

2/2 COMMANDO COURIER

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Editorial

SPACE AGE — MOON BEAMS AND SUNLIGHT

In the space of a decade and a bit man has set out and conquered space and by a fantastic feat of science has placed man on the moon.

Let us as an Association of ex-servicemen, be among those who salute and pay homage to this terrific achievement by our American cousins. This is the greatest piece of exploration since Vasco De Gama and Columbus's discovery of the New World. It is also the greatest exercise in precision and timing ever carried out by man. Not one little detail was overlooked and not one iota of trouble occurred that was not overcome with ease.

The "spill out" of knowledge from this scientific achievement should benefit mankind in many and varied ways for years to come and no-one yet knows just what has been really achieved in full. Judged by what has been done and even allowing for the prodigious cost it appears to be

good value for money. Man has ever been the adventurer and the conquest of space was another Everest that has been scaled.

However, do not let us poor mortals who probably will never venture into space be too blinded with "moon dust" that we are afraid to let the sunlight into the problems that beset this planet of ours. We would be committing an ostrich act if we did not give due thought to the many great problems which still remain without solution. The greatest of all the problems seems to be man's inability to live with man in some form of tranquility. Surely the great brains that can conceive and carry out a space-moon programme to such fruition, can get down to the basic problem of man's inhumanity to man and achieve a solution. The outlawing of all forms of war should be a simple exercise of world statesmanship along-

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SATURDAY, 23rd AUGUST

**Venue: SOUTH PERTH R.S.L. HALL
ANGELO STREET, SOUTH PERTH**

FAMILY NIGHT. Supper and Refreshments Provided

side the precision and planning of the moon shot. But it appears this is an adventure that the great brains seem terrified to tackle.

The twin problems of overproduction of foodstuffs on the one hand and massive population starvation on the other merit the attention of the master minds to bring about a solution which on the surface seems only to be a problem of maldistribution. Granted this be an oversimplification of an awkward situation, but surely the economic geniuses of this universe should be able to produce a world bank that can handle the question.

Life on this globe will never be a bed of roses but surely with the

fantastic advance in science and technology that the major problems that beset the world should be getting less instead of greater as is the case at present.

There appears to be a strong case for a change in priorities in regard to the use of brains and manpower so that the underprivileged and underdeveloped should be lifted from their present slough of despondance.

Currently it is the old, old business of the rich getting richer and the poor getting poorer and while we are singing the praises of the moon-shot it is time we stopped to think of what should be done with what we have in the way of resources on this solid earth.

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West Australian Whisperings

Association Activities

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Despite our pleas through the columns of our "Courier" and also the efforts by the Committee to rally a big roll up for this meeting the efforts were of little avail and the roll up was not up to the standard that should be expected of such a meeting. Despite the poor attendance a most successful meeting eventuated.

Reports were presented by Bill Epps, as President, who reviewed the year's activities in some detail; Arthur Smith, as Treasurer, whose report showed the Association to be financially in a healthy position; Col Doig's Editor's report emphasised that the "Courier" continued to carry its message to practically every

member, and Ron Kirkwood prepared a most comprehensive report on the Timor project.

These reports, apart from the financial statement which was printed last issue, appear elsewhere in this issue.

It was decided at this meeting that because of the impossible problem of deciding who was and who was not financial, that subscriptions be deleted from the Association Rules and Constitutions. It was pointed out that subscriptions as such in W.A. were a very minor factor in fund raising and that our solvency position was largely governed by the success of our annual sweep and anyhow no person who qualified for membership of the Association was ever debarred because of failure to pay a sub, the whole position was farcial.

The election of a Life Member

for this year brought the honour to Ken Bowden who was proposed by Vice President Len Bagley and seconded by Col Doig. Ken has been a consistently hard working member of the Association for many years and has devoted a great deal of his time especially in the early years of the Association, to Committee matters. He was Vice President on at least two occasions and his terms on the Committee were many and lengthy. We were sorry that "Curly" was not able to be present at the meeting to receive his honour as it was bestowed.

The election of officers for the year resulted as follows: President, Bill Epps (unopposed); Vice President, Len Bagley (unopposed); Secretary, Ron Kirkwood (unopposed); Treasurer, Arthur Smith (unopposed); Editor, Col Doig (unopposed); Auditor, Dick Geere (unopposed); Committee, Messrs. Jack Carey, Joe Poynton, Harry Sproxtton, Col Hodson, "Spriggy" McDonald, Geo Fletcher and Clarrie Varian.

Those who retired from last year's Committee were Jack Haddon and John Burrige. Geo. Fletcher was again elected to the position of Warden of Kings Park.

The following were elected as Country Vice Presidents: Goldfields, Eric Thornander; Northern, Peter Barden; Midlands, Jack Fowler; Great Southern, Alf Hillman; South Coastal, Clarrie Turner; South West, Tom Crouch.

It was decided that every effort be made this year to put the Association in a position to successfully conduct the Safari to W.A. in the spring of 1971 and that fund raising for this function should be done well in advance. Various proposals for the method of fund raising were put forward and these have been noted for the guidance of the Committee.

