



2/2 COMMANDO COURIER

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Editorial

THANKS

Unashamedly this column is devoted to thanking all who contributed in any way towards making the Empire Games Re-union such a resounding success. It can be claimed with due humility that the Association in W.A. succeeded beyond its wildest dreams in conducting the Re-union, even unscheduled events helped to add the conviviality of the gathering and could not in any way be attributed to organisation. Like anything of this nature it was the efforts of a lot of people who made the show succeed and as such due thanks are required.

Firstly, thanks to all those interstate visitors and their wives and friends who came West to participate. They were the prime necessity towards ensuing a successful Re-union. Without them it would have been just another State get-together. They provided the incentive to succeed and give the W.A. people a chance to spread themselves and it was wonderful to see so many of them for the first time for nearly 20 years.

Then thanks to all those good hosts who offered to accommodate both interstate and country visitors. This was the corner stone of the whole edifice and the way Perth metropolitan members and their wives rallied to the task was truly magnificent. They worthily upheld the reputation of W.A. for hospitality and made the life of

our visitors so much more pleasant.

Thanks to all who assisted with arranging the various functions conducted by the Association both before, during and after such functions. The spirit of co-operation among all members rose to magnificent heights with each of these functions and willing workers were very easy to find. Each event seemed to surpass the other as members vied for the honour of entertaining our guests. To single out any for special mention would be unfair as each in their own way did their very best.

Thanks to all who attended the functions as the truly magnificence of the roll ups added to the success of each show. A well organised entertainment poorly attended would have been a frost. We were blessed each time with bountiful numbers.

Thanks to 2/5th Cdo. Association for their co-operation in the Commando Cabaret given in the most generous and unstinted manner it added terrifically to the success of the evening.

Thanks to our own State Executive members who over a long period worked in their own particular sphere organising and running entertainments and giving unstintingly of their time and talents.

Thanks to all the wives of members who so readily assisted us in all we tried to do and bore the

burden of the terrific fortnight with forbearance and gaiety. It was so nice to see so many of the womenfolk of the show at so many of the events.

Finally thanks to the Organising Committee of the Commonwealth and Empire Games for their many assistances to our Re-union especially in the matter of tickets for the many games events. It can be said with pride that the provision of tickets for the various games venues was all that could be expected with such a diversity of sporting interests available.

May I as your Organiser and your Editor take this opportunity of wishing all members wherever they be, a most prosperous and healthful new year and may 1963 be as successful from an Association viewpoint as the year just departed when we as an Association reached the acme of our career.

—C. D. DOIG.

Association Activities

The activities have been so many and varied since last we went to press that I must be forgiven if I fail to do justice to each of our functions.

The first must surely have been the welcoming of our interstate visitors who travelled by various means to Perth to be as one with us in the big Re-union. Probably the first to arrive was Geo Shields who with friend Maury Gerraty came from Bowen in Queensland, travelling the northern route via Darwin, Fitzroy Crossing, etc., and making Perth on the Saturday prior to the games, much to everyone's surprise and delight. They reported a wonderful trip and no real hazards at all. It was good to see the Shields looking so well and apparently prosperous.

The next to arrive would have been "Tex" Richards and his mate Barry Sayer, from the Apple Isle, who arrived by plane on the same Saturday night. "Tex" was a real eye opener. As rotund as a barrel of Cascade and brimming over with good cheer and dead keen to be in everything. He really spent a hectic fortnight. Boy, are those Sappers clannish? They got together in a flash to make certain "Tex"

was in everything and saw everything.

Max Davies, wife Grace, and two mates arrived by car, travelling the Eyre Highway, on the Sunday and were met by Bill Epps (with "Tex" in tow) at Greenmount and eventually piloted down to Safety Bay where they elected to stay as the guests of Gerry Green. Max was looking a bit tuckered up when he arrived but on departure he was looking extra well. Must have been the Safety Bay air plus a generous bonus of "Swan".

"Happy" Greenhalgh also arrived on the Saturday and was taken in hand by Harry Sproxton. "Happy" had previously contacted the organiser from Kalgoorlie and while there looked up Steve Rogers and had a few beers, etc. "Happy" hasn't changed a mite, still as lean as a kangaroo dog and full of good humour.

Rod Dhu and his wife were probably the next arrivals coming over from Victoria by car and firstly visiting Terry Paull at Boyup Brook then oozing to Perth to be the guests of Col Hodson. Rod is another who appears to have weathered the ravages of time excellently and apparent from a slightly high forehead doesn't look a bit different from army days.

