



# 2/2 COMMANDO COURIER

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## *Editorial*

### FIFTY YEARS LATER

From our view point in time, we can look back from April 25, 1965, to that date 50 years ago and also scan the intermediate years with a certain amount of first hand knowledge and experience. No one can deny that the men of the first A.I.F. must have had some very dubious thoughts as to the wisdom or folly of such a crazy blood bath of that four year campaign. Many must have died fully convinced that the price was too high or the cost too great for the price of peace. Many of those who did survive, must have often doubted the quality of the rewards which came with the 1918 victory.

The political unrest in many parts of the world. Over production of food and yet starvation at the same time. The depression of the 1930's, and then of course the unbridled rise of Dictators in Europe to bully and threaten smaller nations as never before in history. Then as these men saw again their own sons take up the torch once more against the old enemy, and witness the threat to Australia itself from the north, the same doubts must surely have passed through their minds. Those of us who took part in this second conflict must surely admit that at times the question did arise: "Is

## LADIES' NIGHT

BASEMENT ANZAC HOUSE

### SATURDAY, 3rd APRIL

This will be a good old time get together and a great night's enjoyment is assured. Don't forget this is for your wives so make sure you book her up good and early. You are also advised that due to proximity to the usual meeting this will be **Cancelled on Tuesday, April 6.**

it really worth all this blood and destruction?" To witness the burning of London, the destruction of whole cities, the sinking of ships, the gas chambers, the stench and death in the tropics, the squalor of the prison camps, and the wilful waste of materials cannot pass without arousing the active mind to ask the question many times over.

Now at this fiftieth anniversary of Australia's entry into the affairs of the world, what position do we find ourselves in? Did these wars achieve their object? Has Australia been made safe, and has this threat to our country been quelled?

We like to speak of Australia as a nation, as an independent country, not tied to the apron strings any longer, and as a people who have a voice in world affairs, particularly in this part of the world. Rightly so, but this national pride has its price. Freedom from outside domination is not paid for by promises and soft words, and our very survival is not assured by any other means than constant vigilance.

With this practical outlook, what better words weigh up the situation than those of Winston Churchill when he took over the Prime Ministership of Britain in 1940: "I can offer nothing but blood, sweat and tears." He also promised victory, "for without victory there is no survival".

The passing of this man brings into focus history itself and the men who made it. The situation in the world today has changed very little over the past 50 years, the same threats and situations are in evidence. There are different bullies with bigger and better weapons, quicker and more effective ways of taking a man's life or destroying his cities, but history has not changed. If we want to be part of history, we will just have to play our part to the full, and until human nature can devise a more effective method of control we shall just have to pay the price or fall by the wayside.

"Peace is the dream of the wise, but war is the history of man."

I would say that Australia as a nation is as peaceful as any in the world today, but we are a very

rich prize, the envy of many to the north of us. Our way of life and our natural wealth are very tempting to the hordes of people who live in Asia where life is cheap and stomachs empty.

The threat that came to Europe in 1914 and 1940 is just as much in evidence today. The men of those generations had to pay the price and evidently considered it worth while in view of the alternative. The fact that we have come another 25 years does not exempt us from the fate or price of our place in history. While every endeavour should be made to assist and promote the cause of peace, we must in the meantime keep our powder dry. The very nature of these aggressors to the north is infiltration, cunning, and backdoor tactics. A complacent nation is their dream come true. A strong and determined nation will never be attacked by their type.

With all the talk of today about our youth and moral decay, I do not think that they are much different than of 25 or 50 years ago. Given the leadership, the incentive and the opportunity, they will respond to their duty just as quickly and fully as on those now historical occasions. We have even more to fight for, and a larger population and industry to support our effort.

The prospect that this repetition of history will come again within our time must never be ignored, nor our efforts relaxed to keep Australia strong. One has only to visit other countries to our north to answer the question of price or cost or worth, as to our way of life and its alternative.

There is no doubt whatsoever about compromise, treaties, bargains or promises to keep these people in their own part of the world and out of Australia. They only understand strong words when backed by strong arms, and the place to demonstrate our policy is over there, not on our own shores when it is too late. The price we must be prepared to pay for peace in this country will get higher in each generation. We must, however, never lose sight of the alternative "lest dishonoured graves bear witness that ye tarried over long."

—JIM SMAILES.