It was also suggested that a Country Convention be held this year and possibly another of the outings for orphans which had previously been so successful.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 1969

Gentlemen,

It is my privilege to submit this year's annual report. I say privilege because during this year the Association has brought to a success-

ful conclusion the biggest project it has yet undertaken. By this I refer to the Timor Memorial.

In the space of only two years the money has been raised, the memorial built and the handing over ceremony carried out. As this project is the subject of a separate report I will not dwell upon it. Suffice for me to say that it could not have been so successfully completed but for the sterling work of the whole Committee. Five names stand out above all others in this and they are Ron Kirkwood as the secretary, Joe Burrige as the liaison officer, Ray Aitken who was co-opted onto the Committee as financial backer and for his general on-the-spot contacts, Col Hodson for a wonderful job on the making of the plaque, and finally Col Doig who expertly organised the trip for the handover ceremony. To these five men the Association offers its whole-hearted thanks.

Annual Dinner:

Our Annual Dinner which was held on Football Grand Final night, was blessed by good weather. This turned out to be one of our better attended Dinners with an above-average number of country members showing up. It is still argumative as to where the locals get to on this night. A new innovation was the use of an amplifier, supplied by "Sprig" McDonald, for the use of the speakers. This proved to be of great assistance allowing all to hear.

Commemoration Service:

The following day was fine for our Commemoration Service in Kings Park which was attended by a goodly number of members and their families. Although the turn-up was good it still is, in my opinion, our most important day and therefore warrants a much greater patronage by all members. This is something that only the members themselves can rectify as they either turn up or they don't as they see fit.

Car Rally:

"Sprig" McDonald and Harry Sproxtton mapped out a car trial ending with a picnic on John Lillie's property in Gidgegannup. This was an excellent day enjoyed by all who attended. Races for the younger ones, a barbecue lunch and plenty

of refreshments in an ideal setting in the quietude of the hills, leaves us very much in the Lillie's debt. These days should be arranged more often as they encompass the whole family.

Calcutt Memorial Trophy:

Owing to a big commitment over the Timor Memorial time was limited this year for the Calcutt Memorial Sports and instead of the usual three nights it was curtailed to only two. These nights are always popular and much fun is had by all competitors. This year's winner was Jack Carey who nosed Len Bagley out on the second night. So far there has been a different winner for each of the three years that the trophy has been contested. Let's hope this continues in the future and the trophy graces a new mantepiece each year.

Ladies' Night-Bucks' Night:

As an innovation this year the Ladies' Night and the Christmas Bucks' Night were combined as one night and held at the Highway Hotel in Claremont. The attendance was on the good side and once again country members seemed outstanding in numbers. This is good to see as they do not get many opportunities to participate in our functions.

As Mr. Calcutt Snr. was not in the best of health he was represented by his son (and Mick's brother) Syd, who presented the trophy to this year's winner, Jack Carey. As Col Hodson had designed and made replicas of the trophy these were also presented, not only to Jack Carey but also to the two previous winners in Mick Morgan and Bill Epps.

Late in the evening Major Colquhoun-Denvers, the retiring Consul in Dili, and his wife were able to join us. As Major Denver had conducted our affairs and watched over our interests in Dili for the building of the memorial, he was made more than welcome. After he had been introduced to the assembly Joe Burr ridge, on our behalf, presented him with a gift in appreciation of his outstanding interest in our affairs.

After Major Denver had thanked us he gave a very complete report of the memorial's progress putting us more in the picture than was possible by the interchange of letters.

Sweep:

Seeing as how all members had been well and truly hammered in the way of donations during the year for the Timor Memorial the Committee had earlier decided not to run our usual sweep this year but try to finance the year with what money we had on hand. This idea though commendable in spirit did not work out 100 per cent in practice and late in the year the Treasurer reported that we were getting into an embarrassing position financially. Accordingly a small quick raffle was organised and rushed out to members who were thought to be able to easily get rid of these special tickets. This proved a great success and our bank balance was again placed in a workable condition.

Anzac Day:

This day being a Friday was one of our better attended turn-outs. To start the day off Ron Kirkwood and Joe Burr ridge laid our wreath at the Dawn Service. The Unit flags were flown at our area in Honour Avenue. The march was well attended and as usual we finished up at the W.A. Rowing Club building on the river bank. The necessary thirst quencher was well set up, waiting for us on arrival. This was arranged by Joe Poynton through his local Publican. Even though he had only arrived home from his trip to Timor the previous evening, Jack Carey arranged the lunch time spread which was right up to his usual standard. Our attendance was good with a number of visitors from other Units. A grand day of reminiscing by all and according to reports didn't finish up until the early hours of Saturday morning. As I heard it said afterwards: "We never learn—but we will be there again next year."

