



# 2/2 COMMANDO COURIER

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(Address All Association Correspondence to Box T1646, G.P.O., Perth)  
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## Editorial

It is high time that we once again raised the issue of interest in Association affairs. Although our major efforts, such as the Safari, Timor Memorial and the Annual Re-union, received excellent responses there has been a tendency in the past 12 months for monthly meetings to be poorly attended. This has also been the case with other events such as the car rally.

It is an extreme pity that interest cannot be sustained throughout the whole year. In earlier years this lack of support was excused on the count that bringing up a family with its attendant responsibilities made great inroads into the spare time of members. With families now mostly grown up this is no longer a valid excuse.

The position largely can be summed up that members just are not giving the thought to the Association that such an excellent organisation merits. This probably stems from the fact that in the past they have got used to staying away from Association activities and have not got back into the habit of taking a true interest.

It can be fairly said that the Association is now better pitched than ever to give enjoyment to members and also to take on projects for the common good of members and of the community at large. We have been together now for many years and the Committee over the years has gradually acquired a smooth running format in the conduct of many activities from sporting to interstate Safaries. All that is re-

quired is a few more hands to the pumps.

A golden opportunity for W.A. Branch members to get away to a flying start in regard to further interest in the Association is to attend the Annual General Meeting to be held at Anzac House Basement on Tuesday, July 1, 1969.

At this meeting a resume of all business conducted during the previous year is given in the various reports also you will know the financial position of the Association. Also it is at this meeting that members are given an opportunity of airing their grievances, if any, and a chance to bring forward any suggestions for future functions and works by the organisation. Too often this meeting is neglected by members probably from the fear that they will be saddled with an executive position. This is not necessarily the case as if you are not in a position to accept office then it is your prerogative to decline. But if you have the time and think you have acceptable ideas then it is something of a duty to offer your services to your Association.

After all the show will only improve if new ideas can be instilled or infused continually into the organisation. Over the years too much has been left to too few in carrying on a task which belongs to all the members.

Make a firm resolve to come along to the Annual General Meeting and also to attend as many functions as possible in the year ahead. You will never regret the day that you make that decision.

# West Australian Whisperings

## Association Activities

### JUNE MEETING

This took place on Tuesday 3rd, at Anzac House Basement and was the first contest this year for the Calcutt Memorial Trophy. Sorry that we can't report a super roll up as we had a poor attendance probably due to the fact that this event took place immediately following a Monday holiday.

However, what was lacking in numbers was made up in enthusiasm and the competitors strove mightily to try and get a grip on the trophy.

After a most interesting sporting battle the following results emerged:

Darts: R. McDonald 4 points, J. Carey 3, H. Sproxtion 2, A. Smith 1.  
 Table Tennis: R. Kirkwood 4, J. Carey 3, W. Epps 2, C. Hodgson 1.  
 Bowls: L. Bagley 4, H. Sproxtion 3, R. Kirkwood 2, C. Hodgson 1.  
 Quoits: J. Carey 4, J. Poynton 3, W. Epps 2, A. Smith 1.

The second and final contest for the Calcutt Trophy will take place at the November meeting. Although Jack Carey has a good lead at this stage he is not unassailable and a good performance by someone who did not compete at the June meeting could find a new winner.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This meeting already plugged in the Editorial takes place at Anzac House Basement on Tuesday, 1st July, 1969. The fact that it is the 1st of the month and also the first Tuesday should not be allowed to escape your notice. Mark your calendar immediately so that you will be there.

## Committee Comment

The usual monthly Committee meeting was held at Anzac Club on Tuesday, 20th May. Business was mainly confined to reviewing Anzac Day and the receiving of final accounts for the Timor Memorial. All present were most enthusiastic of the high standard of the conduct of Anzac Day proceedings and especially the catering by Jack Carey, done at such short notice.

The presentation by the Australian Consul in Dili of the final accounts for the memorial indicate that the \$8,000 provided by the Association will be sufficient to complete the project. We feel we have had more than ample value for our money in this regard.

