



## 2/2 COMMANDO COURIER

(Registered at the G.P.O. Perth, for transmission by post as a periodical)

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

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### *Editorial*

## *Empire and Commonwealth Games Re-Union*

You would be a remarkably naive reader if you did not think that your Editor has not been trying to awaken Australia-wide interest in the Empire Games Re-union.

As this event is now a bare 12 months away the pressure will naturally become greater to try and trap your interest.

This major sporting event provides a unique opportunity for our spread membership to get together and see the great athletes of the Commonwealth compete and at the same time relive for a brief period the marvelous friendships engendered by a service together as a Unit. The word unique is used advisedly as in the normal allotted span of our lives it is most unlikely that a sporting event such as the Olympic or Empire Games will be staged in our Continent. With all the various nations willing and eager to stage the Olympic Games it will probably be at least 60 years before Australia can hope to be the host country again. As far as the

Empire Games goes this also applies but a more significant factor is will there be a Commonwealth in another 20 years? This is everyone's golden opportunity to provide the excuse to get together with their mates.

Interstate and country members can be assured that Perth as the host city and your Association in this State will leave no stone unturned to give you the welcome you will so richly deserve. The West Australian Branch has appointed the main officials to organise the Re-union and these together with the whole Committee are eagerly at work to make certain that persons coming to Perth either from interstate or the country have the time of their lives.

A most adequate programme of entertainment has been drawn up and this, although adequate in itself, has been so designed to interfere as little as possible with the main object, that being the Games themselves.

### **CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY**

at Place: South Perth Zoo, Sunday, Dec. 12, 1961, Time: 2.30  
Give the wife and kids a great day out in wonderful surroundings. A plate of refreshments please, you good women folk

The main burden will of course fall upon the Perth metropolitan members in the provision of accommodation and this will not be misplaced as it is felt that no-one will pass up the opportunity of making their old mates welcome.

All are requested to co-operate to their utmost with the organisers who will have a very full handfull in the ensuing 12 months. Your attention is drawn to a notice appearing elsewhere in this issue asking country and interstate members

to advise of their needs and intentions and it is hoped you will give this matter your immediate attention. The further ahead the planning and organisation can get at this stage will make for more leisure for the organisers at a later stage.

This can be made into something that will be remembered to the longest day we live and all that is required is a bit of effort on you, the readers, part to make the effort bear glorious fruit.

## West Australian Whisperings

### Association Activities

#### NOVEMBER MEETING

A most enjoyable evening was spent at Anzac Club on Nov. 7, when John Burrridge gave an informal account of his recent business trip to the near and far East and also to Europe. Johnny is a most articulate speaker and held the assembly in rapt attention for about two hours while he took us on a verbal tour of Singapore, Malaya, Kuwait, Beirut, Rome, London, Scandinavia, Japan, and back again to Australia via Singapore. I'm sure that his first hand observations of such places very much in the news at the moment as Singapore and Malaya, Kuwait with its oil riches, Rome and London with his comments on the European Common Market, Scandinavia with especial reference to Finland, was most educational and assisted all to understand some of the complex political and trade implications which are occurring at the present time. We are most indebted to Johnny for coming along, enjoying the evening himself and at the same time giving us so much enjoyment. I really do think it becomes doubly enjoyable when it is possible for one of our own members to be our guest speaker. Nobody has any inhibitions and questions are fired right left and centre. One of our best evenings for ages.

(Printed for the publisher by "The Swan Express," 10 Helena Street, Midland, W.A.)

#### WORKING BEE KINGS PARK

About a dozen of the gang turned up at Lovekin Drive, Kings Park on Sunday, Nov. 19, and got stuck into the area like a mob of beavers and cleaned it up in no uncertain manner. With three motor mowers the area was soon mown and leaves and debris from the trees removed from the grass then the whole section was fertilised. Arthur Smith meanwhile got all the sprinklers working like a charm and when finished the area looked excellent.