Christmas Presents For Country Children

The usual practice of sending Christmas presents to the children of country members was adhered to. These presents were chosen by Norma Hasson and Jess Epps and were wrapped and addressed at a small working evening at Jack Hasson's home one evening. Something in the number of 46 presents were purchased. We know this number does not represent all the country child-

ren as we do not have all their names and ages on record. We have asked before and do so again—Will all members please drop a line and let us know these facts so that our lists can be brought up to date.

Monthly Meetings:

These have been falling off in numbers each month. Your Committee has tried several different ideas to improve attendance but so far with very little success. Once again this is up to the members themselves. The Committee can only arrange the evenings—it is up to you to turn up and make a success of them.

Kings Park:

This year Geo. Fletcher volunteered to take over the responsibility of mowing our area in Kings Park. A look at the area will quickly show what a wonderful job he has done as it is in near perfect condition. Vandals have again struck our area as somebody has blasted one of the notice boards with a shot gun. Luckily Geo. Fletcher claims he can renovate the board for us and also paint the other board which is showing signs of weathering. We are lucky to have a member of George's capabilities who is interested and we look forward to seeing these boards back to good condition.

"Courier":

As our Editor has been more than snowed under this year with other very important and time consuming jobs it has been a sad loss to the "Courier" which has missed out on publication a couple of times. As the "Courier" is the life blood of our Association it is hoped that in the future these other duties will be taken over by others so that Col Doig can again concentrate solely on the production of our monthly paper. There is nobody more capable of carrying out the duties of Editor than Col so it is the hope of everyone that he will continue in the capacity of Editor for many long years to come setting pen to paper in his own whimsical and witty manner.

Bereavements:

The Association has again lost a number of members during the year under review but for fear of missing

name I will not try and list them here. All members of the Association extend their sympathies to those families who have suffered a loss in the past year. We also mourn them.

Committee:

Your Committee this year has done a terrific amount of work and put in much time to Association business as this report indicates. Meetings, as always, are still held on the third Tuesday of each month at Anzac Club. Attendance, on the whole has been good although on a couple of occasions ill-health has knocked the number present. This probably is a sign of encroaching years. The attendance figures for the year, with a total of 12 meetings, are:

Bill Epps (President): 12.
Len Bagley (Vice President): 11 and 1 apology.
Jack Hasson (Immediate Past President): 5 (Jack resigned during the year).
Ron Kirkwood (Secretary): 10, and 1 apology.
Arthur Smith (Treasurer): 9 and 2 apologies.
Col Doig (Editor): 12.
Joe Burr ridge: 6 and 6 apologies.
Jack Carey: 10 and 2 apologies.
Col Hodson: 8.
Joe Poynton: 10.
"Sprig" McDonald: 9 and 2 apologies.
Harry Sproton: 8 and 4 apologies.
Ray Aitken was co-opt onto the Committee and attended many meetings.

Thanks:

I cannot close this report without a sincere word of thanks to each and every member of the Committee who at all times have given me help and advice for which I am very grateful. A special word of thanks to Secretary Ron Kirkwood who has done everything in his power at all times to make my job easier.

Thank you all.

—W. EPPS, President.

Heard This?

One telephonist to another: "My dear, when I heard what that couple were saying I could hardly believe my headphones."

EDITOR'S REPORT

Mr. President,

Again it is my privilege to present the Editor's Report with respect of our journal, "2/2nd Commando Courier".

Contact with members throughout Australia has once again been maintained and circulation has remained constant at the 450 mark. The distribution is as follows: W.A. 185, N.S.W. 107, Vic. 94, Qld. 27, S.A. 15, Tas. 7, A.C.T. 7, New Guinea 2, Overseas 5. So you will see we do our best to get to members wherever they may be.

Costs continue to rise but last year our postage costs levelled out on the big increase of the previous year. It is inevitable that the cost of production of our paper must rise, but it still remains wonderful value for money expended.

Correspondence was fairly good this year, many more people considering it was their duty to try and supply your Editor with worthwhile contributions. This year there probably was a surfeit of articles on the Timor Memorial Project and readers were possibly getting sick of the word Timor, but this was the big news of the year both in regard to fund gathering for the Memorial and the actual opening of this Memorial.

The address list is now as complete as we can hope and great thanks are due to Bill Epps and Ron Kirkwood who have managed this side of production so efficiently.

Once again allow me to thank Bill and Jess Epps for all they have done to get the "Courier" into the hands of readers. Bill, in his job as printer, gives us the highest priority and then it is his and Jess's task to wrap and despatch it to members. What would we do without these wonderful people?

My thanks to my permanent correspondents: Harry Botterill in Victoria, Ron Trengrove in New South Wales, and Peter Barden at Geraldton. These stalwarts have continued their good work for the full year.

Special reference must again be made to our publishers, "The Swan Express", of Midland, who have so efficiently met all our desires in regard to publication.

In conclusion let me wish the "Courier" another successful year.

—C. D. DOIG, Hon. Editor.

