decided to establish a Welfare Fund to assist needy and incapacitated members. The financial position with the New South Wales Branch showed a very nice increase of about £40 for the year, which is something that they are to be complimented on. Financial membership doubled for year also, which is a healthy sign.

Now for a few personal items from Jack. Geo. Paterson has sold his timber mill and is going to manage a timber yard in Sydney. Jimmy Barnes is now residing at Hurstville and doing final year in Veterinary Science at Uni. Gerry Maloy has managed to obtain a flat next door to Jack O'Brien but has been battling for possession with a plague of fleas. Alan Stewart is still having trouble with his leg and is still in Yaralla Hospital.

The Hatch business looked up since last I wrote, Arthur Marshall and Ted Monk both became proud parents. Congrats. to both from the Association.

Now for a few more brief personalities just to keep you all Au Fait with your mates.

BOWERS, Tony. Still single, but I think only just so as I've been seeing things! Tony's address is C/o, P.O. Kojonup. He is in the midst of starting a Spot Mill in the Kojonup area to cut sleepers and the like and we wish him every success in his new venture. Tony was looking tip top last time I saw him.

BRAND, Joe. Married with one child. Address, Ogilvie Siding, Ogilvie. Joe is another of our farming members and has a block under the Soldiers' Settlement Scheme and I believe doing quite well. Have not had any recent reports from Joe, but my scouts tell me he is looking well and still able to imbibe a little of the Amber fluid.

CROSSING, Warwick. Still single. Address 30 Thelma Street, South Perth. "Wack" has been doing and I believe still doing a course in Woolclassing under Rehab. He has had a couple of trips North with shearing teams as Trainee Woolclasser, and last year finished up the season doing some clips on his own. He has hopes of going away again this year.

DAVIDSON, Tony. Married, one child. Address 13 O'Bertha Street, Kalgoorlie. Tony is a greengrocer and fruiterer in Kalgoorlie and tells me that he is going along quite well. So you Goldfields types don't forget to support Tony when seeking your vitamins.

FOSTER, T.A. Married with two children. Address "Anama" Station, Brinkworth, South Australia. Tommy you will remember was one of our early State Secretaries and put in a terrific amount of groundwork for the formation of the Association. Tom is now managing the "Anama" Stud Station, and must be making a good fist of it or he would not have stayed so long. We are hopeful of seeing Tom over here one of these Royal Shows with some of his prize stock.

FULLERTON, Doug. Married, with two children. Address is C/o. Bunning Bros., Charles St., Perth. Doug is in charge of the yard for the above firm and has a really good job and I believe a big alley with the firm. Doug at one time was studying Accountancy assiduously, but believe he has seen the light and given it away for a while.

GRIFFITHS, Fred. Still single. His address when in the City is 9 Bourke Street, North Perth. Fred with sundry partners is interested in a lead project up Onslow way and says if things pan out as he hopes, there is big dough in it for him. Last time I saw him he was looking very fit, and itching to get up North again.

HANSON, Jack. Married man with two children. Address is 6 Swan Street, South Perth. Jack now has a taxi on the Railway Station Rank which job he has only taken on recently, and to date have no way of knowing how he is going. We wish him all success in his venture.

HOLMES, Gordon. Still single. Address Cranbrook. Gordon is labouring on various farms in the Cranbrook area, but is hopeful of a block of his own in the near future under Soldier Settlement Scheme. Gordon is a most regular attendant at Annual Reunions despite the distance he has to travel.

HUDSON, W.D. Married (afraid I don't know how many children). Address 85 Throssell Street, Collie. Huddy is a miner at Collie after a turn as barman at Three Springs. He is still a martyr to the "Grilly" disease contracted in New Guinea, otherwise he is very fit.

JAMES, H.E. Married man (another whose family I can't keep track of), address 703 Albany Road, Victoria Park. Slim is a commercial traveller with Mercia Modes (or at least a subsidiary of that firm) and travels practically the whole of the State. Slim belies his nick-name these days as he is as big as the side of a house. He is a great stalwart of the Association and rarely does he miss a Meeting when in town.

LOUD, Ted. Single. Address Pemberton. Ted is now with the Forestry Department having given the saw milling business away. Ted is another who has filled out terrifically. When I saw him at the last dinner I was amazed at his size. Ted has given away active participation in sport, and confines his spare time to picking a few winners and have a few gargles.

MACKINTOSH, Ken. Married man with two children (a pigeon pair I believe), Address, C/o. Elder Smith & Co., Narrogin. Ken is Zone Superintendant with Elders with H.Q. based on Narrogin; so if any of you lads in that area want a bit of service in the stock and station business, contact Ken, and I know he will be only too pleased to do his best for you. Have not seen Ken for an age but once again my scouts tell me he is going along well and looking quite well.

MONK, W.E.C. Married man with two children. Address Latham. Ken is the local store-keeper at Latham and is only too pleased to do business with anybody wanting to buy practically anything. Ken last time I saw him was in the Pink.

M. PIER, Fred. Married man with four children. Address, 65 Brankstone Gardens, City Beach. Fred is a bricklayer by trade, but owing to some queer dislocation of the spine is unable to go on with his trade and has had quite a long spell in Hollywood and is now convalescing and only able to do light duties.

PALMER, Bob. Married man with two children. Address Cowaremup. Bob is a cow cockie at the above place having branched out on his own after a spell as partner in a place with his Brother. Bob is still an active cricketer and never fails to make Country Week and has more than his share of success. Bob looks extra fit and I believe is going along very well on his farm.

RITCHIE, Dave. Married man. Address, C/o. Don Clothing Co., Perth. Dave is a partner with the Don Clothing Co. and tells me he is going along well. If any of the lads require wearing apparel of any nature, go along and see Dave, and I know he will be only too happy to assist you.

That will be enough for now so will ring off till next month with one or two memory joggers. Don't forget Anzac Day, the next Monthly Meeting on May 3rd, Annual General on June 7th, or to pay your subs. if you haven't already done so.

Cheerio,

C.D. DOIG,
Honorary Editor.