## West Australian Whisperings

### Association Activities

#### FEBRUARY MEETING

Amazingly, despite the fact that this meeting fell the day after a long weekend we had a terrific roll up. Fred Napier with much assistance from Arthur Smith, showed a couple of films on the newly acquired 16mm. projector. Not so hot as operators, but I believe since then Fred has learned plenty and will be able to do full justice to his newly won job as Chief Projectionist to the Association. The films were extra good. The first was a film made for dispersal throughout the world on the famous Aussie Rules Football and would be of great interest to countries unfamiliar with our particular sport. The second film was brought along by John Burridge and dealt with the handling of fruit in carton form and was really well done.

We had such a good roll up it was necessary to have recourse to Anzac Club for another small nutmeg to see the night out.

#### MARCH MEETING

Once again a most popular evening with an impromptu rifle shoot. Scores not extra terrific but a bundle of fun. The evenness of the scores by each individual made it most interesting. Jack Hasson reckoned he had the game by the throat but eventually Len Bagley and "Spriggy" McDonald managed to make it a three way tie on the first shoot. These rifle shoots have proved to be one of the best of our social evenings and everybody enters into the spirit of the thing and kids themselves that they can still handle a rifle which of course is all cow yard confetti.

#### APRIL MEETING

This will be our Ladies' Night and will be held at Anzac House Basement on Saturday, April 3. (Unfortunately in the last edition this was shown as Saturday, April 4, which was a wrong date.) A good evening has been lined up and you can bring your spouse or

girl friend along in full knowledge of the fact that this will be a beauty. Music will be excellent and the rest of the night will be extra special. You are requested to make every effort to come along and enjoy yourself. The bigger the crowd the better it will be for everybody, so go to any length to be in it.

#### ANZAC DAY

The Association will be on deck once again and at this stage the same arrangements as in the past will be the order of the day. Contrary to past practice when Anzac Day falls on a Sunday this year the march will be in the morning. Members are asked to fall in at the usual place near Anzac House by 10 a.m. After the march arrangements for the re-union will be in hand. If we cannot use the Drill Hall in Bazaar Terrace alternative arrangements will have been made and you will be advised on the parade of any changes necessary.

This is the 50th Anniversary of Anzac Day and it should surpass all previous parades and will be most memorable. Members are requested to make every endeavour to be on parade.

This year all hotels and clubs will be closed all day.

### Committee Comment

The Committee has been actively engaged since last going to press. The Annual Sweep was put into motion at the February meeting and this was done with the usual alacrity thanks to the wonderful efforts of Bill Epps in providing books, envelopes, etc.

Ladies' Night was discussed at length and most of the details of this function were kicked into shape.

The matter of a cricket match at Harvey was also discussed and it was decided that Arthur Marshall be contacted to arrange if possible.

As usual Kings Park took some precedence and a working bee to spread vast quantities of sand was arranged for the weekend of Feb. 20 and 21.

## Personalities

It is with regret we have to record the passing of Bill Epps's father. One realises that these things must occur but none the less when the occasion arises it is most regrettable. Please accept the sincere sympathy of all Association members in your loss, Bill.

Jack and Norma Hasson have been on holidays at Rockingham since we last went to press and had a wonderful time. Jack Carey and your Editor went down one Sunday and enjoyed their hospitality which was very nice thank you.

Reg Harrington and family were also down at Safety Bay having a well earned spell with much use of Reg's boat and surf skis.

Stan and Charlie Sadler and their families were also on holiday. Stan at Mandurah and Charlie at Busselton.

Jack Fowler also was sighted at Mandurah having a well earned rest and catching up on his fishing. Had a long wongi with "Curly"

Bowden the other night. "Curly" is sailing a Flying 15 with Royal Freshwater Bay Club with some minor success. Has not cracked it for a place yet but is having rigging trouble and hopes that by next season he will be in the money in a big way.

While visiting Jack Hasson at Rockingham called and saw Harry Holder in his set up at Point Peron. He has a terrific proposition there. A matter of yards from the ocean and lawn all around. Quite the most relaxing place I've seen for years. The whole area is a real credit to you and your fellow workers, Harry.

Noticed in the press recently where Sam Fullbrook had tied for victory in the Wynne Prize for landscapes. If I remember correctly this is Sam's second victory in this sphere. Our most sincere congrats Sam. Keep it up.

Have not seen a lot of the gang recently so the personalities column is a bit on the thin side this time. Hope for bigger and better things next time.

## Victorian Vocal Venturings

A Committee Meeting was held at Bert Tobin's office on Feb. 9. Present were: Bert Tobin in chair, Bill Tucker, Alan Munro, Johnny Roberts, Smash Hodgson and Harry Botterell. Apologies were received from Bruce McLaren, Sam Fullbrook, Jim Wall.