TIMOR MEMORIAL PROJECT

Herewith a chronicle of events between the planning and completion of this wonderful undertaking, which was first suggested 32 months ago, and brought to a conclusion in the space of 30 months. The resultant structure, a mixture of utilitarian Australian planning, and Portuguese flamboyance and ingenuity, has been proclaimed a work of beauty, and comparable with any other. But it has this unique difference—it is a Memorial dedicated, not to our prowess as soldiers, nor to our dead, but to a country and its people who befriended us in the full meaning of that word, when we most needed friends. And those who attended the Dedication a few months ago, feel we have achieved our purpose—to thank those who helped us in 1942.

The idea of a memorial was born when our John Burrige, whilst on a business trip to Portuguese Timor in July, 1966, met some of the people who remembered us and had suffered because of us. He returned with the ambition to do something to help these people and to show them that we had not forgotten, and he gave his thoughts to the committee of that time. They were most enthusiastic, and when it was mentioned to other State Committees, they too were very keen to assist. Possible projects suggested were: the provision of a 4-bed hospital; the provision of help in education; scholarships in Australia; help with crop improvements. From these, and many other suggestions, the Committee finally decided to erect a rest-house, to be placed where it could benefit the most people.

Our next step entailed selling our ideas to the Governor of Portuguese Timor, and the then Australian Consul in Dili, Major Colquhoun-Denvers proved to be the perfect representative for us. He did everything we could have asked of him by way of advice, opinions and the advancement of ideas, and it was mainly due to him that our contact with the Governor and his staff in the Public Works Department was most cordial and successful.

And so we were given a site for the Memorial at Dare, and negotiations began for the planning and erection of the house. We told the

Governor by letters what we envisaged the building would be, and his staff forwarded us plans of their interpretation of our ideas with suggested changes. We would comment on these, approve or amend, and advise them back. In short, between us, and almost entirely by mail (and that once a week), we came to an agreement to have them build the Memorial for us at a cost of \$A8,000. This was in November, 1967. Our Ray Aitken was visiting Timor about this time, and he was invaluable in tidying up the final plans, getting our ideas across to the planners there, and in obtaining a signed contract—this latter being a very necessary, but hard-to-obtain, document.

At this stage, we realized the enormity of the task we had before us—to raise the \$8,000, and every member can feel proud that the Committee had faith in the Association, and was confident that our members would answer the call.

We had hoped that the Commonwealth Government would contribute dollar-for-dollar with us, and the Association would only have to find \$4,000, but our first, and subsequent, appeals for a grant were refused. We then asked some of our W.A. members to act as guarantors for the \$8,000 so that work could proceed whilst we raised the money—to their great credit, we obtained sufficient guarantors for the whole amount. (We did not have to use these guarantees, but it was a warm feeling to know they were there when we really needed them.) Finally, our Ray Aitken, in a wonderful gesture, loaned us the balance needed to complete the project, and, relieved of a very real worry, the Committee continued its appeal to our members for donations.

All this time, John Burrige was pressing every possible avenue to get a grant from the Government—our present Governor-General, Paul Hasluck, urged unceasingly by John, was our main advocate in Canberra, but we also enlisted every politician we could from W.A. in the fight. But the answer was always "No!"

Finally, during the Great Safari in April, 1968, David Dexter arranged for three of us to have an interview with the Prime Minister, John Gorton, in Canberra, and we

showed him the actual plans and told him our ideas. Well, you know we received our \$4,000 grant from the P.M. shortly afterwards—all our letters and our lobbying had not been in vain and an enormous load was lifted from our shoulders. (As a result of this grant, we also received a gift of \$500 from the W.A. Government.)

Almost unceasingly, we had been receiving money in large and small amounts from our members; indeed, from friends of our members, too, and from wives. Some chaps ran games nights and we took the proceeds; any money left on a bar counter was added to the funds. We took any money we could get our hands on, and our friends became wary of us. The City of Perth Sub-Branch of the R.S.L. (whose premises we use on a peppercorn rental and who is our warmest friend), gave the initial donation to the appeal, and then a further donation.

We had sent out "pledges", but this idea was not successful as only 36 pledges were returned. We kept on the backs of those who had forgotten the appeal, with reminders in the "Courier" and, finally, direct appeals by letter. Very gradually the fund approached, and finally, reached our target of \$8,000 and we declared the appeal would be closed in November, 1968. As that date approached, the rate of donations accelerated until we reached the figure of \$10,000.

Through the generosity of T.A.A. in giving us a seat without cost on a flight to Dili, we could send John Burrige in March, 1969, to plan the final details on the spot—this was most necessary and the success of the Dedication Ceremony, and the participation of units of our Navy, were almost wholly due to John's initiative whilst in Dili, and also when he returned.

Once the date for the Dedication was fixed Col Doig could bring months of intricate planning to fruition and make the final bookings for the journey of our contingent. Those who took part assure us that the movement to and from Dili was beautifully planned and perfect in execution.

Some figures are appended for information:—

Project decided upon: Aug., 1966.
Memorial completed: March, 1969.
Memorial dedicated: April, 1969.

Appeal for funds opened: Oct., 1967.

