



# 2/2 COMMANDO COURIER

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## Editorial

### *The Games! The Games! The Games!*

They're here! The moment we have planned for over four years is now hard upon us and as I write this Editorial it is brought home to me more forcibly as it is written to the background of a rehearsal for the Opening Ceremony which is taking place at the Main Stadium.

This is W.A.'s big chance not only from a point of view of our Association but the whole of the State. This could put us on the map if the Games are run with the skill and energy that they deserve and I have no doubt that they will.

We firstly would like to say a great big welcome to all those who are coming from the Eastern States to join in our Re-union. We hope to be able to dispense hospitality that will live in their memories for many long years. We hope to be able to show them a big piece of Perth and as much of the hinterland as possible. We know that they will enjoy what they see of

the Games and we know that they will enjoy the various functions of our 10 day long Re-union, and we hope that when they return home they will be able to say: "That was a cracker jack holiday".

We would secondly enjoin all W.A. members to take part in as many of the functions as time and pocket permit. After all it is you the members in this State who our visitors are most eager to meet, and it will be in the meetings that the greatest enjoyment will take place. Make an all out effort to be in as much as possible.

The organisers have worked tire lessly for months to make these functions really tick and if organisation alone were all that is required the success is already assured. They have done their very utmost and now in the words of the Signals: "It's over to you." The real success depends on your co-operation. Make it a beauty, boys, just for old W.A.'s sake.

#### **A NOTE FROM THE TREASURER:**

All people who have ordered tickets for the Games if they have not already forwarded their money to cover same, are requested to remit the necessary currency as time is definitely running short.

# West Australian Whisperings

## Association Activities

### NOVEMBER MEETING

A real surprise was in store for the gang at the monthly meeting held on Nov. 6, in that we were able to welcome Frank "Curly" O'Neil and his wife, Betty, to our meeting. It just so transpired that the ship that "Curly" and Betty were taking to England berthed at Fremantle the same day as our meeting. Dick Crossing picked the O'Neils up at the Terminal and gave them a run around the beaches and near suburbs, then delivered Betty up to Norma Crossing to look after while Dick and "Curly" looked over a few of our better known old landmarks known as the Adelphi and Palace. Bob Smyth joined the party at this stage and helped carry on the good work.

"Curly" was tickled pink to have the opportunity to meet so many of the gang and I must compliment him on an excellent memory as he picked practically everyone immediately which either shows that there hasn't been much physical change or that we were so close that you just don't forget 'em, doesn't matter how time ravages.

It was real great to have the opportunity of meeting Betty who was only a name to us up to that time. She is a very sweet and likeable lass and really needs to be to cope with that bundle of dynamite. The O'Neil hasn't really changed a lot since Army days, matured of course, but still the same scallywag at heart. He was good enough to pass a few laudatory remarks regarding the W.A. Branch during a brief speech.

The couple were seen off the premises to the tune of "The Tattooed Lady", leaving for the ship with a bare 20 minutes to spare to make the 18 miles to Fremantle.

A very, very enjoyable evening.

Col Hodson was able to give us a preview of the medals to be presented to the athletes at the Games as he is one of the many who will have the task of inscribing them as they are won and before presentation.

### GAMES RE-UNION

Now for the most up-to-date information on the Re-union. The following will be certain starters from the East:

Bert Tobin and Harry Botterill who will be the house guests of Arch and May Campbell.

Gerry O'Toole who will be staying with Glad and Fred Napier at City Beach.

Max Davies and his wife and two friends are flatting at Safety Bay as the guests of Gerry Green.

"Tex" Richards and mate are the guests of Jess and Bill Epps, at Greenmount.

Angus Evans and his wife and two children will be staying with Jack Hassen at South Perth.

Rod Dhu and his wife are booked in as guests of Olive and Col Hodson at Victoria Park.

Jim Hallinan and his mate are to be looked after by Colleen and Geo Strickland at Belmont.

"Snow" Went and mate will be in the safe hands of the Harvey James's at Scarborough.

Geo. Shields and his mate take up temporary residence with our President, Spriggy McDonald and his good wife.

"Happy" Greenhalgh and his wife are in the capable hands of the Sproxtons at Bayswater.

Ron Dook and his wife and family will be staying privately.

A very representative gathering you must admit.

I won't dwell on the various functions except to ask you to turn to the last page of this issue and refresh your memories. You are particularly asked to come along to the Commando Cabaret at the Cottesloe Surf Pavilion as this is THE big gathering for yourself and your wife. This will give the Association the chance to thank your wives for all those freely issued leave passes over the years.

Please ensure that you pick up your tickets for Opening Ceremony from Dick Geere as soon as possible if you have not already done so.

Don't forget to call in at Col Doig's place, 73 Rosedale St., Floreat Park, for a drink after the opening ceremony. You can't miss



the place as it is only four doors from the Brookdale St. entrance to the stadium and in direct prolongation from that gate.

The barbecue at Mick Hollands will be a hum dinger and you and your family are most welcome.

The family day at Don Turton's will be all you wish of it so please make the effort to be present.

Last but not least the Annual Re-union Dinner should be the greatest ever and everyone is enjoined to make a supreme effort to be present.

## Committee Comment

Your Committee has been so flat out over the past three weeks that there is just too much to chronicle except to say that all their efforts have been directed towards making the Games Re-union an outstanding success. The Committee will be able to enjoy a well earned rest as soon as the Re-union is over.

## Personalities

Bill Epps informs me that this issue contains the last of that wonderful stream of letters which flowed to the "Courier" as a result of the W.A. Branch's Kalgoorlie Cup Sweep. I sincerely thank all who wrote in during this period and it just shows how easy the job of the Editor would be if this could be repeated say twice per year.

It is my sad task to chronicle the passing of Mrs. Chattie McCaig, wife of recently deceased member "Ning" McCaig. Her passing was most sad and it could truly be said she never really survived the passing of her husband as they were a most devoted couple. There was no family to Ning and his wife. The Association has

passed on its sympathy to the relatives.

