



2/2 COMMANDO COURIER

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

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Editorial

Deeper Co-operation

Despite frequent and fervent appeals for more assistance by members the Annual General Meeting was a bitter disappointment. The attendance was shocking to say the least and it was obvious that many members had made no effort whatsoever to be present as the number of apologies received was negligible.

Practically all office bearers were returned to office without opposition. Very flattering if you think in terms of what a good job they have done in the past, but when you come to think that apathy on the part of members forces these men back year after year it is a pretty poor performance. Certain office bearers had evinced a desire for personal reasons to retire from some particular office but owing to lack of contenders were forced against their better judgement to once again continue to see the Association function in this all important year.

Never has so much been owed

to so few. The same old dozen or so year in, year out, work indefatigably to keep the show afloat.

There comes an end to this sort of thing and when the last straw breaks the camels back the show will collapse like a pack of cards and many years of sterling effort will disappear down the drain.

This Annual General Meeting was terribly important from many aspects, the main of course, being the fact that this year we are the host State for the Commonwealth Games Re-union, but secondly the affairs of the Association were most definitely at the cross-roads and some most ticklish problems beset us. That these temporary troubles have been successfully overcome is indeed a feather in the caps of those who accepted the responsibility and challenge of the trouble and managed to sort out the difficulty before it could develop, is undoubted, but they should have had the deeper co-operation and more intense backing of a lot more of the members.

It can only be hoped that in the ensuing months of this year that co-operation will be more readily forthcoming to meet the undoubted demands upon our hospitality by the Games Re-union. Members should make every endeavour to attend all monthly meetings so that they can be fully informed on events to come and what is required of them to make this Re-union the

OFFICE BEARERS YOU SHOULD KNOW

PRESIDENT: R. McDonald
SECRETARY: J. Carey
TREASURER: R. Geere
EDITOR: C. D. Doig

success that it should be. There will be many sub committees required to run the specific functions and it will be necessary to co-opt members who are not at present on the Committee and you are entreated not to gracefully decline but accept your share of the work.

This could easily be a testing year and if we don't succeed it will

mean the beginning of the end of an organisation that promised so well, got so far as to be admired by many other such associations, then quietly folded up for want of a bit more co-operation.

It is up to you, the member, to do all you can otherwise "the few" will realise it is all to no avail and just plain pack up.

West Australian Whisperings

Association Activities ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

As stated in the Editorial the attendance was not at all good. Despite this a most orderly and businesslike meeting was conducted by the President, Mr. Bob McDonald.

The various reports are published elsewhere in this issue and each were received by the meeting with acclamation.

The crisis in the financial side of the Branch has been brought to a successful conclusion but it behoves all members to be extra vigilant in the future.

Mr. Bill Epps was proposed by the Committee for the honour of Life Membership and this was carried with acclamation. No more deserving person has ever received this honour as Bill and his family have striven tremendously in all facets of Association Activities.

The election of officers resulted as follows:

President: R. McDonald, re-elected unopposed.

Vice President: A. E. Smith, re-elected unopposed.

Secretary: J. Carey, re-elected unopposed.

Treasurer: R. Geere, elected unopposed.

Editor: C. D. Doig, re-elected unopposed.

Auditor: J. C. Burrige, unopposed.

Committee: R. Smyth, W. Epps, K. Bowden, G. Maley, C. Varian, P. Hancock, R. Aitken.

Warden Kings Park: R. S. Kirkwood.

Country Vice Presidents: Northern area, P. Barden; Eastern area, P. Campbell; Great Southern area, Bert Burges; South West area, H.

Rowan-Robinson; Midlands area, J. Fowler.

It was decided to invite the 2/5th Commando Association to co-operate with us in conducting the Ladies Night during the Games and that members be permitted to bring along a minimum number of friends to ensure that this particular evening be the greatest possible success.

The meeting closed at 11 p.m.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It is with pleasure that I am submitting the President's Report for the year ended June 34, 1962.

During the year we held a number of 12 meetings of the Committee, and a great amount of work and time was given by these men.

Our social meeting on the first Tuesday of each month always held the interest of our members and over the past 12 months there were many new faces and much talk of old times. These meetings have always been made possible through the help of the City of Perth R.S.L. My thanks to Bill Holder and other members.

Turton Field Day:

In October we took a bus load of 53 children from Sister Kate's Home for a day's outing on Don Turton's farm. It was a great success, the kiddies really enjoyed themselves.

Sincere thanks are conveyed to Don and Vida Turton, Ern Bingham, Clarrie Varion and all who helped.

Kiddies' Christmas Party:

This was held once more at the Zoo. The attendance was good, and there seemed to be more new faces in the way of little ones for 1962. The Stork has sure been busy.

Honour Avenue:

Much time, money and work has been put into this area so as to have it in ship-shape order for the Empire Games. Special thanks are due to John Burrige, our Warden for the year, Bill Epps who has spent many hours of his time up in the area, also his wife, who has toiled by his side, and Bob Smythe who introduced constructive ideas for the project.

Steps have been taken for the vandalism which has been done in the Park.

Commemoration Service:

Attendance was poor. Members should make an effort to attend this Service.

Anzac Day:

There was a very good roll-up at the morning march, also for the get together in the afternoon.

Sweep:

Mainly due to the untiring efforts of Col Doig the sweep was a great success, and so helped to keep the show going.

Annual Re-Union:

The attendance was most encouraging, and the night was equal to previous re-unions. The change of venue to the basement section of Anzac Club, proved popular with the members.