Appeal for funds closed: Nov., 1968.

Amounts received from:	
Commonwealth Gov.:	\$4,000
Government of W.A.	500
Members and others	5,688
Interest on money	233
	<hr/>
	\$10,421

Number of contributors:
Members 193.
Others 35.
Total 228.

Number of letters sent to:
M's.P. and other in Australia: 82.
Dili 66.
Members for donations: 333.
Receipts forwarded: 272.
Cables and telegrams: 13.

The project from start to finish was a beautiful accomplishment worthy of this Association, and one of which we can be very, very proud. This report, besides being set down for future readers, must also serve to give its present ones a sense of pride in not only being a part of the memorial, but in knowing the men who did the actual planning—some in a small, and some in a big way, but all giving the utmost that was asked of them in thought, time and energy, and in the worrying which was beside them all the time. A few people have been mentioned by name in this story, but mainly to keep sequence and balance; they performed wonders, but there were others who did what was asked of them too, but whose deeds remain unsung because their names are too numerous to be listed.

No doubt, your Association will undertake other projects in the future, not so grandiose as this perhaps, but, in the eyes of a Committee of the future, equally necessary. We have not the slightest doubt, that when this time comes the right men will be there to do the right thing, just as they were during the Timor Memorial Project.

—R. S. KIRKWOOD, Secretary.

TIMOR SLIDE AND FILM NIGHT

This has been arranged to be held at South Perth R.S.L. Hall, Angelo St., on Saturday, August 23, 1969. This is a family night so bring along your family and have a look at places you remember. Supper and refreshments will be provided. This should be an outstanding night and you are requested to make every endeavour to attend.

THIS YEAR'S CALENDAR

September Meeting: Bowls and Rifle Shoot Night.

Annual Re-Union Dinner: Sept. 27, Anzac House Basement.

October Meeting: Unofficial.

November Meeting: Calcutt Memorial Trophy, second night.

Christmas Social: November 29, in the Highway Hotel, Claremont.

Committee Comment

The first Committee meeting of the new Committee was held at Anzac Club on July 15. There was an excellent attendance and business was mainly that arising from the Annual General Meeting. The programme of events for the year shown in Association Activities was arranged.

Bill Epps reported that a gift for Mrs. Berman had been purchased and despatched.

Arthur Smith, the Treasurer, reported that the operating account was in credit of \$316 after payment of accounts.

The Committee were most happy with the Committee outing held at the Floreat Hotel.

Early arrangements were made for the Annual Re-union and caterers were booked and guest list approved.

The Committee were most concerned at the poor attendance at the Annual General Meeting and Jack Carey suggested that some thought be given to changing the date to a month when there is better weather, such as January.

It was resolved to hold a Christmas Party on the same lines as last year.

Much discussion took place on the

possibility of an orphans' picnic this year some time in October.

It was decided to purchase Christmas presents for country children as early as possible this year.

COMMITTEE PERSONALITIES

The Association would be most remiss if at this stage some comment was not made on the retiring members of our Committee.

Firstly Jack Hasson decided to resign from the office of Past President and did not seek re-election. Jack and Norma and indeed the whole Hasson family, have been prodigious workers for the Association since they came to live permanently in Perth. Jack was initially a Committee member for some four years and then President for three years and then this last year as Immediate Past President. During his stay in office the Association tackled more big projects than at any time in its history and all these were carried through to the ultimate success. To name but a couple were the Great Safari and the Timor Memorial. Jack and Norma took as a challenge the social activities of the Branch and raised these to a level never achieved before. Jack was tireless in his efforts and never more so than his work on Anzac Days with refreshments. We probably overworked him and his family on many of these projects and this is probably a large part of the reason why he decided to have a spell. We sincerely hope that Jack continues to take a deep interest in Association affairs and also decides that his absence from executive office will be brief and that next year will see him return to the fold. In the meantime we express our deep thanks for all you have done, Jack and Norma, and this is not stated in a cheap way.

Secondly it is with extreme regret that we lose the services of John Burrige. John has acted as Timor Liaison Secretary since that project started. In fact the whole idea was born in the fertile brain of our Joe. The amount of work he contributed would be impossible to assess and it took up quite a bit of his business as well as leisure time. His trips to Timor were of inestimable value in arranging and carrying out the whole

project. His worth was not only confined to this project, however, as his sage advice in many other subjects were always a feature of Committee debates. I do not think it necessary to go back to John's previous efforts on the Committee and as President as these are all too well known to all members. John for business reasons has decided that he has to curtail his outside activities such as our Association and Lions Club and we are only too well aware of his busy business interests and sympathise with him in having to give away for the time being his outside activities. Thanks very much John for all you have done and you can be doubly happy at the thought that the germ of an idea which you expressed in 1966 became a reality as our Timor Memorial in 1969—all achieved in 2½ years. Yours was the goad and the spur which forced it along at this spectacular speed.

Now to welcome back to our Committee those two stalwarts, Geo Fletcher and Clarrie Varian. Both these chaps have given us yeoman service in the past and we know that we will get full value from them in the future.