The weekend trip to Bendigo was the main topic of business and all matters were finalised, also a preliminary discussion on Anzac Day. This year being the 50th anniversary of the Anzac Landing on Gallipoli every effort is being made in Victoria to make this a very good year and the march is being held in the afternoon, so our re-union will take place after the march and ceremony at the Shrine, at the usual venue, No. 2 Commando Drill Hall, Ripponlea.

The weekend trip to Bendigo on Feb. 27 and 28 was a tremendous success. The weather was very good and the hospitality A1. Those who made the trip were: Bruce and Loraine Campbell, Stuart McLaren; Bert, Wilma, Warrick and

Gillian Tobin; Harry, Olive, David, Glenda and Lynette Botterill; Bill and Joan Tucker; Jack and Faye Campbell; Alan, Joyce and Tommy Munro; Stan and Joan Wapner; Bob Snowden and his sister, Mrs. Burbridge. Baldy and Vi Baldwin; Gery and Mary McKenzie; and Max Davies. Quite a good roll up and we were accommodated at Kev Curran's and Bob Finlayson Hotels. Bob Finlayson is a brother-in-law of Max Davies. Kev had worked out a very good programme for us and everything went off with a real good swing.

Kev had arranged a Mayoral reception for us and we were received by the Mayor, Cr. Oliver, at 11 a.m. on Saturday. The Mayor was particularly pleased to see our children with us and made particular reference to them. The Mayor gave us a good rundown on the history of Bendigo, which was very interesting and it was very noticeable that he and the other Councillors present were very proud of their city, which they

call the Golden City of Bendigo. We were shown over the town hall and mayoral rooms, etc. Bert Tobin responded on our behalf to the Mayor's welcome and Kev and the Town Clerk. Jack Watts also said a few words.

During the Councillors remarks it was felt by us all that Kev as a Councillor is held in very high esteem by his fellow men.

Back to our respective hotels for lunch, then off to the Eppalock Weir (where Bluey Sargent is in charge). Here we were given rides in the motor boats provided by the Power Boat Club. This was organised by the Town Clerk, Jack Watts, and our thanks to Jack for a very enjoyable afternoon. Those who could water ski tried out their skill and some enjoyed a swim, then over to Harry and Niffis home for afternoon tea and a conducted tour over the water pumps and generator plant at the weir. Here our thanks to Bluey and Niffi and their helpers for providing the enjoyable refreshments.

That night Kev had set up a barbecue in the back of his hotel and a very nice set up too. Kev and Glad must have gone to a lot of trouble to have it looking so well. The weather was very good and this helped to make this a very enjoyable evening, and we had a jolly good sing song around the piano. No Beatles here, just the plain, good old fashioned songs. Kev has a pet kangaroo named Judy and if Judy is still living I will be greatly surprised because the kids were having a great time feeding her. Kevin's boy Dennis, did a good job as chief helper at the barbecue and served out the steak, etc., with a professional touch. Good steak, too.

On Sunday we had a short sleep in, then met at Kev's place where we met up with Jack Stanistreet, a mines manager and legal advisor, who took us to a high point in Bendigo and showed us where the various gold reefs were and had been and a bit of history on each. Then back to his office in Bendigo where he explained how a mine is worked and showed us samples of gold quartz, etc., and had a lot of old relics relating to gold mining. He gave us a very good talk on the history of gold in Bendigo.

There is still estimated to be millions of pounds worth of gold still in Bendigo but it is uneconomical to mine it at the present price of gold. Jack explained that it would have to double its present price to make it worth while mining again in a big way. Alan Munro thanked Jack for his interesting talk and we were all very grateful to him for giving us his time. I hope he got back all his samples of gold.

Back we went to our hotels for lunch then met at Kev's again at 2.30 p.m. where we said our thanks and goodbyes and wended our various ways home.

I would like here to thank Kev and Glad and Bob and Lesley Finlayson for having us up for the weekend and giving us such a wonderful time. Kev must have done a terrific lot of organising and if it is any consolation to you Kev, we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves, and my kids reckon its the best weekend they have ever had and want to know when the next one is.

Was sorry Max Davies wife, Grace couldn't make it down from Cobram but she had family commitments, so Max came down. It was good to see him looking so well, as Max has not enjoyed the best of health lately.