Ladies' Night:

The decision to switch from Tuesday to the Saturday night of Show Week produced satisfactory results on this occasion. Mick Morgan came to our aid, and did the job of M.C. and made the evening a great success.

Empire Games:

Much work has been done by the Committee so as to have a great show in November.

It will be up to each member to attend these evenings to make it a success, so I appeal to you all to help in this way and don't let your hard working Committee down.

I wish to sincerely thank the Committee members for the excellent co-operation that I have had during the year. Jack Carey, our Secretary, has done a great job for the Association.

Finally, I would like to personally thank the members for their support over the past year.

—R. A. McDONALD, President.

EDITOR'S REPORT

Once again it is my privilege to report on your Association Journal for the year just concluded.

The year was much the same as the previous three in that some 10 "Couriers" were published, only the months of December and March being omitted. The standard of publications I feel, fell short of previous years due mainly to lack of material and editorial boredom. Although a good deal of the blame for the fall off in quality is attachable to the Editor, members as a whole must be prepared to accept a portion of the responsibility owing to their lack of co-operation in regard to providing news. It is this lack of news from sources other than his own imagination which gets the Editor into a mental frustration, thereby making for a makeshift "Courier" written in haste with insufficient material. It is hoped that in ensuing years members will see to it that sufficient material of a newsworthy character is supplied to the Editor to enable him to lift the journal to its previous high standard.

If the feature "Historically Yours!" is to continue, then it will be definitely necessary for more members to assist, as in the past year your Editor has exhausted his own personal experiences in Timor and memory being such a transient thing, he cannot hope to adequately cover the experiences of others in which he did not take part and which, at best, he knew only second hand by word of mouth.

As reports on this feature have all been enthusiastic, it is felt that it should continue and if necessary a panel of writers be formed to make certain that the best possible breadth of experience is incorporated in the history.

The cost of publication has remained reasonably static over the years and it is sufficient to say that the publication of a 16 page issue mailed to approximately 480 readers, is just over £15 for printing and mailing.

The "Courier" still finds its way to readers in every State and following is the usual distribution:

Western Australia	180
New South Wales	130
Victoria	110
South Australia	20
Tasmania	15

Queensland 20
A.C.T. and Overseas ... 10

Total 485

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all who have assisted with the publication and writing of the "Courier" in the past year, especially the interstate scribes Ron Trengrove and Harry Botterill, and Peter Barden for his wonderful news of the Geraldton area.

No report would be complete without mention of the work of Bill Epps in his capacity of printer and wrapper and despatcher of the "Courier". His work has again made the task of the Editor a good deal easier than it would otherwise have been and he merits my sincere appreciation.

I would also like to thank our publishers, "The Swan Express," of Midland, for another excellent effort and their patience in dealing with the Editor's demands for deadlines.

I would like at this stage to state that should my services in the capacity of Editor be again required I would be prepared to carry out the duties to the best of my ability. Should there be some other member who could do the job in a more efficient manner I would be only too pleased to assist him and stand down in his favour.

—C. D. DOIG, Editor.

EMPIRE GAMES RE-UNION ORGANISER'S REPORT

At a special Committee meeting held in October, 1961, I was appointed Organiser of the Empire Games Re-union and have to report as under on what has occurred to date.

Functions:—

Annual Re-union Dinner:

This will be held at Anzac House Basement on Friday, Nov. 23, 1962. The venue has been booked and caterers also have been bespoken. A good deal of preliminary work has been undertaken and the success of this function seems assured. Mr. Dave Ritchie has willingly volunteered to assist by providing topical decorations, etc.

Ladies' Night:

The venue for this function was originally to be the A.N.A. Boat Club but unfortunately this was burnt down and a new venue has

now been arranged at the Cottesloe Surf Club which is excellent in every way. The actual type of function has as yet, not been finalised, but it is expected that a cabaret evening will probably fit the bill nicely.

The 2/5th Commando Association has agreed to also take part in this function. The ideas of members on the form of evening is eagerly sought by the Committee.

Opening Day Ceremony:

Tentatively, the arrangement for this day is that members attend the opening ceremony then congregate for drinks and light refreshments at the home of the organiser which is situated close to the stadium.

Sunday Entertainment:

At the present this is in abeyance but a firm suggestion is that a service be held in our area in Kings Park followed by a barbecue at a member's home or some other convenient venue.

Accommodation:

The response by city members to the appeal for provision of accommodation has been most adequate. There appears to be plenty of beds, etc., available and members will be advised in the near future as to who their respective guests will be.

Interstate Visitors:

To date the following have signified their intention of being present: Victoria: Bert Tobin, Harry Botterill, Jerry O'Toole, Max Davies and wife and two friends, Rod Dhu and wife.

New South Wales: Angus Evans and wife and two children, Geo. (Happy) Greenhalgh and wife.

Queensland: Geo. Shields and a friend, Paddy Wilby a possibility.

Tasmania: Tex Richards and a friend.

Bruce McLaren, of Victoria, is also regarded as a possible starter.

Undoubtedly, there will be quite a few late starters as the Games draw near.

Booking of Tickets:

A bulk application for tickets has been lodged with the Games Organising Committee and to date (although the application is now some months old), no firm decision has been given as to the outcome of the application.

I feel confident that our application for Athletic tickets and for the Opening Ceremony will be certain

to be filled by the organisers. There is some doubt as to the application for Swimming tickets but again the worst that could happen would be some minor pruning forced upon the organisers by a lesser seating capacity at the pool than was originally hoped for.