It is indeed a pity that so many of our Executive Officers were, to some extent, forced to continue in office for another year. To name just two, Ron Kirkwood and Arthur Smith, who had expressed a desire to have a spell but due to the fact that we could not find replacement parts they cheerfully carried on. Both would be hard to replace we know and we appreciate their outstanding skills in the offices they perform but it is working the willing horse a bit heavily. The Association is going to be forced very shortly to do some stocktaking in regard to executive officers such as secretaries, treasurers and editors, to make certain that these offices are carried on adequately but at the same time none is worked to death. The talent is in our ranks and the jobs should be quite comfortably made to go round on some sort of a roster basis.

(Printed for the publisher by "The Swan Express", 10 Helena Street, Midland, 6056, W.A.)

Personalities

Over in W.A. for a holiday cum business trip is Dr. Ian McPhee. You will all remember Ian as our R.M.O. in New Britain and remember him kindly as a nice bloke to know and a clever M.O. Ian and his wife are here for an Ortheopedic Conference which is being held in Perth and are staying at the Freeway Hotel. Don Turton has already had the couple down to his farm and since then they have been touring the south-west. We hope to see more of them before they return to Brisbane.

Tom Crouch was in town for a Local Government Conference and was looking extra well. He said he enjoyed the trip to Timor as the trip of a lifetime and had got the travel bug in his system and was looking forward to any further trip we may be arranging.

Since last we went to press Ted and Phyl Loud were in town and both looking extra well. Ted reckons he has a new tummy since his ulcer operation and can eat and drink anything. Had a most pleasant evening with them both while they were here.

Also saw Gordon Hislop briefly. Gordon has relinquished the management of the Mt. Tom Price Hotel and has now taken over the Roebourne Hotel in which he has a share. He had a trip to Tennants Creek to attend his father's birthday.

Saw Tony and Carol Bowers during the month and they also are still agog with the Timor trip. Tony was quite ill for a time after returning but is now back to 100 per cent, which is a lot of Tony! Carole never looked better and on this basis I can vouch for the health giving powers of the Timor climate.

The same day Jack and Jean Fowler turned up at your Editor's place and it looked like developing into a Unit re-union. Jack and Jean are giving much thought to retiring from the farm to live in the city. What a possible gain to the Association! Jack and Jean also looked well and spoke in glowing terms of the Timor trip of which Jack has a wonderful pictorial record.

Dick Geere is on a trip to Japan and the East and we hope he is enjoying it in a big way.

It was nice to see Alf Hillman make the trip from Broomehill for the Annual General Meeting. Alf reckoned that in the past he had been to R.S.L. Congresses, Farmers Union meetings and what have you, but had never attended an Annual General of the Association and he had better begin soon, so down he came. I wish a lot more would have the same thoughts especially city members. Good on you Alf, may you live forever and continue on in the same way.

Mick and Jean Holland are opening up a Gift Shop-Paint Advisory Service in Victoria Park. So if you want anything of this nature go and see Mick and Jean. I'm sure they will look after you.

Do any of you readers in W.A. get the Week End News with its supplement Week End Magazine? If so you will have noticed a gorgeous black and white study by Norman Aisbet of a very lovely lass Beverley Kirkwood. Yes, you guessed it in one, our Ron and Gwenda's youngest. Congrats Beverley, Ron and Gwenda.

Seen at a recent function in town were Clarrie and Grace Turner who seemed to be brimming with rude health (is that the right phrase, Grace?). Clarrie admitted to having a good season.

Also seen at the same function were Colin and Bonnie Criddle who were enjoying themselves. Colin had just lost a lot of good friends in a terrible aircraft crash in Victoria of W.A. members of the Parachute Club. Colin was a foundation member of this Club and was at one time President and is a Life Member.

Ernie Bingham has been in Melbourne to attend a school on Civil Defence at Mt. Macedon on behalf of Wandering Road Board. "Bing" did not manage to meet up with any of the gang in Melbourne as the school took up most of his time.

Merv Ryan has been having a session in Hollywood Hospital but looked well when seen quite recently.

Bill and Jess Epps spent a recent weekend with the Fowlers at Wongan Hills and saw the films Jack and Jean took on the Great Safari and the Timor trip and voted them excellent and Bill says they will be a treat for those who attend the film evening on August 23.

Random Harvest

MAJOR COLQUHOUN-DENVERS writes from Moscow:—

It was most kind of you to take the trouble to send me a copy of the "Courier" with the write-up of the dedication of the Resting Place in it.

I am so relieved to know that everything was ready on time. What a pity the Navy would not take an interest in moving a gun from the "Voyager".

My wife and I plan to stop off in Darwin on our way back to Australia next time and go over to Dili to see the Resting Place—probably about May, 1972.

Despite all the stories we are managing to enjoy Moscow.

My regards to all the members.