It was decided that the Committee and their wives will have a wind-up evening at the Floreat Park Hotel on Saturday, 21st June (at their own expense). This is a way of repaying the womenfolk for the many leave passes extended over the year.

It had been pointed out by the Engineer in charge of the Timor Memorial that our Colour Patch had been omitted from the plaques on the site. Col Hodson was empowered to supply the necessary replica of this Colour Patch so that it could be despatched to Dili for incorporation on the memorial.

The matter of recommendation by the Committee of a Life Member for this year was deferred until the June meeting of the Committee.

Bill Epps tabled a list of all those members who had died since demobilisation for incorporation in the minutes of the Association. This list will be published shortly, possibly in the next issue of the "Courier".

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## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

### ANZAC HOUSE BASEMENT

TUESDAY, 1st JULY (1st Tuesday)

Make This a Date to Remember

## Personalities

Vale Doctor Rodger Dunkley.

It is with regret that we have to announce the death during the month of May of our beloved medical officer in Timor, "Doc" Dunkley, at R.G.H., Hollywood, after a reasonably brief illness. All who served with our Unit and especially those who served on Timor revere the name of Dr. Dunkley. He was the true guardian angel of our show. His prowess as a doctor, his courage as a soldier, will live forever in our memories. He was indeed a great gentleman and a great doctor and a great soldier. There is no need for this writer to recount his deeds to members of this Unit. They are a legend.

Dr. Dunkley was largely a self made man. He served with the 28th Bn. in France in World War I and returned to Australia and did his medical course at the Melbourne University. He established himself in practice at Fremantle and served that city in various capacities for over 40 years. He was as loved and revered in Fremantle as he was by our Unit.

The Association extends to Mrs. Dunkley and sons, Ross and "Pip", our most sincere sympathy and also thanks Mrs. Dunkley for her kind invitation for John Burrigide and Col Doig to attend the private funeral of our loved comrade in arms.

Vale, Jim Cantrell.

Again with extreme regret we recount the tragic death of Jim Cantrell also during the month of May. Jim was the victim of a freak electrocution accident at the new Kewdale Depot. He was supervising a crane operator when the boom of the mobile crane encountered overhead high tension power lines. The flash came down the boom, struck a water tank and flashed to Jim who was standing on wet ground. It was a million to one chance accident as the crane operator was unhurt.

Jim will be remembered as our Armourer in New Guinea and New Britain and as a bloke who would do things for you in the most pleasant and gentlemanly way possible. He always had a ready smile and a word of good cheer. After demobilisation he went to Bell Bros. as a plant operator and worked with that

firm for 19 years, rising to a supervisor of excavating plant. He served for a period on the Committee of the Association and will always be remembered for his good ideas on the social side of things.

The Association extends to Mrs. Cantrell and her family our most sincere sympathy in her sad loss of a husband, father and good mate.

Dick Geere leaves at the end of this month for a trip to Japan and places in that area. Have a good trip, Dick, and don't get too embroiled with those Japs.

Geraldton was the venue of quite a few of the chaps on holidays this last month. Harry Sproxtton and Thelma and the children went there for a holiday as did Arthur and Beryl Smith. Peter Barden gives an account of these doings elsewhere in this issue.

Len and Dot Bagley and son Gavin had a trip to Esperance and then on to Albany. They met Pam Swann at Esperance and had quite a chat.

"Rip" McMahon has been in the "Big Smoke" for quite a piece seeing his "fang farrier" and also on another matter of medical attention. "Rip" says the race horses have been treating him kindly so his stay is all the more enjoyable at the expense of the T.A.B.

Ted Loud is in the news receiving an award from the National Safety Council as a person who joins the Turtle Club. This is confined to persons whose lives were saved by the use of a safety helmet. A cutting from the local newspaper is published herewith. Good luck to you Ted, but don't stretch that luck too far with safety helmets. (Shades of "Tin Hats" in Timor).