Members should be aware that the original idea was to book sufficient tickets for all who desired to attend the Opening Ceremony (200 have been booked), and to book sufficient other tickets for the more difficult venues such as swimming and the two Saturdays of Athletics for interstate visitors. This has been made clear time and again in the "Courier" and Western Australian members have been expected to make their own arrangements for tickets except for the Opening Ceremony.

General:

The time has arrived when Sub-Committees should be formed to organise and conduct each of the functions and purposes of the Re-union, such as Re-union Dinner, Ladies' Night, Barbecue, Accommodation, Meeting of Visitors, Issue of Tickets, etc. It will be virtually impossible for one person to organise all the various aspects of the Re-union and the best that can be hoped for from the Organiser is his co-ordination of the efforts of the various Sub-Committees.

This report must of necessity be couched in general terms as the itemised planning has not yet been put into effect.

—C. D. DOIG, Organiser.

SWEEP

This is now well under way and members are once again requested to make every endeavour to sell all the tickets allotted and return them promptly to the Organiser at Box T1646, G.P.O., Perth.

Funds were never more desperately required as the financing of the Games Re-union is going to put a severe strain on the Associations' resources. This is one year in which you are requested to make a super human effort to make the sweep the greatest financial success ever.

"LEST WE FORGET"

JULY:

THOMAS, Tpr. L. G., died of illness, New Britain, July 9, 1945.

GAMES RE-UNION

Planning is now fully advanced as far as the Games Re-union is concerned and it largely remains in the hands of members to co-operate to make it a huge success.

The Organiser is still keen to hear of your requirements in the way of tickets for the Opening Ceremony as it is essential to know if we have ordered sufficient. Time is definitely on the wane as far as tickets are concerned and your early advice would be appreciated.

While on the subject of tickets members should make up their minds pretty soon regarding their requirements as it now appears, contrary to early forecasts, that tickets for **any venue** will be hard to procure. Nicholsons, Sandovers and Boans have limited numbers of tickets available and you should make your enquiries direct to these booking offices as it is now practically impossible for the Organiser to do this on your behalf.

It would also be a good idea to keep in mind the saving plan suggested in a previous "Courier" so that you won't find yourself fresh out of cash when the various functions of the Games Re-union take place. We know you will be keen to attend ALL of these and of course they will cost money as there is nothing for free in this world, except the air you breathe. So a little aside out of each pay packet now will put you on easy street when the big occasion arises.

AUGUST MEETING

This will be held at Anzac House Basement on Tuesday, August 7. The evening will take the form of a Miniature Range Rifle Shoot on the unanimous vote of the Committee, heartily prompted by Gerry Maley who was really wrapped up in the last one we held.

Here is your opportunity to come along and try and show that your shooting prowess has not deteriorated to the extent it probably has done over the last 20 years.

These events are great fun. The rifle is a real honey and all you have to do is hold it steady, aim it truly and every bullet will go through the same hole. (Ha, ha.)

Previous shoots have indicated that Merv Cash, Jack Penglase, Percy Hancock and Keith Hayes can still register a fair score. See if you can add to this meagre list.

Committee Comment

The first meeting of the new Committee was held at Anzac House Basement on Tuesday, July 17, and a full muster of members attended.

The President welcomed both old and new members and hoped for the usual co-operation and for a successful year.

The Auditor, Mr. Geere, reported on the financial position of the Association and he and the special sub-committee appointed to look into this aspect stated that the immediate crisis was past. A vote of thanks to all concerned was carried by the Committee for the excellent manner in which the investigation had been carried out.

The Games Re-union Organiser reported on the tickets and this again showed that a bad situation had been expertly recovered to a degree of about 85 per cent. It is hoped that this will be improved even further in the near future.

The following programme for the next three months was agreed to:—

August: Rifle shoot.

September: Talk with Slides on Gardening, by Mr. Lincoln Wilson.

October: The Film of the Rome Olympic Games to be shown.

A lengthy discussion on the Games Re-union took place and it was decided that sub-committees be formed to organise the main functions, etc., with chairman from the Committee and power to co-opt other members. The following were made responsible for the organising of the various functions:—

Annual Re-union: R. McDonald.
Ladies' Night: P. Hancock and R. Smyth.

Sunday Children's Party: A.
Smith and C. Varian.

Meeting of Interstate Visitors:
W. Epps.

Tickets: R. Geere and R. Aitken.

Mr. R. Smyth produced to the meeting one of the notice boards to be erected at Kings Park and some discussion took place on the wording of the notice and the size of the lettering. Mr. Bowden who is to carve the actual lettering, undertook to produce samples of lettering to the August General Meeting. Meeting closed at 10.15 p.m.

Personalities

It is with regret we have to advise of the death of Ted Loud's mother and we send Ted our most sincere sympathy in the sad loss.

The "Great Trek" is still on and the "follower in Stuart's footsteps" the one and only "Curly" O'Neil is now on the way south from Alice Springs having covered practically all of the Northern Territory. All the very best for your trip into the "Crow Eater" territory "Curly" and hope that the saddle sores are not too numerous. Elsewhere in this issue you will see the "Griffin" reply to your challenge. He hasn't altered a scrap.

Saw a fleeting glimpse of Arthur Marshall as he and family floated by in a car on the way home to Harvey. The cheeky mug has the temerity to cast aspersions at my late return to work. If he only knew it I was attending to Association business in a big way and was thus late about by master's affairs.

Very nice indeed to see two old stalwarts in "Curly" Bowden and Ray Aitken return to the Committee this year. Both have given yeoman service in the past and will bring a ton of experience to our counsels in this all-important year.

