



# 2/2 COMMANDO COURIER

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## *Editorial*

### **Are You Being A Fool To Yourself?**

This editorial is being written with the prime motive of bringing before members their potential entitlement under the Repatriation Act. If you are not taking full advantage of your potentiality then you are robbing yourself and your family.

The Repatriation Dept. exists to assist ex-servicemen with their problems both medical and with rehabilitation. This article will deal only with the medical side.

When most of our members were demobilised they couldn't shed the uniform quick enough to get back to civilian life. Most were still very young and appeared to be very fit thanks largely to rigorous training and to the stabilised habits of army life. Too often minor disabilities were forgotten and no record was made of them on discharge in the unseemly haste to don civilian clothes. Too often these disabilities have made themselves manifest a few years afterwards and have not

been reported to the Repat. Dept.

These are the things which now are proving to be of great and minor disadvantage to the sufferer, and for which he may have an entitlement under the Repat. Act.

Such things as fibrositis, arthritis, ulcers of all descriptions both external and internal, skin complaints, nervous disorders are all potentially saleable to the Repat.

With the passing of time, naturally the disability becomes more difficult to get across to the Repat. but it is not impossible.

The initial steps are up to the member. He must go to the Department and file a claim. This is investigated by the Repat. Board, who either accept or decline the claim as being due or attributed to war causes. Should the Repat. Board decline to accept the claim the member has recourse to the Repat. Commission by appeal. The Commission like the Board, can accept or decline the claim.

This is NOT the end of the road

## **BUCKS' NIGHT**

**ANZAC HOUSE BASEMENT**

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7th**

Bring a friend if you so desire  
and have a great Pre-Christmas Party with the boys

as the member still has a further chance to prove his case to the Entitlements Tribunal which is an independent body comprising a barrister as chairman, a member nominated by ex-service organisations and a member nominated by the Repat. Dept. At this stage the member is entitled to be represented by an advocate who shall not be a member of the legal profession. Here the member has his chance to get the full story of his disabilities aired before an independent body and possibly refute any anomalies present in the Repat. case for rejection of his claim.

Do not be deterred by the fact that your file with the Repat.—and everybody serving has a file with that department—is a slim one. The onus of proof is distinctly upon the Repat. to show that your disability was not due to causes of war service.

In the case of our Unit medical history is not well recorded due to the areas of service and the distances usually found to the R.M.O. or R.A.P. This plus the rigours of the campaigns and the length of time served against the enemy are very much in your favour. Remember our service against the Japanese is by far a record.

If you are at present suffering some disability which you think could be attributed to your war service get cracking with an application. The longer the application is delayed the more difficult it becomes to prove your point.

Officers at the Repat. Dept. are always most helpful in getting your case under way so don't let wrongful thoughts of potential red tape deter you. It costs you exactly nothing to have a go and remember you are helping yourself and also your family by having your disability accepted.

## West Australian Whisperings

### Association Activities

#### PICNIC FOR SISTER KATE'S CHILDREN AT WYENING

This was a fabulous success. The weather was particularly kind to us and the children had a marvelous day out. The children were picked up at the Home at 8.30 a.m. by bus driven by Clarrie Varian and what a driver! His patience and ability with children is amazing. We had hardly left the Home when we passed Sole Bros. Circus on the move and to see and hear the kids cheer and yell as they passed three truck loads of animals was wonderful.

The trip to Reg Harrington's farm was largely unevenful and most speedy as the 88 miles was covered in just over 2½ hours and those of our members who left after the bus with the intention of catching it at Toodyay were in a bundle of trouble.

On arrival at the farm we were

met by Reg and Dot Harrington and their family and members of the local Junior Farmers of Bolgart. The children of course, immediately ran riot for about half an hour just to stretch their legs. They spread over a few hundred acres in a matter of seconds.

Reg then proceeded to give them rides on a special box on the three point linkage behind his tractor. This proved to be most popular and some of the little ones had as many as four consecutive rides before they could be prized out to the box. Their faces had to be seen to be believed.

In the meanwhile the women folk were preparing lunch of hot dogs for the kids. When this appeared it was a sight for sore eyes to see the speed with which they lowered the scrum.

After lunch a member of the local Junior Farmers put on a motor bike scramble exhibition even including a jump through a burning wall to the huge delight of the children. This was followed by a bus trip to Reg's personal lagoon

and to see and chase a mob of 2½ thousand sheep to try and catch a couple of woollies. This was great fun for the kids but not so good for Reg's sheep some of whom finished up in the lagoon.

The next demonstration was the shearing of the woollie which had been caught. This always is enjoyed by children.

Then a return to the homestead and further rides on the tractor until it was time for the barbecue tea. This is where the hollow legs of children became really apparent as they lowered vast quantities of chops and sausages and bread and butter. One young chap was smeared in grease from the back of his neck to the tip of his nose, and right up to the elbows, and his trousers also were liberally smeared with fat. The ladies supplied cakes and boiled eggs which also went off in a matter of minutes.

Reg's youngest lad had a project of his own. He supplied three comics for each child (50 children in all) and this was a very fine effort for such a young lad and he is to be highly commended for his effort.

The children departed for home at 5.30 p.m. and arrived back at 8 p.m. As stated earlier a truly wonderful day.

Members and their wives rallied to the cause and they too had a great day and their festivities went on for some time after the children departed.