"Boyo" Hewitt is still sick in Kalgoorlie Hospital, and my latest information is that he is not making very much recovery. We hope ere this that he is on the way to good health once again.

Keith Hayes recently did a trip to Kalgoorlie where he met Peter Alexander who was also not doing so well in the health stakes. Peter will be down in Perth for the Games Re-union. Keith also saw Jim Smalles at Williams on another trip and said that Jim was doing a roaring trade in his service station and eatery. Jim is also a Re-union entrant this year and we will be extra pleased to greet both of these chaps.

Had a phone call the other night from Steve Rogers to tell me that he is making every effort to come down from Kalgoorlie for the Dinner and hopes to bring Tony Davidson with him as the only other available Kalgoorlie rep. Steve told me he was going very well in his business at Kalgoorlie. He also said that "Ernie" Hoffman would be down in the big smoke for the Games. Eric Thornander couldn't make it as he was flat out at work.

I would like to thank Ron Neuzerling for sending over that article from Adelaide Truth written by Alan Dower on his trip to Timor and containing an S.O.S. for Keith Hayes to contact him. This was duly passed on to Keith who contacted Alan Dower and I believe Dower is now coming West to go further into the matter. I hope for everyone's sakes this is not just a newspaper stunt as if it is it is in the very worst possible taste.

Would like to assure Paddy Wilby that his project articles have not been forgotten. It is just that with pressure of Games business, etc., your Editor hasn't had the time to give them the attention such articles deserve and it is better to study them in the more leisured moments when the Games Re-union is over before rushing into print.

Both Bill Epps and myself would welcome comment on the Address Book since this is now in your hands. Local comment has all been eugolistic, let's hear what the more distant members think.

Len Bagley was most pleased

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that his rostering at work was going to enable him to be very much in the Games Re-union. He was tickled pink and rushed in immediately for tickets for the Opening Ceremony and also the Cabaret. Good work, Len.

Would like to thank all who have willingly come forward and volunteered to help with every organisational matters for the Games, especially "Slim" James, Tom Bate-man, Harry Sproxton, Geo and Colleen Strickland, Jack Hasson, Col Hodson, who at very late notice either came onto committees or took guests. It just shows the wonderful spirit in the gang.

Your Editor would like to say that it is hoped that the feature "Historically Yours!" will be taken

up again in the new year and with luck will continue unabated issue by issue until all our campaigns have been adequately written if providence so wills.

## Heard This?

A fellow, just called by his draft board, happened to remember a friend who had been rejected because he wore a truss. So he hastily purchased one and reported to the board.

After the examination, he noticed the official had put N.E. after his name.

"What's the N.E. for?" he asked.

"Near East," was the reply. "Anyone who can wear a truss upside down can ride a camel."

## Random Harvest

**PETER BARDEN, of Box 310, P.O. Geraldton, W.A., writes:—**

Hearty congratulations to those responsible for the advent of the Address Book. It was a brilliant idea, and one which should prove of immense value in encouraging "Double Red Diamond" types to correspond with each other after such a long space of time.

I had a few noggins with Nip Cunningham the other day, and judging from Nip's obvious knowledge of the good things I would not be surprised if he backed the winner of the Melbourne Cup. "Yours Faithfully" is not a betting man, but had a few bob on the Cup, without success. I immediately declared that I would not be having another bet until the Perth Cup, when I will be on holidays in Perth. We intend going down for a couple of weeks just after Christmas, so I hope to see quite a lot of the boys, and will of course look forward to having a noggin or two with "Mr. Editor" at the Royal.

I seem to see more of Jack Denman than anyone else in this area, as far as the 2/2nd boys are concerned. I noticed Jack enjoying himself at the wind-up dinner of the Great Northern National Football League, at which his firm presented the Mobilgas "Footballer of

the Year" award to Angus Horwood, of Brigades, of which club I am secretary. It was a cheque for £100, and if any of the boys are connected with East Perth I suggest that if in the future Horwood plays for East Perth he be played in his correct position, either in ruck or in the back line and not as full forward.

Talking about football, we (Brigades) celebrated our league premiership at a dinner and social, at which I had the honour of proposing the toast of the Great Northern National Football League. I also had the happy job of presenting the league best and fairest trophy for Brigades to my son Ross. And then to top it all off, another committeeman and myself were given the honour of taking our Ladies' Committee (including my good wife, of course) to dinner the other night, when champagne and other liquors flowed freely in appreciation of their excellent efforts.

We are all awaiting news as to whether Geraldton will be included in the Royal Tour early next year, and as the Royal couple will be travelling around the Australian coast by yacht the betting is odds-on that we will be included in the itinerary. There would of course be some kind of public function,

but you can just imagine how much jockeying there would be to be included in any official function aboard the Royal yacht.

Jack Denman's son, John, is continuing to figure prominently in swimming activities, and finished second in the senior men's back stroke event at the opening of the season last Sunday. Our very worthy Mayor, Charles Eadon-Clarke, added humour to the opening meeting when after declaring the season open he took off his cricketering clothes to reveal that he was wearing his bathers in readiness to take part in a swimming event, instead of occupying his customary role of starter for that event. He was conceded a start of 40 seconds against the club's crack swimmers but this proved inadequate when he "ran out of steam" half way down the pool. However, he had already provided plenty of merriment.

Well, duty calls, so until next month, kind regards to all the boys

**"Curly" O'NEIL, of 85 Woorarra Avenue, North Narrabeen, Sydney, N.S.W., writes:—**

Like Melba, just one more appearance.

The object of this letter is to thank N.S.W. members for a magnificent evening at Cabramatta R.S.L. last Saturday. The night—with its gifts of a vanity case to my wife and a cigarette case and lighter to me—was the best going away present I could have had.

They really are a fine crowd of men and women. No wonder I love the b——.

I was very tired after my trip and have been resting for a couple of months.

