

**PETER MANTLE, Box 120, P.O. Biloela, Queensland, writes:—**

The other Friday a huge truck, pulling an enormous trailer on which sat a monstrous bulldozer, stopped outside my print shop. A solid looking character clambered down and walked into my office.

"I don't know you," he said, "and you don't know me, but we were both in the 2/2nd."

It was Eddie Timmins, who had got my address out of the good old "Courier" and looked me up in the course of toting some heavy machinery for the P.M.G.

We invited him to stay the weekend, and very much enjoyed his company. He looked dog tired on arrival, but freshened up next day. We weren't able to entertain him much, because of previous commitments, but he seemed content with a quiet spell—if anything could be quiet in a household where the kids ask non-stop questions.

It's very nice indeed the way the "Courier" makes it possible for members to keep in touch, and I doubt if there are many more units anywhere in the world that have kept together in this way so long and so successfully.

Really no other news, but after the Lord Mayor's show rush of sweep-induced correspondence has abated maybe this trifle is worth having.

**L. "Bulla" TAIT, of Melbourne St., Ayre, Queensland, writes:—**

Herewith sweep butts and a couple of quid, £1 each way—one for the sweep butts and one for the "Courier" finance.

Not much to report from here. Has been as dry as hell, about half our usual rainfall over the last three years. So far irrigation supplies have held but fear if no decent rain before Christmas things are going to be a bit grim.

Had a day at the local races yesterday. Met "Soapee". We backed a few winners for a change but will still have to work tomorrow.

Met "Chappie" once last year. He has a place of about 6,000 acres about eight miles from me, but he does not come down this way very often, has too many drought worries out West.

George Shields still down Bowen way but have not seen him lately so can't say how he is doing.

Well will bring this to a close so as to get it away on the morning mail. Best wishes to all.

**F. "Bluey" WILKES, of Brunswick Junction, writes:—**

Just a short note to let you know I'm still in the land of the living, and appreciate the "Couriers" and the news of our old gang as I see none of them down this way, and it's a bit far to attend all the functions held in Perth, but promise to turn up one day to one of our re-union dinners but when I do not know.

Well, there's not much news around these parts so I'll draw to a close now. I'm enclosing ticket butts and money.

With kind regards to all the gang.

**JOE BRAND, of Ogilvin, writes:—**

There has been quite a lot of water and amber passed under the bridge since I last wrote so here I am tonight trying to puzzle my taxation out and every time I get stuck I write a letter that I owe to someone.

Well boys, Big Bill just missed winning the Northampton Golf Championship by one stroke. His young brother beat him, so well done Bill and while I am on the golf subject we held Diggers' Day on Thursday which is our monthly meeting and of course Big Bill walked away with the main trophy.

### SPECIAL MENTIONS:

#### REMEMBER NO MEETING IN JANUARY

but the game will be on again First Tuesday in February at Anzac Club. Make it a New Year Resolution to skip the Telly every First Tuesday in the month

**EARLY NOMINATIONS for the GAMES RE-UNION Please**

Fancy that big b—— winning it with all the whiskey around. Anyway we finished up at 2.30 Friday morning. I got home O.K. I think Bill did too. Bruss Fagg was there and old Bruss is getting along fine after having a pretty rough time.

The season is 100 per cent. Just hope it is the same with all the boys.

I met Stan Payne at St. Marys C. of E. Girls School at the beginning of the year. I was putting my girl to school and so was he.

Well, enough now, and here is £5 to cover the tickets, pay my sub and if any change to the Association.

**O. K. DIGNUM, of 24 Selkirk Ave., Seaton Park, S.A., writes:—**

I am afraid this letter will not be very newsy. The only useful purpose this letter will fulfil will be to return the sweep butts which I hope will be an outstanding success as we all know an organisation relies on some source from which to draw its finance, so good luck.

The wife and I hope to make the Games. At this stage we are starters, naturally the games are only an excuse to gather in the West. The real point of interest is the mob, and see how the years have treated them.

I saw Tom Nisbet and Don Murray and I must say the years have treated them kindly or is it the way the West treats all you chaps?

Adelaide is still much the same. The skyline is ever changing. They are either pulling down or building up, but the change is gradual. We still have our six o'clock swill.

I am sorry but I will have to close as news this time is non-existent, so here's good luck for now.

**N. D. THORNTON, of Box 81, Denmark, W.A., writes:—**

Enclosed find ticket butts and cheque for £4. Two pound for tickets and the balance for my subs or what ever you like.