The local Junior Farmers had adopted Sister Kate's Home as their annual project and a cheque for £16 was handed to Spriggy McDonald for passing on to the Home

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as a result of their efforts. This is a really wonderful effort from such a small group.

Our extreme thanks to Reg and Dot Harrington and family for being hosts to this project. They did a mighty job in every possible way. Thanks to Bolgart Junior Farmers for the part they played in the success of the day. Thanks to those who assisted in transporting the children, especially Clarrie Varian as driver and Spriggy McDonald on whom fell the main burden of looking after the children. Thanks to all the ladies of the Association who so wholeheartedly fell in with the scheme and provided eats and thanks once again to Jack Carey for supplying meat, apples, oranges for the show.

It is hoped that a similar project can be arranged again at some other venue in the not too far distant future.

#### LADIES' NIGHT NOV. 6, 1965

Due to the wonderful success of the previous Ladies' Night held in April, it was decided to try a second one in this year. This proved to be once again a most enjoyable evening and the only blot was that the attendance was not up to expectations. The only losers of course, were those who did not attend.

The evening went with a bang from the word go and once again it was wonderful to see so many dancing and having a great time. Syd Dixon and his friend on the sax who supplied the music, did a great job and Syd's ability to get the gang on the floor added immensely to the joy of the evening.

There was a new departure on this occasion in that a Ladies' Committee, headed by Norma Hasson and Jess Epps, arranged the catering, and boy, what catering!! It would have fed the famous 5,000 of biblical days. Food to burn and such gorgeous food. A great pity that there were not more to enjoy this supper. Our eternal thanks to all those ladies who assisted in this matter and we hope that we can use their services again in the future.

The show went on until the

very early hours of the morning and finished in a sing song.

Despite the relatively poor attendance I feel sure these functions should be repeated much more often as it allows the ladies to have a good time as well as ourselves and will eventually bind the ties of the Association more deeply together.

### DECEMBER MEETING

This will take the form of a Bucks Night at Anzac House Basement on Tuesday, Dec. 7 and members are permitted to bring a guest. A varied programme will be arranged and there will be fun and games for everyone.

This is your chance to come along and enjoy a pre-Christmas party with your mates. Mark the date firmly on your calendar—Tuesday, Dec. 7.

### Committee Comment

The usual monthly Committee Meeting was held at Anzac Club on Tuesday, Oct. 19, and the representation was again excellent the only absentee being your Secretary Fred Napier, who was still in Hollywood Hospital.

The major business of the evening was the final arrangements for the trip by Sister Kate's Home to Reg Harrington's and for Ladies' Night to be held on Nov. 6. These took a considerable portion of the evening.

Arrangements were also made to survey our area in Kings Park with a view to raising the level of all sprinklers to 3 inches above the surface. This work to be carried out as soon as possible.

It was decided to investigate the possibility of insuring Bill Epps against damage to passers-by while mowing at Kings Park as the new mower was most powerful and sent debris flying at great speed.

Members felt that the scheme of visiting members who had not attended for some time should be continued and a further visit to a member was arranged.

It was reported that the Victorian Branch had acquiesced regarding the Great Safari and it now appeared positively certain that this event would take place some time in 1968.

### Personalities

It is with extreme regret that we have to announce the passing of our good member Jim Corney on Nov. 1, 1965. Jim had been in ill health for some time and this had forced his early retirement from work some five years ago. He was 67 when he passed away. Jim was a good worker for the Association in its early years and was our second Vice President, taking over from John Burridge when John was elected President. Over recent years he was not able to help us much due to his bad heart condition and the fact that his eyes had failed badly. Jim was along with Dr. Dunkley the only veterans of World War I in our original ranks. He was joined later of course by Jim Griffin who was also a veteran of two wars. Jim was a really top grade soldier and did wonderful work on Timor with Headquarters of "A" Platoon as Capt. Baldwin's aide. He had a wisdom all his own and brought a steadying influence to bear on all the young chaps who came under his influence. His gentleness of nature endeared him to all and for sure he had not an enemy in the world. It is most sad to have once again to record the passing of our veteran members but time has a way of catching up and we can but say Vale Jim Corney, soldier, gentleman and gentle soul, who was a friend to all.

Cliff Paff had a wonderful time

As there will be no issue of the "Courier" in December  
We Take This Opportunity of Wishing Everyone  
A MIGHTY CHRISTMAS  
and A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

in W.A. Got around more than most W.A. types do in a life time. He got to Geraldton where he met Eric Smythe, Bill Drage, Bruss Fagg and Nip Cunningham and was taken around by Eric and Bill and saw quite a bit of the hinterland. Tom Nisbet took him through the York-Northam area to have a look see. Yours Truly had a most interesting couple of hours with him discussing many things of importance to the Association in general. He, was Fred Sparkman's guest on a couple of occasions. It was with regret that we could not arrange an Association get-together for him but it was a sheer case of availability of Cliff himself. He met so many of the gang that a get-together was a bit superfluous. Cliff is another great advocate of the Address Book which he says has proved invaluable.

Good to see Charlie Gorton and his wife having a marvellous time at Ladies' Night. Charlie says other commitments keep him away from most of our shows but he

really likes to make it for Ladies' Nights.

Don Hudson tells me he is now being transferred to the city with the P.M.G. and we hope to see plenty of him at Association affairs in the near future.