I was intrigued to find my opposition in this town claiming I had it good. I cited them before my association and sent a personal message to a critic saying I would spit in his eye. I can't stand criticism, especially when I am in the right, which God knows, is seldom enough.

Anyhow, it's still a good town, despite the bludgers, brown hatters and singers of comic songs.

The other day my office called me in and said that as I was going to London for a couple of years would I work for them.

They are picking up the tabs for

the cost of the journey and paying me well, so . . . Would I work for them? Would I ever. They are a very decent crowd.

I would like to mention also that I have persuaded the captain of the ship to travel by way of Fremantle to Singapore, etc. It's the Fair Sky and should reach there about Nov. 4 or 5. Where do you drink?

I have also persuaded the captain to mount a battery of 18 inch guns and rocket launchers on the starboard side. This should be sufficient to wipe out Jerilderie and himself, the King of the Bushies. An attack on the bushies by sea. Brilliant. Montgomery already is writing a book on my tactics.

Well, that's it. Hope to see you.

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

While I agree personally with your Editorial, I can't help feeling that there is more to Australia's meek acceptance of Loesdikanos take over of Dutch N.G. than meets the eye and I feel that within a very short period we will hear about how the poor Papuans in the Australian section are not getting fair treatment from the Aussie authorities. It will be the old old story of the communist wanting to help the underdog.

I cannot agree with Allan Cardy granting he would know much more about the military preparedness, of this country, than I would, but our strength is not impressive when one sees the public displays given on various days throughout the year in the air, army and navy, and while I don't doubt individually we have some very competent men, the strength is lacking in modern weapons and while man to man we could lick the Indonesians, modern Russian equipment would leave us for dead. When one knows how much is spent to modernise a cruiser then less than 18 months later it is scrapped and sold to Japan for no other reason than to spend the quota allowed for the navy so as they will not be cut down the next year, it doesn't inspire one with confidence of the present chiefs of staff who, no doubt are shackled by incompetent politicians whose one desire is to make a safe seat offer. If this happens for the navy what happens for the army and air force?



To feel sorry for the Dutch is beyond me and while they have done more in N.G. in 10 years than they ever did elsewhere it was only because of pressure and to try and save face. When one thinks of South Africa perhaps from a Papuan point of view the latter may eventually be better off. As for arousing any feeling from the present Government over this matter of Dutch N.G. as far as ex-service-men's opinions or general public Black Bob (or now the Grey Ghost) we don't exist, as he has so often let it be known in private. Only intellectuals and professional people's opinions matter, the rest of the riff raff don't count. Believe me the latter opinion was gleaned from people who know him personally.

However I guess all this is only personal and with little knowledge of the real problem but for what it's worth, there is my two penny-worth.

Before you read this our compadre, Curly O'Neil, will have passed through Fremantle on his way to England for 12 months or so. I paid him a visit this bright Sunday morning and apart from a hang-over he looked in excellent health and putting on weight after his epic trip which, by the way, some small minded b— on the Sydney Daily Telegraph, has tried to belittle by writing some scurvy remarks about the trek. But I guess one wouldn't expect anything else from the Telegraph.

To those who get to the West for the Games I wish you all the best that I know you will get and would that I were there to be in it.

Since finishing at the bottom of page two, two weeks have passed and a farewell evening has been given to Curly and Betty O'Neil, at Cabramatta by the boys of that area, aided and abetted by the few of us from the north side.

It was a great evening and we had the biggest turn up of 2/2nds and their wives we have seen for some years.

While 80 miles in the round trip to see and drink his health, is a long way to go when I can go two miles there and back to see him any time, it was worth it as one sees so many others at the same time. One picks up bits of information of this, that and the other.

However I didn't make any notes as I usually do, or take any names.

A certain lady of Cabramatta is, or was, giving swimming lessons, and since a certain pupil turned over from a back to a belly float, her services are in great demand. One could say that she has the touch, or the feel, or a real grip of the business. So much so that I wish I couldn't swim a stroke. I would be going up that way every weekend for lessons. That is if Snowy didn't object. I would feel that I was in the grasp of a competent handler whose every thought is the pupil's safety and happiness.

I also hear that a great couple are expecting an addition to the family and I can only say that when I hear of couples taking this step when all else fails it makes you feel that it's a great world. Congratulations Tom and your good wife.

Snowy Went was a bit full in the mouth but I guess we all would be if we got smacked in the teeth from a cricket ball.

It seems that Duodenal ulcers are the fashion up that way as three I think of the boys have just had themselves diagnosed as having them. Well, boys, having been a sufferer since 48 I guess I have tried everything including diets, molasses and what have you, I have found the greatest reliever and possibly cure, is the tablet called "Roter". To use a phrase, I'll bet London to a brick on them.

The club by the way to you who haven't been there lately and you interstaters, is being expanded out ward and upward so the next time you see it don't get lost. The bandits will be left, right and centre, on all floors going and coming. Ask Tommy O'Brien he has bought one.

Hartley Gardens are still a bone of contention up that way. So much so that I have promised myself a look at the first opportunity and as I'll be up that way frequently for the next couple of months painting my Mum's house, I will be over to see it Jack.

Betty and Frank were presented with a nice present each and J.H. made the presentation and appropriate speech. Frank replied and so say all of us was sung.

I wish some one up that way

could or would write about what happened after I was dragged out and away by those bullies Harris and Coker and flung into the back of Harris's car, tipped out at Blue's place and drove myself the rest of the way home.

In conclusion I am enclosing a page from the Sydney Morning Herald which will, I feel sure, answer Allan Cardy's criticism and appraisal of our strength you can't publish I guess but it makes good or bad reading.

**Mrs. M. WILLIAMS, of 21 Simpson St., Applecross, W.A., writes:—**

As you know, Jeff went up to Cocos Island two months ago to do some work at Marine Base there for Dept. of Civil Aviation. His hope was to finish so that he could be back on Nov. 18 in time for all the Commando festivities. However, in a letter just received, he cannot make it back to Perth until Nov. 29 or Dec. 2, depending on availability of plane bookings; which are uncertain because of the Games traffic.