Barry "Bloss" Lawrence was over from the West doing an army school course at Pukapunyal for a fortnight. We had hopes of getting Bloss up to Bendigo but the schedule was too tight. I had the pleasure of having Bloss to lunch on Sunday of the weekend he arrived. He hasn't altered a scrap since I saw him last in Perth. Bloss saw Boy Coats and stayed with his folks over the weekend. Boy couldn't make the trip to Bendigo because of a wedding. Jim Wall and family were others who couldn't make the trip.

Well folks, that's all for now, so until next time, all the best—  
HARRY BOTTERILL.

★

Down Ozark way where love and shotguns follow like the night follows the day, they have an old saying: He who loves and runs away, will live to love another day.



## Random Harvest

**ARTHUR MARSHALL, of 7 Peet Street, Harvey, W.A., writes:—**

I believe that last year I sent my butts back too late for the draw, so this year I'm not going to miss out on a chance to take off the money. The extra is in case my subs are behind.

We've been rather busy since I last wrote and have had a very good season. I doubt if it could have been better. Baled more hay this season than ever before, and our sales of bulk super equipment is far and above what we expected. Our venture into Victoria looks like being very good.

Harry Botterill we look like paying you another visit this winter, and have hopes of going on to Sydney. Audrey and I are trying to find a real good excuse for making the trip and we think we can think up something that looks legitimate for spending our earnings.

The Hancocks came and spent a day and night with us recently. The two girls were running in our big sports day. We really enjoyed the time spent together and it was some pretty tired folks who finally turned in after swapping news of different ones for hours on end.

Those two girls of theirs sure burned around our oval. Between them I think they broke about five records.

I haven't seen any others of our chaps lately. Even at Country Week Cricket this year I seemed to miss everybody. I tried every drinking trough and even a couple of wine saloons, thought maybe Joe and Roy would be there, but you've either all died or are getting fit to join the army again. If only Griffin lived over here. There is one I could rely on, even if we brewed up a drop for ourselves.

What about the cricket match chaps? You're leaving things a bit late. Finals start down here in five weeks. Then the grounds are booked for both Saturday and Sunday. I would say in about three weeks time would be just the shot if you are coming. Fire hazards for the farmers would be easing off and there wouldn't be any excuse for the bushies not being at full strength.

**NORMA HASSON, of 6 Swan St., South Perth, W.A., writes:—**

Time marches on. Goodness, how quickly it does go by. Our holidays have been and gone and now it is time to start thinking about the next one—hence this letter.

Your Editorial in the October "Courier" suggested a trip East. It was then mentioned again at the Kattaning Convention. Jack and I are both very interested, but feel we would need at least four years to save our pennies.

I have always enjoyed the Country Conventions and so the idea of one to the East is very appealing. I am looking forward to hearing more about it and hope others feel the same as I do.

(Thanks a million, Norma, for your interest. I feel this Safari or Convention to our Eastern friends would be a terrific occasion. What about other wives having a say on this subject? —Ed.)

**SHORTY STEVENS, of Yallunda Flat, writes:—**

Find enclosed usual cheque and butts. I hope they arrive before your ulcers rupture.

Living in an isolated corner as I am I accumulate very little news and I used it all up last time.

Have had some really stinking weather lately and I can certainly sympathise with any of the Eastern Staters who are involved in the recent bushfires and I hope none of our chaps are involved in them. It is only now we are feeling the financial pressure of our fire with the lowered wool returns and no surplus sheep sales, etc., so here's hoping your sweep is successful for both of us.

The simple way is for me to take the book and it is done with.

Have been hopeful for some time of getting to the West to have a look around and never seem to be well enough organised but we have promised ourselves to try and make it in a couple of years—we hope!

A pat on the back and "Well done" for all you chaps who keep the Association going and the "Courier" coming.

**RUSS SYMONDS, of 11 Marne Rd., Albion, Qs., writes:—**

Enclosed please find sweep butts and cheque to cover same and subs.

Thanks for the wonderful job you chaps in the West are doing with the "Courier". It is still the best reading we get.

With us at present we have a boy from your fair State. He is over here playing in the Schoolboys Interstate Cricket Carnival. If they make them all the size of this lad in the West they must be giants. He is 13 years of age, 5ft. 10in. and weighs over 12 stone. Makes my young fellow look like a weed.

I am still travelling all over the State, should have been over in the West while I had the chance. Doubt if I will get the chance again.

Kindly pass on all my good wishes to the boys over there.