Angus Evans, his good lady and two charming children, arrived on the Tuesday by plane and were the guests of the Jack Hassons for their stay in Perth. Angus has managed to keep fit and well and largely unchanged although I must admit looked a bit on the prosperous side which is extra good to see.

Bert Tobin, Harry Botterill and Jerry O'Toole travelled over by train and arrived on the Wednesday before the games. All looked fit and well and amazingly little changed in 16 years. Bert and Harry were looked after by Arch and May Campbell while Gerry was the guest of the Napiers.

Bruce McLaren, with mate Alan Roberts, flew in on the Wednesday also and stayed at the Como Motel. Bruce was the only one that had me tricked. I just wouldn't have picked him until he spoke. Bruce has kinda taken on the executive look with glasses, etc., and it gave an impression of change but can assure you it is only superficial as he was one who

really took great enjoyment from the Re-union and also brought bundles of enjoyment to us.

Ken Jones was a late arrival, not getting here until Nov. 27, on Cabaret night, but he made up for it when he did arrive.

Ron Dook and wife and two daughters also arrived on this day and stayed at the Commonwealth Hostel, Graylands.

As you will see, as great a collection of good blokes as could be met in a million years, all intent on having the best of good times and in good hands to get just that enjoyment.

Probably the first of the official functions of the Re-union was the Games Opening day. The Association had been able to make a block booking of 150 seats to enable as many of our members as possible to be together and enjoy the colossal ceremony.

After the opening a Sundown party was held at the home of Col Doig who lives within the proverbial stones throw of the Stadium, and members were also able to take advantage of parking on his lawn for this and other Games events at the Stadium. This small party had as its object the bringing together of our local members and those who came from other States. In this it achieved its purpose as all were able to freely mingle and get over the various introductions required by some who had not personally met before. It also helped to slake the thirst of those who sat at the Stadium in near century heat with the onrush of Perth's summer. Just a little show but a pipe opener for things to come.

ANNUAL RE-UNION DINNER

This function held at Anzac House Basement on Friday, Nov. 23 was a wow! This was the only truly bucks show we ran during the period (much to the organisation's credit) and it allowed the boys to let their hair down. The muster was of course an all time record. Some 90 local members attended plus all our visitors in the State at that time and a few official guests making a total of about 130.

Toasts were in the capable hands of President R. McDonald, Arthur Smith, Col Doig, Jack Carey, Ray Aitken, Johnny Morrison (2/4th

M.G.), Arch Campbell and Mick Morgan.

Responses were made by Harry Botterill, Max Davies and Bruce McLaren.

Col Doig officiated as toast master.

The formal side of the night over and the game was really on. Ear-bashing was the order of the evening and there were plenty of ears to bash. Dave Ritchie did a great job with humorous tickets and also a grand photographic record of most of the Unit's activities. These were most appreciated by all present and Dave merits our thanks for his big effort.

About those present, this would take up a terrific amount of space to try and chronicle everybody there and this writer's memory is not equal to the task of trying to nominate the lot but must give a mention to our country folk who were there.

Eric Thorlander and Keith Bechan made a rush trip down from Kalgoorlie especially for the event and this was one of the real highlights. Both looked well and brought tidings of other Kalgoorlie lads who couldn't be present, especially Boyo Hewitt, who was ill in hospital and Steve Rogers who was tied up with a court case regarding the baking industry. Peter Campbell made a holiday of the Re-union period and was here from Esperance. Ron Sprigg from Albany, Norm Thornton and Gordy Smith from Denmark, Bert Burges from Broomehill, Jim Smailes from Williams, Clarrie Turner from Capel, Robbie Rowan-Robinson from Bridgetown, Bob Palmer from Cowaranup, Bernie Langridge from Donnybrook, Arthur Marshall from Harvey, Charlie and Stan Sadler and Jack Fowler from Wongan Hills Reg Harrington from Wyening, Mal Herbert from Nungarin, Tony Bowlers from Kojonup, and of course Stan King from Pingarup (never misses), Doug Fullarton from Tone River, Alf Hillman from Broomehill, Terry Paull from Boyup Brook Blue Pendergrast from Collie, Don Turton and Ernie Bingham from Wandering.

A classic roll-up of country folk which did the eyes proud. We did expect more, of course, but still terrific. The metropolitan boys rolled up in force and consid-

ering the fact that we would have only about 160-170 members in the whole State stretching from Wyndham to Euclar, getting 90 there was a really high percentage and would beat any other Unit organisation hollow.