Am reliably informed that Jim Smalles has bought a business at Williams. Do not know the nature of the venture but apparently Jim has decided to give away the mining game for a while in an endeavour to completely recover his health. We wish you all the success in the world, Jim, and hope to see a bit of you now and again. This reminds me there are still a few of that most excellent poem of Jim's available if you like to write in to the Treasurer for same. Price as previous 2/- per copy.

A small bird, who in the past has been most trustworthy, tells me that Colin Criddle has joined the newly formed Parachute Jumping Club. He is most welcome to that racket. You couldn't drag me out of a plane with a team of working bullocks let alone jump for the hell of it.

Bumped into "Scotty" Wares the other day in the way of business and he looks real fit. Sends his best regards to all the gang.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR ENDED 31st MAY, 1962

[illegible]

AUDITOR'S REPORT: Due to the indisposition of the Treasurer, this Statement was compiled by me and gives a true and correct account of Receipts and Expenses for the year ended 31st May, 1962. I have to report that in the course of the audit of the past two years' activities, it was found that certain funds, received during each of these terms, had not been paid into the bank. However, these outstanding amounts have since been received from the Treasurer and duly credited to our account.

—R. L. GEERE, Hon. Auditor.

—R. L. GEERE, Hon. Auditor.

Random Harvest

J. GRIFFIN, of "Cocketgedong," Jerilderie, N.S.W., writes:—

Enclosed please find sweep butts and postal note (you only sent one book).

Best wishes to all in W.A. I trust you have a successful Games at end of year. The Games are getting plenty of publicity by the Eastern States' papers. The organising of such a venture deserves all the help and co-operation of all.

The "Courier" just to hand and read O'Neil's par. which caused much merriment amongst the Bushies. It took me all I know to stop them going after him and pulling him limb from limb.

I called a mass meeting of all the Bushies and big heartedly offered to resign as their leader and hand over to O'Neil. They built a big bonfire and made and stuffed trousers and coat, and when completed it looked the dead likeness of O'Neil. They placed it on the top of the fire, each swearing an oath of their continued loyalty to me. The only ones he has made an impression on are a few abo women and the school children at Alice Springs (see pictures in Sydney Mirror).

When O'Neil gets back to the concrete jungle of Sydney he will find his slickers all up in arms against him. "Squirt" was the cause of the uprising and he is now firmly planted in the saddle as their leader and he wrote and offered to hand them over to me and I have accepted, so what a sad home coming for that outcast.

They are even chanting songs of loyalty to the Griffin that O'Neil was going to play hell with.

In all I can afford to commend O'Neil on his great effort as after all for a slicker to do what he has done even amazes me. He has not been on a horse's back since Timor days and he did little enough there and I don't think he ever rode a horse before that. Now if a Bushie were to do the same thing no notice would be taken as he is trained and practically does that as an every day chore.

O'Neil has 1,000 miles to go and his one chance of doing it is to banish from his thoughts such things as food, raids, television, soft beds, and all the comforts a slicker

finds it extremely hard to do without.

I must tell you of a slicker who blew in here the other day. He knew O'Neil well and things got a bit heated as we argued about O'Neil's trip. I challenged him to anything he liked to name and believe it or not he named draughts. The draught board out and lantern lit and the game was on and it got to the stage where he had five crowns and I had three. Things were desperate. I reached over for a swig of the bullocks blood and in doing so knocked over the lantern and when the lantern was lit I found I had five crowns and he had three crowns and one man on the board and my crowns were in a winning position and it was my move. Of course I wiped him off the board. I must have made a mistake because I thought I only had three before the lights went out.

Wishing you and the "Courier" many more years of association.

FRED OTWAY, 98 Wecker Road, Mt. Gravatt, Queensland, writes:

I am buying the tickets as usual myself. I never was much good at selling tickets anyway.

We are having a jolly good warm winter and the blue gum, stringy barks, are out early, giving the bees a good start. It wasn't much of a season last year for honey. We had a lot of rain in the summer and I was bogged, out in the bush, repeatedly. Now we are having a dry spell, the driest June on record ever, and the hottest day in June ever. The Queens have laid all through winter.

I am raising honey comb sections, a rather tricky task, but hope to do quite well at it. I'll give the trade away for six months or so and hawk them round.

I had ideas of being in Perth for the Games, but am definitely out now. I was banking on my invention, namely a hand operated fork lift, which I have a patent on. I thought it was a machine that beekeepers would have taken to, but realise now that it will have to be altered to suit the bee keeping industry. However it does not need to be altered to suit factories,

carriers, warehouses and the like.

I could have handled the bee keeping industry, but have no resources for bigger markets. At the moment I have a firm half interested in manufacturing it, but so far nothing has come of it. I have also applied for a patent in England, so I have something to look forward to. Without kidding myself unduly, I think I will crack it somewhere along the line. At the moment the model I have will lift 300 lb. I envisage models up to 10 cwt. with a hydraulic lift. This machine has no engine or electricity, a big advantage in that it can load, and unload, anywhere. I'll make a machine that can lift four hives at a time on pallets, in a couple of months, and see how I go.

I don't see anyone except Bill Connell, Angus MacLachlan, Eddie Timms. Bill Connell has shifted again. Geoffrey is going to high school and the two girls are learning the violin at school, in classes run by the conservatorium.

I might get to Sydney this Christmas if I do any good. I don't think anyone would recognise me in the West now. I've lost a lot of hair.

Recently I came across an article in "Walkabout" on Wilsons Promontory. It mentioned names and places well known to us, but I could not pick up the pictures they had.

Mt. Gravatt Show will be on us soon. I think I will exhibit something this year. Then a fortnight after, the big show or exhibition.