I am sorry I will not be able to make the re-union so apologise for me and give all the boys my regards.

Things are still going quite good down this end of the State. We haven't felt the credit squeeze yet,

so are still very busy in the building trade.

Has anybody heard from Paddy Kennelly in the last couple of years? I haven't. He owes me 2-3 letters now. Writer's cramp seems to be a disease they all suffer with over East. Both Digman and Tapper owe me letters.

Well I hope the dinner is a great success and that everybody enjoys themselves as much as I do when I go to one.

**H. BROOKER, of 110 Goodwood Parade, Rivervale, writes:—**

Well here I am at last. Don't die of shock. Am enclosing sweep butts and money.

Don't think I will be able to make the re-union as I have to report to the doctor Saturday morning. They have just found out I have a duodenal ulcer and at present am taking some sort of drug. Believe it or not I haven't had a taste of the amber fluid for the last two months. No alcohol the man says. Am also on a diet which I am not happy about. Am still at the zoo, more or less part of the fixtures now.

I know I have been saying this for a long time now but will have to get to a few meetings, if for no other reason than to let the boys see the halo I'm wearing.

**GLORIA ISENHOOD, of 11 Eveleen Street, Cardiff, N.S.W., writes:—**

Although I have not met any of you I have Les's assurance you are all of the best mettle.

One thing I'd like to know the answer to though is although writing to Les for years before we decided to tie the knot and knowing he was called Tarz, Block Buster and quite a few other names no doubt, I'd not heard one word of him being an Irish Cassanova. Am sure he has kissed that old Blarney Stone.

Also have seen last year's "Courier" where he was complaining of my size. Now that was hitting in the wrong spot so I'll tell you how this matter of weight began.

On finding myself married to this Big Commando, found I had to feed him with monstrous meals of which he would not partake unless his left hand (that's me) ate exactly the same amount. Now I ask you, didn't he get all he was looking

for? Just as well we can joke about it.

Les and I have four very nice daughters and although you might sympathise with Les being odd man out, let me tell you he keeps on smiling as we five females are teased from morn till night, seven days a week.

I remember Les saying he must send Alec Garbitt's address to you. It is: Cobby St., Shortland, via Wallsend, N.S.W.

Enough about us, am enclosing ticket butts and money order for same. Hoping your sweep is a wow of a success. Also hope Les's mates and families are doing well in health and business.

**W. D. HUDSON, of Tower Construction, North West Project, via Marble Bar, writes:—**

Hope this short note finds you in good health as it leaves me in good nick, or I should say in as good a nick as us old fellows can get these days.

I received the note and book of tickets last Thursday so you see it has taken quite some time to arrive.

As there are only two of us in this small working party and we are camped well away from the bright lights of Marble Bar, I'll take them all for mine self. If I win it I'll donate half to the Association. This is not bribery, I hope you understand. Couldn't stand for that, by gad. Sez me.

Well looks like I will be up here until about Christmas and then for a few years in the metropolis, I hope.

Do me a favour please. Haven't had a "Courier" for a long time. See what you can do. The address now being: 217 Leake Street, Belmont.

**ANGUS EVANS, of "Galathera," Marrabri N.S.W., writes:—**

Here's hoping that this short letter finds yourself and all members of the 2/2nd in the pink and still able to seek a reasonable existence.

It seems to me you have the right idea in conducting these sweeps, as the one you had last year was a great success both financially and from a news point of view, so let's hope this year's response will be even greater.

The season here has not been all

the best this year, but with recent good rains is now improving and the outlook for crops is now excellent.

Apart from Ken Jones the only member of the Unit I have seen lately is Ian Martin. Generally have a few ales and a pow wow when in Sydney.

All going well I and family hope to make W.A. next year for the Empire Games. Will let you know definitely in good time.

Please find enclosed cheque which may help a little, also butts.

**M. L. "Doc" WHEATLEY, of Hills Rd., Byford, W.A., writes:—**

I hope this finds all you good fellows in the best of health and enjoying the best things in this world.

I'm in the midst of pruning and gardening with all my time taken up, even Sundays, so I hope I'll get rewarded sometime. The trouble with these places is that you have to work too hard to make a living, otherwise they tend to keep you reasonably fit.

