

CIRCULAR NEWSLETTER NO. 30

SEPTEMBER, 1949.

In the words of the old adage "procrastination is the thief of Time" so I had better get the head down and get this newsletter out to you good people before the month is finally gone. You would be surprised how easily these things can be left until tomorrow and as you know tomorrow never comes.

The Ladies Night has come and gone and was it a good night!! I'll say it was!! All reports to hand indicate that everybody had a really good time. We have to thank all who assisted in making this night the success it was especially Mrs. Alf Walsh who so kindly officiated at the Piano and Mr. Booth and his friends who brought along their picture show and so added to our enjoyment. Mick Morgan acted as M.C. in his usual efficient and breezy manner and kept things going with a swing. The evening comprised Pictures, Community Singing, Dancing, and Conjurer and Mrs. Reg Smirke gave items on the Piano Accordion so you will see with liquid refreshment and supper thrown in there was something to attract everybody. This type of night has come to stay and at least one will be included in every year's programme. Country visitors in the persons of Mr & Mrs Jack Fowler from Wongan Hills, and Mr & Mrs Clarrie Turner from Elgin were present and we were extra pleased to see them and hoped they enjoyed the evening. In all about a hundred persons were present and I must say I was well satisfied with the roll up. Enough about the Ladies Night except to say that I enjoyed it so much I wish it was on again next week.

Well enough of the past now for the future. The next meeting will be held at Monash Club on 4th October and we have another good night lined up for your attention. Mr. Burrige, with the assistance of Rocky Williams has arranged for Mr. Colin McDonald who for 20 years was War Correspondent in China for the "London Times" to speak to us of his adventures and doings in troubled China of that era. This should be an absolute gem and a subject on which all should be intensely interested. So we expect a record roll up on this particular evening. Please try and be early as we wish to commence the ordinary business of the evening sharp at eight o'clock so as to give our guest the maximum of time to tell us his experiences. I appeal to you all to make this a bumper attendance and if you know of anyone who hasn't been along recently urge them into coming and making a habit of attending.

A few words in passing on the Sweep. Please try and get those tickets sold as soon as possible otherwise you will be caught in the avalanche of sweep tickets which will be about later. I still have a few books on hand if anyone desires more so don't be afraid to write in and ask for one or two more. Remember I want those butts by the 20th of October so as to complete the Draw in good time before the Cup. We want to make this sweep the best ever. My address is still the same C/- Dept. of Labour & National Service, 9 Barrack St., Perth.

I would like to draw your attention to the issue of War Medals. If you desire these and have not already received same it is now necessary to write to Army Head Quarters, Victoria Barracks, Melbourne, giving your Number, Rank, and Unit and present address when they will be forwarded to you in due course.

We have to congratulate Tom and Mrs. Bateman who became proud parents a couple of months ago. I believe that the old Sapper Section in Bill Epps, Slim James and Gerry Green are staging a Stork Derby and odds are now being freely offered on the result, watch this spell for the results.

Arthur Marshall had an unfortunate experience recently when driving his truck behind a School Bus. Apparently when approaching a bridge down Benger way the Bus stopped suddenly on the Bridge and Arthur was forced to either skittle the Bus or go over the side. He took the latter course and finished in the ditch. I understand Arthur was not hurt to any great degree but the truck was damaged considerably. Bad luck Marsh!!

Ted Loud has been in Town recently after a trip up to Carnarvon where he met quite a few of the gang including Bill Drage and Bruss Fagg at Northampton Eric Smyth at Geraldton and the old O'Sullivan at Carnarvon where he is driving a truck for the Main Roads Board. Also noticed Frank Cahill in town recently. Mick Halland has gone to Canberra to do a Rehab. Course in Painting with Dept. Works and Housing.

There's no doubt about these sweeps they do boost the correspondence and this month I have quite a bit to chronicle. Barney Barnes writes from Prospect S.A. where he is a truck driver. Barney says he has run into quite a few of the gang including Dud Tapper who is going well in the bricklaying trade, Alan Hollow who is conducting on the Trolley Buses. Lew Marchant, Terry Paull who had been up the Murray River for a few months, Freddy Crowns who is driving for a timber firm. Thanks very much for your interesting letter Barney I hope it will only be the forerunner of many more. A brief note from Jim Gallagher at Kojonup to say he was going along well and asking for more sweep books. Also a note from Sid Jarvis at Mt. Magnet saying he was doing a spot of cooking at the local hotel and to date the populace was still alive to tell the tale. Had a letter from Ron Neuzerling who has now domiciled himself in Adelaide at 248 Grote Street, and has started work as a conductor on the Trams.

I'm afraid we have no branch in Adelaide Ron, but there is gradually getting to be enough of our chaps there to start something. Anyhow I will write you soon to give you fuller particulars of our gang in South Australia. From Steve Rogers at Wiluna, Steve was letting off a little steam about the article by Col Van Stratten I am in perfect agreement Steve. A long letter from Gordon Rowley at Manjimup telling of his efforts to locate a few of the chaps during a recent visit to Perth. You certainly were unlucky Gordon as that particular day I met at least three of the gang at a well known City Hotelstry (cant mention names as that would be advertising) Gordon is getting together a Dairy farm at Manjimup and says at present he is milking 9 cows and hopes next year to make it a full time job and have plenty more of the bovines. Jim Waller writes from Wyalkatchem a forwarded a couple of books of tickets, Thanks a lot Jim. Peter Campbell is another to write in. Peter is a Station owner type at Norseman says the season is only just so so. Peter hopes to be down for the Annual Dinner in February.

Had another very interesting and long letter from our Bombay correspondent Peter Mantle. How do you find the time to write Peter? Peter says you have to experience an Indian Motor Mechanic to really know just how quier they are. Apparently Cars develop quite a bit of moisture trouble during the monsoon season, the favourite method of drying is have petrol in a tube arrangement, light it and play the flame around the distributor etc., me for places distant whilethat sort of thing goes on. Peter says they have what is called a Pound Market in Bombay where cloth is sold by the pound a bit of lottery I believe. Apparently the old Jay Walker is the bane of a motorists life in that city and it is necessary to drive on the horn permanently while negotiating the streets.

Peter says his baby has worked up quite an affection for the local street sweeper and also the milko, who is normally a taciturn bloke who normally never smiles, but now is practically in line for a Colgate prize every time he passes the baby. Thanks once again for your long and interesting letter Peter, they always make good reading.

Once again owing to the amount of correspondence I had to deal with I'll have to skip the personalities section, but I have hopes that I will be able to give you some more next month.

As usual I'll drop in a little reminder about your subs. If you haven't already paid same, just make reference to your last Newsletter to see if you are in arrear and send in your remittance if you find you owe us dough.

Before concluding I would like to remind you all to be present at the next meeting and hear what Mr. Colin McDonald has to say and to do your very best with those sweep tickets.

Cheerio,

(C.D.DOIG).
HON. EDITOR.