A tape recording was cut and messages sent to our Branch in Victoria.

A truly memorable evening which will live in our memories for many a year.

COMMEMORATION SERVICE

This was, in the writer's opinion the really big show of the whole Re-union. Conducted in our area in Lovekin Drive, Kings Park, on Nov. 25, 1962, it was magnificently attended.

After an introduction by President Bob McDonald, Ray Aitken gave a most moving address in truly Aitken manner. Arthur Smith assisted by reading the Honour Roll and Tom Nisbet marshalled the parade. There were 65 members in the march through the area and it made a most impressive sight.

There were, of course, many wives and friends present and the total attendance would be well in excess of 100.

The area, thanks largely to Bill Epps and family and Bob Smyth, was in lovely order and reflects terrific credit on the efforts of these people. No mention of Kings Park would be complete without reference to those truly wonderful memorial signs which are now erected at either end of the area. If you haven't seen these then you should make an early effort to get up to the Park and take a look see. These were largely the organisational effort of Bob Smyth and we will be everlastingly in his debt for these marks of our area. They have set a standard which undoubtedly will be followed in the passing years by all signs in Kings Park.

BARBECUE AT MICK HOLLAND'S HOME

In the words of Sambo: "Man! What a show!" I haven't a clue how many were present. It would be only a guess to say there must have been all of 200 including the children.

This barbecue was held at Or-

rong-rdl, immediately after the Commemoration Service.

The scene rivalled the busiest hotel beer garden in the middle of summer. The setting really terrific, the home gorgeous. I could rave on for hours but will stick to fairly cold-blooded facts. The work that Mick and Jean Holland and all that band of South of the River members and their wives put into this function must have been terrific.

Mick made some reference to going into the dining room to have "a bit of a pick"! The greatest understatement of the year! Firstly the womenfolk went in, then the children, and lastly the men folk. When the men went in to the room the tables were absolutely groaning under the weight of food and what a "pick"! Could have fed a team of Irish navvies for a solid month.

Every time this writer looked in at the beer servery there was either a keg going off or just arriving to be spiked. Then as if this was not enough at night a barbecue with oceans of steak, chops and sausages.

With all this the kiddies were also looked after being taken to a nearby park and provided with fun and games, races, etc., for prizes provided by the organisers.

The Association's thanks in a big way to all who had anything to do with the great event.

Bob McDonald expressed our thanks to Mick and Jean and was ably supported by Bert Tobin.

COMMANDO CABARET

This function was organised in conjunction with 2/5th Cdo. Association and was held in a lovely setting at Cottesloe Surf Pavilion on Jan. 27, 1962.

Another outstanding success. A terrific amount of organising went into this evening and I must say had the old wild ducks in the tummy regarding its success as generally speaking past Ladies' Nights have not been exactly rip roaring successes. This was to be the exception.

Paid admissions were in excess of 230 and the total roll up with our guests must have exceeded 300

Everything went with a bang from the word go, with all entering

into the spirit of the evening in a big way. The music (arranged by Bob Smyth) was really excellent. The refreshments more than adequate and that punch, oh, that punch, did it loosen up the arthritic joints. The trampoline display by Mr. Jols' troop including Val Buffan and Jan Bedford, State Women Champion Gymnasts, was outstanding.

The roll up of country folk was again great and unfortunately Yours Truly got a little inky poo and names got completely beyond me. But it was great to see Jack Denman and Joy there all the way from Geraldton, Don and Vida Turton, the Bowers from Kojonup, the Paulls from Boyup, and a host of others whom my alcoholic befuddled brain refuses to allow me to remember.

All those spoken to voted it a beauty and request that it be repeated in a similar way next year. That is the proof of the pudding—they want more.

FAMILY DAY AT DON TURTON'S

This was the final official function conducted by the Association for the Re-union.

This was again voted a top success. It was a quiet day. I think everyone was quite content to just laze about and let the kids enjoy themselves in the pool.

Don took everyone for a ride around the property in his well-known conveyances and this enabled the visitors in particular to have a good look at a modern, well improved farm.

Those present brought a picnic lunch with them and plenty of ice cream and ginger beer was provided for the children.

A barbecue tea with plenty of beautiful steak and chops rounded off the day in lovely surroundings.

The day was a bit nostalgic as some of our interstate visitors had departed the previous night and quite a number were taking off for home from this party at Don's.