I've had Mr. F. Melville here, from the Agricultural Dept., and am following the latest ways of pruning apple trees. What with spreaders of wood and limbs tied down with string and knots in the thin limbs leaving the tree with loops and bow ties, I should be able to catch most of the parrots that raid the place.

Wendal Wilkie and I will sure to be at the re-union to see and ear-bash a lot of you chaps so don't forget to bring plenty of cotton-wool for the ears.

Cheque enclosed with butts. other for subs.

**PETER CAMPBELL, of Gibson, W.A., writes:—**

Enclosed sweep butts and cheque for £5 to cover same and subs for year.

Wet as blazes here today. Good season on the whole but am afraid getting old, grey han's bald, and a black tooth.

Will be at the Kalgoorlie Cup so might see some of the boys up there.

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**Address All Your Correspondence:**

**Box T1646, G.P.O. Perth**

**JIM DENT of P.O. Wirringa, N.S.W. writes:—**

Enclosed butts and cheque including Association fees.

Well the "Courier" always finds its way but it takes a Kalgoorlie Cup sometimes to find the lost. I noticed quite a few came to life after the last cup, but still looking for a couple of N.S.W. boys to bob up.

Things our way look very bright again this year. A good season is well on the way and makes all happy. Hoping with a little luck to make W.A. for the Games, however too soon to be real sure. A lot now depends on the family.

**W. F. BRYANT, of 319 Stanley Rd., Carina, S.E.7, Brisbane, writes:—**

Enclosed please find the "Oscar Ashe" and butts for the Kalgoorlie Cup sweep and please note it's in before the 29th as requested.

I am out of hospital now. Have been for a few weeks. I am progressing O.K. but am not able or allowed to go to work. I've been listed to go before the board for T.P.I. I really don't want this but what will be will be. Anyway if they do make me T.P.I. I will be able to put all my time in getting the lads together and try to form an Association over here. I'd not be able to do anything since my last letter to you of the West. As you know I was in hospital and was well and truly blocked.

Had a letter from Paddy Wilby and he will be down this week. I expect him to call out and we will get things cracking.

How's things over there? I sincerely hope you fill the sweep and that the returns are good, for you need the cash to run the "Courier," and let me add that you lads are doing a grand job of it over there. I appreciate it, I do.

My regards to you all over there and hope all is well.

**SHORTY STEVENS, of Yallunda Flat, S.A., writes:—**

I am running a bit late with the sweep butts but I guess you'll get them. I hope you get them before you send out any reminder notices.

Pressure has been on a bit lately but is better at the moment. I had just started building a concrete tank when my shearer turns up and

says he'd like to start a bit earlier. Eventually the tank was finished and shearing over and then the rains came and it would have been wet sheep ever since so the bit of a spurt did not hurt. We had over four inches of rain for July here and things were a bit wet for a while, too ruddy wet for cereal crops.

We are not too badly off this year but the remainder of S.A. is not too good and there are a lot of stock on the market and a big drop in prices just when I have a few to dispose of. It is worse when one HAS to sell I guess.

I never see any of the gang nowadays—living in the bush Dignum calls it—but I had a letter from Dignum who says he is O.K.

Thought I may have had a visit from Litch last month. He got within 200 miles but must have run out of petrol I think. (What happened Litch?)

If you see this Dig I may be in Adelaide for one day around the end of August and if I don't see you you'll know I was busy.

Not much more to write about. I will not be able to get to the Games much as I'd like to.

Work never seems to ease off much and progress is slow but I guess we'll make out some day.

Find enclosed cheque for tickets and the usual few bob for subs.

**P. ALEXANDER, of 48 York Street, Boulder, W.A., writes:—**

Trying to do the right thing and get the sweep butts in nice and early. Usually the wife has to give me two or three reminders.

Things are very quiet in Kalgoorlie at present but should liven up a bit next month with the annual racing round coming off.

Was interested in Fred Bryant's letter in the June "Courier". He mentioned an ex-P.O.W. friend of his, Johnny Fench. Was wondering if it was the same Johnny French who occupied the cell next to mine in "Changi".

Was also wondering if Fred knew a Norm Gray, of Stucky Rd., Clayfield, Brisbane. He was a mate of Johnny French.

I would like to be remembered to Keith Hayes and Merv Ryan. Usually see them when down on annual holidays. Cheerio for now.

**TONY ADAMS, of A.N.Z. Bank, Longreach, Qld., writes:—**

Ticket butts and the oscar ashe are enclosed—£1 to cover tickets and £2 to "Courier" funds, or as decided by you.