To our deep disappointment this means that we will have to miss out on all the arranged events except possibly the family outing on Dec. 2. With four children to cope with, I feel I cannot make any arrangements to come alone.

Wishing the Association every success with the events and great enjoyment for all.

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

Thanks for your letter of the 16th and the arrangements you have made for the tickets and accommodation. I am still coming over and hope to leave here on Nov. 2. We will be travelling by car via Townsville, Mt. Isa, Darwin, Wyndham and down the west coast through Geraldton. We have no set day for arriving as yet but hope to be in Perth approx. the 19th November and intend to leave about Dec. 3 or 4, returning via the Nulabor.

If you have time I would appreciate a list of names and addresses of any of the Unit who I could contact on the way from Bowen to Perth via the above route. It does not give you much time but the wife will forward the list on to me if it does not arrive before I go.

I was unable to write earlier re the visit as it wasn't till this last month that the crops have paid off sufficiently to enable me to make the trip.

Well, I'll make this short and we can do a good old ear bash when I arrive over there.

**DON HUDSON, of 217 Leake St., Belmont, W.A., writes:—**

Sorry I have left this so late but have had five weeks off sick, that includes 16 days in hospital. Had cartilage taken out of left knee. Getting old I guess. Slowly cracking up. Apart from this small illness am fit as a fiddle and am only waiting to get back to work. B— well had this hanging around doing nothing but the doc said I made a good job of the knee. Reckons on me being off another eight weeks. Hope I beat him to the punch.

Regards and best wishes to all the boys, will sign off hoping to see you all soon.

**TEX RICHARDS, of Bradshaw St., Latrobe, Tas., writes:—**

Received your letter. Had to wait a couple of days to see Barry as for the details you asked for. We will be arriving in Perth on Saturday, Nov. 17, at 7.20 p.m. and are flying T.A.A. Will be staying at least till Dec. 3. Barry will be coming for sure. Barry and I want a ticket each for all five dates you have mentioned. By the way do you want the money for them before we get there? If so please let us know but think you said leave that part till we get there in your previous letter. If you want the dough say so.

My mate will be working flat out these next couple of weeks. He is a baker by trade. Has only a lad with him, so he has to make all their Christmas cakes, etc. before going on holiday. He was up this afternoon to take a few photos of my family. We are bringing over a few slides of Tassy.

I hope you are enjoying better weather than we are. I have been trying to get a garden in for the last month but we have had more than enough rain the high lands still have snow on them.

My boss reckons I'll want another holiday when I get back. I'll not have to wait very long. I am

due for holidays in January 1963. By the way he got out of Singapore in an open boat.

Since taking on this job at the hospital have been enjoying pretty good health. Have bad days but am not the only pebble on the beach. We have a new local doctor. He has given me some good dope to take.

I suppose Bill and I will be able to have a good old ear bash. I believe the Epps family is fond of sport. Barry and I have most things in common as far as sport is concerned that is, football, horses, fishing, like a game of crib, do a little drinking on the side. I am married but Barry is still single.

I will let Bill know the time we will arrive in Perth. We don't know for sure as yet.

**CLARRIE TURNER, of "Killora Stud", Elgin, W.A., writes:—**

Once again the annual job of sweep tickets has been left to the last minute and so find myself taking the lot. Anyway I sincerely hope the rest of the gang have done their job and that the sweep is a great success.

The year is slipping past and I still haven't made final arrangements to get up to Perth for some of the Games, but I am definitely coming up for some of it. Grace and I will try and make the Opening Day and the Re-union for me. Also we hope to make Ladies' Night. I realise it is a good chance to see cobbers who otherwise one might never see again, but believe me this darrying is a tie. However I may be able to threaten, beg, or more likely bribe my eldest son to take over for a few days.

He is off to Perth on Sunday for the High Schools hockey week. Part 1 of the bribe.

Cheers and hope to see many of the boys in November.

**REG HARRINGTON, of "Ainaro", Wyening, W.A., writes:—**

It is well that you have the sweep to draw in a letter or two at least once a year.

We are shearing and have a half hours break so decided to put pen to paper. The clip looks like being a bit light on this year, partly because of shearing six weeks earlier and part that it seems general after a long summer. However

the general outlook for the season looks fairly bright. Mind you we of the sod turning profession must have some complaints so there is bound to be something go wrong yet.

Of course when one plays golf one finds so many things to complain about that mere business setbacks fade into insignificance.

Enclosed with the sweep butts is a cheque for a small amount extra. Do you think you could devise some simple means of writing out a couple of extra books of tickets to me?

I doubt that I will see any of the Games but by hook or by crook I'm going to get to the Re-union this year.

Your information was right about Jim Smailes' present address. He has the Vacuum Road House at Williams. I saw John Hilly at the Darkan open day and he told me he was there, so caled in and saw him on my way home. He seems fit and confident and the same Jim Smailes we all knew long ago.

I hope to see the Sadler boys next Sunday at the Wongan open mixed four somes.

Make sure my subs are in order before you write out my tickets.

P.S. Had a most welcome surprise yesterday. Had a ring from Mal Herbert to say he was calling through that night on a caravan trip to Geraldton for a spot of rifle shooting. He and family duly arrived and backed in to a power point and camped the night. There is a lot to be said for the caravan. Yours truly spent 9,000 greenbacks on building a house but still can't back up to a friend's power point and be at home. Needless to say the old Herb is still the same Jasper who went to sleep alongside his Bren while in ambush on a mob of Japs when we were carrying the wounded out from 4 Sections' first action. Mal knew that if someone didn't wake him when the Japs arrived the shooting would. That is the type of nerve that makes soldiers and wins Queen's Prizes, as well as giving a lot of companions a lot of confidence. Mal says he is a cert for the Re-union.

I have a confession to make regarding sweep tickets. Gave a book to young Laurie Watson who is working for me and doing very well with the East Fremantle Foot-



ball Club, to sell among his team, and he lost the whole book without selling a ticket, so it looks like an extra one you had better take out of that cheque but make this one out to the Association fund.