Yours Truly had a wonderful week as guest of Don and Vida Turton down on the farm. Plenty of work but this was good for the constitution after a pretty hectic four weeks holiday.

Pleased to record that Fred Napier is now out of hospital and back at work. Says he feels considerably better.

Merv Ryan has also recovered from his illness and it was pleasing to see him and Dulcie able to make Ladies' Night. Merv is not yet back at work but hopes to return very soon.

It is with regret we have to advise of the death of the father of Tony Bowers during the month. We extend our sincere sympathy to Tony in his sad loss.

## Historically Yours!

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Vol. 1. No. 2.

26th December, 1943

Nett Sales: 500,000,000,000,000

Printed and published at the office of the proprietors:  
No. 1 "The Mudhole", Flats, Skeeter Avenue, Stinkpot.

We "X", "Y" and "Z" take this opportunity to wish all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

### "THE TANGIBLE SPIRIT"

Have you ever tried to visualise the personality of God? It is a fruitless task. The imagination breaks down when it tries to give God a form. "God is a Spirit." When we endeavour to conjure up a portrait of God, our thoughts crystallise into the figure of what

we think Christ was like. That is sufficient. The purpose of the incarnation has been served. The word became flesh—Behold a Virgin shall be with Child, and shall bring forth a son and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, "God is with us". Each Christmas reminds us of the gesture of God in revealing Himself to man in Christ. And Christ came expressly to show the height and depth of the Love of

God. What more winsome and appealing fashion could he have chosen than that of a babe! No other character so alive and stimulates attitudes of reverence, allegiance and inspiration. Milton stated "I do not praise a fugitive and cloistered virtue that never sallies forth to meet its adversary, but slinks out of the race when that immortal garland is to be run, for, not without dust and heat." Christmas is a witness to the love of God that would refuse to be cloistered, but walked in the dust and heat with mankind.

"And the Shepherds returned glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen."

We pray that the escophonous

rumblings of war will soon break into the melody of the Angels, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace, goodwill towards men."

The Season's Compliments to the 2/2 Aust. Cav. (Commando) Sqn. —The Padre.

### DEE DIX

Insult me with your knotty problems. Let Dee Dix unravel 'em for you.

My girl is about to become a mother. What shall I do? "Disillusioned."

So are lots of other fella's. Go west, young man, go west! The Yanks took over, let 'em take that over too. Dee Dix.

Pictorial  
Supplement



LADIES  
OUT OF  
UNIFORM.....

Cynthia



When shall we get leave?

—"Hopeful".

Mr. Forde has the answer and the situation is in hand. It's up to FAWD! Rumor from No. 5 seat, which has such notanilities as Churchill and MacArthur in attendance. They say ??? What no chain? —Dee Dix.

I have a cold, but can you tell me—what are TWACKS?

Wails wot twams wun on. (I've got a cold in der dose too.) —Dee Dix.

Who shot — Black Bess?

—"Query".

Ask Bray. —Dee Dix.

What would you suggest, as a light Christmas dinner? Commodities are so hard to obtain during war time. —"Quisine".

Consomme, bouillon, hors d'oeuvres, fricasse poulet, pommes de terre au gratin, denitasse des glaces, plonk de plink. —Dee Dix.

### OVERHEARD

#### Or The Sergeant's Dilemma

The guard, after a successful purge: "I say Cliffe. How do these laxatives work? Do they loosen the exreta or—?"

"Er, hardly."

"Well! What is it?"

"It's a case of internal combustion old man—when a solid turns into a gas you know."

"Is that how it works? I thought perhaps there was an acid in the stomach and it formed a gas and pushed so that —"

"You know old man, you hardly want to know. The main thing is you had a good —."

"Er!"

"But I suppose you like to know the horse you are buying!"

"That's right. Just wanted to know how the body beautiful works."

"My boy, a little knowledge is a dangerous thing."

"But, Cliffe. Don't you think it is better than none?"

"Er! Well when I was on the other island . . ."

"I think I'll wake the other guard now."

If you suffer from skin blemishes, runs at night, severe headaches or other such ailments, don't use harsh purgatives, consult: "WEE of the A.I.F." by DocMac. 2/6 at all leading book sellers. —(Adv.)

Have you blond troubles? If so, visit the Dixon Gallery of the world's leading lovelies. Silver coin admission. Pay at the gate. —(Adv.)

### POPULAR SAYINGS

(By Wouldn't You Like To Know)

#### "A" Troop:

Blue Reid: Wait till I get my new ivorys.

Slim Holden: You — old Doodler.

Tran Sec.: — our Allies Defence pits.

Alf Harper: When I was in New Caledonia.

Doc Wheatley: When I was roo shooting.

Padre: Where's my — Comforts issue? When I was in the Middle East.

Doug Full.: Where's my whatsiname whatsiname?

#### Sapper Section:

Ebony Epps: I give the strip away.

Jack Humph.: Niggle. Niggle. Rptd. Niggle. Niggle.

Paddy Wilby: Do you know Ted —

Bluey Pender: You can all write to my girl.

Smasho: Get the rent. Get the rent. Lawks, but he looks a bit spud diggerish.

Gigo: Bill take your finger out of my orifice.

Lieut. Latts: About that boomph on the strip.

#### "C" Troop:

Bomber: Particularly bandy legged.