It is Ray Aitken's intention to bring Nicolau Goncalves (his and Norm Thornton's credo) to Australia for a holiday and sight seeing. He hopes it can be arranged to coincide with our Annual Re-Union on Sept. 27, 1969. It is also hoped he will be able to visit some of our farming members and get a good look at the Australian pattern of farming.

Saw Tony Bowers briefly this month when he was in the city to bring his children back to school. Me and Carol are still talking about the Timor trip.

Rumour has it that Bob Palmer

has sold out his dairy farm at Cowaramup and has decided to live at Busselton.

Eric Smyth and daughter Erica called on me and we had quite a talk. It is Eric and Twy's intention to trip north to Darwin some time in September and if possible take in a trip to Timor. He was assured that this would be a must if he he got as far as Darwin.

In Perth on a trip with a University group was Warwick Tobin, son of Bert, of Victoria. Warwick had dinner with me one evening and we had a good chin wag. He assured me that Bert was still as busy as ever. Warwick seemed to have a very full book on his trip and was being very well looked after by his opposite members in W.A.

Ron Sprigg has left hospital and returned home. He had a most painful operation on his big toe. We hope that Ron will soon be able to report a full recovery.

**50 See Rare Turtle Club Induction at Pemberton**

A club that no one wants to join, but are always happy when they are made a member must be unique in any part of the world.

About 50 men gathered in the Pemberton R.S.L. Hall last week to see one of the rare members inducted into the exclusive Turtle Club. The entry requirement: Surviving an industry accident with the use of a safety helmet.

Ted Loud was made a member after he survived a five hundredweight tree limb crashing onto his safety helmeted head.

The safety helmet saved his life or saved him from serious injury.

Only one other Forests Department worker has received entry into the club.

The accident happened a year ago and Mr. Loud was not injured. He picked himself and his slightly broken helmet up and walked away.

He was presented with a helmet with a Turtle Club insignia on the front, a certificate and a Turtle Club lapel badge.

The presentation was made by National Safety Council industrial division senior safety consultant Harry Davies.

**ARE THESE YOURS? OWNERS WANTED**

At the moment being held at the Doig residence are sundry items that were confiscated for fumigation at Darwin. These include a hat for J. Fowler, a hat for Stan Payne, a hat for Mal Herbert, a hat and a cane ornament for Reg Harrington, and four hats owners unknown.

As these articles are to some extent cluttering up Col's back verandah will the owners please collect same faster than promptly.

*Heard This?*

The young parson had taken for his first text at the young men's class the parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins. In conclusion, he said: "Now, young men, which would you prefer? The five Wise Virgins in the light, or the five Foolish Virgins in the dark?"

The vote was unanimous.

Then there was the golf game that St. Peter and St. Thomas were having one heavenly day. St. Peter's first drive was right up to the cup for a hole in one. St. Thomas, brandishing his celestial club, stepped up to the tee and drove a hole in one, too.

"All right," said St. Peter. "Now let's cut out the miracles and get to work."

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**STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE for the Year Ended 4th June, 1969**

<b>Funds as at 4/6/1969:</b>	\$	
Account S 3080 (General)	718.21	
Account S 3422 (Reserve)	526.09	
Bonds	600.00	
	<hr/>	
	1844.30	
<b>Receipts:</b>		
Interest on Account 3080	10.38	
Interest on Account 3422	18.41	
Interest on Bonds	30.00	
Receipts from Sweep	478.20	
Less Expenses	154.99	
	<hr/>	
	323.21	
Anzac Day Collections	140.00	
Less Expenses	134.00	
	<hr/>	
	6.00	
Subscriptions	21.50	
Donations	96.00	
	<hr/>	
	\$2,349.80	