**RON SPRIGG, of 60 Hill Street, Albany, W.A., writes:—**

The few usual lines along with the sweep butts and cheque. The extra you can put to the most needy and I wish you every success with the sweep.

Am afraid my chances of getting to the Commonwealth Games are very slight, as it is everywhere a great number want their holidays at that time and I am down on the list quite a bit. However I do hope to make the weekend of the Re-union. I can assure you it won't be for the want of trying.

Have seen Charlie Pearce and both the Denmark boys recently, and they are all hoping to make some part of the Games.

Had the pleasure of speaking to Jerry Haire on the phone the other night. He was down here with the trainee teachers. Unfortunately did not know of his presence until the last night. My daughter happened to mention his name, so was only able to speak to him per phone at the hotel he was staying at. Received your letter today, Jerry, thank you.

**RON GURR, of "Tarquin," Private Bag, Naracoorte, S.A., writes:—**

Enclosed please find cheque for sweep and "Courier" funds. There is no doubt about the good work you are doing running the "Courier". May you long carry on with the good work.

With two such vocal numbers of 4 Section as Paddy Kenneally and Keith Dignum and the slightly less vocal Shorty Stephens and Norm Thornton there should be little need for others to give tongue but just for the record here is my story it may interest the cookies.

Discharged in '45. I became the proud possessor of a Soldier Settlement block in '50. 520 acres of red gum country sown to sub clover, at that stage over run with rabbits. Twelve years later it carries two cross bred ewes per acre and fifty Hereford cows. It provides a reasonable living and enough work to keep the owner out of mischief.

I have had visits from Dig, Paddy Kenneally and Shorty Stephens. I let Paddy and Dig loose in a patch of gum suckers, armed with axes, you would have thought a bulldozer was on the job.

Today Curly O'Neil arrives in Adelaide from Darwin. If there are players and stayers surely Curly is a stayer. Well done.

Nothing would suit me better than a trip to the West to see the Games and join in the festivities, but it just can't be done in the middle of the hay making season. Some other time we hope.

I wish you every success with your Re-union celebrations. My regards to the boys.

**JIM FENWICK, of 35 Picnic Point Road, Panania, N.S.W., writes:—**

Find enclosed cheque to cover tickets, and a bit extra to cover the "Courier".

Since my last letter to you I have had a few things happening to me.

Worst of them, the death of my mother on May 28.

I have had success in raising a Signal Troop (C.M.F.) and now have a strength of one officer and 24 O.R.'s. This is good considering I only have 10 more to recruit to bring it up to full strength. I have to compete with an Artillery unit and a Workshop unit.

We have had one successful 14 day camp and several weekend bivouacs. The keenness of these young C.M.F. soldiers and despite the papers decrying the modern youth, this country will always find soldiers up to the first and second A.I.F. standard if these young chaps are a sample of what is offering.

I had hoped to be in Melbourne this month to do a course but it was cancelled, so will have to wait awhile until I can see Harry Botterill, Bill Tucker and the other Victorian chaps.

I doubt very much I will make the Perth Games but here's wishing them every success and especially to the Unit arrangements.

**EDITH PENDERGRAST, of P.O. Box 93, Collie, W.A., writes:—**

As usual I'm running late with the butts, but I think you should get them on time.

Everything going O.K. down here. Being kept busy.

Gordon will be in Perth next month for a week, too late I'm afraid to attend the meeting. He will be doing the Kleenheat Gas course which will be at Melville. Gordon would also like to know if he is financial.

Wishing the 2/2nd all the best with the sweep and our regards to all.

**DOROTHY WENT, of 32 Wyong Street, Canley Vale, N.S.W., writes:—**

Returning butts and money for the sweep.

Snowy had every intention of writing to you but if you know how much effort it takes him, you would understand and forgive.

He hopes to make it to the Games in November.

Wishing you success with the sweep.

**JOAN HAMILTON-SMITH, of Denmark, W.A., writes:—**

Herewith butts and cash, the balance for Geordie's subs. He is, as usual, suffering from writer's cramp. He and the other old gentleman (Norman Douglas) are very well, otherwise.

As far as I know the Hamilton-Smiths and Thorntons will be up in Perth for the Games.

I don't think you have any record of our family. Two sons, Geordie, born July 1955, and Lindsay, born November 1956. They have no resemblance to father (thank goodness) or for that matter to mother (again thank goodness).

We read every week with great interest the adventures of the Curly one (mad I reckon).

Well, must away to post this before we receive an urgent telegram from you requesting butts.

**DAPHNE FRIEND, of 30 Hake Crescent, Melville Heights, W.A., writes:—**

Please find enclosed cheque for sweep butts. I've been hounding my "dearly beloved" to get these away for about two weeks and despite his "yes, dear, I'll do that," here I am doing it myself as usual. I only wanted Russ to do it so he would write.

Sorry he couldn't sell the six books to help boost the finances further, but he didn't get rid of

them all himself in any case. He had some help from one of the boys from one of the other Units.

Also I'd like to say how sorry we were not to be able to make any accommodation available for the Games visitors. We discussed it at length and thought we may be too far away from the events sites and then we received a letter from our son Daryl who has been drafted aboard H.M.A.S. Queensborough and as they hope to be in port for the Games we will have to keep bed space for him and most likely some of his mates.

Looks like Russ may have to miss the Re-union this year as he arises at 4 a.m. Saturday mornings and as it is being held Friday night it presents a problem.

Best wishes to everyone for the time being.

**JOE TELL, 8 Carrington Avenue, Mortdale, N.S.W., writes:—**

I am sorry I am late sending my butts back but I have been sick again.

Jim English's father, Peter English, is in St. George's Hospital, Kogarth. He has been there for a long time.

I am sending subs and butts.

Curly O'Neil made it alright. He did a good job.