**W. D. HUDSON, of P.M.G. Staying Party, Kalgoorlie, W.A., writes:**

Have just received the books of tickets and seeing I am in the middle of the Nullabor I will take the books myself. Kangaroos and rabbits are not too sociable and are not in the mood to buy tickets.

Have been in South Australia until the end of January but am now working back towards Kalgoorlie. Should be there in about two months, and a few more shekels in the bin.

Regards to all the boys and am sorry to hear about the sad demise of Mick. Sorry I could not be there before he went.

**DOUG FULLARTON, of Northcliffe W.A., writes:—**

Herewith enclosed money for tickets in sweep, as usual a little late.

Nothing of note happening in this neck of the woods. Imbibing the usual amount of the amber fluid but failing to increase the waistline.

Will be in Perth over Easter and will call around. Intended doing so last Christmas but the heat interfered with my sense of direction.

**JOE TELL, of 8 Carrington Ave., Mordale, N.S.W., writes:—**

Just a short note to let you

know things are pretty good with me at the present time. Good health and on holidays. Am sending back butts and money, and also a donation. I am now financial with Victoria and N.S.W., but how am I with you?

We had a very distinguished guest over here from Victoria, Bert Tobin, 2/2 Sqd. We welcomed him at Arncliffe R.S.L.. Seven of us were there to meet him, Jack Hartley, Jim English, Ron Hilliard, R. V. Harris, Bill Coker, Snow Went and Joe Tell. We all had a very good time. We were trying Bert out on our pints.

We are ringed with bush fires up here. Still no sign of rain yet.

I had a very good time in Victoria at Wilsons Prom. at the unveiling. Alfred Dos Santos and myself got a photo taken with Geof Laidlaw. There was only Alf and me down there from New South Wales but we met a lot of 2/2nd boys down there.

I send my very best wishes to you and all the boys.

**TONY ADAMS, of Quay Street, Rockhampton, Qs., writes:—**

Just a note in haste to enclose sweep tickets and also a cutting from the "Courier Mail" re Bill Tomassetti.

Had a very pleasant few hours with Joe Palm and his wife at Yippon early in January and expect to see them again soon.

Phoned Peter Hearle last week when I was in Brisbane for a week and he is very busy.

Sorry this is so rushed but will pen you a decent one in due course.

**Press Cutting:  
"New Flavour" For Language in New Guinea**

New Guinea's future language may well be something that is between English and Pidgin—with a "flavour all of its own," a leading linguist from Port Moresby said in Brisbane yesterday.

He is Mr. Bill Tomassetti, the official interpreter in the Papua-New Guinea House of Assembly.

He said: "Most people must be able to speak English in New Guinea now, if they want to get on. New Guinea people insist that their children learn English at school.

"At the moment there are 700 different languages throughout the



territory. In addition there are English, Pidgin and Motu.

"Most people in New Guinea speak their own language plus one of these other three.

"Pidgin itself probably will evolve in the direction of English. I think the English will take a 'Territory' flavour, the same as the English of the West Indies has taken on a local flavour."

Mr. Tomasetti said Motu, the language of Papua, probably would continue in existence "as far into the future as anyone can predict".

Mr. Tomasetti, 46, comes originally from Melbourne, but has lived in New Guinea for many years.

He is studying several Arts subjects at Queensland University while on leave from the P.N.G. Administration for a year. He also will teach Motu, the newest addition to the university's languages curriculum.

**BERNIE LANGRIDGE, of Box 41, Donnybrook, W.A., writes:—**

Herewith sweep butts. One complete book has been purchased by the Langridge family and the other one by the 2/2nd family. Only the first ticket in each book has the purchaser's name and address on it hope this will suffice.

Re my long overdue letter to the "gang" I am afraid that will be further postponed until the end of the fruit season which promises to be even more hectic than usual. In fact the town is taking on panic atmosphere as though an approaching disaster is imminent and perhaps the disaster will prove to be a shortage of willing hands.

**HAPPY GREENHALGH, of P.O. McLean, N.S.W., writes:—**

Enclosed an extra quid for funds. Have now settled in at Maclean and enjoying the coast. Have seen Alan Luby recently and he is looking as well as ever. Played bowls against him as a matter of fact in a President's day at Grafton. Met George Mathieson too for the first time in 20 years and must say he has weathered well. Ron Orr is well and getting fatter every time I see him. This is quite a change to see old mates again after many years in the wilderness.

I would appreciate you noting my change of address if it has not

already been done and also letting me have a copy of the Address Book of which I missed out in the original issue.