Bash: You terrible —.

Bertie: I take a poor view of that.

Drage: Blah, Blah, Blah.

Tom Tiern: The man's a flip. I'll tell you why.

Articles by certain contributors have been held over till next week's issue. We are very pleased with the response for articles. Thanks, and keep it up. —Editor.



**MY DAZE**

Who stole the Adj't's soap? It's not the soap that worries him, but the betrayal of the trust he held for those around him. But then every dog has his day. Ho! Ho!

Flash from the M.O. — The practice of the dropping of the drawers, woollen; or drawers, cotton, among the troops will cease forthwith. The rumour that this is a certain cure for dysentery is entirely without foundation.

'Tis said that a certain ex-member of the First A.I.F. on returning from a fairly trying patrol recently, proved his manhood, by having two repeat two dreams, and both in the one night. Nice work, if you can get it.

The Loch Ness monster has been sighted in Ye Stream near H.O. Every evening regularly at 1645, this apparition appears, cascading water from its huge blond moustache.

Famous last words: "No! They aren't Zeros, they're Thunderbolts."

Have usini guy that bena bena? After that I'll go, definitely.

Yours for the asking,  
Fanny Ponsonby.

**L.I.E.S.**

(By Dorothy Gram Kirkwood)

**S.W.P.A.:**

From a lonely outpost of the forces holding the left flank of General Douglas Macarthur's S.W.-P. Command filtered the news of fresh harrassing blows on the sorely tried, ambush-bashed Japanese. Each blow brought more lines to the face of Singapore, Hong Kong veteran, now Kulau holding Kyato Bushido, took from only N to S Yoshiwara-Queen little blossom, it caused him to finger hari-kari samurai sword instead. Kyato Bushido looked to south saw mountains, jungle; Little Blossom quivered, saw figures creeping up to ambush, booby trap, cursed fate that brought ancestor loving hereto invincible Bushido in grim hide and seek with Owen gunning, death-defying, Commandos. Natives brought reports that Kesawai killer, five times wounded Capt. Dexter and his scouring troopers were

approaching in his area, were preparing to attack. Bushido felt one thousand stitched belt, sent for tanks, guns, men prepared to fight to the last. Wafina convulsing Blossom, looked at dirty pictures, shuddered, remembered atrocities, stories of six foot tall big limbed Australians. Bushido wept.

**Europe:**

From Bologne to Stomsk, liberty loving, Hun-hating millions waited with abated breath, from secret radios, newspapers, had come long awaited word "Prepare", long hidden guns were oiled, cleaned, bombs fused, airdrome defences mapped, road blocks prepared, any thing that might assist Allied troops, hinder Germans. By night swift planes of Air Marshall Harris's British and Tedder's Mediterranean Commands, flew over bitter Europe, dropped food, ammunition weapons, brought hope to Europe's oppressed millions. In Berlin sirens wailed, radios went off the air as throughout the Reich the dreaded warning "Enemy bombers approaching". War weary Berliners, unevacuated, covered in shelters, waited, remembered, Hamburg, Essen. Harris totalled month's bombing of Berlin 10,000 tons. A landing will be made in Europe within a year—or so.

**New Guinea:**

General Tom Blamey, popular Commander of 3 Aust. Div. fighting forces, was there in person to farewell the 7 Div. in their victorious drive on Kesawai, strategic bastion of the Japanese N.G. line. Soldiers cheered, hollered, "Good old Tom" as the debonair clear-eyed democratic commander of the Pacific Ground Forces farewelled the troops!!! Look after my boys, said he, amidst a shower of streamers, confetti, roses and tin hats. After seeing last man off the leader returned to his plane, the Aust. crew of which have sworn to do or die for him, returned to his H.O., issued instructions banning spirits, liquors, from N.G., regretted jungle juice was outside his jurisdiction. Offered final drink to war correspondents poured whiskey with own hand, said "Our Allies will always have 60,000 Aust. troops fighting alongside them.

Casualties will perhaps eat into this total but the remainder will fight on. This is war." Meanwhile Australian troops sweated, panted over ground littered by bones of slaughtered in Aust. ambush Japanese, Sept., 43, after fierce deadly fighting recaptured all enemy positions in and around Kesawai. Said Generalissimo MacArthur: "These Australians are magnificent, their women the finest on earth."

**East Asia:**

On the shores of the peaceful tropical Indian Ocean, fortune favoured Lord Lois (Dickie) Mountbatton, lately Commander-in-Chief Combined Operations, looked towards Burma, Malaya, prices in

game of war, remembered Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, reviewed blitz-copying Wavell's past year's work, saw two million Indians under arms vast airfields, store dumps, picked British soldiers poised on the border, awaited Dickie's "Go in you fellows and - er - do 'em."

**Action:**

This week campaigning weather started, British troops poured over the border, made stab at Terkhan. Japanese rushed reinforcements, planes to threatened points while world waited for the results of drive that could shorten war by year. To questions about the duration of the war, cracked Dickie: "I say, give a Japanese-o one."

## Victorian Vocal Venturings

General Annual Meeting was held at Bert Tobin's office on Thursday, Oct. 14, at 8 p.m. Present were Bert Tobin (in chair), Bill Tucker, Jim Robertson, Johnny Roberts, George Veitch, Alan Munro, John Southwell, Jim Wall, George Kennedy and Harry Botterill. Apologies were received from Bernie Callinan, Smash Hodgson, Bruce McLaren and George Robinson.