This is a crucial year for us with the grass as adequate watering and mowing is an essential. Anyone who can assist with watering of the area is asked to get in touch with the Secretary or Editor as soon as possible. If you can shoot up to King's Park a couple of times a week and turn on the sprinkler system for an hour you are the bloke we are looking for. Don't be shy and hang back, shoot your name in as soon as possible.

#### CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

This will be held at the South Perth Zoo once again this year in as near to the same spot as possible. The date, Sunday, Dec. 10, at 2.30 p.m. All the arrangements are well in hand and a good time is assured to all who attend. A visit by the genial old chap with the whiskers is a certainty and fun and games will fill in the afternoon with the usual drinks and ice cream.

Parents are requested to bring along a plate of eats to make, afternoon tea a bit more enjoyable.

## Committee Comment

Since last we went to press two Committee meetings have been held one a special meeting on Oct. 31 to discuss the Empire Games Re-union and the other the normal Committee meeting held on Nov. 21

At the first of these all the essential preliminary business regarding the Games Re-union was discussed at length and a good ground plan was formulated. The matters of urgency were considered to be the booking of suitable venues for any functions, the booking of tickets for the more important games, and the appointment of organiser and assistant organiser.

Before booking of venues could be decided upon it was necessary to decide what the functions should be held and when and where they should take place. It was finally decided that the two major functions be the Re-union Dinner and a Ladies' Night. The dates for these were decided as: Annual Re-union Friday, Nov. 23, 1962, and Ladies' Evening, Tuesday, Nov. 27, 1962. The first function will be held at Anzac Club Basement and the second at the A.N.A. Aquatic Club. Both venues have been booked. The tickets to be booked for games events were also decided upon and mainly concern a sufficient number for opening day, closing day and the swimming events.

C. D. Doig was elected organiser and Don Murray assistant organiser and both are at present stuck into the job of early organisation.

This was a most successful meeting and much business of importance was transacted.

The usual Committee meeting was held on this occasion at Bob Smyth's office in King-st., and Committeemen took the opportunity to pack and prepare for the Children's Christmas Party. Most of the business transaction had to do with organising the Children's Party and the December meeting. Some discussion took place on the necessity for providing watering for Kings Park as at present it fell rather heavily on a very few persons. Mr. Smyth and Mr. Doig undertook to look into the matter and see if some workable plan could be evolved.

The Committee is once more deeply indebted to Bob Smyth for his tremendous efforts regarding the Children's Party and other events. Ron Kirkwood has proved to be an excellent assistant to Bob and these two have put in an amazing amount of work to make this function tick.

### "LEST WE FORGET"

#### NOVEMBER:

Kemp, Tpr. L. B., killed in action New Guinea, Nov. 12, 1943.  
Thomas, Pte. J. E., killed in action Timor, Nov. 11, 1942. Age 29.  
Smeaton, Pte. A., killed in action Timor, Nov. 11, 1942. Age 24.  
Ludlow, Cpl. S., killed on service W.A., Nov. 18, 1945. Age 28.

### EMPIRE GAMES RE-UNION

#### FOR INTERSTATE MEMBERS

If it is your INTENTION at the present to visit Perth for the Games Re-union from Nov. 22 to Dec. 1, 1962, send your particulars as under to Box T 1646 G.P.O. Perth, as soon as possible:—

1. Name and address.
2. Number in your family group that will be coming.
3. Will you require accommodation?
4. Main sporting interest (athletics, boxing, etc.).
5. Method of travel (rail, road, air)
6. Approximate length of time you would like to stay.
7. What troop did you belong to in the Unit (Sigs., Engs., A, B, C, etc.).

#### FOR COUNTRY MEMBERS IN W.A.

If you intend to be in Perth for Games period and will require accommodation please advise Organiser, Box T 1646 G.P.O. Perth, as soon as possible.

