

# Greetings 1950

NEWSLETTER NO: 45.

14th December, 1950.

## EDITORIAL.

As an Editorial in the Christmas Newsletter no subject, perhaps, lends itself quite as suitably as the Associations recent success over the "subsistence issue".

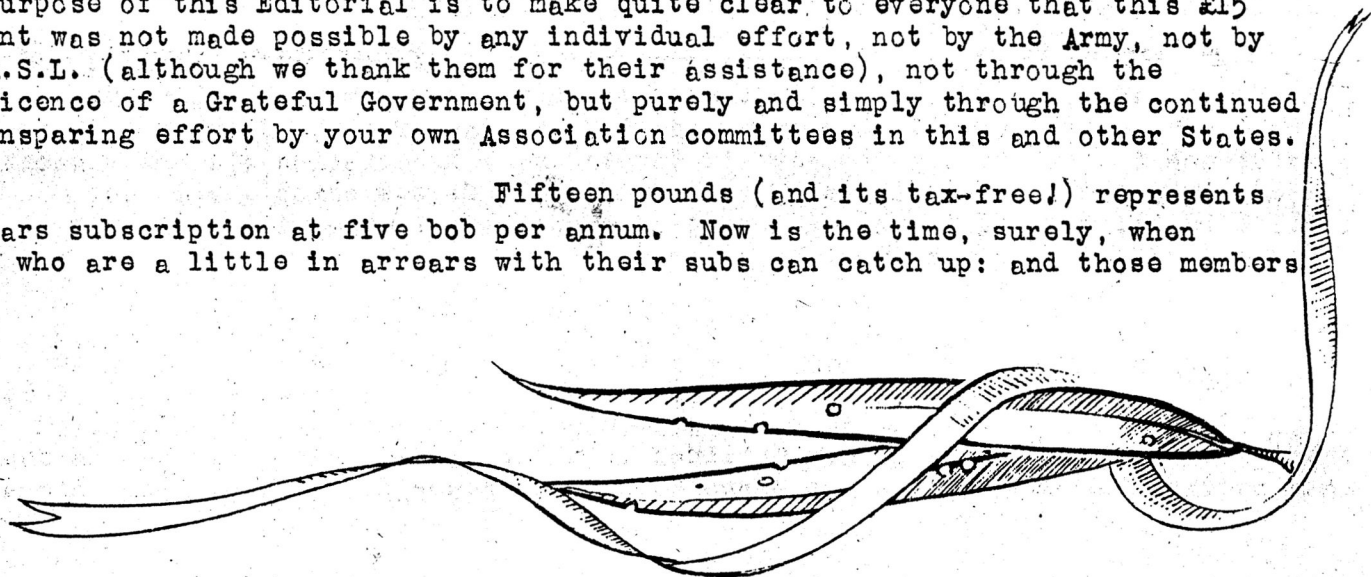
After four years of constant haggling we have now reached finality with the powers - that - be, with the result that possibly by Xmas we will each have a nice little roll of fifteen crisp quids with which to do ourselves justice!

The very fact of having this unexpected wind-fall should be sufficient cause for rejoicing, but to my mind the financial result, pleasing though it is, falls far short of the satisfaction we should all feel at our success in securing official recognition of our claim.

The matter was first raised four years ago by Lieut (then Sgt.) Jack Sergeant and our first representations were made by Tommy Foster (now in South Australia). For two years we were up against a brick wall, and despite a personal representation to the then Minister for Defence, Mr. Dedman, and reams of correspondence to Mr. Forde the then Minister for the Army we were met with complete disapproval or absolute indifference. Following the change of Government we renewed our efforts but for a long time the position remained unaltered. Meanwhile the R.S.L. made several efforts to help, but soon "gave the game away" as being hopeless. We then enlisted the aid of Mr. Len Hamilton MHR who quite definitely put in a lot of time and energy on our behalf. Being on the spot in Canberra, he was in a position to follow the matter up and he certainly wasted no opportunity in plugging for us both in the House and Out.