BILL TOMASETTI, of University of Papua and New Guinea, Box 1144, P.O., Boroko, T.P.N.G., writes:—

I am sorry I have been so long in answering your letter of July 30, 1968—the months pass more quickly than one realises.

I am sending a small cheque here-with, and I hope it is not too late. The Memorial is a most worthy cause and I hope all goes well with it.

The above has been my address for almost two years now.

Very best wishes to you all.

G. B. PIPER, "Yuthavi", 14 Royal Crescent, Camberwell, Vic., 3124, writes:—

Some of the fraternity may recall H.M.A.S. "Castlemaine" on her odd visit or two to the Timor coast and in particular her First Lieut. and later Commanding Officer Len Williams.

Heard This?

The glamorous one arrived home early after a date with a new beau. Her mother, sitting up and waiting and worrying, expressed surprise over her early return and wanted to know what happened.

"Oh, nothing much," yawned the girl. "I had to slap him a couple of times."

"My heavens!" exclaimed her mother.

"Yeah, he kept falling asleep."

I regret to tell you Len succumbed to a sudden heart attack whilst I was in New Zealand and his wife who had been ill for a number of years, passed on a week later, leaving Peter the only child (24) to carry on. Mrs. Williams was an ex-W.R.A.N. I had been speaking to Len only a day or so before I started my leave and he appeared well. Our friendship went back to 1940 and since the war he had been a very active member in Carry-On Victoria of which I am a Past President.

I thought some one may remember Len and wish to know of his final duty call.

I have read with deep interest the unveiling of the Timor Memorial and congratulate all concerned on a splendid effort. It is my regret and Joan's also that the New Zealand trip on family and other matters had priority. However we hope to make a trip to Timor later.

Best wishes to all and especially Alan Bennett.

When in Town

Make The

DON CLOTHING CO.

William Street, Perth

Your Rendezvous For Mercery

Meet Dave Ritchie and Say Good-day

10% Your Way on All Purchases

Remember:

DON CLOTHING CO.

"It is high time," said the reformer, "that we had a moral awakening. Let us rise in our might. Let us gird our loins. Let us take off our coats. Let us bare our arms. Let us —"

"Hold on, now," exclaimed a tall thin woman near the platform. "If this is to be a moral awakening, don't you dare to take off another thing!"

New South Wales News

LETTERS RECEIVED BY RON TRENROVE

**MAX DAVIES, of P.O. Box 19,
Stawell, Victoria, writes:—**

Am returning the butts and a cheque.

How I would like to be there for the draw.

I have great hopes of getting to Melbourne for the Anzac Day this year. Seeing it lands on a Friday will give me a chance to recover a bit.

Grace and I still have very vivid recollections of our last Sydney trip. A wonderful time thanks to you chaps over there.

Regards to all the boys.

**ERIC SMYTHE, of 43 Marine Tce.,
Geraldton, W.A., writes:—**

Regards to all you "cliff dwellers" including the black and white "Spring Heel Jack". We Sandgropers from Geraldton are scheming and planning for ways and means to make another trip East in a couple of years' time. If your cliff has not fallen into the sea we will be calling to see you to sink a few.

Hope you are all well and best wishes from all the Smyths.

JIM DENT, of Wirrinya, writes:—

Enclosed ticket butts and cheque. I guess the talk is of the next Safari. I hope to make the grade but at the moment Jean is talking of wanting to make the trip on our own. However if she decides to take the train trip I'll let you know in good time.

My regards to the mob.

**BOB PALMER, of Cowaramup,
W.A., writes:—**

Enclosed please find sweep butts and cheque. You can put another book of tickets in—half for us and the other for the Association and hope the Association wins.

Barb and I are very sorry we could not make the trip East last year, but we have saved our cents and are going to Timor next month. We hope to do a tour of the Eastern States in a year or so when John is out of N.S. and settled down again.

Very sorry to learn of the passing of Angus Evans. As you know he was in No. 3 Section and certainly

a man never to be forgotten. I would like you to pass on my personal sympathy to Mrs. Evans and family.

Regards to all over there.

**KEL CARTHEW, of H.Q. Coy.,
Royal Military College, Duntroon,
writes:—**

As you can see I have changed my address from 73 Gilbert-rd., Windsor, Qld., to the above address.

Please find enclosed money for the tickets in Sydney Cup Sweep.

**"SLIM" JAMES, of 18 Beatrice St.,
Scarborough, W.A., writes:—**

Enclosed find butts and postal note. Regret delay, but hope they reach in time. If not, put it in kitty. Hope the sweep has good success.

Thanks for great time we had in New South Wales.

**DICK ADAMS, of King Street, Gar-
raglen, writes:—**

Please find enclosed money for tickets. Sorry I can't take any more just now as I'm a bit short of cash. Any way I hope the sweep is a success.

Remember me to all the N.S.W. boys of the 2/2nd Com.

Remember me to Allan Luby. Tell him I still have the old accordion, still play it. Also brother Allan is well. I think he has tickets to sell for you.

All the best for now.