To enable a sufficient number of tickets to be obtained for the Opening Ceremony Day ALL COUNTRY and CITY members are asked to advise if they intend to be present.

## Personalities

Sorry to hear that Ning McCaig has had quite a stretch in Hollywood. We hope that by the time this gets into print he will be on the mend and able to get home again once more.

Others in Hollywood at present are "Woock" Crossing and "Ajax" Harrison and we wish both of these a speedy recovery. Speaking to "Ajax" the other night he seemed as bright as a button and expected to be out in a few days. He is at present employed by the T.A.B. at Cottesloe.

A little bird told me that the proud driver of a vehicle in that huge metropolis Melbourne with number GGL 001 is none other than Geoff Laidlaw currently managing Ampol in that State. If my information be correct I see a little more than the hand of coincidence at work.

Bob Smyth looking extra well after a lengthy trip through the north selling any form of goods that his clients want to buy. Bob sees "Buck" Peters on most of his trips through the north and reports "Buck" to be driving a grader for the Main Roads Board.

Rumour has it that "Dusty" Studdy has returned from his sojourn in the north but can't confirm as haven't sighted the body yet.

Had lunch one day with Don Turton and he reported himself more than happy with the outcome of the Field Day. Has been busy assisting with the running of the Golf Ball

### When in Town

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Meet Dave Ritchie and Say Good-day

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William St., Perth

at Wandering which was a great success.

Sight my old mate Alf Walsh very frequently and he looks fit and well. About the only place we don't see Alf is at meetings. What about it, Alf?

An informant tells me Joe Poynton and his wife had recently been on a trip to Esperance. My mate said that he saw a bloke with his head under the bonnet of a car looking at a radiator and on inspection it proved to be the one and only Joe. Hope you got home all right Joe.

Haven't laid an eye on Ray Parry for so long that I'd have to greet him with a "How do, stranger," if I did see him. What about coming out of hibernation Ray and saying a cheerio to the gang over a grog at a meeting or so?

It was with considerable regret that owing to lack of response by metropolitan members that the Country Convention scheduled for Geraldton on Queens Birthday weekend had to be cancelled. I would be most remiss if I did not publish a note of thanks to Peter Barden and Jack Denman for the work they put in arranging for this convention which went for nought. Thanks very much Peter and Jack and I give my personal assurance that the next time we have a convention it will be at Geraldton and it will succeed.

If you are thinking of buying a Mini Morris Gerry Maley is your man as Maley's Ampol Service Station of Morley Park have received a franchise for this vehicle.

This unfortunately, has been a "flat" month as far as personalities go so you will have to be satisfied with this short list this time and my fervent hopes for something better next edition.

### LOST

Addresses of members who are at present on the "Missing Believed Departed from Previous Address" are required for the names as listed below. Surely their whereabouts are known to some member or other who is asked to write in and advise.

The West Australian Branch is at present assembling material to print an address book containing

## Heard This?

A coloured church was organising a Society of Virgins. One applicant came up carrying a baby in her arms.

"But, Sister," queried the secretary, "how come yo' figger yo' is able to join this here society?"

"Well," replied the woman, "I was only foolin' when this happened and I 'lowed as how I could get in as one of dese Foolish Virgins."

\* \* \*

The McCoy had just married the Martin of the Hill Country and off they went to a cabin in the mountains for a honeymoon. He had only been gone one day when he suddenly stormed into his pappy's cabin.

His pappy said: "Where's your woman, son?"

McCoy countered: "I done shot her."

"What fer?" asked the old man.

"She was a virgin, paw."

"Ya done right, son. If she weren't good enough for her own fold she ain't good enough for usen."

\* \* \*

### PRIVATE WARD

"Tell me, Tom," asked the visitor in the luxurious private hospital room, "since you can afford all this plus the services of a full time private nurse, why did you pick such an ugly old bat to look after you?"

"Well," Tom answered, "when she begins to look good to me I know I'm getting well!"