It seemed like the end of an era. All the wonderful times were behind us and it was hard to realise that after over four years of planning and organising the Re-union was now to become history.

One thing is certain, we did manage for a brief fortnight to recap-

ture the past and relive in a different setting the wonderful days of old.

Thanks in a big way to Don and Vida for once again making us so welcome and providing a fitting finale to a glorious Re-union.

There were many unscheduled happenings, naturally, in a period like this. Such as the day some of the lads had at Fremantle, trying to stay sober for the 12 hours of hotel trading in this State. Then also some of the visitors took the opportunity to go to Rottneest for a look see. Others, including "Happy" Greenhalgh, Harry Botterill and "Toby" did a tour to Albany returning via Manjimup and Bunbury, to Perth. Harry gives an account of this in the Victorian Notes in this issue.

The Sappers had a get together at "Slim" James's home at Scarborough. All these and many more of the non-organised functions helped in a big way to make the Re-union memorable.

WORKING BEE — KINGS PARK

A most excellent working bee took place at Kings Park on Sunday, Jan. 20. A good muster of workers slipped into the work with a will and in no time flat the area was raked over and bark and leaves removed and thanks to Bill Epps and Merv Cash the mowers moved in and cut the whole area.

Certain weeds that were proving to be a nuisance were grubbed out.

The area as a whole now looks extra well only two small portions requiring a bit more grassing. It definitely appears that the battle has largely been won in regard to grassing and when we can get the Kings Park Board to kerb the area to allow for better edge cutting we should have a top class area of which we will be justly proud.

FEBRUARY MEETING

This will be a case of after the Lord Mayor's Show comes the dust man. Still we must press on with Association affairs and prepare for the future. So roll up to Anzac House Basement on Feb. 5, 1963, and you can be certain of a most pleasant evening with your mates, if only to relive a few moments of the grand Re-union.

Committee Comment

The final Committee Meeting of the calendar year was held at Anzac Club on Dec. 18, 1962, and this was devoted largely to a wash up of the Re-union and the hearing of the Organiser's Report and the preparatory accounts presented by the Treasurer.

Mr. Epps advised that the Association mower required repairs after two years of hard work and these have now been attended to.

Mr. Smyth suggested that Kings Park Board be approached regarding mowing of the area by their employees and also that approach be made regarding kerbing of the area.

It was resolved that Secretary take up these matters with the Kings Park Board.

The President took the opportunity of thanking the Committee for their work and co-operation during the Re-union period and wished all the compliments of the season.

Personalities

Had an enjoyable letter from Mr. J. J. Poynton, of Victoria, father of our members, Jack and Joe, to indicate that although his name appears in the address book he is not one of us. Anybody with a couple of sons in our show is of us and the Address Book was compiled from addresses of the "Courier" so you being a recipient of the journal found your name in the Address Book. Thanks, Mr. Poynton, for your donation to our funds and thanks also for forwarding your copies of the Gallipoli Legion paper which is a very interesting little journal and shows what can be done even over such a long period as 1915-1962, in keeping a body of men together.

Bert Burges was able to give me news of Spencer (Freddy) Chapman through a mutual friend of his at Broomehill. It appears that Freddy is now Warden of Pestalozzi Childrens Village Trust, Sedlecombe, Battle, Sussex, which apparently deals with the refugee

problem. His job will be to visit the various refugee organisations to choose children and staff and to be responsible for the care and education of the children and gradual development of the village. This appears to be a job right up the Chapman ally.

Since Re-union time have not met such a lot of the blokes. Don Turton of course looks me up whenever he is in town and we have dinner together or a couple of noggins. Saw him Christmas Eve and again a week or so later when he was helping a mate of Alan Roberts (who came over here with Bruce McLaren) to look into the land problem in W.A.

Hear Arch Campbell's dulcet tones every Saturday as he is official broadcaster for Athletics Association at Perry Lakes Stadium and his amplified voice wafts over the ether in my direction. Also managed to have both a Christmas and New Year drink with him.

Peter Barden was in the big smoke for his annual leave and looked me up as always and we had a satisfactory lunch hour. Peter is very happy at Geraldton and most pleased with himself in all ways. He struck Don May while he was looking over Parliament House and had a short wongle with him.

Saw Ted Potts for a short while the other day. He was looking fit but unfortunately had just lost his job. If anyone knows of a good job within Ted's compass that is going, please let me know.