I have had to leave the plumbing trade owing to ill health and I am back in the lifts again at 509 Pitt Street Railway Station.

I send my very best wishes to all at Perth.

**ALF HILLMAN, of Broomehill, W.A., writes:—**

Herewith sweep butts and cash, also best wishes for good result.

I was in Perth last month for the R.S.L. Congress but didn't have time for any visiting as it was a rushed trip and fully occupied all the time. I arrived just in time for the opening and left as soon as it was over.

Meetings have just about got my goat this last few weeks as I have had an average of three a week for six weeks. I am beginning to think it is time I retired from a few things. Trouble is new ones seem to keep cropping up.

The season down this way has not been too good so far though. I believe we don't have that on our own.

Rainfall to date is only about 60 per cent of normal and most of that fell in May. Water supplies might just do the summer but feed is very backward and most of us will have to try to cut down on stock for the summer. Crops look very healthy but germination was often poor and all will be much later than usual.

As the Games look like falling right in the middle of harvest I am not likely to see much of them but will probably be able to make a quick trip up for the Re-union. If any of the Eastern States members coming over would like to see a bit of good country either Bert Burges or myself would probably be able to add a bit more water to the stew and then show them round this area.

**E. HOFFMAN, of P.O. Porphyry, W.A., writes:—**

Please find enclosed one soother, subs, butts and little over.

There is so little to report from here apart that at last Kalgoorlie has a decent baker, no other than Steve Rogers. Although I haven't met up with him yet I still collect his bill and can recommend his bread after travelling 100 miles.

Regards to all.

**ALFRED DOS SANTOS, of 19 Goodchap St., Surry Hills, Sydney, N.S.W., writes:—**

I am sending the ticket butts and to keep your ulcers quiet I am also sending fees.

My family and I are hoping to win some money in the lottery and we will come and see the Games in your fair city.

I have my good time with my leg and just now it's not bad.

My wife said to lay off Frank O'Neil. Any man that will climb a mountain to pick a flower for his wife should have a fan club.

Give my best regards to all the boys.

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

Just a few lines to enclose money for tickets which I have misplaced, but I guess the money is the most important. Also Eric's fees to help along the fund.

Received the "Courier" and enjoyed it very much, even have to

fight the family to get a look in now. I think it must be about time to include a page for the children.

Eric's mother has made a marvellous recovery, unaccountable as far as the doctors are concerned and we are hoping that she will be spared to us for a lot longer. I meant to write last week but when I came to get the pad I found I had been beaten to the mark and all that was left were the covers.

Patricia wants you to let Curly O'Neil know that she would like some pictures of his native, put in the "Sunday Times", also the horses. She reads every piece with great interest.

Must close now. Regards to all.

**TEX RICHARDS, of Bradshaw St.,**

**Latrobe, Tas., writes:—**

Far be it for me to harm your ulcers. Sorry I have been so slow in returning the tickets. Really my wife did all the selling. Will enclose another £1 so make out tickets for Patrice, Denise, Warren, Charles, Ann and Tex Richards.

Am in pretty good health. The family are all extra. Am looking for this trip to Perth. Haven't had a holiday for a couple of years.

Both Charles and Denise go to a college and boy we have to dig deep, but am glad to say both are doing well. We have Warren ready for the boys' college next year. Patrice, seven, has a way to go yet, thank heavens.

Football on the coast has just about had it. My two boys are after the trout, already they have caught 15. So far I haven't been but it won't be long before they will be getting me out of bed of a Saturday morning at 4 o'clock to go fishing with them.

I just can't think of the name of the chap who is getting snaps to put on show. Am enclosing a few. Hope they recall good times those days. Thanks for the letter but far be it for me to pick and choose who I will stay with. We were all good mates.

I haven't really much to say this time but the next time I write I will be able to give more news of our trip. I hope the sweep brings you in plenty of the folding money. You will be hearing from me again at some future date.



**A. MATTHEWS, of 185 Ravenscar St., Double View, W.A., writes:**

I am sorry if I am running late with the tickets having forgotten about them until the better half gave me a good reminder. However the butts plus money will be in this note and I hope the sweep is a great success.

**NORM WALLACE, writes:—**

I regret my inability to sell any tickets this year. I have been out of work for the last three months, mostly owing to sickness. Now I find I can't work any more, so it looks like invalid pension or something like that.

We're in the midst of shifting so you imagine the mix up. Afraid I'm not much help. Probably I may see you in the near future.

**(Mrs.) M. WILLIAMS, of 21 Simpson St., Applecross, W.A., writes**

Enclosed is cheque together with butts for sweep.

Jeff is on a trip to Kalgoorlie and Forrest and won't be back until the middle of next month so unfortunately will have to miss your next meeting.

**IVAN J. BROWN, of 333a Macquarie St., Hobart, writes:—**

The enclose, I hope, will add to the subduing of your pet ulcers.

We appreciate the "Courier" when it arrives, largely looking for the old familiar names, and the doings of your apparently virile organisation in the West.

Should anyone ask of Ivan Brown—well, he and the family are all O.K., so's Max Loveless, and by the look of Vic Pacey, from across the street yesterday, he's healthy and prosperous looking, especially around the front of the waistcoat.

**LYLE OTWAY, of 98 Wedar Road, Mt. Gravatt, writes:—**

Freddie is nursing a very sore head at the moment after a car collected, he and his motor bike on the way to work one morning. The result was a fractured skull even though he always wears a crash helmet. He came off worse than his bike did.

He received the Address Book, but was rather amazed to find you

had left out Bill Connell. Bill always received the "Courier" until a few months back. He contacted us through the "Courier" first of all. His new address is 101 Ashby Road, Fairfield, Queensland.

Just a word of criticism. When the sweep is drawn and the horses drawn, do you think it would be possible to announce in the "Courier" who was the fortunate winner. We people in the Eastern States feel out of it as we buy the tickets but never hear who won it. Also Freddie was sent a lottery ticket but we never could check results. Do you think it would be possible to post a result slip of that particular lottery? It is all very vague as the procedure is now.