	\$	
Monthly Meetings	168.67	
Less Receipts	124.00	
	<hr/>	
	324.85	44.67
"Courier" Less Receipts	40.00	
	<hr/>	
	284.85	
Annual Dinner Less Receipts	210.15	
	106.00	
	<hr/>	
	86.25	104.15
Car Rally Less Receipts	54.00	
	<hr/>	
	32.25	
Christmas Party Less Receipts	278.15	
	197.00	
	<hr/>	
	81.15	
Administration	113.10	
Honour Avenue (Kings Park)	70.86	
Timor Memorial	17.50	
Miscellaneous	166.24	
	<hr/>	
	914.77	
Account S 3080	290.53	
Account S 3422	544.50	
Bonds	600.00	
	<hr/>	
	\$2,349.80	



## Random Harvest

**PETER BARDEN, 6GN Radio Station, Geraldton, W.A. writes:—**

Well some of the "Double Red Diamond" types in this delightful provincial centre have just enjoyed a delightful week, brought about by the visit of Henry Sproxtton, the building "magnate" from the "big smoke". It all began this way. A good looking chap walked into my A.B.C. news office and said: "Do you remember me?" Having been well trained in such subjects as identification, I immediately replied: "Henry Sproxtton!"—despite the fact that the previous time we were together was almost a quarter of a century ago—August, 1945, in New Britain.

I immediately tried to get a few of the boys together but Eric Smythe was on holidays, it was Nip Cunningham's day off from the Mercantile Club, and Bill Drage's phone was not answering.

As Henry and "Yours Truly" walked to one of the favorite thirst quenching establishments I remembered that it was Thursday—Dragie's favourite golfing day. However, a phone call to the 19th hole proved fruitful, and half an hour later the three of us were engaged in a good old "chin wag" at the Victoria Hotel.

Unfortunately I had to return to duty, to finalise my evening regional news bulletin. However, the Saturday night was a "beauty". Dragie arranged for his son-in-law, Gary Rock, to be projectionist at a slide evening at the retired Northampton "cockie's" mansion in Boronia-ave. Nip and Mary Cunningham were with us, as well as all members of the Drage family and a mate of mine from Harvey, Len Byers (who served in the 2/4th Commando Squadron in Borneo) and his family.

We were delighted to view the slides taken by Sproky during his recent visit to Timor. The "Double Red Diamond" types appeared to be receiving plenty of attention from the "fair" young damsels. An interesting commentary by Henry was interspersed with reminescent remarks by Nip and Dragie—all of which contributed to the highly enjoyable evening.

It was my pleasure as a "rookie" of the 2/2nd to move a hearty vote

of thanks to Sproky and also to Bill and Glad Drage, and of course the projectionist, Gary Rock, on behalf of ourselves and our families.

I have attached a cutting from the "Geraldton Greenough Sun" newspaper, concerning the Timor ceremony and Henry's visit to Geraldton. (After looking at his photo you'll agree he's a good looking guy.)

Incidentally Henry was accompanied by his wife, son and daughter (the latter is prominent in athletics, having finished second in the State under 13 hurdles for girls and being a regular competitor in the "Little Olympics" every Saturday.

I also must mention that we also enjoyed slides taken by Dragie and Gary Rock during separate north-west tours, and also the art paintings and drawings by the Drage's youngest daughter, Rosemary. She certainly picks the most advantageous positions for displays, appreciating the fact that paintings are better viewed while a person is "relaxed".

Although I have not seen that brother-in-law of mine, John "Irish" Hopkins, for a long time, I was told the other day that he's still doing a good job as "powder monkey" for Western Mining at Koolanooka, and that his Anzac Day address as Monawa R.S.L. President was a beauty.

Well, I must be off now, as duty calls. Kind regards to all the boys—but here's a reminder: If any of you are planning a Geraldton visit, please let me know, so that I can arrange for us to get together over a noggin or two (?).

**J. P. KENNEALLY, of 28 Wilkins St., Yagoona, N.S.W., writes:—**

Congratulations to you and your party on the Timor trip, you lucky people. To put it correctly, you very determined people. You made up your minds to go and you did, perhaps that would be one reason I missed out. I was hoping I could make it. I didn't. However I may make it yet.