\* \* \*

### NOT GREEDY

An insurance agent was trying to interest an Indian woman in an endowment policy with which to supplement her social security when she retired, and told her that she would get 50 bucks a month when she was 65.

"Listen, mister," she replied, "when I get to be that old, one buck a month will be more than enough for me."

\* \* \*

### CONFUSCIUS SAY:

Man like auto. Perform better for girl who give right kind of oil.

the names and addresses of all persons at present known to have served with the Unit. Before proceeding with the task it is hoped to get the address list as up to date as possible.

This address book will be distributed to all persons whose name and address is known at the time of publication. Members will no doubt agree that this book should be an excellent medium to keep in touch with one another. If you can assist with any of the undermentioned members' addresses you will earn the undieing thanks of those trying to collate this address book.

It is hoped to publish the book early in the new year so please write in quickly if you can assist.

### South Australia:

BACHE, H. E.  
WOODHEAD, L. J. (Lionel).

### New South Wales:

BAGNALL, K. (Sketta).  
DIXON, D. (Douglas).  
HANSON, J. (Jackie).  
HARRISON, P. J. (Kiwi).  
HOGG, D. (Dave).  
JONES, A. F.  
MAHER, C.  
MARTIN, R. D.  
MORRISEY, J. W. (Joe).  
PRESS, F. A. (Frank).  
PRIOR, J. (Jack).  
SIPPLE, J. (Jack).  
THORPE, F. J. (Slim).  
WATERS, K. (Keith).  
WEIR, B. J.  
WILCOX, E. C. (Wally).  
WILSON, K. G. (Keith).  
TIERNEY, T. (Tom).  
O'BRIEN, T. L. (Tom).  
LAFFY, Capt. J.  
ANDERSON, W. S. (Bunny).

### West Australia:

COUPLAND, A. (Alf).  
McLAUGHLIN, J. R.  
BRADY, N.  
COOPER, W. G.  
DODGE, C.

### Queensland:

CUBIS, C. F. (Col).

### Last State Unknown:

BARNES, J. E.  
BURNS, J. L.  
BURTON, R. A. (Dick).  
PERKINS, A. L.  
SNOWDEN, T. (Tom).

## Random Harvest

**ROCKY WILLIAMS, of Box 16, Rose Bay, N.S.W., writes:—**

As Christmas and the Association Children's Party are fast approaching I would like to submit my children's names for the party. As I am in Sydney and may not be able to make the show my wife will be taking them. Their address is still 21 Simpson St., Applecross. I would be grateful if you could let my wife know the date, etc., of the party. Enclosed is £2 to cover any costs, as they have been such great successes in the past, I would hate the kids to miss out and so would they!

I have now been in Sydney for the past eight months and have enjoyed the stay but you can't beat the West and I will be pleased to get back around Christmas.

Wishing you and the Association all the best for Christmas.

**B. J. "Peter" BARDEN, of Box 310, Geraldton, writes:—**

As mentioned in my reply to Jack Carey, we were all so sorry that the Geraldton Convention had to be postponed. A few days before receiving Jack's letter, I wrote to you to see how many would be coming from Perth, as Jack Denman and myself had met and discussed the accommodation side of the convention, as well as other aspects. In addition, I had personally made quite a number of our members in this area aware of the convention, and they were all looking forward to seeing the boys from "down under".

Jack Denman has now told the two hotel and motel with whom he had made tentative inquiries, that we will not be needing any accommodation as the convention has been cancelled.

Irish Hopkins phoned me from Morawa the day after I got Jack's letter, and was indeed disappointed to hear the news as he was looking forward to meeting all the boys.

Eric Smyth recently returned from a trip to Canberra during which he forcibly submitted Geraldton's case for inclusion in Income Tax Zone "B" with the Federal Treasurer, Mr. Holt, and the

Taxation Commissioner. A number of Geraldton organisations paid for Eric's trip, and he reckons we have got a good chance of success. It would mean a saving of about £20,000 to £40,000 a year as a result of the taxation deductions which would result from such a change.