A very disappointing roll up but we have come to expect this. It's still the same old few doing the work for the benefit of all and it is about time some of the boys really had a big think about this and pitched in and supported the die-hards.

Reports were received from President, Treasurer and Commando Delegate. The usual workmanlike years activities were reported with the highlight being the better attended Anzac Day Re-union and it is hoped that we can hold and improve this attendance in the future.

As can be expected with such a small attendance the election of office bearers was a mere formality. The same ones were elected to do the same jobs. Perhaps this may be taken as a compliment but for my book it is a matter of disinter-

est or afraid to hop in and help out. Our greatest asset is that the ones who are doing the jobs really do it because of their love of our Unit and while this is so we will keep on functioning as an Association.

In general business the proposed safari from the West to the East was discussed and it was unanimously decided that we would welcome anybody who made the trip and that we would look after them—but suggesting that the months of March, April and May would be more suitable weatherwise.

Arrangements were put in hand for the Cup Sweep drawing on Thursday, Oct. 28, at Commando Drill Hall, and we hope that we are going to get a much better roll up than last year.

It was decided that we would forego the Christmas Party at Bonbeach as our numbers are dwindling as the children grow up and we would have a family outing barbecue style to the Yan-Yangs on Sunday, Nov. 28. Members will be advised of this.

Meeting ended at 11.45 p.m.

I have just had a very pleasant holiday up north, staying with Happy and Rene Greenhalgh at Maclean, and while up there tak-

ing a quick look at the gold coast to see the difference in the place now as to when we were there during our stay at Canungra.

I went up the back way through Parks and Hamworth and Armidale to Glen Innes then across to Grafton and Maclean, returning via the coast road all the way back.

We were unlucky with the weather as it rained quite a lot, but it was a blessing to the people up there as they badly needed it.

Called in to see Jack Peattie at Tamworth. Was only to be for a short time but we had our wind-screen broken just out of Tamworth, and as it took a couple of hours to have it fixed we spent the time with Jack and family and it was very nice to see them as I had not seen Jack since the war.

Alan and Edith Luby were expecting us in Grafton and had a nice meal waiting for us and they also organised an evening while we were at Maclean so I could meet some of the boys and a very good night too. Don Orr and George Mathieson and their wives and Harry Fredericks were there. I had taken my slides of the Commonwealth Games Re-union trip and these with Happy's plus some of Ron Orr of a trip he had with his bowlers to Norfolk Island made it a very good night. We are very appreciative to both Alan and Edith because we struck them at a very hectic time. Alan is president of the Legacy and it was Legacy Week and they were very busy on various functions to raise money for this worthy cause and it was very nice to see that they raised more than they expected.

Hap and Rene gave us a wonderful time and as I had been promising to come up for years it was well worth it. Maclean is a very pretty spot and right on the Clarence River. We did a lot of fishing but unfortunately they had had a "fresh" just before we arrived and so we did not catch many fish but enjoyed trying.

I called in on Russ Blanche at Bangalow, had him really guessing to pick me but he made it. Looks a ball of muscle. Put on a little weight but just the same smiling Russ of old. He is settling in to his new business very well and with the help of his wife they are

thoroughly enjoying it. The country is very pretty around here and for my money is the pick of it. They missed out on the cyclone last Christmas and the drought has not affected it here as it has in other places. Russ sends his regards to all the boys. He hopes to make a trip with a party of bowlers to Albury next October but does not think time will permit him to make Melbourne.

On our way back we called in on the Eisenhoods at Newcastle. Just missed Les as he had left for work about half an hour before we arrived but saw Gloria and we spent a pleasant meal with her.

Had a half day in Sydney but it was a shocking day and rained all the time and was very glad to get out.

My only regret of the trip was that of 72 slides I took only three came out. A faulty camera caused this. I was very disappointed as I had taken photos of some of the boys and families and hoped to show the boys here.

Baldy and Vi Baldwin were up that way, stayed at Murwillumbah. Called in on Alan and Edith at Grafton but I did not see them. Also Max Davies called in on Hap on his way home from up there, the same morning as we were setting off to see the Gold Coast, so I saw them too. Max has had a transfer from Cobram to Stawell with his bank. Sam Fullbrook is migrating to Brisbane where he has been commissioned to do some portraits so he must be doing well as a painter.

Cliff Paff called in to Melbourne on his way to Perth to attend the Legacy Conference, and as Alan and Edith were over there too it is going to be a real medical re-union. Cliff was travelling round on the Orsova. Got in touch with Pete Krause so at quick notice met him at the London. Bert Tobin was there also but at such short notice could not raise any more, but as Cliff is coming back to Melbourne to take in the Cup we will all have a chance to meet him then as he hopes to be here for the Cup Sweep drawing on the Thursday night. Cliff is looking real well and I really enjoyed our few hours together.

#### A further letter from Harry reads:

We had a very successful Cup Sweep drawing night on Thursday, Oct. 28, at the No. 2 Commando Drill Hall. Our own numbers were not the best but we had a good roll up of No. 2 Commando boys plus a surprise re-union of boys off the Castlemaine, Armidale and Vigilant, the small boats which did such sterling service for us when we were on Timor. They numbered 26 and it was a great pleasure to have them with us. I believe Kev Curran had a hand in this re-union. Well Kev it was a terrific night and the boys enjoyed themselves tremendously. One of their number came all the way from Gympie, Queensland, to be in it. That is keenness.