The children are all facing up to their new responsibilities well. Geoff is 14 so I have a man around the house with two cook and bottle washers in Susan (12) and Wendy (11). I don't know how we'll all go when Dad comes home nursing his very sore and bruised head.

**OFFICE BEARERS  
YOU SHOULD KNOW**

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

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

**Heard This?**

Two lunatics both thought they were Napoleon and used to box on when they met at exercise time every day.

The authorities tired of this and decided to shut them up together for a fortnight and let them work it out, which was and which was not.

When the time was up and they were let out, one was asked the result. "Simple," he said, "I am Josephine, he is Napoleon!"

## Victorian Vocal Venturings

Our Melbourne Cup Sweep drawing night was a good success and by early indications it should be a good one financially. The venue was the No. 2 Commando Coy. Drill Hall and we had a good roll up. We held our annual meeting first which was mainly to elect office bearers for the coming year, and unfortunately there was no new blood and the same office bearers were re-elected even though our President, Bruce McLaren, stressed the fact that it would be better if somebody else showed enough interest to take office and it would be good to have some new faces and new ideas, but it was not to be. They took the easy road and so we have the same willing horses again—but I certainly hope it will be different next year. Bruce McLaren as president, Harry Botterill, Bernie Callinan, Alan Munro as vice presidents, Jock Campbell as secretary, Jim Wall treasurer, Bert Tobin auditor, and the same committee as last year, but all are welcome to come along to committee meetings.

It is quite obvious that we will just have to concentrate on the same functions each year—that is Anzac Day, Cup Sweep and Christmas Party, as these are the only shows that we can get support

Alan Dower of 2/4th Co., was introduced to the meeting. Alan has just returned from a trip to Portuguese Timor where he has been getting material to write articles on Timor for the "Truth", a Melbourne paper, and he had brought back a message from the Governor of Timor to our Company, also a gift of a demijon of Portifino wine which he asked that we drink remembering the times when we last had this wine. Alan spoke very well on Timor conditions today and said that our Company was still remembered and held in high esteem. He had a nice collection of photos that he took of the various places he went to.

Speaking to Alan afterwards I asked him if there were any of our Creados about, but he said that as far as he could find out they had all been executed or killed by the Japs.

The meeting ended about 9.30

and then we started to work on the sweep drawing and having a real old natter with the boys. Happy Greenhaigh, who is on his way through to the West, was there, also Max Davies was down from Cobram and on leave as he is also going to the West by car. Apologies were received from Bernie Callinan and David Dexter who were both out of Victoria on business, also Ken Monk who hoped to get down from the farm but pressure of work kept him home.

Present were: Mam Smith, Bill Davidson, George Kennedy, Pancho Humphries, George Robinson, Johnny Roberts, Jim Robertson, Alf Grachan, Pete Krause, Jock Campbell, Bert Tobin, Jim Wall, Bluey Southwell, Gerry McKenzie, Wally Kerr, George Veitch, Des Williams, and others that I cannot bring to mind, and also quite a few of the Commando Coy. boys, and what with the wine and beer it was not long before there was some lusty singing going on. What with the old songs of our boys and the new songs of the Commando boys, it made it a real good night and it was really good to see the two lots of boys, old and young, getting together and really enjoying themselves.

Happy is looking the same as ever, lean and fit and looking forward to his trip to the West. Max was looking particularly well and it was good to see after his recent illness. He was trying very hard to get Alan Dower to loan him the photos of Timor to take over to Perth so here's hoping he succeeds. Both Max and Happy will be leaving Melbourne on Saturday on their journey by car over to Perth.

I noticed that Alf Grachan and Mam Smith and Pete Krause were really enjoying that Tinto wine, especially Pete. He has his right leg in plaster. Strained the ligaments of his knee playing squash, but this didn't stop him from enjoying himself.

I left about 12.30 a.m. to take Pete and Jock home and the party was still going strong. There was still quite a bit of wine left over so Pete took a couple of bottles home, and Mam took another. So

ended a very enjoyable night and early morning.

Ken Monk lost his father recently and we send our condolences to Ken and family.

We had quite a few notes sent down with the sweep butts and money. The following are the boys and excerpts, if any. Bert Dowsett, Alf Harper, who apologised for not being able to make it, Peter Piper, who was on the "Karu", has his wife in hospital and so could not make it but sends greetings to all, Smash Hodgson, who is apparently having a tough trot at present but knowing Smash he'll come through, Jack Hartley, from Cabramatta, who is arranging a cricket match and Christmas party for Dec. 2, Madge Field, of Taylors Point, writing for Bob, who is in Hong Kong on business, Alice Boast, writing for Alex, beats me how they manage to get there wives to write for them, must ask for the recipe, Tex Richards, of Latrobe, Tasmania, Tex is going to Perth and hopes he has some spare time on his way back to meet some of the boys in Victoria, Ken Monk, busy building a hay shed and will be flat out soon on ensilage. I know Ken and Margaret are disappointed that they cannot get to Perth, but it's right at the busy time for them. Drip Hilliard, saying he is sill fat as a fowl, sorry he missed the send off the boys in N.S.W. gave Curly O'Neil, having a crack at our bridge and wants to know if we have fixed it up yet. Baldy, from Geelong, sends apologies but cannot make it, wants to know when we are going to have another picnic down his way. Tom Snowden, from Canberra, hoping the sweep is a huge success, promises to write a worthwhile note later, keep you up to that, Tom. S. Tat (I think that's Bulla), from Leichhardt, N.S.W. Eric Heard, of Glebe, N.S.W., who works with Ron Tremrove, but does not see many of the boys around except at Anzac Day. Ted Cholerton, of Bookra, Carcoar, N.S.W., answering a crack made by Jim Wall about his not liking work over much. Appears Ted has planned his selection skilfully so that he does not have to exert himself. The only crops are grass, only harvesters are sheep, so he can concentrate on

the noble are of "B" Troop bed-lovers league.

