

2/2
Commando
Association

Circular News
Letter No. 37.

17th April, 1950.



As we commence our fourth year of this Newsletter it would be a good idea to take stock of ourselves and consider what has been achieved by its publication. Looking back at our first meagre efforts we can see a degree of progress toward the ultimate goal of a really top grade news perveyor.

The newsletter should be viewed in the same light as communications and signals in an Army Unit. We all know the value of such communications in Army life, how they were the life blood of any successful show, how lack of good contact ruined the best planned efforts, and how good inter communication saved many a stunt from failure. So the Newsletter is the life blood of our present Association and provides us with a ready medium of communication with members and for the dissemination of all information, news, and doings of it's members.

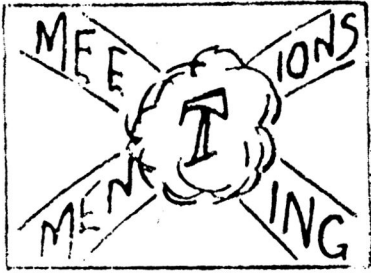
It will be seen that in this the latest Newsletter that your Editorial Committee have made an effort to further brighten the sheet and present to you in better form the news and views of the Association. We have supplied a new heading to the letter and a series of cartoons to illustrate the subject of each sub-heading. It is hoped that this is but another forward step in our March of progress in the presentation of this news sheet.

The thanks of all for these recent improvements are due to Mr. Keith Hayes who is the technical adviser and general duplicating expert in regard to the publication, also thanks are due to Mr. Brian Davey for the Cartoons, and to Miss V. Corney for designing the letter head, and last but not least to Miss L. Davies who over a considerable period has typed the stencils which provide you all with your Newsletter.

It is our fervent hope that the new form of this screed will entice members into supplying much greater quantities of material from which to build even bigger and better letters in the future.

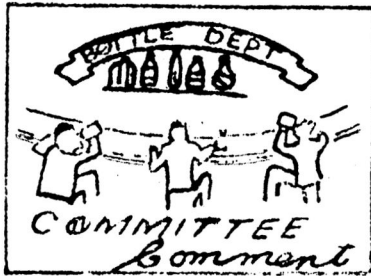
If you like this effort let us know, if you can suggest any improvements to this our prime means of contact, then we will be only too pleased to lend a favourable ear.

When thinking of improvements do not be governed too much by what has been printed in the past, we would welcome contributions of prose or verse which would be of general interest to members also of course good stories of a printable nature.



Have to report another very good monthly meeting at Monash Club on the 4th April when a roll up of twenty heard Dr. Poole, who is now with the Repatriation Department at Hollywood Hospital, tell us of his experiences as a Medical Officer in Manchester during the Blitz. This was a most interesting topic and evoked great enthusiasm from those present.

Next months meeting is scheduled for the 2nd May and we hope to hear from Mr. Fred Airey who was R.S.M. to the 2/4 M.G. Battalion in Singapore. Mr. Airey who faced a Jap firing squad and escaped with only a graze also managed to escape from Singapore got to Java only to be recaptured and returned to Changi. These experiences coupled with what he can tell us of the Units work on the Death Railway should make a really good evenings listening. so be in it lads at our next monthly meeting.



Your Committee has had another busy month dealing with the various problems as they arise. As most of the business of the Association is now done in committee it is intended to give you a resume in Newsletters from now on of the matters dealt with in Committee.

Finance was number one matter last month and the Treasurer told us that after budgeting for future commitments he expected the Association to show a profit of about £20 on the years operations.

Ways and means of raising funds in future were discussed at length and it was decided to test the practicability of running a Monster Sweep or Art Union at Royal Show this year.

It was decided that a full investigation of both Annual Reunion and Commemoration Service be made prior to next years functions as the cost of Annual Reunion is out of proportion to attendance and the Roll up at the Service was much below the number anticipated. It was decided to review catering arrangements in the light of any increase or otherwise at monthly meetings.

Concerning the Commemoration Service it was thought that those members having cars should meet at some central point and then a form of transport to Kings Park would be available. Also an effort be made to obtain addresses of relatives of deceased members be made - In this connection if anyone knows the address of any relative, please let me know so that I can compile an Address List. - A further matter discussed in regard to the Service was the erection of a small memorial in Kings Park with a replica of the Honour Roll placed upon it. Approach is being made to Kings Park Board for approval to erect such a memorial.

Much time and discussion was given to the question of assistance to the relatives of the late Jim Waller. Many decisions were made and a series of possible avenues of assistances have been set in motion.



Afraid the Stork can not be accused of being over worked this last month as have not sighted any birth notices in the paper nor have any of my correspondents appraised me of any additions to the family. Members are requested to advise me of the happy events as they happen as your mates are keen to know these vital statistics and decide if it is time to start again themselves to keep the nose in front in the Stork Stakes.

Stop Press : Have just heard that Eddie Graghill is the proud parent of a 10 pound Boy - Congrats Eddie.