The sweep itself was a great success. The sales were up all round. A special thank you to Kev Curran for his mammoth sales £37/10/. The belt goes to you, Kev.

Cliff Paff came back from the West in time for this show and met a few of the boys he had not seen for quite a while and also renewed acquaintances with some of the navy boys who were there.

Ken Monk made his usual trip down. Stayed the night with me, then up with the sparrows next morning to get home in time to do the milking.

A few names which come to mind: George Kennedy, Alf Grachan, George Robinson, Gerry O'Toole (the latest victim to take up bowling), Bert Tobin, Jim Wall, Alan Munro, Bernie Callinan, John Robertson, George Veitch, Jock Campbell, Bill Tucker, Dave Brown, Johnny Roberts, Mam Smith, Bluey Southwell. Apologies if I have missed anyone.

One of the boys off the Castlemaine (the one from Gympie) told me that a Dodd Clarke, of Townsville, passed away recently. He believes he was Koepang and joined up with us. Thought this may be of interest to us. Also a Bully Hayes manager of Commercial Bank at Rockhampton is alive and well and sends his regards to the boys.

We had a working bee at Elva Davidson's place on Sunday, Oct. 31, to knock the garden, etc., into shape. Wasn't the best of weather

but we got a lot done. Pete Krause brought Cliff Paff along. Even had him working in the afternoon. Bert Tobin, Jim Wall, Smash Hodson, Johnny Roberts and self made up the party. Elva and the girls are well and were very appreciative of the work done. There is still a big pile of firewood to be cut and stacked and we will do this early next year.

George Kennedy took Cliff out to Flemington for the Derby meeting and they did their money. Then Bert took Cliff to the Melbourne Cup where Cliff proceeded to do his money again. (Just as well he is a gentleman farmer.) I think perhaps Cliff was pleased to head off home again while he still has his shirt left, but it was good to see Cliff again and he enjoyed himself while with us.

Well folks, that's all the news for now so until next time cheerio and all the best.

—HARRY BOTTERILL.

## Heard This?

### THE NEXT ONE

One day an old itinerant umbrella mender brought his skeleton frames and tinkering tools into the alley of my office. As he sat on a box in the sun, mending the broken and torn umbrella, I noticed that he seemed to take unusual pains, testing the cloth, carefully measuring and strongly sewing the covers.

"You seem extra careful," I remarked.

"Yes," he said, working without looking up. "I try to do good work."

"Your customers would not know the difference until you were gone," I persisted.

"No, I suppose not."

"Do you ever expect to come back?"

"No."

"Then why are you so particular?"

"So that it will be easier for the other fellow—the next one who comes along," he answered simply.

### BIRTH OF A NATION

Birth statistics for last year indicated that a lot of people went stork mad.

## Random Harvest

**MAJOR STUART LOVE**  
D.S.O., M.C., C.deG., R.E.

When Independent Companies were being formed in 1940 Major Love gave to the training that mixture of old soldier practicability and inspired imagination that did so much to form the men who had the good fortune to go through "No. 7 Infantry Training Centre, Foster".

Major Stuart Gikison Love, Distinguished Service Order and Bar, Military Cross, Croix de Guerre avec palme and five times mentioned in despatches, did not need to recount his experiences to inform those under his command of his own powers of leadership and courage. The stories he told were always humorous and, usually, there was a lesson in them; and above all else, he taught us responsibility for our actions, even for our enjoyments in the mess.

Shining through his service activities and his guidance were the thoughts of a widely read and deeply cultured man. He had published a book of his poems in French and Spanish as well as English and they had an unexpectedly dominant note of gentleness about them.

He was an authority on the old English poet Chaucer and he often gave illustrated lectures on renaissance art having spent a considerable amount of time in Italy studying it with world authority.

Yet, coupled with this cultural background, was the man who led a small mining expedition through Arnhem Land in 1940 and whose report and maps were of value to those investigating the area 40 years later.

The great and personal interest he had in the West African natives who served under him on the Gold Coast just before World War 1 had grown into an understanding which he took particular pains to pass on to the companies that left Foster to go north. A talk he gave to us on the handling of natives, although not given with force was given with sincerity and obvious distilled wisdom, played a major part in shaping the success of Timor.

Major Love has gone, and am-

ongst his many achievements not the least is the great and good influence he had on those who had the privilege of coming under his command, or of knowing him.

The words he recited so often on Anzac Day in honour of others can be applied to few men better than to Stuart Love:—

"The whole earth is the tomb of heroic men—their story is not graven only on stone over their clay but abides everywhere, without visible symbol, woven into the stuff of other men's lives."

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

As the actress said to the Bishop this should be interesting as this is my first attempt to type a letter with the aid of a typewriter (ever tried it without one?). Are you readers lucky you don't have to read like I just typed.

Anzac Day has come and gone with the greatest roll up ever on this day including visitors at the March—40.