**EDDIE MILLS, of 27 Anne Street, Southport, Queens., writes:—**

Please find enclosed butts and money for the sweep tickets.

Well, it has taken me 20 years to get the death adder from the pen to get in touch with you. I really look forward to getting the "Courier" each month and reading about all that's going on. I had a few sessions with Basher Adams before he was transferred to Rockhampton, but I never see any of the other boys. At the moment I am busy doing up my boat to go out fishing.

Hope this finds you in good health.

**P. DORHAM, of 6 Lagoon Street, West Pt. Hy., Queens., writes:**

Please find attached money for tickets and "Courier". Sorry if too late for sweep. Been working up country. Only get to civilisation every 14 days. All the best.

**BILL BENNETT, of South Creek Road, De Why, N.S.W., writes:**

Find enclosed cheque and butts for sweep. Will drop a few lines later but at present am tied up for a couple of weeks with principals from England and Japan.

Regards to all.

**M. FIELD, of 206 Hudson Parade, Taylors Point, Avalon, N.S.W., writes:—**

Herewith butts re Sydney Cup and cheque to cover same plus a small donation to the stamp box.

**LES COLLINS, 128a Dowling St., Potts Point, Sydney, writes:—**

Here you will find butts and money for tickets. I'm sorry you could not have sent me more, next time will do. Will write a longer letter next time.

**J. CHALWELL, of Muntadgin, writes:—**

Just a short note on return of tickets in sweep, plus the money enclosed.

Being a member of the Salvation Army puts the "taboo" sign on sweeps of any description, hence the reason for their return unsold.

However don't let this deter you when trying to raise a few bob for "kitty". I don't mind putting in from time to time. We make enough for three meals a day, in spite of the fact that we have five kids to feed, plus a little for extras.

Many thanks to Sprocko, whom I met at the Royal Show, for having the Association paper sent on. After 20 years some of the names mentioned take a bit of recalling. I think that meeting Harry at the last Show was the first time in seven years that I have come across any known 2/2 member, prior to that Jack Carey would be the last, whilst we were living in Fremantle. Usually around Christmas time Keith Wilson and self manage to get a letter to each other. Hear reports of drought over in N.S.W. Hope it doesn't hit Keith too hard. Believe he scratches gravel to make ends meet.

Give my regards to any you may meet who will remember the name "Tich" of No. 9 Section.

**FRED OTTWAY, of 98 Wecker Rd., Mt. Gravatt, writes:—**

It's a long time since I wrote, and time marches on. Young Geoff is an apprentice electrician, and the two girls are at high school. We have two oil refineries nearing completion, and they have buried a capsule depicting life in Queensland, which if it is ever found again, will have future generations thinking how odd a world we lived in. It is supposed to be dug up in a hundred years' time, but they are a moral to lose track of where they buried it.

Shortly it seems as though we will have natural gas piped down from Roma. Things are going ahead in Queensland. I don't have to rely on tank water any more. I don't see anyone except Bill Connell and Eddie Timms occasionally. I might be lucky to get over to the West one day. I'll get a bit of compensation out of this accident. I haven't been to the home State since 1943 when I was on leave.

Yesterday I went and watched the American girls play Queensland softball. The American girls handled the ball just like men, both in catching and throwing. They would have beaten us in New

Guinea, if we had played them, instead of the Yankee service men at Geroka.

I am learning contract bridge. It is vastly different to auction bridge. I have been trying to find bridge players for years, both in Sydney and Brisbane. No one plays at all except a few. I think of all the bridge we played in the Unit. I just stumbled upon a bridge club by chance.

Well, I hope this fills a few paragraphs. You have a thankless job which you are fulfilling splendidly and your efforts are appreciated. It's nice to hear of the old gang even if occasionally.

**MRS. R. STANTON, 30 Parsons Way, North Inaloo, W.A., writes**

Please find enclosed butts and money for tickets sold. Both myself and husband were only too pleased to help. We appreciate what your Association is doing for the boys that have sacrificed their lives and may God bless you all for it.

**JIM SMAILES, of Shark Bay Salt Pty. Ltd., P.O. Shark Bay, W.A., writes:—**

It is with great regret that I must formally resign from the Committee of the 2/2nd Association. I should have written to you much earlier but I did not want to make any statement on the matter until I had made up my mind about several things, and taken action.