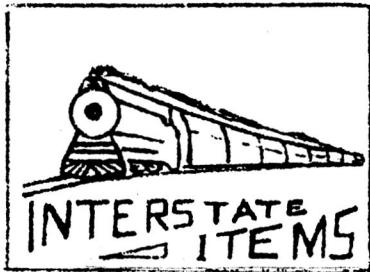
Mal Herbert who has been sojourning in Hollywood has now been discharged and reports that his shoulder is much improved. I believe Henry Sproxton is at present in hospital but to the time of writing could not confirm it. Would members on entering hospital do their best to inform me when and where and I will do all I can to arrange visitors etc. I know just how boring hospital can be without a visitor or two now and again.



Very little this month in the way of letters, so boys what about a bit of news for the jolly old screed. Had a short note from Jim Corney to say he was still in the Mulga at Merredin where he looks like staying for a piece if he doesn't personally up root himself and hie Perthwards. Jerry McKenzie writes from Margaret River to say that he hopes to be with the lads at the Anzac Day March and renew friendships. Jerry says the meat trade is O.K. but with the rising price of live stock margins are a bit slim. A brief note from Bill

Cooper also to send in his sub and send his regards to the gang. Bill lives at Shenton Park and is in the baking trade. Had Jack Fowler in to see me recently complete with wife. Jack says things not too bad at Wongan Hills and is eagerly awaiting rain and the commencement of the new season.

That completes the mail for this month.



Just received a most interesting newsletter from Arch Campbell in Victoria. Arch and Co. are in the throes of organising the Anzac Day get together in that State and hope for a bumper show. Arch says Curly O'Neil had a really good article in the "Telegraph" Sydney, on Timor Subsistence for which our thanks are due, hope it shakes a politician or two into doing something for us. Neal Bray is now a leading Announcer with 2 U.W. in Sydney and is often heard doing the "Commercials" for Dick Fair on the "Amateur Hour". Arch

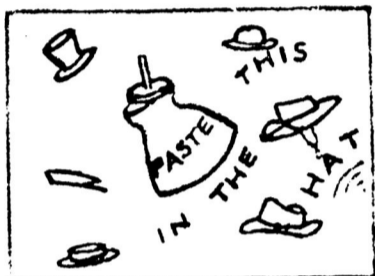
also brings news of Tony Adams who is with the Union Bank in Brisbane, and lives at Vale St. Wilston. "Basher" is the proud father of two children.

Had a long letter from Tom Foster who is at Anama Station, Brinkworth, South Aust., Tom reports an excellent season with good prices for rams, plenty of feed and water. Tom says he makes a side line of breeding and training Sheep Dogs with no little success, was hopeful of a prize or two at the local show. Bernie Langridge's address Tom, is Donnybrook. Tom has a 50 acre block at Belmont W.A. which he is considering putting under Pine Trees and if anybody is interested in the scheme on a profit sharing basis, get in touch with Tom at the above address. Toms asks me to pass on this S.O.S. - Someone took a Photo of Bill Hawker (2/7 squadron) at Wesa N.G. and Bill is dead keen to get a copy if this should meet that person's eye, please do the right thing by Bill.

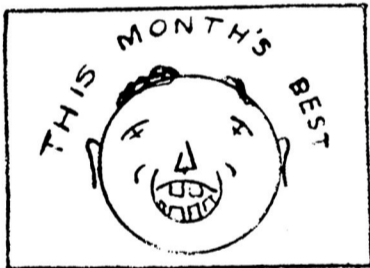
The usual Monthly letter to hand from Peter Mantle from

Bombay. I have been getting your letters quite regularly Peter, But sometimes in the heat of editing this screed things get overlooked, and I apologise for not acknowledging one or two of your most interesting letters. Your Smailes Poem should have reached you ere this, so if it hasn't let me know and I will see what has gone wrong.

Peter has decided to move from the Hotel where he has been staying for 2 years to a flat. He says the move will cost him plenty, and house keeping will probably cost him more than he is earning, but he thinks the move worthwhile. He says the rent alone will be £390 a year and living up around £1,000 a year!! The only thing in India which appears to be cheaper than in Australia is furniture, which is good and durable. Peter says theoretically he should be back in Aussie in Twelve months but is not too certain of that. Thanks once again Peter, for your epistles.



Remember if you haven't paid your sub. or Joined the Association we would be only too pleased to receive your dollar. The Anzac Day Parade takes place on Tuesday 25th, and we would like a big roll up at the March and also at the little "do" afterwards, this as usual is on the Association. Don't forget the next meeting at Monash Club on the 2nd May, and hear a really good talk. If you still want a copy of the Smailes Poem, send me the necessary 2/- per copy.



A Newly organised camera club had dreamed of the day when it could have a live model for some nude photographic studies. But the members didn't have much money and it took some time for the club treasury to get enough. Finally the big night came. The model arrived, the cameras were ready.

But it seemed the model had been wearing tight garters and her legs were deeply imprinted. For half an hour she and various volunteers tried to rub away the garter marks so they wouldn't show in the pictures. Finally it was decided that she would wait in another room for an hour while they had their business meeting. An hour later when they went in to get her, she got up - and she'd been sitting for an hour on a cane-bottomed chair.