Later at Arncliffe R.S.L. six more arrived or were already there, which made it a really great day to say the least. Well here is the roll call and if I missed anyone I am sorry: S. Went, S. Weir, M. Mannix, P. Costello and father, D. Dixon, R. Goodachre, J. Fenwick, L. Collins, T. Yates, B. Coker, T. Field, T. O'Brien, E. Herd, J. Hartley, F. O'Neil, B. Bennet, J. Tell, N. Buckman, A. De Santos, R. Hilliard, E. Chapman, F. Press, N. Bray, R. Martin, P. Kenneally, J. Kenahan, J. Hallinan, J. Smith alias Bolt Head, J. English, J. Cullen, B. Hoy, R. Trengrove. This is the roll for the march. The visitors were as follows: V. Coleman, W. Hodgson, A. Perry, F. McAffrey, B. Ellis, C. Elvin, D. Costello.

You won't believe me but the above has taken me one hour to type. Cor, what a caper it will take me a week to write a page, by then I will have forgotten who I am writing to.

The Weir has not been with us for 15 years at least and it only seemed like last year. Tom Field turned up for the first time ever. Tom has been tied up with Cubs

and Scouts and I for one know what that means to ones time. Keep up the good work, Tom, it is well worth the effort and time but we hope to see you again next year if not sooner.

The Curly one was back not one bit dimmed. He would have some good stories if he could be tied down long enough.

Eric Chapman nice to see after about 12 years.

The old Smoothie a bit more round but still smooth as silk, with two new daughters. His ability to talk has not deteriorated any. Who else but Neil Bray. Neil's new address is: 80 Arthur St., Forresterville N.S.W.

I have not mentioned those who were at The Club. Gordon Harris (Blue to you) who takes things easy now as he should, retiring early from the fray.

Don Woodhouse gadding around like a blue (hey, watchit chum, you nearly blotted the copy book) — fly.

I say hello dere Freddy Stewart, nice to see you after long absence.

John Darge, I meant to ask you about your Dad but didn't make it.

Fred Janvrin, I don't recall you Fred, but anyone will tell you that is not unusual for me. I have trouble with Planos on A day.

Doc Gallard has a severe Campsie Brewers' Goitre. This is not of course as serious as it at first sounds. It does not require an operation to reduce this protuberance, it requires a firm NO.

Cliff Paff has not altered very much and is recognised, but not so Frank Press. It is a few years since we have seen Frank and I found him changed quite a bit.

Trying to recall everyone after so long is hard going.

Pat Costello has a new address: 223 Kingsway, Caringbah, N.S.W.

Doug Dixon has a new address: 60 Nobbys Road, Newcastle, N.S.W.

While I have run a few words together I can now read my own writing. Ain't eddication wonderful? But what a bloody effort to write a letter of this length—two hours. As the A said to the Bishop: "It took you long enough so it it time to go."

Yours with a feather duster.

P.S.: This has just been unearthed so I will post it. I may be able

to write again before next Anzac Day if I can get in the mood and find time.

**BERT TOBIN, of 15 Beatrice St., Burwood E.13, Victoria, writes:**

Firstly, please accept my apologies for not replying to your letter of August 10 before now. I have really been flat to the boards at work since June 30 due to an abnormal turnover in staff recently together with a few special projects being on the go. Also I was waiting for our annual meeting to bring up the matter of the Grand Safari, but this meeting was delayed until last Thursday night.

Although our meeting was not well attended all those present were unanimous that the Grand Safari should be held and that the Victorian Branch should give it all the support possible. The question of the time of the year was debated at some length and all here felt that it should be between March and June. Our fellows definitely felt that it should not be later than June, for one thing our weather is really shocking in July and August. March or April would be our preference, that is when the weather is usually most pleasant and that would be the time most suitable to most Victorians. The ideal thing, from our point of view would be for the period to take in Easter and Anzac Day with a whop ping great re-union on Anzac Day in either Melbourne or Sydney. We realise, of course, that the period should be decided, substantially by the West Australians making the trip.

We were very pleasantly surprised to read the names of those who have already indicated that they will be starters. Frankly, we had come to the conclusion that there was no interest in the scheme and the matter was to be dropped but your letter really jolted us back to reality and gave us a pleasant surprise. You have an excellent nucleus and undoubtedly the number will grow before 1968. Adelaide and Sydney seem to be much closer to Melbourne these days with good roads, etc., and we should muster more bodies all round than we did in 1956.

Those at our meeting were confident that we would have no dif-



facility in providing whatever accommodation should prove to be necessary. A start will be made soon to raise funds to provide hospitality and we will endeavour to get our thinking caps on as to the other matters we should start to plan. In the meantime we will be interested to see what interest is shown through the "Courier" and what response you get to your questionnaire.

Our annual meeting resulted in almost all the same office bearers being re-elected with Bill Tucker going back in as Secretary, Alan Munro as Treasurer and myself as President for another 12 months.

A few of us were able to see Cliff Paff when he passed through Melbourne on his way to Perth and we hope to see a lot more of him on his way back. We are drawing our Melbourne Cup Sweep on Thursday, Oct. 28, and expect Cliff back for a good night. Via Kevin Curran we have made contact with some chaps from the "Castlemaine" and expect a dozen or so of them along on the 28th.

All is pretty well with the family, thanks. I have been having some trouble with the back lately but hope to be fit again soon. When I am I will try and write to you again.

My best wishes to all good friends in the West.

**ROY MARTIN, of 97 Canal Street, Griffith, N.S.W., writes:—**

Would you please let me know what the fees are for the "Courier" as I have been sent one each month since April 25, 1965. What a wonderful day I had or should I say a wonderful weekend? My wife, Joyce, and I both had. It was great to see such a lot of the old faces after 20 years, but none have changed any, only a little bit older looking.