In having lunch with Harry Botterill, Bert Tobin, Bruce McLaren, Gerry O'Toole and Jack Carey during the Games, we took the opportunity to discuss a bit of business regarding the future of the Asso-

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ciation and all the lads from the East consider it imperative that the "Courier" be published for ever more and as frequently as possible. Many other matters were discussed but these have still to be taken up by the Committee.

Geo. Shields made a wonderful suggestion to Jack Carey and myself (also under the stimulus of a few ales) that it would be an idea for chaps to forward a photo of themselves and their families in fairly typical surroundings with a write up of what they are doing and what business they are in, etc., to be published in the "Courier". If anyone likes to act on this sug-

gestion I know our publishers will be only too pleased to help with the necessary blocks and it could prove to be a real winner from a news standpoint. Geo also promised at a later date to give me a write up of the way the tomato growing industry works in his area of Bowen, Queensland.

The Address Book is already proving to be quite a boon and our Games visitors found it most helpful in contacting various people in their travels. It is going to be a bit of a problem to keep up to date as even now Bill Epps has something like 20 alterations to be made.

Random Harvest

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

Let me at the outset, heartily congratulate all those responsible for the excellent arrangements made in connection with the Commonwealth Games' functions. I was not able to make the Games (as I will be coming to Perth on Boxing Day for a fortnight and will be staying at the Como Caravan Park), but Jack Denman was full of praise for the organisers of the functions he attended. Referring to the so-called "Ladies' Night", Jack said it also turned into a thoroughly enjoyable night for the men folk. He was delighted to have had the opportunity of renewing acquaintances with some of his old mates from the Eastern States.

Now let me once again refer to the value of the Address Book you recently issued. I was working flat out on the typewriter compiling a news bulletin, the other day, when someone walked into my office and said: "Do you remember me?" I had to admit that I could not, but as soon as he mentioned his name—"Dusty" Studdy—I recalled that he was a Double Diamond type whose name I had often heard mentioned (and, always in a favourable light, "Dusty"). Within minutes "Dusty" had out his address book and was checking the addresses of other members in the Geraldton area. Jack Denman told me a few days later that he and Eric Smyth had had a few enjoyable noggins with "Dus-

ty" before he returned to his home at Midland (c/- Commercial Hotel).

Meanwhile, note Bill Drage, of Northampton, has hit the headlines again. Bill has on yet another occasion demonstrated his ability as a farmer, this time by running second (only one point behind the winner) in a district-wide ley-wheat crop competition. It was estimated that Bill's crop of Wongoody wheat would yield 32 bushels to the acre.

Now that you folk in Perth have gone to the trouble to issue the very valuable Address Book, it is up to other members to play their part by notifying you of any change of addresses. I will start the ball rolling by mentioning that J. P. (Irish) Hopkins has for some time been in charge of the Morawa Golf Club, which is a registered club. His address in the Address Book is shown as Club Hotel, Mullewa, but he hasn't been there for ages.

I must away now, as I have a Town Council meeting to report tonight (five minutes before it starts).

Kind regards to all the boys.

RUSS SYMONS, of 11 Marne Road, Albion, Queensland, writes to Bob Smyth:

Firstly, many thanks for your letter, it was great to hear from you. Yes, I have had a reply from the West regarding my queries. Col Doig went to no end of trouble to explain fully the position re housing over there. I am more

than sorry to say it has, due to circumstances, been shelved for quite a considerable time. The main reason is that I have my Dad in Greenslopes Repat. Hospital. Being the only one in the family I have had to stay.

Bob I would be most grateful if you would also pass on my change of address to Col. Have been renting a home here until now, bought this place, it is old as the hills but has plenty of room and apart from that was all we had the cash for.

I can well imagine the wonderful time had by all during the Games Re-union. I can assure you those that attended were the envy of the likes of myself.

Spent an enjoyable couple of hours with Sailor Ward last Sunday. Hope to see him again over the holidays.

I believe some of the local 2/2nd boys got together last Monday night, unfortunately being on the road I was unable to get along. It is the first time they have done so in Queensland. I am interested to find out how they got along and how many were there.

I am still travelling from Tweeds Heads to Thursday Island, Western Qld., as well, so you can imagine I have very little time at home with the wife and kids. My young fellow made the Combined Schools Cricket team this year. I tell you Dad really threw the chest out.

Well, Bob, thanks again for your letter and may you have a very happy and prosperous new year. Should you ever get over this way please don't go through without calling on us.