The list of speakers was certainly impressive, so were the speeches. I lean a little to Nicolau Goncalves. We must certainly be pushing along in years. Nicolau was not quite 14 years old when he went marching

off to the wars with the Australias. Incidentally he was always Tuan Norman's man (Norm Thornton). He also had had a fair amount of schooling. His maths and geography, plus his history and Christian doctrine, were way above what many of us know. In no time he understood quite a lot of English although speaking very little of it. He kept the other creados well posted on our conversations in English. I believe he's a farmer now and the father of five children. Long may he live and prosper and his family, and that goes for all the creados and the Timorese. The things they did for us and the risks they took to warn and feed us. Nothing could repay those people. Their acts were beyond repayment, but at least the memorial will show them to some degree what we think and feel about them.

Reading the speeches and news in the "Courier" the years drop off and we are young again good humouredly cursing the mountains and the track and the Timors' "bessic Tuan" when the place we're heading for is still six or seven hours' walking away and we'll get some boiled rice when we get there. Why should we go crook, our whole world lives on boiled rice, water buffalo and pig or boiled corn washed down with black coffee. We were lucky, seeing we had to fight a guerilla war, we had the good fortune to do it amongst the finest people and on the best little island in the world. I'll qualify that statement by adding the Portuguese end. Thank God we weren't marooned in the Dutch controlled area.

Anzac Day came. Unfortunately many of our members didn't. Seeing it fell on a Friday I thought we might have had a big crowd from the bush. We didn't. I'll excuse Noel Buckman. He had invited Alfredo and Ruby to Stockton for this Anzac weekend. Where the rest of them were I don't know. As for the locals don't ask me. It was one of our smallest contingents for years.

It was good to see Pat Costello on deck again. He has been having his share of misfortunes, but he looked extra well on Anzac Day. Don't know what happened to his mate Mick Devlin he missed. Dud Tapper and a friend came all the way from Adelaide and this time I

made sure I had a good wongi with him. I saw him for about two minutes during the Safari re-union. This time I kidnapped him and Jack, and Jimmy English, and headed for home. Jack slept well. I'll bet he's still cursing me. It was round about Anzac time 1950 (except for a brief interlude during Safari) since I had seen Tap. I was heading for Tasmania and had come across from Port Lincoln by boat. We stayed in Adelaide a few days and that was the last I'd seen of Dud for many a year. Nineteen years has made little change in him. For his size he can consume quite a lot of beer with no noticeable affect on his sobriety. However to judge that aspect correctly a man needs to be abstaining from alcohol himself. I reckon its discourteous and antisocial to do such a thing. So I'm barred as a judge of sobriety.

We usually suspend meetings during winter. We are however holding a meeting in July to prepare for an extra-ordinary general meeting in September. I hope my memory is not at fault otherwise I'll have Ron Trengrove or Alan Luby reading me the riot act.

The weather has been appalling, that is for anyone in my line of business. In the last fortnight we've had only a few fine days. Mostly it's wet feet, mud and washed out concrete and repairs. Finished the job down the south coast. It dragged on much longer than it should, bad weather, then held up whilst they were excavating, then more bad weather to make a bigger mess of the excavation. Just as well the price was good and the road contractor a close millionaire. My mate and I came out of it reasonably well. I'd say the contractor would show very little if any profit on it. However on the credit side for him he has his own quarries so he supplied the road base, his own concrete plant so he got rid of more of his metal and sand there, and his earthmoving equipment was only on the job between hires. His engineer needs a hell of a lot of experience in running the job though. An awful lot of good weather was fritted away through carelessness and delay in getting the interlocking drainage systems completed. Still that's only my observations and I'm in no position to

know their side of it. Usually there are reasons for everything that causes delays.