I read in the September "Courier" Jack Hartley's letter and he mentioned that his name would be mud in Melbourne. Well it is pretty dirty here too in Griffith as he must have been almost on our door step. So sorry you didn't call in Jack, but may be next time.

Cheerio for now and best wishes to all the boys.

Alf Hodge has a rice farm about

15 miles out of Griffith. I see him often. His address is: P.O. Whittton, N.S.W.

**RUSS SYMONS, 11/57 Parramatta St., Cronulla, N.S.W., writes:**

Have been going to write this last couple of months. "Courier" arrived today and was the reminder.

Firstly will you kindly note my change of address. The company decided I had been travelling around Queensland long enough so I'm back in Sydney again much to the delight of the family.

Now have the title of N.S.W. Sales Manager. Only difference is you work about an extra four hours a day at least that is what it has been up to now.

Managed to call in on my old mate Bob Smith and family a few weeks back. It was great to see them again.

On the way down from Brisbane called and said hello to Russ Blanch at Bangalow. Russ now has a store of his own and except for an early set back with a robbery is doing well.

The week before I left Brisbane with Sailor (Jack) Ward and Col Cubis attended the funeral of Bluey (John) Taylor. Blue was only 41, married with two fine children. I must comment on the help given to the family by the Queensland Branch of the Commando Association. Can assure you Blue's wife and family are well cared for thanks to efforts of the Association.

Grateful thanks for the "Courier". My regards to all my friends in the West.

Would be grateful for news of Mal Herbert. How is the big bludger?

**MR. W. J. TAYLOR, Hon. Sec. of the Commando Association of Victoria, writes to the W.A. Branch:**

On behalf of the President and members of this Association I have much pleasure in advising that a recording of the speeches made at the Unveiling Ceremony of the Commando Commemorative Cairn at Tidal River, Wilsons Promontory National Park, on Nov. 15, 1964, has been forwarded to you in appreciation of the support given by your members through-

out Australia to our appeal for the necessary funds.

We feel that you will be interested to learn that an amount of a little over £2,000 was donated enabling the Cairn to be erected free from debt.

**Bill Taylor, Secretary of the Commando Association of Victoria, passes on the following extract: Book on Special Operations Australia**

A book on Special Operations Australia is likely to be published in this country towards the end of next year.

Ivan Southall, author of "Softly Tread the Brave" and other books, has commenced research into the activities of various special units preparatory to writing of their work in the Pacific area. He has been granted access to all relevant files, many of which have not seen the light of day for 20 years.

Mr. Southall intended originally to record the S.O. story in one book only but his research has been so fruitful that he may revise his plans. At this early stage it seems likely that two books may be necessary, the first relating principally to operations in and around Timor, the second to operations in and around Borneo, each recording not only the work in the field but the complicated background story of training, planning, communications and supply. The birth and growth of I.S.D. and S.R.D. will also be told.

Mr. Southall and his publishers are reluctant to commit themselves too far ahead, but the author assures us that if the first book is successful the second will probably be published a year to 18 months later.

Special Operations men associated with SRD, no matter where they served, are therefore invited, even urged, to put their choicest anecdotes on paper and mail them at once—thus striking while the iron is hot—to Col. A. Gordon Oldham, C.B.E., 487 St. Kilda Road, Melbourne. Col. Oldham, instrumental in encouraging Mr. Southall to take the job on, is acting as Liaison Officer and will pass all material received on to the author. (It seems likely that if Mr. Southall is deluged with the first-rate

material that must exist in the minds of former S.O. operatives, he will have to give us that second book!) He is particularly interested, at this stage, in the Timor operations and is anxious to hear from anyone personally involved and from anyone knowing the whereabouts of Lieut. Frank Holland.

**GEO ADAMS, of Ansett M.A.L., Goroka, New Guinea, writes:—**

Have often been meaning to do this, now after years I'm writing.

My little pile of "Couriers" on my desk reminds me of the old boys all the time. My two enclosed photos are of interest. I was in Wewak last weekend and visited John McInerney's grave in the very small cemetery there. The inscription was too small to photograph. One of our pilots up here was his best friend. The main wing of the Wewak Hospital is named after him.

The D.C.A. paper on Fanta also interested me. The strip is now open again to specified light aircraft. Have flown over the old place plenty of times as a passenger not a pilot, even down to the level of 200 feet. There is a "Lightning" there as well as our "Liberator" which has a tree growing almost up through it.

Enclosed also some of my neighbours who have some wealth as you can see and the lass is up to date with the topless gown. Not much problem with the latest fashions, like them the way they are.

Enjoy year round spring here in the highlands. No season change at all, flowers, vegetables, one crop after the other.

Would like to see some of you up this way one day. Can assure a good time here with plenty of places to see.

Have a good annual Re-union. Will have one for you all.

(We hope to reproduce these photographs in our next issue. —Editor)

*Heard This?*

She: "I was never so insulted in my life—he drove me straight home!"



# BUCKS NIGHT

ANZAC HOUSE BASEMENT  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7th

Bring a friend if you so desire  
and have a great Pre-Christmas Party with the boys

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**REMEMBER — NO MEETING IN JANUARY**

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