Geoffrey tried for the school boys Aussie rules team that goes to Melbourne, but missed out.

I watched the Aussie Rules Carnival last year. West Aussie won as you know. The last game was terrific. West Aussie came from behind and beat Victoria by a few points.

Well, this will help to fill the "Courier". I hope to hear a bit from No. 1 Section. Cheerio.

DUD TAPPER, of 54 Collingwood Avenue, Flinders Park, S.A., writes:—

Enclosed you will find butts and money for same. Wish you all success for sweep.

Your editorial pricked my conscience. I guess I have been too

busy looking after D. Tapper to spare thoughts for your job. Shame on me, but I promise to put pen to paper more often in the years to come.

I read with interest Curly O'Neil's letter, but what worries me is last time I heard from him was a voice on the phone: "Next time I am in Adelaide we will take time off to go out and get full." So spoke O'Neil on one of his hurried trips to Adelaide. He will be very welcome here but I refuse adamantly to build a stable and grow oats. If his horse can't survive on pies and pasties let the critter die or go with Griffin.

I am still laying bricks for a crust and there seems to be plenty of work in S.A. at the moment.

We have to date had a rather warm June and early July. I expect the cockies will be complaining shortly about lack of follow up rains.

I have not seen any of the lads for some time. I see Dignum regularly. He was here Friday night, and is looking as fit as ever. He is building a 17ft. Sea Knight trailer boat and is about half completed and doing a very good job of it. He is installing a Holden motor in it so should have plenty of power.

I am mixed up with the local Sailing Club, being a crew member of a 40ft. ocean-going yacht. We managed to win one race last season, but we spend more time on pleasure than racing. We have sailed the Gulf once and expect to move about more this coming season. So anyone dropping in on me here can expect at least one boat trip depending on time as to how far we can go.

I have only played one game of golf this season. Just can't find the time to fill my wants.

I met a chap at work who spoke about playing rugby league. Said the only person he knew in W.A. was Joe Poynton. Said he was billeted with Joe. A man by the name of Greg Harvey.

I also after many years found out that a 2/3rd Arty chap who drinks at the local and named Bill Drage was from Rockhampton. I tell you now Adelaide is a very small place.

I read with interest Paddy Wilby's letter re a project and think that he has a point but bearing in

mind that I am not doing the work entailed or sitting on committee meetings, etc., there is food for thought on the idea. Anyhow I hope you finally make something out of it.

Well, I must away for the present, the mind has ceased to function. All the best al all.

GEO. E. WILSON, 20 Braebrise Rd. Cannington, W.A., writes:—

Firstly, please let me apologise for not being at the annual meeting as I had a business appointment which I could not get out of.

Please find enclosed butts and money for the Kalgoorlie Cup.

We have now moved into our own home, that is my wife and I. I hope it will be the last time I have to say my new address is now so-and-so. We are kept quite busy now getting everything shipshape. With the help of the War Service we will own it one day.

See C. King nearly every day, mainly just to wave to.

It is real good getting the "Courier" every month even though I never seem to be able to get to the meetings but I must try and do better in the future. I get a guilty feeling when I read the editorials that I should try and do better.

That's about the lot now. Regards to all.

BILL HOLSTEIN, of Harrington, writes:—

Sorry for the delay. I have just returned from a couple of weeks shooting and fishing in the West.

Am enclosing money for tickets and "Courier".

I was looking forward to seeing you at the Games but as this place is seasonal the finance will not stand the trip. There's a cyclone on at the moment which does not improve the temper at all.

Well I'd best catch the post with this, so will close wishing you everything you wish yourself.

IAN G. McPHEE, of Inchcolm, Wickham Terrace, B17, Queensland, writes:—

I see that you still have as much to say for yourself as ever. Reading through your journal I see some names that ring a bell but my memory is not what it was.

There are very few of us in Queensland as you know and the

only one I see regularly is Peter Hearle who paints my house occasionally.

Despite the glowing picture of Perth that you painted I still have not got over there and I won't be able to watch the Empire Games. However the surgeons have a meeting there every now and then and I will be sure to attend the next one.

I hope that you have a magnificent re-union and wish I could be there.

MARGARET WELLER, of Lot 1, Kempton St., Bluff Point, W.A., writes for Eric:—

My husband has ordered me to take up the pen on his behalf again I often wonder why that boy went to school as he shies off the pen as if it were a cobra or something even worse, so I'd best stop griping and get on with it.

We have been all on the sick list this year, himself having a spell in hospital. We almost had to have an armed guard to get him there and another to keep him there but he is better now and keeping his nose to the grindstone.

Ann, the littlest of our trio, is confined to bed with middle ear trouble. The doctor told me exactly what in words I can neither pronounce or spell.

We are getting a house. Eric building it in all his spare moments and mainly at night. We have the bathroom, laundry and toilet part up and will now get on with the kitchen, lounge section. We are still burdened by the Northam house but keep hoping it will sell soon.

We are living in the caravan and shed. It always amazes me that when my husband builds houses for other people they are completed in six to eight weeks but it has taken six months for me to get a quarter of a house.

We have a beaut block. It overlooks the sea, but has good gardening soil which is unusual for Geraldton. We are about 200 yards from the sea and have us a little boat for getting the fish out of it.

If we win charities we will be down for the Games, otherwise I can't see us making them as every penny seems to have a tag on it at the moment. We have the child

ren home with us now. They go to day school. Our eldest is 14 and the baby is seven years. We have a boy in the middle. He is 10 years.

We see Jack Denman and his family now and then and have seen Peter Barden in the street a few times. Jack hasn't been feeling too well lately. He said they were all having the flu. With this house on the go we don't ever go out much but as soon as it is finished we will have more spare time.