The family is well. The children are beginning to shoot up now. A few more years and they will all be on their way. Eighteen months will see Helen finished school. What happens after sixth year will depend on her pass. Michael attended a careers night at school last night. He's thinking of his career at 14. At his age I was thinking about next week's football match. Oh, well, I was 14 in a much slower era. We seemed to have plenty of time to grow up. By the time I left school there was a depression and any job was a career and that held true for all we between warers. The two youngsters are lucky. Playing time is their only headache.

I'll call it a day, but wishes to all our readers. Hope the winter treats our rheumatics kindly.

Forty years ago I made a resolution to improve my handwriting. My mother recently gave me a school book of that era. I looked on the fly leaf. You've guessed correctly—much worse.

**JACK SHEEHAN, of Box 234, P.O. Kalgoorlie, W.A., writes:—**

Sorry to have put you to the trouble of writing for the passport receipt. I had it signed ready to give to you but somehow it was still in the wallet.

Hope everyone has recovered from the trip. Arthur Smith didn't look so bright the day he left Dili but guess he'd recover once he got back on the Aussie tucker.

The few extra days we spent in Timor were well worth while. We found our old camp at Three Spurs and spent a bit of time there. Still finding traces of our stay.

Sprocky and I had a trip from Dili to Baucau in the yacht Mia Mia and they do themselves well on board. You would have really enjoyed it.

We stayed the best part of a day in Darwin then down to Alice Springs on the milk run touching down at Katherine, Daly Waters and Tennants Creek. We had a good look around Alice and it's a place really worth having a look at.

The next day on to Adelaide and then back to Perth for Anzac Day.

**ALAN LUBY, of Ambulance Station Forbes St., Liverpool, 2170, New South Wales, writes to Ron Kirkwood:—**

Just a note to acknowledge yours and to advise the safe arrival of the tie bar for Jack Hartley's Life Membership. I'm delighted with the tie bar—so simple yet elegant, and I'm sure it will be one of the treasured objects of this State.

Like me, I guess your thoughts are very much with those lucky fellows who have been fortunate enough to make the trip to Timor for the handing over of the memorial. I would love to have been able to make it, but not with three women to keep. I daresay someone amongst the party will have a movie camera, so in due course we will hope to have the opportunity to see at least some of the ceremony.

I gave the news item to the A.B.C. here over the weekend but nothing came of it so I was reluctant then to go to the trouble of passing it on to the other news distributors.

Our Sydney Cup Sweep was drawn at our last meeting on the 31st and as you are probably aware the results favoured the West.

Our next event is of course Anzac Day and to date the only indication of interstate visitors is Dud Tapper who is coming with three mates. This is a far cry from the exception of last year—who would think that we are so close to 12 months since that wonderful roll-up and the extraordinary pleasures of your visit. Anyway whoever turns up can be assured of a warm welcome and a happy day amongst their mates.

Trust you have settled back into the harness and feel the benefit of your holiday along with your family.

Happy to be able to report that my family and myself are all fit.

Kindest regards to all our friends you see.

### *Heard This?*

He: "Do you believe that tight clothes stop circulation?"

She: "Certainly not. The tighter a woman's clothing, the more she's in circulation."

## *New South Wales News*

When we get this letter in the "Courier" you and the rest of the Timor Memorial group will be back and telling us all about it, no doubt.

Sometime back I mentioned in one of my letters that Bill Epps and his wife did a marvellous job on our behalf in getting the "Courier" out. Well I have now a parallel story concerning a N.S.W. character who has before and now again done a tremendous job for the Unit as a whole but also more closely to home in relation to the Sydney Cup Sweep.

The night of the drawing we could not get it under way until I arrived with the last mail delivery from home which meant I had to go home then come back to Arncliffe and the drawing take place. By the time all this was completed and all the dead addresses were withdrawn it was rather late, to do any more other than Bill Coker arranged with me what time he would have the office girl type out the necessary copy and then Gestetmer'd and folded then into the envelopes for me to take away and post. All this was to be done next day by 2 p.m.

