

A Merry Christmas

2/2 COMMANDO ASSOCIATION

Circular Newsletter - No. 33

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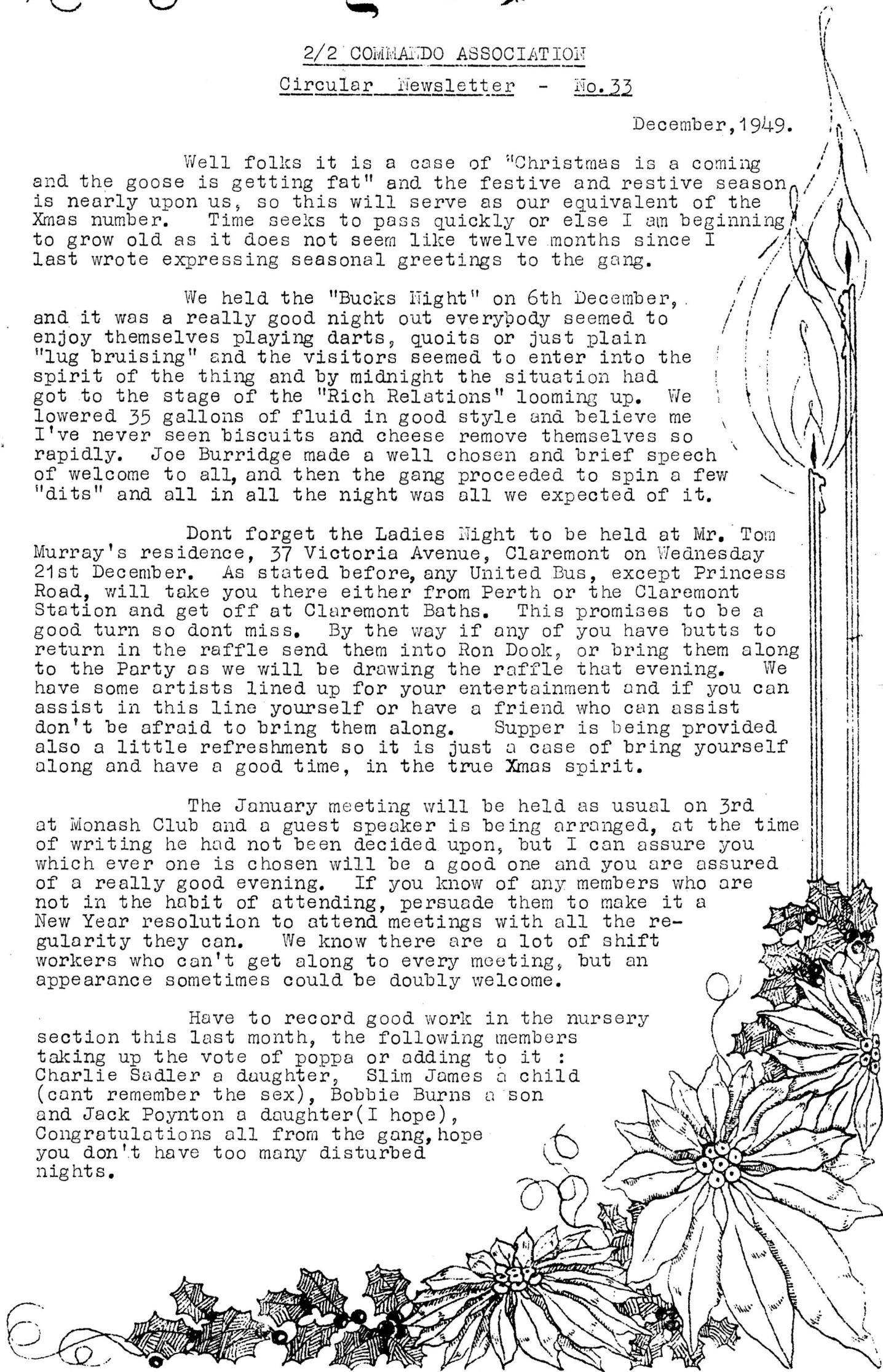
Well folks it is a case of "Christmas is a coming and the goose is getting fat" and the festive and restive season is nearly upon us, so this will serve as our equivalent of the Xmas number. Time seems to pass quickly or else I am beginning to grow old as it does not seem like twelve months since I last wrote expressing seasonal greetings to the gang.

We held the "Bucks Night" on 6th December, and it was a really good night out everybody seemed to enjoy themselves playing darts, quoits or just plain "lug bruising" and the visitors seemed to enter into the spirit of the thing and by midnight the situation had got to the stage of the "Rich Relations" looming up. We lowered 35 gallons of fluid in good style and believe me I've never seen biscuits and cheese remove themselves so rapidly. Joe Burridge made a well chosen and brief speech of welcome to all, and then the gang proceeded to spin a few "dits" and all in all the night was all we expected of it.