Ever since I came back from Malaya I have been getting about over much of the State investigating several things of interest to a few mining and industrial people. There have been some very interesting developments out of them, and the one that has fallen my way is up at Shark Bay, out on the outer penninsular almost to Dirk Hartog Island. It is a subsidiary company of the Adelaide Steamship Co. and of course in a very secure financial position. The aim is to produce salt from the sea by solar evaporation and in quantities in excess of 1,000 tons per day. They have a huge programme lined up and will be spending about £1,000,000 before production is commenced in about 12 months time. Much of this has already been spent on earthworks,

power house, houses, mess and general living facilities. It is some 105 miles off the main Perth to Carnarvon road, by a reasonable road.

We employ about 70 men at present but this will be reduced when all construction work is finished. We are building a long jetty and ship loader at present capable of loading a ship at about 700 tons per hour. It is very closely related to mining in many ways especially the grade control and shift working. They have offered me the management of the whole show as far back as last October, and on some very attractive terms. It has taken some time to work out all pros and cons but I have accepted and have been resident up here since the New Year.

I get to Perth every so often but at no regular times. My wife comes up for short visits, also my children when they are home. The two boys are both in the army for six years and are doing well. The elder one is off to Malaya in June for two years. Our daughter Anne pulled off seven subjects out of seven in her Junior and is going on to Leaving.

This is a very interesting operation and on a scale which staggers you at first sight. There are over 2,000 acres of ponds open to evaporation. The return is about one ton of salt from 50 tons of water. This area was selected because of the low rainfall and flat areas close to the sea. We are pumping sea water at the rate of 15,000 gals a minute. The market is Japan's chemical industry, hence the shipping eye to freight.

Well, more next time, and regards to all and any of the lads you see about town. 23 years today since our baptism of fire.

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

Enclosed butts and cash. One way and another I get a lot of raffle tickets coming my way from various organizations I'm interested in—suppose it's the same with you—and most of the time it's easiest to take all the tickets myself. So I've had a little rubber stamp made with my name and address to plonk on the butts and save my rather laboured handwriting.

Since I last wrote to the "Courier" I've changed my little newspaper to a tabloid. You'll recall that my wife and I have a little country weekly in Central Queensland. Well at last we've made the change from the broadsheet size to the easier-handled tabloid. We're still fiddling with little changes, and the blasted second-hand folding machine I had to buy is still giving a lot of trouble, but overall I'm pleased with the result.

In changing we narrowed our columns from 13 ems to 9 ems wide (columns in the West Australian are 10½ ems). One effect of this is that some advertisers whose agents send me stereotypes now have to occupy seven columns width whereas they could formerly fit into five, so that means more income. Rather to my surprise, none of my advertisers had complained that he now pays as much as before for depth, but gets less width for the same money. Still, the narrow width columns and small pages are so standard now that I can point to hundreds of other papers in which the same conditions apply.

I've added a quid to the raffle cheque, annual subscription, and balance to any good purpose.

**JACK PENGLASSE, 18 Queen St., Bentley, W.A., writes:—**

A note in apology for not being at the tribunal. I hope Jack Hasson passed on the message. I think you will understand that I had to play safe starting my new job but I didn't stop to think when I agreed to be there. However, you apparently did a sterling job without me. From Melbourne I quote: The appeal against Repatriation Commissions Determination in respect of "Loose Body Right Elbow Joint" has been allowed as from 9/10/1963. All I can say is "Thanks a million".

I will not be able to attend a meeting until April on account of shift work but will be seeing you before then I believe.

**LES W. ISENHOOD, of 9 Eveleen Street, Cardiff, writes:—**

It is quite a long time since I last put my pen to work. It is not that I have forgotten my war time companions, rather the opposite.

However, it may always be a hard road that I walk and as it is a straight and honest one I'll always have people trying to change my ideals.

Since my trip to Melbourne two years ago have had a spell of not so good health. Hope that is now behind me again. Really did enjoy that visit and found majority of the boys I met unchanged. Hope to call there again in the near future years.

This New Year found me in Queensland and had previously sent Hooper a card we would call. Unfortunately when we reached Roma he could not be found. It was 460 miles from Toowoomba and back. So we beat it back next morning. As Toowoomba is up about 5,000 feet it was a pleasant place to stay. Some places do not cater for campers and so did not stay in some of the towns where some of the boys live.

We did however, stay at Grafton a few days and so was very happy to see Allan Luby and his pleasant wife and daughter. Had a really good yarn to them covering many phases of life both past and a good deal on children, schooling, etc. Allan also says he may fluke a visit to Perth for Legacy. Good luck Allan, hope you make it.