The "Courier" is as eagerly devoured as usual. No doubt it is a wonderful medium for keeping track of people. Have often shown it to our ex-A.I.F. types and they are all amazed that we have been able to keep going, and all say: "Gee, I wish we had a scheme like that". Of course we all know it is thanks to your enthusiasm and efforts that the paper has been kept going and I thank you sincerely.

Credit squeeze and drought conditions last year have made this a quiet year to date but time doesn't drag—there is always something doing. Been here 2½ years now but hope we won't move yet awhile as we find life very pleasant here and the folk very friendly and hospitable.

The only drawback is distance from Brisbane and Paul, plus, of course the financial drain. Paul likes boarding school and is holding his own and seems to have a ton of interests, too many for examinations!

Had a very interesting yarn to John Greer, ex-2/7th Squad., the other day. Nissie would remember him perhaps. He was an original member of 2/7th.

David Dexter's book is very interesting. Can't claim I've read the lot but it's good to pick it up and browse when I've got the time. What with meetings, work and the occasional party—free nights are few and far between.

Must away now. Kindest regards to all the boys and best of luck to the Association officers for the coming term.

**G. A. LEWIS, of Kalpara, S.A., writes:—**

Enclosed find ticket butts with cheque to cover same, plus subs.

Things are much the same here the season opened quite good and

crops are looking well. The only trouble here at present is the export lamb market does not look so good because Britain is not buying at present and lambs are bringing about a pound below last year's price. This is mainly a crossbred lamb district and merinos are very much in the minority.

We are very busy packing to come back to W.A. We hope to get over about the end of September. I had the offer of managing a farm at Newdegate and I accepted. It's mainly development work for the start because out of 4,000 acres only 600 acres are cleared. When sufficient land has been cleared to work on shares I hope to work it on shares but until that time I shall be working manager.

Going back to Newdegate will be just like going home because I lived there so many years before and after the war. We are looking forward to coming back very much and we were very lucky to be able to sell our house here because it's rather difficult to sell in these small country towns and we think ourselves extremely lucky to be able to make this move because it all hinged on selling the house.

Well I must draw to a close. I will let you know the new address later.

(Since this letter was written the move has been made and the new address: c/- P.O. Newdegate.—Ed)

**SGT. J. E. FENWICK of 130 Corps. Loc. Bty., 68 Davies Rd., Padstow, N.S.W., writes:—**

Please find enclosed the butts of tickets you sent me. Also a cheque to cover amount plus a bit extra for cost of sending me the "Courier."

Went into a weekend camp in June and was working with another unit. Who to my surprise was one of the safety officers but one Lt. L. Collins, commonly known to us all as "Twilight". Here he was with that great big friendly grin and still as full of beans as ever. We had quite a natter and I hope to see

him again in the near future after he has finished his promotion examinations.

Harold Newton was up the North Coast of N.S.W. last time I rang him. Hope to contact him soon as he should be back soon.

Have moved into what I hope will be my permanent home for the next couple of years. The address is 35 Picnic Point Rd., Panania, New South Wales.

Well must do a bit so will write again later.

**CHARLIE SADLER, of Box 24, Wongan Hills, W.A., writes:—**

I am enclosing cheque for tickets, sub and a bit extra for kids Christmas Tree.

I was in Perth last weekend. Went to the footy at Lathlain Park. Met Fred Sparkman just inside the gate. He presented me with a ticket which took me to a very popular place under his guidance. Of course Sparky is a very keen Perth supporter and I was backing the other side and we did not always agree with the umpire's decision.

I also saw Mick Calcutt for a couple of minutes. Thought he looked pretty fit.

Have not seen any of the boys from this way for some time, except John Fowler, who I see quite often.

I am not certain about making the re-union this year.

Is there any regulation regarding age of children receiving gifts from the Christmas party? We think that when they have turned 14 years gifts should be discontinued as they are rather expensive to buy for children of that age. Our eldest daughter, Joan, is 14 years old.

**ALAN LUBY, of Box 82, Grafton, N.S.W., writes:—**

Just a note to enclose sweep butts and P.N. and wish you luck with the sweep. Am flat out like a lizard at the moment and shudder every time I look at my desk.

Had a visit from Happy George Greenhalgh and wife Rene, last week, both looking well, but Hap was enjoying a bout of shingles which he reckoned were worse than the fleas at Lilotai.