Dont forget the Ladies Night to be held at Mr. Tom Murray's residence, 37 Victoria Avenue, Claremont on Wednesday 21st December. As stated before, any United Bus, except Princess Road, will take you there either from Perth or the Claremont Station and get off at Claremont Baths. This promises to be a good turn so dont miss. By the way if any of you have butts to return in the raffle send them into Ron Dook, or bring them along to the Party as we will be drawing the raffle that evening. We have some artists lined up for your entertainment and if you can assist in this line yourself or have a friend who can assist don't be afraid to bring them along. Supper is being provided also a little refreshment so it is just a case of bring yourself along and have a good time, in the true Xmas spirit.

The January meeting will be held as usual on 3rd at Monash Club and a guest speaker is being arranged, at the time of writing he had not been decided upon, but I can assure you which ever one is chosen will be a good one and you are assured of a really good evening. If you know of any members who are not in the habit of attending, persuade them to make it a New Year resolution to attend meetings with all the regularity they can. We know there are a lot of shift workers who can't get along to every meeting, but an appearance sometimes could be doubly welcome.

Have to record good work in the nursery section this last month, the following members taking up the vote of poppa or adding to it : Charlie Sadler a daughter, Slim James a child (cant remember the sex), Bobbie Burns a son and Jack Poynton a daughter(I hope), Congratulations all from the gang, hope you don't have too many disturbed nights.



Alby Martin has been West on a Visit, Alby is now domiciled in Melbourne with Makower McBeath in Flinders Lane, and reports good business but hard work. Alby says he has a near neighbour in Jack Servante who is with a Soft Furnishing wholesale house in Flinders Lane also.

Joe Poynton is another back in the West after a long period on the Weapons Range at Woomera. Joe reports excellent pay and reasonable conditions, but still plenty of dust and flies. Joe will be in the West until January and has become the owner of a new car - an Austin A40.

Saw Jack Fowler briefly the other day and he says the Harvest has been quite good considering the season in his district and he hopes to see all the gang again at the Annual Reunion in February. Also another who has returned to the fold after a long absence is "Ajax" Harrison who is working on the Fremantle Power House, he is just the same hard case as of yore.

Your President John Burridge and Mick Calcutt are holidaying together at Garden Island, so look out fish, or you are liable to commit suicide on one of their hooks. Jerry Haire and his good wife are heading for Garden Island in the New Year.

The correspondence situation is not so good this month after the surfeit of last month a case of "After the Lord Mayor Show comes the Dustman". Blue Pendergrast writes from Miling where he now lives, to say he is going along well and sends his regards to all the gang, says he sees Tommy Martin occasionally, when Tommy wants a job done. Tony Davidson writes from Kalgoorlie and reports all well. Tony is the proud father of Girl 2 yrs and Boy 5 months. He conducts a green grocery business all the week and has a small show in the bush which he and some mates are working at weekends.

Had an interesting letter from Ken Curran in which he wishes to remember fondly to all the old gang. Ken says his jaw is on the mend and he has hopes of playing football again next year. Ken says he hasn't seen any of the gang in Victoria for a good while except Rolf Baldwin who recounted to Ken a bit of a story re Freddy Spencer Chapman who was apparently asked to give a lecture to some of Englands quality Ladies and proceeded to harp on the Jap propensity for Human flesh eating and speaking of the particular cuts enjoyed, I understand Chappie wont be asked to address this particular crowd again.

Bert Tobin sends on a circular which he has sent out to the boys in Victoria. Bert and Co. are organising a Xmas get together with the hope of reviving interest in the Association in Victoria, and they have my best wishes in this very worthy object. Toby brings news of the following : "Smash" Hodgson is in the Mulga working on his block, but both he and his wife are well, Jim Fenwick is in the Army at Albert Park and doing O.K. Jack Fox still in the Army and doing Schools at a rate of Knots, reckons the number of schools he has done since leaving us, and all he has learnt he couldn't have known anything before. Arthur Hirst in the Commonwealth Statisticians Department at Canberra. Jack Peattie is School Teaching at Tamworth, N.S.W. and happy in the service. Bernie Callinan has a Militia Battalion nowaday. Theo Adams working with Hoyts. Alan Munro in the Textile business. Max Davies still with Savings Bank in Melbourne and playing a little golf. Jim Wall with Victorian Tramways and busy house hunting. Bill Davidson, Peter Krause and Johnny Roberts are all fit and well.

That is all my correspondence for this month and about all the news I can find to give you until next year.

I bring you all the very best of good cheer for Xmas and a Happy and prosperous New Year greeting from the President and executive of the Association and I hope we can continue to prosper as an Association in the year which is ahead of us.

For now, Cheers and Beers.

(C.D. DOIG).
HONORARY EDITOR.