Eric's mother is very sick and not expected to live so it is a cloud on our lives. He made a hurried trip to Perth a couple of weeks ago and spent two days with her. She has rallied since then. Her heart is in a very weak condition so we can only wait and pray.

We think your project idea is very good and have always enjoyed the "Courier". We will send the butt, also a cheque towards your project. We can't do much else from this end but enjoy whatever work everyone else puts into the "Courier".

We will be happy to see any of the gang who turn up in Geraldton our address is as above.

We see Jack Hanson has become a city slicker. We had a trip up to Port Hedland in May and picked the worst possible time as it rained nearly all the time and I think a boat would have been a more suitable conveyance as we ploughed through water for miles on end but by some dint of virtue never got bogged, though plenty of others did. I wasn't sorry when we landed home. Our truck is still wearing a coat of mud.

We are getting plenty of rain up this way but I suppose the farmers need it so I'd better not complain about it. My garden is just beginning to recover from the gale we had. The people on the block across the way carted sand to build up their block and it all ended up on mine. The lawn is just struggling back into view and I have clover all over it. Drat that neighbour.

Well I best close now. Kindest regards to all. My daughter is quite taken up with Curly O'Neil's trip so he has a fan.

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

G. R. LEWIS, of Newdegate, W.A., writes:—

Just a short note to let you know we have arrived back in this State after 9½ years in South Australia, and I now reside at Newdegate, so don't send my "Courier" over to Kulpara.

We are busy getting settled in. Came over on the train to Kalgoorlie and took the utility off there and drove straight to Newdegate. Our furniture came over the same way by van and on to Newdegate.

There has been a few improvements here since we last saw it, mainly most of the light land has been taken up and developed.

We hope to visit Perth in the near future to do a bit of shopping and take in the changes over the last ten years.

H. A. "Blue" SARGENT, of Laanecoorie Weir, Laanecoorie, Vic., writes:—

Have just completed reading the November issue of the "Courier" and after it being re-addressed several times as has been the last four or five, thought I'd better dig a line and give you the new address. Please record as above.

This place is almost in the dead centre of Victoria and I mean "dead". We are a couple of miles out of the "town" and in the centre of a triangle from Bendigo, Castlemaine and Maryborough. Usually make a trip to Bendigo once a fortnight but such trips are usually done in a hurry, but have found time to partake of Kev Curran's hospitality on quite a few occasions and the lad himself looks particularly fit and is not getting any smaller.

Do a bit of fishing now and again but it's mostly red-fin here. I miss the trout from "Glenmaggie," the last weir I was at. Landed a cod 44½ lb. not long after arriving here and as it was the best caught around here for some years compensated for not being trout water.

Don't get much time as we are in a new house and still in the process of getting fences up, top soil for the garden and a hundred odd jobs that go with a new place. Have had the cows (neighbours) eat the maize to the ground, rabbits eat a hole bed of lettuce out, parrots cleaning up the peaches, apricots and apples, makes life inter-

esting. Had quite a day of rain yesterday and again today. Put a stop to the harvesting of wheat, most of the barley and oats have been taken off.

Still only the two children, Diane just on 13, and Robert 3½, and fortunately both fit as trout.

Not much news so will call it a day with kind regards to Tom Foster and family, Tom Coyle, Joan and the kids, to old Rowley and family and to the Ted Mulchays ex of Traralgon, Vic, and cheers to all the lads.

J. CORNEY, of 10 River Street, Cannington, W.A., writes:—

Here is my yearly letter to you, but first I wish to bring to your notice my new address as above.

I am sorry not being able to attend the meetings now as apart from general health my eyes are not too good and can only see out of one now, and so do not venture out at night as the sight in that is not the best.

Am sending back butts for sweep and cheque. I think I owe some subs so that should take care of that. I hope that the sweep is a grand success and only wish I could do more to help but cannot manage it now.

I will not be going to any of the Games as it would be a bit too hard to sit too long in one place now. I will try and make one of the meetings at that time to see any of the old crowd that is sure to gather then.

With best of luck to all the old gang.

BERNIE LANGRIDGE, of Donnybrook, W.A., writes (?):—

Just a note and a long over due one, at that, to keep the sweep butts company.

I have enjoyed many hours of reading the "Courier" and contributed nothing for many months. Home duties and a few public activities seem to fill every day to the exclusion of many things I would like to do. Looks like waiting a bit longer for retirement which is descending upon us all quickly enough.

I am still battling it out on the farm. Income keeps rising and so does the outgo, so the bit that is left is no bigger than it was 10 years ago.

My eldest boy Kim, has decided to build a model aeroplane, motor and all, so bang goes another £7, and the plane, too, probably.

Our daughters (only 4 years old) spend many minutes each day admiring themselves in a mirror so I am expecting the out-go to increase again next year.

We had a very good fruit season last year. Good crop and very good prices. There were many growers who had very poor crops. We still grow a few potatoes and breed stud sheep as well as running some beef cattle.

I was delighted to see my old special mate Tom Foster for a day in the city. Tom looks very well cared for as usual and certainly seems to have dug himself into a good job with just about the right amount of scope for initiative without being weighed down with responsibility. Extra good to see you Tom, and sorry we didn't get our wives together for the day.

See Harold R-R quite frequently on his trips to the city. We have quite a lot in common, both being fruit growers and sheep and beef cattle raisers. Also saw the old Jack Carey quite often on my trips to Fremantle with export fruit and he is a great help with getting me unloaded in good time.