Harry Botterill met Eric in Melbourne and they had lunch and a few grogs together. Harry, of Signals fame, is reported to be well and as fit as a fiddle. Ex-signaller George Kennedy and Jim Wall also joined in the happy little re-union at Melbourne. Eric also saw Bert Tobin, who is secretary of two radio and T.V. stations run by the "Argus" newspaper company in Melbourne. Bert is also fit and well and he and Harry Botterill have booked their train passages for the Commonwealth Games Convention in Perth in November of next year. Fortunately they were able to take over two cancellations. Eric Smyth was the guest of Ralph Baldwin at Geelong.

Sorry to report that Jack Denman has been a bit off colour of late. Jack has been having a busy time with raffles and what-not in his capacity as President of the High School P. & C. and following all this running around he found himself in bed for several days with the old complaint, rheumatic fever.

Eric Weller is again building houses in Geraldton and intends making his home here. I ran into Eric and his wife the other day, and they and their family are all well. The next time I struck Eric was on Sunday of last week when I was next to him in the processoin in honour of Christ the King, which drew a record crowd of about 3,000 to the grounds of Geraldton's famous Cathedral, St. Francis Xavier's.

I ran into Brush Fagg, of Northampton, in Geraldton recently and while he was enjoying fair health, Mrs. Fagg was not too good. Brush is now driving a school bus at Northampton.

My elder son Ross (he will be 19 in January), who is an apprentice plumber with the Geraldton

Building Co. Pty. Ltd. (which employs about 250 men) is spending six months (that's the minimum) at Koolan Island, near Cockatoo Island, north of Derby, where they are erecting 54 homes and 10 16-man billets for Broken Hill Pty. Ltd., at a cost of £400,000 (it's not much if you say it quick). This job is part of a £6-million undertaking to develop the iron ore deposits on Koolan Island. Having won two football trophies in the recently concluded season at Geraldton, and also a best and fairest basketball trophy, Ross is playing basketball at Koolan Island and his team has just won the premiership in a competition between teams from Koolan and Cockatoo Island.

I'll be having my holidays in January-February, so I hope my visit coincides with one of your meetings. In any case, I will look you up in the hope that we can have a couple of quickies together.

Regards to all.

**RON TRENGROVE, of 46 Hillcrest Ave., Mona Vale, N.S.W., writes:**

When one doesn't see anyone it is rather hard to write something that would interest anyone, however as I have met recently Jim English and have seen and spoken a few words to Bill Coker I guess I should be able to make up something.

First things first. I have been sending on John Rose's copy of the "Courier" and as they haven't come back I guess that man is getting them as I address them to Hillston, N.S.W. No doubt he is well known if for no other reason than that he was reared there, and if he cuts his lawn like he did when he was at Harbord he would be known as the man with the longest grass in (I did say grass) the west. So any mail, however sketchily addressed, would find him.

I am very sorry to hear Max Davies has been so ill and guess that one of the things he will have to stay away from is beer, as I believe that the old kidneys won't stand abuse after one has been afflicted with hepatitis.

My apologies to Harry Botterill for not sending cup tickets back but I never saw them until after the cup. It's not worth telling why, but sufficient to say with me

out of sight out of mind, even had I seen them in the first place.

It is a bit late but I would like to offer my sympathy to Bill Coker on his recent loss and if my information is correct it was most unexpected as his mother was in good health.

We, that is the Trengroves, would very much like to see you all next year but short of winning a substantial prize in a lottery we will be among the missing.

Talking to Jim English the other day he advised me not to move away from the pole I was leaning against as one or both of us might fall down, but after informing him that I was actually working he was most apologetic as you all can imagine. Unfortunately his news about his daughter is no better than when I last spoke and told you about her.