I arrived at 1 p.m., found Bill upstairs with the whole of the upstairs staff girls and blokes Gestetnering, folding, licking and counting and checking.

Frank Coker walked in, threw his hands up in the air, walked out muttering something about the 2/2nd taking over the bloody business. Bill cursing because something was short and how much longer did they think Trengrove could wait? I had run out of saliva and if the Lytron Co. hadn't run out of patience I don't know why.

Well, that is briefly what the Cokers, Bill and Frank, have done for us, not once but last year in the week that was before and after. And I for one think this N.S.W. section is very lucky that besides Bill's great efforts to keep the Unit here going we owe Frank Coker a deep and resounding thank you for his understanding and making so much of Bill's time available to us.

Anzac Day has come and gone and after last year was somewhat flat. We did not get the numbers we expected but 23 was a good figure considering and the effort by Jack

Peattie in coming down again this year was or should be an inspiration to come who live a lot closer. Thanks Jack, we like your company.

Dud Tapper was also another who came from afar and we were pleased to see him. Dud came with a mate who was very welcome.

Thanks to Jim English and Alan Luby's caravan we managed to make their stay more enjoyable I hope. Dud, who saw the boys who went to Timor before and after had a story or two to tell us.

Another surprise as Alan Luby said in his short speech who made the day all the way from Mona Vale was Merv Jones. According to Marj Jones they are definite starters from here on Safari in the 70s to the West.

Speaking of "Safari" Beaky Smith has sent me \$30 and Bill Bennett \$25 so at the moment they head the list for W.A. Tom Field reiterated to me on Anzac Day he will be a definite starter and I hope that the show does not get on the road without Tom as he is a stalwart 2/2nd man.

That non gate opener on Anzac Day attacked me and said that I had maligned him in a previous letter but it appeared from the smirks and smiles on everyone's faces that my version of the story was accepted, so now if you want a gate opened do it yourself if you want to get through and who disappeared about 2.45 Anzac Day.

Another great stalwart of the 2/2nd who stays very much in the background but does a tremendous amount of work is John Darge and his good wife. They were responsible for getting the sweep tickets out to you and checking all addresses. They were also in the "Week That Was" at the Worrangamba Dam so early to get us a good place to park and barbecue. John directed traffic and wife started the salads rolling. As I said so early that John forgot where it was and I nearly had a swim following his directions. It is so easy when we receive things not to think who does all the work and it is so easy to find fault when one does nothing to help get a show on the road. We are inclined to think that everything is organised (good or bad) by accident.

The cricket match with Arncliffe R.S.L. was a great success but mainly thanks to Mark Coker and Garth Trengrove bowling and batting so well with excellent wicket keeping by Paddy Kenheally despite a very wonky leg. John Darge's son who would be big enough for any front row, did a sterling stint with the ball and his friend also. Our batting was a bit weak but then Arncliffe's bowling wasn't to be sneezed at. It's a great pity that only so few turned up but to those who did it was a great day.

By the way the next meeting will be held on the first Monday in July. We would like a good attendance as there seems to be some matters need a little airing. So don't forget the first Monday in July, that is the 7th of July.

Also that the first Monday in September shall be an Extra Ordinary General Meeting.

I received a letter from Ron Kirkwood which we will be discussing at the July meeting which will probably be too late to do anything about this year but will be dealt with and decided upon for next year.

Now remember, folks, keep those letters coming in. A silver plated "Courier" and free carrier pigeons will be awarded sender of most letters sent in in ten years.

—RON TRENGROVE.

**"Smash" HODGSON, of 14 Everard Rd., Ringwood East, 3135, Vic., writes:—**

Sorry can't stretch to more than one book for the Cup Sweep, but one must cut one's suit to how the devil drives. (If only the money could equal my mixed metaphors.)

Things muddle along here with me pretty much as usual. Some minor and not over welcome acquisitions since yesteryear, are a set of varicose veins that I can't adduce any evidence about, as to my statement from knowledge, that Dr. McInerney was going to get something done about them at Bulolo. I, of course, opted for the opening presented, when I was asked if I'd be interested in an Engineering School at Casula.