Looking forward to seeing all the usual ones and some others at the get-together later on.

Cheers and good wishes to all.

JIM HALLINAN, of 72 High Street, Cabramatta, N.S.W., writes:—

Just a few lines to let you all know over there that I am still among the living.

Enclosed is cheque for subs., also ticket butts and always look forward to getting the "Courier" and reading of the doings of different ones as they come to hand.

May happen to get over for the Games, myself and a mate. Of course a lot of water can flow under the bridge between now and then. Who knows, may even win the lottery.

Missed out on Anzac Day this year but one thing was certain, I woke up next day full of beans. Can always tell a man who doesn't drink. He is always well.

Not a lot of news here at the moment so will bring this to a close hoping it finds you all in the pink over there.

BILL RICHARDS, of 53 Normanly St., Inglewood, writes:—

Please find enclosed cheque for tickets sent to J. Spencer. At the moment I have not the faintest idea where Jack is, somewhere up north.

I am his brother-in-law and I knew they were the tickets for the annual sweep. They have been coming to my address for many years, so I took the liberty of opening them and selling them as I knew that Jack would have trouble in doing that wherever he is.

Hoping that one of these tickets draws the winner for one of us.

When I do find out Jack's address I will let him know what I have done.

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

Enclosed please find cheque to cover tickets and subs. The remainder to be used in any way you think fit.

If there are any seats left for the Opening Ceremony of the Games would you please reserve five for me. I may be in Perth within the next couple of weeks and I will call and fix up for the seats, that is if there are any available.

Please excuse this brief note but will try again later.

HARVEY "Slim" JAMES, of 18 Beatrice St., Scarborough, writes:—

Enclosed please find sweep butts and cheque which includes any subs owing by me.

Would you please hold four seats for opening day of Empire Games (two adults, two boys, 12 and 15 years).

At the moment I am employed by B. Mercer Pty. Ltd. at Metropolitan Markets. The hours are long on market days, from 4 a.m. to 4.30 p.m., but they are quite a good firm to work for.

Have applied for the fruit and vegetable section of a new Super Mart being built and have my fingers crossed awaiting for the year or nay, as it would be great to have my own business again.

Both of my boys play basketball for the Scarborough Police Boys Club, the eldest having won the medal for most improved for the last summer competition, for which I was naturally very elated. In the present winter competition the

team is running second and looking like playing off the final with Maylands Youth Club. As old dad is manager, scorer, chief barracker (together with Maud), first aid man and trouble ironer out, it is little wonder that the hair is receding rapidly.

The old Royals are having a hard time keeping in the four now. They certainly must be missing Polly Farmer and Bible Basher Jack Gentleman Sheedy. However don't be surprised if you see Monty's mate strip for the finals. As Arch Campbell would probably say: sheer guts and determination combined with underhand notions will see them win the premiership this season from the warbling squawking Magpies (no comment Spriggy).

Cheerio for now and please convey regards to the one-time cream of the Queen's armed forces (The Sappers) in all States.

BOB WILLIAMSON, of Goldsworthy Crescent, North Glenelg, S.A., writes:—

Last year I decided that my next sweep tickets would be sent in early so by the application of tremendous will power I am carrying it out.

Incidentally I have lots of will power available through saving it up for years and not using any.

I have just signed R.W. on the tickets to avoid writer's cramp and am enclosing them with a cheque which includes an extra quid for subs.

As you can see I am still in Adelaide and have a good position with Kelvinator Aust. Ltd.

Also Clarice and I are back enjoying good health and wish all our old friends the best of good fortune.

I see Jim Veal and Howard (Carl) Marks quite frequently and we always enjoy a few ales together.

I have taken up water ski-ing recently and have now bought a ski boat which travels at 43 m.p.h. At this speed we get 4 m.p.g. which is certainly drinking the petrol, but we have a lot of fun.

I am glad to see the address book is becoming a reality as I think it will tend to let us see more of each other, especially when one is travelling.

That's all for now so will close

with best wishes for the continued progress of the Association and the best of luck to all my old mates in the Sapper Section.

RUSS SYMONDS, of 43 Legeyt St., Windsor, N15, Queensland, writes:—

Firstly many thanks to all in the West who put so much time and effort into publication of the "Courier". I can assure you it is greatly appreciated by all the odd bods scattered around the country.

Enclosed please find sweep butts and cheque for same and subs for this year.

I was wondering if one of you good people in the West would be kind enough to drop me a line and give me some idea what the housing position is like over there. I have been asked by the company I work for if I would be prepared to transfer over there towards the end of next year, needless to say we are all keen to go as it is another step up the ladder at the same time it is a hell of a long way to move.

Have not sighted many of the boys this last year. Bob Smith and family were in Brisbane over Christ mas. They are all well except the man of the house. Bob unfortunately is still suffering from asthma. Jack (Sailor) Ward had a bout in hospital early in the year. Pleased to say he is back at work again now but has to take things rather quietly, back trouble which he got during the war. Happy to say Jack has been able to get on the pension list. Saw Kel Carthew at school fancy dress ball some weeks ago. Kel is still in the C.M.F. looking very fit.

Children's ages for your list are as follows: Kelvin 12 years, 22/5/40; Nanette, 14 years, 21/2/48.

Kindly give my regards to all the boys in the West. It was great to see Mal Herbert when he was over this way last year. Any others that come this way please give them our address, only too happy to do what we can for them.

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

Trying to compete with "Mr. Ed" on T.V. and write a letter at the same time taxes ones concentration somewhat.

As I haven't seen any of the boys since Anzac Day I guess I

can't write much as I am afraid that my personal doings are of nil interest unless you can call painting interesting, house style that is.