I guess television is probably one of the worst enemies to associations like ours who are rather thinly spread over a large area and have not the benefit of a clubhouse or use of permanent meeting house with facilities to draw one out and away from a comfortable chair, etc., so I guess one must be thankful for the die-hards that do turn up when something is arranged. But how disheartening for those who hope and arrange in anticipation that this time they will turn up. Even as I write these few lines I am trying to watch and listen to the story of Ernest Hemingway.

Well I guess as I am not doing either of the latter things successfully I will close wishing everyone who reads this "Courier" a very Happy Christmas and a healthy and happy New Year and may Miss English have your prayers answered.

**"DUSTY" STUDY, of Freezing Works, Broome, writes:—**

Just a few lines. I have decided to buy all the tickets myself as it is in the air whether I will see the season out. Over the last three weeks eight jokers have left this dump. Today we decided not to go to work unless the tucker improves which it did at lunch time. For Sunday night's tea and this morning's breakfast there was no butter on the table. Some of the meat you get you would need a pair of tiger's fangs to chew it. About six



weeks ago we had a strike for the same reason. Well that night whilst some of the boys were cooking some tucker who should appear but buff-head himself. He is the owner of this outfit. Believe it or not he pulled out a .45 and with the butt he then smashed the plates, saying: "You are not going to eat on my plates." He must have thought he was acting in the Three Bears.

Another night two of the fellows came home about 11, full. They then had a race to see who could climb onto the roof first. One was not satisfied with that he then got a stick, running from one end of the hut to the other scraping the roof after him. After a few laps he must have missed his footing as head over he went and out went the bloody lights.

This place up here should be renamed the wild bloody west. Last Thursday I had to get my clearance from the doctor as I had dropped a 60 lb. carton of meat on my big toe. Yours truly did not go back to work. I then went to the pub. About 4 o'clock who should walk in but the toughest bitch I've seen. She was flat chested, wore a ten gallon hat, a coloured handkerchief, narrow green trousers, elastic side boots with high heels and even rolled her own cigarettes. About eight o'clock after drinking a fair amount of grog she turned her glass upside down. Just then who should walk in but a copper. She called him everything. I think he had a bit of the tom tits as he rang for the other two coppers and after a struggle they finished by carting her off in a taxi.

Well, give my regards to the boys on Saturday night. Hope you can understand my writing as I'm bloody hopeless at it. Cheerio.

(Since writing this "Dusty" has returned to the metropolis.—Ed.)

Adultery is a triangle made up of one bed and two fools.

#### Write to Your Editor:

Col. Doig,  
Box T1646,

Address All Your Correspondence:  
Box T1646, G.P.O. Perth

#### RUSS SYMONDS, of 43 Legget St., Windsor, Queensland, writes:—

Firstly please find enclosed sweep butts and cheque to cover same plus some of the back fees I must owe.

I can assure you the amount of work you good folk in the West put into the "Courier" is really appreciated by the isolated few in this State. After digesting my copy this last 18 months I have been posting it on to "Beaky" Smith. This poor bugger along with "Harry the Hawk" Hancock, are sitting on their behinds on 11 acres of rock 16 miles of Coffs Harbour supposedly looking after a lighthouse but the buggers spend most of their time fishing.

Had quite an evening here 'about 12 months ago Sailor Ward, Kel Carthew, Eric Davies, Bob Smith (on holidays at the time) and myself. To be honest haven't sighted Sailor or Eric since then but both were 100 per cent then. See Kel Carthew ever so often. Hasn't altered a day.

Was fortunate enough last trip to Melbourne to meet a number of the lads down there. Thanks due to Jock Campbell and Bert Tobin.

Noticed in June issue where Mal Herbert is coming to Queensland in August with the W.A. Rifle Team. I would appreciate it if you would forward enclosed on to him. May be able to put a couple in the fridge for him but as I'm travelling for a drug company must know when he will be here so I can make the effort to be in Brisbane. My travelling takes me from Tweed Heads on the N.S.W.-Queensland border to Thursday Island including Western Queensland, virtually still living out of the old kit bag.