Also met Ron Orr who was at work by chance as he was on holidays. He had to pick twice as to whom I was.

My family is growing up. Eldest is 17 and passed her leaving last year and Vicki June is now waiting to enter Royal Newcastle Hospital as a nurse in May. Second eldest passed her inter at 15 and did not wish to go on at school so Dianne Gay is a shop assistant and is doing well. Really likes her job. Next daughter is Gail Merry 14, and passed her inter last year and hopes to go on after this year. Time will tell if she is suited. Last daughter Leone Wendy, 12, started high school this year.

Met Charlie Williams last Anzac Day and few of them were trying to get a Commando Association going but they won't have much luck there. There is a couple of others in Newcastle now I must look up.

Still working at Newcastle Technical College as a storeman on

electrical, radio, T.V., and electronics practical classes.

For quite some time they have been trying to compel me to leave because I am a pensioner.

Christmas before last Jim Walls sent me a card but addressed it to Des so I didn't know about it for some time. Recollect Jim?

Am doing some repairs to my house, partly new roof, renovating walls, getting ready for painting, inside, also some rooms.

Have been shocked at the deaths of some of the old boys. I guess one just never knows.

Harry Botterill showed us some close up slides of all you chaps and they were terrific. Some almost looked tamed, of the boys I mean.

We are having a bad time through drought in all the East coast and so bushfires are bad.

Will fix up tickets also. Leaving you, please remember me to all and sundry.

**JACK HARRISON, P.O. Box 271, Bega, N.S.W., writes:—**

Thanks for sending me the book. You will note my change of address. One of these days I will drop you a line with a spot of news. I am going home to N.Z. for four months leave next month so maybe when I come back.

Give my regards to all the boys.

**CHARLIE SADLER, of Box 108, Wongan Hills, W.A., writes:—**

Received sweep tickets and am returning same with cheque.

We spent our annual holidays at Busselton this year. Had a very quiet time and really appreciated the nice cool weather down there. Saw Fred Napier on the way home and I must say he looks very well.

We are in the middle of shearing at present and I don't think the dip will be as good as last year, nor will the price.

Hope to see you in August.

★  
Optimist—a man who marries his secretary and thinks he will continue dictating to her.

Diamonds don't grow on trees but the right kind of limbs get them.

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

## Heard This?

The ship had been torpedoed and sunk. When the smoke and panic had cleared away four men found themselves alone in an open boat. Being typically English and rather upper class, nobody spoke, mainly because nobody had introduced them. After some 30 days had passed and conditions became rather grim, the senior man took it upon himself to introduce himself and break the strain.

"Well, gentlemen, I think under the circumstances we should make ourselves known to each other," he began. "My name is Smyth-Smyth, Admiral of the Fleet, K.C.-M.G., V.C., D.S.O. At present First Sea Lord. Married, two sons, following the Navy naturally, and officers of course."

"Am glad to know you," spoke up the second man. "The name is Smyth-Brown, Field Marshal, K.C.-M.G., D.S.M., M.C. At present Chief of the General Staff. Married, two sons, Army naturally, and officers of course."

"Pleased to know you gentlemen," began the third man. "My name is Smyth-Jones, Air Marshal,

D.S.O. and Bar, D.F.C. and Bar, etc. At present Chief of Bomber Command. Married, three sons, naturally following the Air Force traditions, and officers of course."

"The name is Smith," spoke up the fourth man. "Pte. Bill Smith, of the Australian Army, doing 90 days detention, V.D. Batchelor, three sons, one in each service, officers of course."

\* \* \*

Honeymoon over when man who whispered sweet nothings now say nothing sweet.

\* \* \*

Adultery—two right people doing the wrong thing.

\* \* \*

### ONLY ONCE

He pulled his car over to the side of the lonely road and listened intently to the engine for a few minutes. Finally he said to his shapely blonde companion: "I wonder what that knocking could be?"

"Maybe," she suggested, "it's opportunity."

## Remember These . . .

### LADIES' NIGHT

BASEMENT ANZAC HOUSE  
SATURDAY, 3rd APRIL, 1965

This will be a good old time get together and a great night's enjoyment is assured. Don't forget this is for your wives so make sure you book her up good and early. You are also advised that due to proximity to the usual meeting this will be **Cancelled on Tuesday, April 6.**

### ANZAC DAY

SUNDAY, 25th APRIL

Usual procedure. Make it the best roll up ever.

### SWEEP

Let those butts returned to the Organiser, Box T1646 as soon as possible and certainly before **April 14th, 1965**