Kindly pass on my regards to all the boys in the West.

JOHN J. POYNTON, of 63 Thames Promenade, Chelsea, S.15, Victoria, writes:—

Thanks to my son Joe and your kind self, I have been receiving the "Courier" for about three years.

I note my name appears in your Address Book. Thank you for the promotion but I think I am a bit old at 71 years to join the Commandos, so I am writing at once so that you can correct same in your next issue.

I have met a lot of the boys in different States some of whom and

many others stayed at our flat in Sydney during the war.

When in W.A. two years ago I met a few of the boys, and as I travel a lot the Address Book will be very handy to locate those I had met, and I hope others.

I had hopes of being in W.A. for the Games but am just recovering from a long bout of illness, however, I expect to be over there sometime in 1964.

I visited Albany and inspected the site of the Memorial removed from Egypt. There is some difference of opinion re the site but I will not buy into that one.

I followed the route for about seven miles (much easier by car) where we marched, Nov. 1, 1914, a hell of a long time ago. When on the trans-train going to W.A., I was telling a lady about the little girls who gave us wildflowers, and she said: "I was one of those girls"

I also called at the office of the local paper, and had a very unusual photo to show them. They are going to use it later. I was shown a photo of the 8th Battalion (to which I was attached), and myself marching past the "Dog Rock".

The manager was very nice to us and we had a good run around.

I enclose a cheque to do what you think fit with.

I look forward to the "Courier" and again many thanks for sending it along.

Wishing you all the best.

ANGUS EVANS, of "Galathera," Marrabri, writes:—

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of myself and family to express our appreciation and thanks to yourself and all members of the 2/2nd, particularly the Hasson family, for the wonderful way in which you treated us on our stay in Perth.

I can assure you all that everything you turned on was beyond

OFFICE BEARERS YOU SHOULD KNOW

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

all expectations and much enjoyed by all.

It was one of the greatest happenings in my life to see all your old faces after 17 years and now that the break has come I intend to visit the West more often, that is, of course, if you can put up with me.

Probably the greatest event of all in Perth was the Memorial Service and indeed a great tribute to our lost comrades for the work that has been put into Lovekin Drive by your untiring efforts.

That particular section would take its pride of place anywhere that I have been and reflects great credit on the 2/2nd Association of W.A.

On our arrival back in Sydney, I contacted Ron Trengrove, and he informed me that some of the boys were having a cricket match out at Arncliffe, so I looked them up, and found Jack Hartley, Bill Hoy, Snow Went, Jack Keenahan, Bill Coker, Jim English, Ron Hilliard, Don Woodhouse and last but not least Paddy Kenneally. I hope I have not forgotten anyone. However, they were most interested to hear about you all in W.A.

We are still enjoying a wonderful season here and have finished harvesting with an average of about 40 bushels and after a couple of lean years it was much needed.

I must close now and wish you and all members of the 2/2nd a happy Christmas and a prosperous new year.

Please find cheque for 2/2nd Association.

ALLAN ROBERTS, who came over with Bruce McLaren, writes:—

Now that we have returned to Melbourne and back to work, I would like to take this opportunity of expressing my personal thanks to your wife and yourself for your generous hospitality during our stay in your city.

It was very gracious of you to allow me to participate in the activities of the 2/2nd Commando Unit Re-union, and can assure you that I was most impressed by the wonderful comradeship which was very much in evidence at all your

meetings. Please convey my feelings to the Perth boys and I would like you to accept the enclosed cheque as a token towards the maintenance costs of your very delightful "Avenue of Honour".

I would also like to convey best wishes for Christmas and health, happiness and prosperity to you and your family in the new year.

HAZEL WICKS, of 10 Second Ave., Dianella, W.A., writes:—

I have been going to write this letter for some time and at last I have got around to it. I am ashamed I have left it so late. We have a new baby in the house, another girl. This makes three girls and one boy. Her name is Susan and she was born on July 11. Jack said to me had I written in so I thought I better do the right thing. There is six years between Susan and Jennifer and I can tell you I don't seem to have much time to myself these days. Wherever I turn there is work to be done. I sure get tired.

Jack said he had a wonderful time at the Re-union Dinner. Also he must get to the meetings more. So we shall see. He does have a pretty busy time driving around town all day. He reckons the traffic is terrible. I know some nights he gets home he has really had the bomb. I do hope he makes the meetings more.

We never seem to see you around Christmas so I take this chance of wishing everyone a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Heard This?