Kind regards to all the boys in the West.

#### R. C. FIELD, of "Manderley," 206 Hudson Parade, Taylors Point, N.S.W., writes:—

Greetings and salutations, old friend. It has been a long, long time no see—or any other old Unit friend with the exception of Ray Cole, who at last has been rescued from bachelorhood and is now the proud father of a bonny bouncing boy.

I must thank you for forwarding copies of the "Courier" so regular-

ly. It is always of interest to learn of the doings of old friends and associates.

I had hoped to visit Perth later this year, but time, that elusive Pimpernel, is running out and next month will find me off on my annual trip to the East. Please convey my special regards to all members of 9 Section, particularly my old friend Arch Campbell. Incidentally, my new representative for W.A.—Jack Watson—tells me he went to school with Arch.

Cheque to the amount of £1, with butts for the Kalgoorlie Sweep are enclosed. By the way, I have moved from Wahroonga on the North Shore line to Taylors Point—situated on Pittwater, behind Avalon. This is a most delightful spot, with a beautiful view of Pittwater. Having a waterfrontage, I have secured a small boat and have my own slips. I find this new interest occupies most pleasantly all my spare moments. I have gone so far as to join the Volunteer Coastal Patrol, and now I find myself endeavouring to cope with the intricacies of navigation, logarithms, etc., principles of which have long since passed from my mind.

My boys are growing up, too. Robert, now 13, and David, 11, and although time seems to be passing very quickly I personally feel no different than I did 20 years ago, and occasionally get out and kick the footie with the boys, which brings back pleasant memories of old times and that physical-fitness enthusiast Arch Campbell again.

At the moment, however, I am dictating this to my good wife from a prostrate position in bed, with a head like a melon. I had the good fortune to be successful in winning the Sports Goods and Toy Retailers' Gold Shield yesterday and the 19th appears to have been a little too much. So, old friend, I must close this as I require a new ice pack.

Wishing you and all my friends in the West all the very best.

#### COLIN CRIDDLE, of 124 Nanson Street, Wembley, writes:—

Please find enclosed sweep butts and postal note to the value of £2/10/-, the extra 10/- being for subs.

No activities to report except for

Len Read who came into the depot last Friday in the regular army as a Staff Sergeant. Reports he's enjoying life immensely and wouldn't be a civilian for quids.

Regarding the annual re-union on Saturday, 19th, I would like to tender my apologies for not attending, the reason being it's the wife's birthday and there's a party organised for the occasion.

I sincerely hope in the next few years the date may be altered, or even next year for the Empire Games. It would be a nice wind-up for the Eastern Staters to have the dinner after the games.

Trusting these few lines find you in good health, and best regards to all the gang.

#### A Later Letter from Colin reads:—

Received cheque for £10 on second placing in Kalgoorlie Cup. Quite a surprise and I can assure you, very much appreciated.

My apologies once again for not being in attendance at the Annual Re-union for it always coincides with the wife's birthday, being the 20th August, and the right thing has to be done in the way of an evening at home.

I would like to make a suggestion at this juncture, not to cover my own excuse but how would the last day of the Show Week fall into line for our Annual Re-union, say Friday night. Having most of the country chaps in town may have reason for a larger attendance.

With Show week coming up, and my good fortune of running into some of the boys, I will most certainly chew it over with them.

Well, I'd better away and buckle down to do some work for the company.

#### BILL BENNETT, 18 Southcreek Rd.

Deewhy, N.S.W., writes:—

Thank you very much for the £25. Looks as though I am having a bit of a lucky run.

Please forgive me for taking so long to acknowledge receipt, but have been through a trying period over the last few weeks. As I mentioned in last writing, my mother was very ill, and unfortunately she passed away recently, and with the sorrow of the loss and all subsequent arrangements, etc., I have not had much time or inclination for other matters.

**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.

~~~~~

**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

---

### *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."