Since the matter was first raised there have been several different committees on our Association and each one has kept the business alive by continued correspondence both private and official. Whatever Confucius had in mind when he made the crack about "constant dripping of water wears away stone" he certainly could not be presented with a better modern example. The purpose of this Editorial is to make quite clear to everyone that this £15 payment was not made possible by any individual effort, not by the Army, not by the R.S.L. (although we thank them for their assistance), not through the beneficence of a Grateful Government, but purely and simply through the continued and unsparing effort by your own Association committees in this and other States.

Fifteen pounds (and its tax-free!) represents 60 years subscription at five bob per annum. Now is the time, surely, when those who are a little in arrears with their subs can catch up: and those members



few in number fortunately, who have up to date just "not bothered" may now perhaps feel that five bob a year and one night a month is not too much.

Our Association is a strong one, and an Association that is much envied by others more cumbersome and less enterprising. Our goal is 100% membership and why shouldn't we have it? The dues and duties are negligible but the benefits of comradeship and goodwill are manifold.

Let us try therefore to reach this 100% membership; and those who may now feel desposed to join can derive a satisfaction from the fact that on effect, membership is free for 60 years. Sounds like a good Association!

In conclusion, best wishes to all for the happiest of Christmases, May 1951 clean up all international, national and individual bitterness, and misunderstanding and pave the way to the peaceful world that, after 2 world wars, we surely all well deserve.

(J.C. BURRIDGE).  
PRESIDENT.

COMMITTEE COMMENT.

Naturally the main business of the last Committee Meeting was the matter of Timor Subsistence which has been dealt with by the editorial. With this Newsletter you will find a Statutory Declaration together with instructions for filling in same. Please have this completed as soon as possible and return to me - C/- Department of Labour and National Service, 9 Barrack Street, Perth, and it will be sent on to the Appropriate Authority for payment. Please read the instructions fully before completing as it is important that the form be correct in all details as it will save a ton of time later, and even may mean having the form returned to you for correction if you do not do the job correctly.

It was decided to appoint a warden for our Memorial Trees in King's Park, his job to keep his eye on the area and call working bees from time to time to keep it in apple pie order. The Wardenship will be transferred yearly at the Commemoration Service on Sunday nearest 20th February. Mr Geo. Boyland has consented to act as Warden until our next Service.

MEETING MENTIONS.

The usual December Meeting went off with a swing on the 5th and a very enjoyable evening was spent by those attending. Mr. Frank Hughes of the Australian Whaling Commission gave us his experiences and observations of the last season when he was First Officer on a chaser attached to the Whaling Station at Pt. Cloates. Many matters previously mysteries to his hearers were explained to us and we all enjoyed the telling. Our thanks to Mr. Hughes and to Fred Napier for introducing him to the Association.

The Xmas party will be held at Alf Walsh's residence on 21st December, as already advised in the previous Newsletter. This promises to be a really cracker evening so make it a date and come and enjoy yourselves in the true Xmas spirit.

New Year meeting will be held at Monash Club on 2nd January and once again I solicit your support. These meetings have proved to be of Great Benefit to all concerned and since we have won the fight for Timor Subsistence I think it behoves you all to give your Association all the support you possibly can and so strengthen our hand in all fights which may be our portion in the future. The arrangement of a speaker or otherwise is in the Capable hands of your President Mr. Burrige.

STORK STAKES.

The Stork has not been quite so active in the past month, but we still have a couple of births to record. Colin Criddle has a daughter (I believe this achieves the pigeon pair) and Norm Wallace a Son. From Victoria I hear that Bernie Callinan is the father of a boy making the fourth in a row!! Our congrats to the three of you and hopes for an easy parenthood.

HORS DE COMBAT.

Dave Ritchie has had another bout in Hospital This time in St. John of Gods to have a bone graft on his leg, as the mending was not satisfactory. Dave is now out of Hospital but not nearly up to scratch yet. We hope Dave's recovery is expedited as result of his recent operation and that it will not be long before we are reporting all serene with the genial Dave.

CORRESPONDENCE  
CHRONICLES.