The old lady had just returned from her two weeks at a Catskill resort.

"Where did you stay, Mama?" her doctor son asked.

"At the Catskill Plasma."

"Mama," the doctor exclaimed, "plasma is blood, you mean the Catskill Plaza!"

"Listen, my son," the old lady replied, "Sixty-five dollars a day for a room without meals . . . that is blood!"

Victorian Vocal Venturings

Well, I have come back to earth after a wonderful trip over to the West where we had a terrific time and I can only say I am very sorry for all those who could not make this trip. They really turned it on and even though we have heard everybody who has been to the West say that the people are very hospitable you really have to go over there to find out just how hospitable they really are.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the families who opened their homes to take in the visitors. They really looked after us and it was a home away from home.

Also thanks and appreciation to the Association that really organised those official functions and it must have gladdened their hearts to see the terrific turn up. Col and his boys and also the wives are to be congratulated for a wonderful effort and we cannot speak highly enough for the splendid time you all gave us. We will certainly remember it for a long time—and it just wets the appetite for another trip over there in the future.

I will leave it to the boys over there for all the news of the goings on because I am sure they will fully cover this.

I would just like to mention the trip that Happy Greenhalgh and his wife Rene and Bert Tobin and I made in Hap's car down to Albany which we made in a day calling in on Jim Smailes at Williams where he is running a service station with an eating house attached. Then on to Konjanup where we tried to raise Tony Bowers on the phone but had no luck (Sorry Tony we could not contact you. We were looking forward to seeing you). Then on to Albany where we stayed with Ron and Win Sprigg and family. Ron and Win really looked after us. We spent the following day seeing everything there was to see in this beautiful town for which we owe our thanks to Ron's eldest daughter who was our guide and she did a wonderful job and highlighted the day with a visit to the whaling station at Frenchmans Bay where they were working on whales and we were shown

over the place. A very delightful day. We stayed another night with Ron and then set off the next day to go back to Perth via Manjimup and Bunbury. Once again our thanks Ron and Win. We had a wonderful time with you and appreciate what you did for us.

Albany is a very beautiful town, and has a lot of places of scenic scenery and they are so easy to get to. The coastal scenes are very much like Wilsons Promontory in Victoria, very rugged and rocky.

We called in on Geordie Smith and Joan in Denmark on the way back. Norm Thornton was still in Perth so missed him. Our next call was at Manjimup where we called in on Gordon Rowley but he had taken the family out on a fishing trip to a place where we had passed early in the morning (sorry to have missed you, Gordon). So we then went after Tom Crouch, who we eventually ran down after some false alarms. Tom has not altered a great deal except for grey hairs and a few wrinkles of time. It was good to see him and he has a nice property which must keep him out of mischief looking after it.

We came back through Bunbury and Harvey (sorry we didn't have time to call in on you Arthur but we were pushed for time). Mandurah and back to Perth. A very nice trip and it was three days well spent and it made a nice finale to a wonderful two weeks.

We were given a lot of messages of greetings to boys in Victoria and we will pass these on as we see the boys in person.

It was good to go along to the Annual Dinner and see the wonderful roll up of members. There must have been approximately 130 of the boys there, and we had great fun trying to put names to faces that we knew. I must say that apart from thinning or greying hair and a bit of over weight, the boys haven't changed a great deal. Col really excelled himself here. He told some terrific stories. Beats me where he gets them all from. Hasn't changed since the old days when he could go on for hours telling yarns and never repeat him self. Once again our thanks and

appreciation to all over there from us who visited you and we will never forget the visit.

Back to local affairs. We held our Christmas party at Bonbeach (a week later this year because some of us were over in the West and could not get back in time to have it at our usual time of the first Saturday in December). We had a very good day. The weather was lovely and warm and it was a nice change from the usual weather we get. Even had time to have a swim this year. Our roll up was average. Some old faces missing and some new ones turned up. Wally Wiggins and his family made the trip up from Geelong for their first time and they thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Ken and Margaret Monk and family made the trip from Poowong as usual. I do not think that they have missed a year—a wonderful effort. Unfortunately they had to leave early as they had to get back and do the milking. It's a busy time for them at this time with the hay and ensilage and they made a rushed trip just for the party and we really appreciate this.

The kiddies had a wonderful time and made short work of the ice creams and drinks. It's a real pleasure to see the enjoyment the boys and girls get out of this and I thank the Mums and Dads for bringing them along. It's worth all the work running this to see their enjoyment. A very good day and a wonderful time was had by all.