Margaret Baxter, writing for Norm and good to see her having a crack at Norm for not writing himself. Joe Tell, of Mortdale, N.S.W., writes about send off to Curly O'Neil. Must of been a beauty, as Joe was carted off to Concord Hospital next day with ulcers and nerves. Tom Yates, of Kyogle sends his regards to the mob. Fred Stewart, of N.S.W., wishing us success with the sweep. Les Isenhood, of N.S.W. Alfredo Dos Santos, Surry Hills, sends his best wishes to all the boys. Bill Walch, of West Kempsey, N.S.W., sends his regards to all mates in Victoria. B. T. C. Smith, whose private address is 23 Cabarita rd., Concord, N.S.W. Dawn and Arch Claney, of Carboor, via Milawa, sends their regards to all the boys and wishes us all the best. Bob "Beaky" Smith (ex Sappers), Pt. Perpendicular Lighthouse, via Nowra, N.S.W. Beaky is slowly climbing up the ladder and at present is officer in charge of his station, and only has two officers more senior than himself in the N.S.W. branch of the lighthouse service. Will be at this station for three years. His father retired last September after 38 years in lighthouses. (His father spent 42 years in lighthouses in Scotland and Australia) and Beaky had the pleasure of attending his father's investiture of the Imperial Service Medal at Government House, Sydney. He has been on lighthouses since his discharge from the army in 1946. Has three children, Jim (13 years), Christine (11 years) and Beryl (8 years) and his wife, Joyce, is a Queensland girl. Jim Dent, of Wurrinya, N.S.W., sends his regards to all. Gordon Stanley, of Tassie. Bob Snowden, of Targarno Roadside, via Wodonga, sends his regards to all the boys and hopes one day to be able to make one of our functions. You will always be welcome Bob. Harold Newton, of Westmead, N.S.W., sends his regards to the Vic. boys. Alan Luby, Grafton, N.S.W., sends his regards and also regards from Ron Orr, George Mathieson, "Doc" Fredericks, and Kevin Garvey (2/4th).

Tommy Mildren, of Batoomba Railway Station, via Biringama, Vic., apparently Tom has an addi-



tion to the family, Yvonne, three months, making six. Squirt Clarke Dee Why, N.S.W., sends his regards. Blue Sargent, of Laanicoorie Weir, sends his regards and will drop a line later. L. H. Mitchell, Bandiana, sold a lot of tickets for which we give him our thanks. It's nice to have the boys asking for extra tickets. Thanks again Mitch. Jack Peattie, of West Tamworth, N.S.W., sends his regards to all. Major Stuart Love, of Toorak, sends his regards and wishes us all a successful night. Alan Bennett (Skipper of Karu), of Blackburn South, sends his regards. Jim Fenwick, of Nannia, N.S.W., sends his regards to all the boys. Peter Stafford, of St. Kilda, sends his regards and wishes us well with the sweep. Wal Wiggins, of East Geelong, hopes to be able to come up to some of the functions soon and sends his regards. Jack Hartley writes that he is still having his ups and downs both in business and family. Has his wife in bed at present with an allergy and has mumps himself, but Jack is a great worker and really holds the N.S.W. end together and helps us immensely to get the sweep tickets\* to all the boys in N.S.W.

Betty Craig, writing for Keith, of Young, N.S.W., had Jack Peattie call in on them on his way to Tassie last Christmas. Keith has been off work for a month. During shearing the horse he was riding came over backwards and rolled across his left thigh and leg. Luckily no bones were broken but he was badly bruised and is still limping a bit. All the best Keith, and hope the leg comes good. Les Collins, of 12A Dowling St., East Sydney, sends his regards and would like to hear from some of the boys. Russ Symons, of Queensland, sends his regards and he is still travelling all over the place but hopes to finish with the travelling next year.

That's all the messages. Hope somebody gets some enjoyment out of it.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Write to Your Editor:

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

### Heard This?

Dear Sir,

In reply to your request to send a cheque, I wish to inform you that the present condition of my bank account makes it ordinarily impossible. My shattered financial condition is due to union laws, liquor laws, provincial laws, town laws, sister-in-laws, mother-in-laws, tribal laws and outlaws.

Through these laws I am compelled to pay a business tax, a super tax, gas tax, excise tax, sales tax, tarriff tax, railway tax, petrol tax, pay roll tax, and amusement tax, of which I have none. Even my brains are taxed. I am required to get a business licence, car licence, marriage licence, track licence, and a dog licence. I am called upon to contribute to every society and organisation which the genius of man is capable of bringing to life, to women's relief, the unemployed relief, and the gold diggers relief. Also to every hospital and charitable organisation in the country, including the Red Cross and the double cross.

For my own safety I am required to carry a life insurance, property insurance, liability insurance, burglar insurance, accident insurance, business insurance, earthquake insurance, hailstone insurance, war risk insurance, unemployment insurance, old age insurance, and fire insurance.

My business is so governed that I do not know today, nor can I find out who owns it. I am inspected, suspected, disrespected, rejected, examined and re-examined, informed, required, summoned, fined, commanded, and compelled, until I provide an inexhaustible supply of money for every known need, desire, or hope of the human race.

Simply because I refuse to donate something or other, I am boycotted, talked about, lied about, held up, held down, bailed up and robbed until I am ruined.

I can tell you honestly that except for the miracle that has happened, I could not enclose this cheque. The wolf that comes to my door so often these days, had pups in my kitchen. I have sold them, and here is the money.

Yours sincerely,  
SAM.

**W.A. COMING EVENTS**

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22nd:**

Opening Ceremony Commonwealth Games  
Party Immediately Afterwards

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23rd:**

Annual Re-Union Dinner — Anzac House Basement

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25th:**

Commemoration Service, Kings Park, — 3.30 p.m.  
Barbecue — 'Mick' Holland's, 270 Orrong Rd., Carlisle

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27th:**

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

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2nd:**

Family Party — D. K. Turton's Property  
West Pingelly