The local lads have gone very quiet since their effort of last month. Only two have written in since the last Newsletter. Clarrie Turner writes to say that he has been flat out for the past couple of three months with plenty of cows to Milk and of course the Horse Stud to see to. Has been busy preparing for Xmas for his two kiddies. Clarrie sends his regards to all the gang. Mal Herbert is my other correspondent. Mal is contemplating matrimony in the near future and like all those who think of building a Home is in more Strife than Speed Gordon. Will try and do what I can for you Mal. Will write personally later. Doug Fullerton is with Bunnings Mal. Mal brings interesting news of his trip East with the Rifle Shooting Team. He met Alan Tuby, Harold Newton (now married with 3 children) Rus Symons, Jim Ward, Doc Garllard and Snowy Wendt in Sydney. Went along to the Armoured Div. Club and says it is quite a set up. Mal also had a couple of days in Melbourne and thanks to Bert Tobin sending a circular out to the gang in that City he was able to have a couple of most convivial gatherings with our brethren in the Southern Capital. Met Jack Campbell, Ron Eastick, Jack Fox, Fred Broadjurst, Arch Campbell "Judge" Atherton, Harry Botterill, Alby Martin, Max Davies, Charlie Brown and of course Toby. Which all goes to show that you neednot be lonely if you travel interstate.

INTERSTATE ITEMS.

A newsletter from Arch Campbell in Victoria. Arch is like myself having a little correspondent trouble and of course finding it hard to write Newsletters without news. We all go thro that Arch. Arch brings news of Bob Field who has been in Melbourne for a short trip had to go home for a spell I believe. Harry Botterill just had a visit from the Stork, a son, Our congrats too Harry. Ted Mulcahy has turned his hand to farming in the Gippsland. Don Thomas incurred the wrath of the cycling stewards and is having an enforced holiday from the boards. Bert Tobin and Jack Sevante flat out organising a Xmas Party for the Association. Gerry Maley now thoroughly ensconced in his home at Noble Park, Gerry sends his regards to all his pals in the West. That just about completes the news from Arch. Thanks son, it all adds to the bit I get here and is much appreciated by the lads in the Golden West.

Had a letter from Bernie Calliman in which he wishes to be remembered to all the gang in the West. Bern says he hopes to see something of Rolf Baldwin during the School vacation as he hasn't seen "Baldy" for months. Thank you for your kind appreciation of the Newsletter I'm glad you like them. Will be writing you re the other matters shortly.

At last a letter from Dave Dexter. Dave has been flat out for the past year or so at the Department of External Affairs, Canberra as he has been in charge of the Department's East Asia Section which includes Japan, China, Korea Formosa etc. You will readily understand the work that that section entails in recent months with War etc. going on. Dave has now gone on a years leave of absence from the Department to write Volume V. of the Official War History. This Vol. includes the Period After the Wan Campaign and goes thro Salamanci hae Finchhaven Ramu and on to the Sepik. Dave assure me that Bena Force will get its full worth. Dave says the War History should be ready in 2 or 3 years as with five chaps doing it this time the time factor has been cut considerably. In case any of you are interested Dave gave the following progress report on the War History: Volume I Bardia-to Damour has been completed by Gavin Long. Vol.II. Tobruk - El Alemain will be done by Chester Wilmott next year. Vol.III. Malaya and the Indies is about half completed by Lionel Wigmore. Vol.IV. The Papua Campaigns is about half done by Dudley McCarthy. Vol.V. "Is Dave's own". Vol.VI. is just started by Gavin Long and concerns the final campaigns. Dave sends his best to all the boys in the West.



Tony Adams writes from Toowoomba, Queensland, where he is Accountant with the Union Bank. Tony had the misfortune to lose his father a few months ago and says he had had lean patches for a while, but all is now lovely in the garden, and he likes Toowoomba no end. Has his own home and a big patch of ground to garden and plays quite a bit of sport including cricket and Tennis. Says he hasn't had a very good season at cricket for a couple of years, but still lives in hope of improvement. Tony is the proud father of a boy and a girl. The boy now going to Kindergarten. Tony also wishes to be remembered fondly to the West Aussies. Tony says Peter Hearle is now a painter and Interior Decorator on his own and doing well. Harry Hancock a plumber, and a good one too. The little get together held about 3 times a year in Brisbane have proved to be quite enjoyable.