One thing that came out of this was the desire to have a get together again on the social side so that the women folk could join us and we decided that we would have a barbecue early next year, approximately March, providing there is no fire risk danger. Anyway we will have a committee meeting and work this out and let you all know later.

Les Eisenhood and his wife Gloria and their four children (all girls) plus a boy who Les was looking after, made the trip down to Melbourne for a camping holiday. They came down on Monday, Dec. 31, where they contacted Jim Wall who made the necessary number of calls to members to come and meet Les and have a drink with him which we duly did at the London.

Had a good roll up considering the short notice and the time of the year. Alf Grachan, Johnny Roberts, George Pancho Humphries, George Robinson, Jim Wall, Smasho Hodgson, Bert Tobin, Gerry O'Toole and self. It was good to see Les, and he still looks the same, fit and well. He had bedded down in some camping grounds just out of Melbourne and they were really enjoying themselves. We had apologies from Geoff Laidlaw, Bruce McLaren, Dave Dexter and Jock Campbell, who could not make it owing to prior engagements and a few of the other boys we tried to contact were away.

We also organised a day at the beach at Bonbeach for the following Sunday to meet Les's wife, Gloria, and the girls, Vicki, Gail, Dianne and Leonie and the boy, Leslie. It was not the brightest of days but we had a very good day. Bert and Wilma Tobin, Johnny and Kath Roberts, Jim and Gaye Wall, Pancho and Wenda Humphries, Gerry and May McKenzie, Harry and Olive Botterill and families and Fred and Mavis Broadhurst who were second honeymooning as they had just taken their family to friends for a holiday.

Well, that's all the news for now so I will take this opportunity to wish you all the very best for the coming year and we hope to see you often and hear from you more often.

—HARRY BOTTERILL

Heard This?

Hope Springs Infernally

Sedgewick Hassenfeffer received a telegram informing him that his mother-in-law was gravely ill at the memorial hospital. He went to the phone, called up the chief surgeon and asked if there was any hope for the old lady.

"That, my friend," the doctor answered, "all depends on which way you're hoping."

* * *

Friends, Romans and Psychiatrists, Lend Me Your Ears

Young Psychiatrist: "Tell me, doctor, how on earth can you stand to listen to your patients on the couch, day after day as they pour out all that misery and frustration, all that mess of troubles?"

Old Psychiatrist: "Who listens?"

Heard This?

The resistance of a woman is not always a proof of her virtue, but more frequently of her experience. —Ninon de l'Enclos.

* * *

The Dominant Sex

Ferris Splatt consulted Dr. Froyd the psychiatrist one morning. He had a very unusual problem concerning his wife.

"Doctor," he explained, "my wife Brunhilde has suddenly developed an inferiority complex and, Doc, I've just got to find a way to keep her that way!"

* * *

Scatterbrain

The young widow was terribly embarrassed over the phone. "Doctor," she said in a hesitant voice, "you remember I was at your office this morning for a thorough physical examination? Well, did you by any chance find a pair of . . . pink nylon panties . . . ? No? You're sure, doctor? Oh my goodness, I must have left them at the dentists!"

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WHY BREAD IS "DEER"

Children in a district school in the Eastern States were asked to study the wheat question by reading all they could in the newspapers and then write essays. From weeks of special study one pupil reached these conclusions:

"Wheat is grown in quite a lot of countries and generally sent across the sea to other countries which could just as well grow it themselves. This is done to make prophets for shipowners, agents, middlemen, politicians and scalliwags, who can't make an honest living. This is why bread is deer.

"In America, wheat is sold about 20 times, each buyer making a prophet although he never saw the wheat or the corner where it was stored.

"In Australia they put all the wheat in a pool where it gets wet and take it out to send away in ships when the sailors is not on stryke.

"A lot of wheat what is left gets eaten by weevils and a lot of it drops out of the pool in a way no one knows. It is no good asking a policeman. What is left in the pool is scraped up and growned into flour. This is made into bread and sold to the gaols at 8½ pence a loaf and to honest people at 1¼d. The difference pays the wages of the delivery man what drops the bread in the mud."

God

COMING EVENTS :

TUESDAY, 5th February, 1963:—

Usual Monthly Meeting at Anzac House Basement.
This will take the form of a Darts Night.

TUESDAY, 5th March, 1963:—

Monthly Meeting.
Probably a Guest Speaker still to be arranged.