Was in Brisbane on Sunday and tried unsuccessfully to contact Doc McPhee and Pedro Hearle.

**D. A. "Taffy" DAVIES, of 14 Elswick St., Petersham, N.S.W., writes:—**

In answer to your high hope am enclosing butts and Oscar for the Kalgoorlie Cup sweep. Have seen many Kalgoorlie Cups run and hope to see some more some day D.V. and Oscar willing.

At present the old frame has just stood up with a couple of weeks in Concord R.G.H. suffering from arthritis in the knee (war complaint). Am doing a little home treatment with an infra red ray lamp which works good.

Well enough of the sob stuff. I wish to express my appreciation in receiving the "Courier" which is well read. "Historically Yours" brings back many memories of the good and bad old days. Looking back now in comfort they were all good days and good boongs who carried my gear and lead me to many good oommers.

Will now conclude wishing the Association and all the members the very best.

**G. SHIELDS, of Box 374, Bowen, Queensland, writes:—**

At long last I have got around to dropping you a few lines to stop you winging about lack of news. I lost all contact with the Association and the boys shortly after discharge and returned to the old firm and old home town. I got married in 1946 and have been working like a trojan to keep the home fires burning but really having a great time. Have three daughters, 14 years, 12 years and 10 years, and turned out to grass. I don't get much say around the place with Mum and the daughters and the car seems to be always going out of late without me. I guess there is worse to come so I have to be happy now.

I stayed with the firm of Chas Barthwick & Sons until February this year and have now commenced small crop farming mainly tomatoes, cucumbers, pumpkins and mangoes. I hope to make this season and

**Write to Your Secretary:**

Jack Carey,  
Box T1646,  
G.P.O., Perth.

## SPECIAL MENTIONS:

**EARLY NOMINATIONS for the GAMES RE-UNION Please**

**Address All Association Correspondence to Box T1646; G.P.O. Perth**

next good ones and develop a sufficient "Jewish Cancer" in the pocket to see the Empire Games. Mum has granted the leave pass and she hopes to follow me over later, possibly to pick up the pieces.

Saw Alan Soper quite a lot around Christmas time and he was working around this way putting electricity out on this farm. We often managed a few ales and we even agreed we would hitch hike over for the Games if necessary.

I haven't seen "Bulla" Tait but when I last saw Soper he said he was O.K.

I am very pleased and interested to receive the "Courier" every month but in future remember I live at Bowen, Queensland, not

Tasmania, as all "Couriers" have been addressed there and reach me marked "Try Queensland".

I hope you are able to keep up the good work and would be only too happy to assist only distance is a bit steep.

I sold one book of tickets in the sweep and was going to sell the other but Mum washed the shirt without emptying the pockets so have taken them myself. I am enclosing cheque for £3 towards sale of tickets and subscription to fund. I hope your sweep is an even greater success than you anticipate.

Well this will be all for now as the hour is late and the censor (Mum) has to go over this before I post same.

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## Tuesday, Dec. 5th—Bucks' Night

### Anzac House Basement

### Bring a Friend—Be In It

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### *Heard This?*

#### LOVE IN GLOOM

The lush staggered into the heart of Lovers' Lane, blundering into parked convertibles and causing a minor commotion. Just then, a young man appeared from the shadows, breathing heavily.

"Wow!" he exclaimed. "What a dynamo! A woman like that would kill you in no time flat . . . she'd burn a guy up!"

"So what?" slobbered the drunk.

"I'm bushed, pal," said the fellow, "want to take over for me for a while? I gotta rest up."

"Glad to, Buddy, ol' pal," mumbled the drunk, as he blundered his way to a parked car nearby. He had no sooner made himself comfortable when a police car drove up and a flashlight flooded the darkened convertible with its strong beam.

"C'mon, you two . . . break it up!" snarled the law.

"But offisher," protested the lush, "this is my wife!"

"Sorry, mister . . . didn't know it was your wife."

"Neither did I until the lights went on!"

\* \* \* \*

#### NO HIT-OR-MISS MARRIAGE

A hill-billy brought a younger man who was suffering from a bad leg wound into a doctor's office.

"Better look after the son-in-law here, Doc," he said.

"My goodness," said the doctor, looking at the wound, "how did this happen?"

"Ah done shot him, Doc," said the hill-billy.

"You shot your own son-in-law?"

"Wal, you see, he warn't my son-in-law when I shot him."