Last but certainly not least, a letter from Jack Stafford in Korea. This was dated 19th November, so it isn't quite up with the latest developments. When he wrote the Australians were holding a line east of Pakchon along the river and there was plenty of fighting going on. Jack says its too cold to fight in Korea. The other night they were perched on a bare hill (Hills rise from 500 to 5000ft. in Korea) with one blanket and the temperature dropped to 20° below zero (Burr!!!) Jack brings news of some of the lads with the Korean Force and its not too good. Geo Patterson came over at a reinforcement but only lasted one "Blue" as a Chink Machine Gun got him. Charlie Anderson shot in the stomach outside Chongue and has been evacuated to Australia and I believe will be OK. Jack himself was wounded in the arm, but he says only a scratch. Ray Perry hadn't caught up at the time of writing, but was headed north on the "Tiapan" having a good time in Sydney, Brisbane, Mainila and Hong Kong. Jack says the casualty rate is particularly high and he is the only original in his section and says he grabbed the Bren Gun as he prefers to be able to sling plenty of lead about. Jack asks me to pass on his best wishes to the gang for Xmas and New Year.

PASTE THIS IN  
YOUR HAT.

The Xmas Party requires your attendance with wife girl friend etc. and its going to be a stunner. Address 161 Loftus Street. Catch any Scarborough Bus, but the ones going direct to Scarborough and get off at Bourke St. and walk up.

Your Subscription if in arrears requires paying, make it a New Year resolution to pay up especially those who benefit from the Timor Claims.

Those Timor Subsistence Claims-fill them in and send back to C. Doig, Dept. of Labour and National Service, 9 Barrack Street, as soon as possible.

Be one of those who regularly attend meetings you will find you wont miss out as they have proved to be of inestimable value to those who do attend regularly.

THIS MONTHS BEST. An office boy approached his boss one fine day and requested the afternoon off. His boss said: "Very well. I know it's a fine day and there's a football match on this afternoon, but don't give me the old story about going to your grandfather's funeral." "Oh, no sir, I'm not going to his funeral. I'm going to his wedding" "Your grandfather's Wedding" "Yes, Sir." "How old is your grandfather?" "Eighty-four, Sir." "What in the world does he want to get married for?" "He doesn't want to sir; he has to".

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I take this opportunity of wishing all and sundry all the very best for Xmas, and May the New Year bring you all you would hope for.  
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While descending at break-neck speed from the 40th floor of a Detroit skyscraper, the elevator operator made a sudden and unexpected stop. Realizing that he might have upset his lone feminine passenger, he turned and asked, "Did I stop too quickly?" "Oh no," came the reply, "I always wear my scanties down around my ankles."  
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INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING STATUTORY DECLARATION  
FOR TIMOR SUBSISTENCE

1. a) Your Army No.  
b) Surname in Block Capitals and Christian Names in Block Capitals  
c) Your Address must be complete as any cheque will be sent to that address, also if you make an error in completing this form it will be returned to your address for correction.  
d) Occupation: Just state plainly e.g., Clerk, Carpenter, Labourer etc.
2. a) Period on Timor : Main body arrived Timor 12/12/1941. Reinforcements 15/1/1950. Hospital, D. Platoon and Odds and Sodds left Timor 13/12/1942. H.Q. A,B, and C. Platoons left on 17/12/1942, from these dates you should be able to work out when you arrived and departed from Timor.
3. a) Signature of Person making Declaration: Just your usual everyday signature.  
b) To be declared before either J.P., Commissioner for Declarations, Commissioner for Affidavits, Bank Manager, School Teacher, Policeman, Commonwealth Public Servant, or a State Public Servant.  
If you can't find any one of these people send the form to me and I'll see what I can do.

When complete send form to me;

C.D. Doig,  
Box. R.1273, G.P.O.  
PERTH. W.A.

or

McNeil Chambers,  
9 Barrack Street,  
PERTH. W.A.

will find me.

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