There is no doubt about a trip across Australia being easy. I have always been under the impression that it was tough, but if our illustrious traveller, adventurer, re-blazer of trails can find time to write a letter from the middle of nowhere I guess that's another so-called truth blasted into no place. If he has to go that far to write a letter to the "Courier" let's hope he goes more often, even if it's only to give the locals a rest.

My regrets are great that my family and I will not be making the Games as we thought last year we might. I guess it will be a long time before the opportunity for so many of us to get together again under such ideal conditions and to do it comparatively cheaply.

By the way as that Hillston character doesn't seem as if he is going to write and let you know his new address, but as I have been re-addressing his "Courier" etc., for the last 18 months and the posty has asked about him, would you address all John Rose's letters, etc., to Hillston, c/- Hillston P.O.

GEORGE GREENHALGH, of P.O. Mungindi, N.S.W., writes:—

My wife and I have definitely decided to make the trip to the West so if you would arrange accommodation for us we would be very grateful.

I intend to leave Melbourne—after a couple of weeks there—about the first week in November by car.

I have applied for a month's furlough which added to my annual leave will give me about two months away from the desk. I expect to resume about midway through December.

I have been in touch with Bluey Jones by phone (he lives about 120 miles away) and am trying to get him to travel with me. He is very keen but unfortunately it will depend a bit on the harvest season. If it was the same as last year when it came in a month early he could make it but normally it is right at the time of the Games.

Actually I've got it all worked out with Blue that if we can get Marshall into a few poker games it

wouldn't cost us anything for the trip at all.

Just a point mate—would it be possible for you to get Don May to work out a few debating rules as I feel we weak earbashers are not going to be in the race with the strongies when we get over there. From all accounts of your meetings you blokes are in pretty fine fettle. Still Bert Tobin and Harry Botterill from Victoria, will hold their own. We'll rove round the packs.

MAL HERBERT, of Box 41, Nun-garin, W.A., writes:—

Herewith my sweep butts and cheque covering same and subs.

After a very late start the season looks quite favourable now. Have been flat out since the season opened. Had just got the last few acres in and had the shearers on the doorstep. The wool is very good this year but very light.

Some time ago when you published a list of children in the "Courier" my two were not included. To put things straight they are: Julie A. (1955), Geoffrey L. (1958).

Have just managed to get connected to the S.E.C. power. Cost a packet for the high tension lines which I had to bring two miles but am hoping it will be worth it.

VIC. PACEY, of Tassy, writes:—

Please find enclosed money and butts for Kalgoorlie Sweep. Send a result please.

Wishing you and all the boys the best for coming Re-union.

TONY BOWERS, of Lagar Downs, R.M.B. 593, Kojonup, writes:—

Herewith subs and ticket stubs, etc. Please note change of address.

We reckon you should start a sweep on Curly's trek down to Adelaide and whether the King of the Bushies will have to go and bring him down. Should sell well. The Griffin's probably got an ace up his sleeve. If I remember rightly he always managed to move the draught men into a winning position before taking cover when a raid was on.

I have seen Peter Campbell a couple of times recently. Once he came for a load of timber to build a six stand shearing shed on the "plains" at Esperance. The last time he was organising a clover seed syndicate. He looks fat and

prosperous and not like the old "baggy bum" he was in 2 Section. I must go down and see him soon and take a little Kojonup capital to help develop the beer industry in Esperance.

See Geo Timms occasionally but he hasn't got time to drink a beer even if you buy it for him. He has certainly made great progress since taking up that place.

We are still busy on the mill but am afraid the timber is getting very short these days, so it looks as though we'll be a full time "cocky" soon. We start shearing in a couple of weeks time and I am hoping for a good clip this year.

Hope to see everybody at the Empire Games Re-union, especially "The Drage" as I haven't seen him since New Guinea.

Kindest regards to all the gang.

MRS. G. O. TIMMS, R.M.B. 116, Kojonup, writes:—

Thank you for the children's Christmas presents for both last Christmas and the previous one. They were thrilled with them. They were an especially good selection of toys.

PETER CAMPBELL, writes:—

Your letter to hand re Games tickets, etc. We have sent straight to Sandovers as reckon you have more than your share to do. The only thing that is not quite clear is the Opening Day. Do we pay you on the day or send money down?

The Association do's are the main events as far as I am concerned, so congrats to all who do the spade work.

Enclosing sweep butts and cash for sweep, subs and the remainder for Association funds.

Not a very good season here but have had good rains recently and shares are all up again. Should be able to afford a beer at the Games.

Heard This?

"Is your girl spoiled?"
"No, it's just the perfume she's using."

~~~~~

**Write to Your Editor:**

Col. Doig,  
Box T1646, G.P.O. Perth



**COMING EVENTS**

**AUGUST MEETING:**

August 7th — Anzac House — Rifle Shoot

**SEPTEMBER MEETING:**

September 4th — Anzac House  
Talk and Slides on Gardening by Mr. Lincoln Wilson  
Bring Your Wives Along

**OCTOBER MEETING:**

October 2nd — Anzac House  
Showing Olympic Film of Rome Games

**NOVEMBER 22nd:**

Opening Ceremony Commonwealth Games  
Party Immediately Afterwards

**NOVEMBER 23rd:**

Annual Re-Union Dinner — Anzac House Basement

**NOVEMBER 27th:**

Ladies' Night — Cottesloe Surf Club  
In conjunction with 2/5th Commando Association  
You may bring along a small party of friends

**DECEMBER 2nd:**

Children's Party — Venue to be arranged