**C. FREESTONE, of 29 Reserve St.,
Claremont, W.A., writes:—**

Have complied with your request. Suggestion: if kitty still shows empty members to migrate to the only State on the move—W.A., where one land deal alone could land a rope around your neck or clover for life.

**O. K. DIGNUM, of 24 Selkirk Ave.,
Seaton, S.A., writes:—**

I must apologise about the book of sweep tickets. I forgot entirely. I have no excuse. The book of tickets came, I looked at it and just put it to one side and you know the rest.

When the March "Courier" arrived and I read the different letters from the chaps mentioning the sweep butts the realisation slowly dawned

on me—my book of tickets had not even been touched. So you will find enclosed the book plus the money.

You will probably have a good roll up for Anzac Day. Remember me to any of the boys, especially the chaps from 4 Section. Would like to see them all again. Perhaps one day we will.

**ARTHUR SMITH, of 17 Conon
Rd., Applecross, W.A., writes:—**

I do hope these books get to you on time. I'm extremely sorry for cutting time so fine, but there are not enough days in the week or hours in the day for me to do what I want to do these days. Perhaps I've got old without realising it.

I hope you, your wife and family, are all well. I'm keeping very well and my wife has just about recovered from her broken leg. Please do remember me to Bill and Coral Coker and tell them one day I'll surprise them and write.

Must away now as time flies.

Good luck to you all.

**ROSEMARY M. MURPHY, of 37
Bentham St., Mt. Gravatt, Bris-
bane, writes:—**

I am enclosing money for the Sydney Cup Sweep. Dad is in the C.M.F. camp at the moment and he must have forgotten to return the sweep butts before he left.

**TOM YATES, of 184 Summerland
Way, Kyogle, writes:—**

Please find enclosed money and ticket butts. Sorry I'm late as usual.

All the best to you and the boys.

**TEX RICHARDS, of 12 Bradshaw
St., Latrobe, Tas., writes:—**

Am running late again but will get there on time.

It is possible I could be in Sydney some time this year. Having a bit of a battle with my health at the present time.

Trusting you are all doing well and the sweep a big success.

Cheers for now and regards to Bill Bennett.

**WILF MARCH, of 3 Bricknall Rd.,
Attadale, W.A., writes:—**

Herewith butts with money for same. Sorry they are late arriving but have been away for a while and had misplaced them.

Hope that everything your end is O.K. and that the N.S.W. Branch is flourishing. Afraid that I haven't been active within the Association of late but will get back to it again.

Cheerio for now. Regards to all.

**L. A. CRIDDLE, c/- W.A.G.R.,
Three Springs, W.A., writes:—**

Will find enclosed ticket butts, also cheque for same with a little extra for subs.

Well haven't much news as usual but all is well at home and I hope to find you all well. What I read in the "Courier" all the lads seem to be fit and having a plummy good time. Pleased all the boys had a smashing time on the Safari as I would have liked to have been with you all but the cash bin is not always full with this large family of mine, but we are still with you at heart and I wish those going to Timor to the big do have a good trip. May see some of you soon in Perth.

**BULLA TAIT, of Box 492, Ayre,
Qlds., writes:—**

Herewith butts and dollars. Write out another book in my name.

In grip of bloody drought here. Wet season failed to arrive. Hope have more luck in sweep.

Tell Jack Hartley got his letter.

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

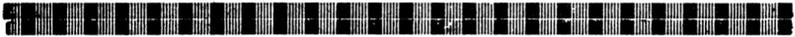
I am enclosing ticket butts and dollars which I hope you receive all right also that your sweep is a great success.

My regards to the boys.

Heard This?

A new farmhand, who had previously been a chauffer, was put on milking for the first time and entered a cow's stall complete with stool and bucket. The consequence was the cow broke loose and started dashing up and down the cowshed pursued by the perspiring ex-chauffer, still complete with bucket and stool. At this moment, the farmer arrived and asked: "What the hell do you think you are doing?"

"About a hundred miles to the pint," was the answer.



FILM NIGHT TIMOR TRIP:

SATURDAY, 23rd AUGUST

**Venue: SOUTH PERTH R.S.L. HALL
ANGELO STREET, SOUTH PERTH**

FAMILY NIGHT. Supper and Refreshments Provided

SEPTEMBER MEETING:

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2nd
ANZAC HOUSE BASEMENT**

**BOWLS AND RIFLE SHOOT
This Will Be a Lot of Fun For Everybody**

ANNUAL RE-UNION DINNER:

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27th
ANZAC HOUSE BASEMENT
(GRAND FINAL FOOTBALL NIGHT)**

**This is always a beauty. A double chance for Country Folk
to see the Footy and meet your mates**

NOVEMBER MEETING:

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4th
ANZAC HOUSE BASEMENT
Calcutt Memorial Trophy**

**Second Night (and last) for this year. Remember you can win
this Trophy with one good performance
Country Members — This Could Be Your Year**

CHRISTMAS SOCIAL:

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29th
HIGHWAY HOTEL, CLAREMONT**

KEEP IT IN YOUR MIND