Hardly a difficult choice, because at that time there was little to point optimism to belief that the Japs had declined numerically, and much to lead thought in the direction that whilst so far I had outsped

the most fleet footed of those gentry over all types of terrain, any change in the links between my pedal extremities and an inordinate of the poltronnery called self survival, may not have fused into quite the same degree of an existent status quo.

Also there is word by the official-ese, that consequent upon there being a bed available at Heidelberg, a pestiferous set of bloody malodorous piles are to get their quietus. High and stinking time too. They've become one big weeping embarrassment.

Hope the sweep exceeds all your highest hopes and may I add my compliments to you yourself for your racy contributions through the Historically Yours column.

It's wonderful what that little journal does as a thread to knit together so much of the valuable fabric which was a Unit in the mangle in those particular times, and I join all those others in a humble doffing of the lid to those stalwarts bunched behind it and boosting it out.

Regards to all the braves in your State.

**ANGUS MacLACHLAN, of 37 Arrowsmith St., Camp Hill, Qlds., writes:—**

Must get this out of the way while I think of it. Find enclosed butts and moola for same. I did not get around to sending back questionnaire re trip to Perth in '71. Main reason was because I cannot find it. However I wish to say that at the present moment Lois and I are starters and wish to participate in the lay-by scheme. If you can fix it up well and good. If not please supply me with the necessary.

Another matter I wish to mention. Every year we get our sweep tickets from W.A. On returning same I usually put in extra money for Association expenses. Some time in the distant past I tried to find out how much per year I should send, so as to make sure I did not fall behind. Nil result. Now I presume that you boys in N.S.W. have to kick in with an annual sub for your Branch. If this is so would it be possible to include me in the N.S.W. Branch and I can send my filthy money to you. This way I could come down occasionally and drink your beer without feeling embarrassed about it. Please let me know



as I rather like the taste of your beer.

All at home are now slowly recovering from a couple of hectic months climaxing in wedding bells on the first of March. On that day our number one daughter, Janette, married a very fine young lad—Queenslander of course. Now we are completely worn out, very happy and stoney broke. Praise those who have only boys. They don't know what they are missing.

All for now, Ron. My regards to all the boys down south. If you can't decipher this give it to Paddy. He has a hand like mine.

**BOB SMITH, of 13 Barnard Crescent, Tonkley, N.S.W., writes:—**

Please find enclosed cheque and sweep butts. Hope everything goes well in regards to the sweep and that the profit is good.

Not much of news from this way—but had a visit from Tom Fields a few weeks ago making arrangements for a meeting with Norm Denmery. We subsequently had a night out having a few ales at the Tonkley R.S.L. Club. Tom and wife, Norm, and my wife, Joyce, and self all had an enjoyable evening.

The old health is so-so. Since seeing you all last at Warragamba Dam I have had a few visits to Repat., but with the result that I was made a T.P.I. in December. Time certainly hangs heavy on one, so although interested in polishing and collecting of stones previously, have thrown myself more into this game with the result that I have less time in which to worry about. Luckily Joyce shares my interest and we have some good trips away. Very soon (Easter weekend) we hope to visit Tingha and have a good fossick around there. We have been twice before and enjoyed our trip. Also took a 10 day visit to Lightning Ridge last year and the trip was very rewarding.

One thing about these trips—as the air is dry out in these places I don't have much illness and I can go away with not too much worry.

Some time ago Ron, I forwarded \$30 to Jack Hartley to go towards my trip to the West in '71, but I received no acknowledgement—in this I mean—previously we had been advised that an envelope would be forwarded with each copy of the

"Courier" for those saving for the trip. Well, no envelope arrived and I do not know what is being done. Would you be able to let me know if the \$30 was received. And what is the set-up.

Well Ron, I make a very poor letter writer so will be merciful with you and bring this mess to a close.

**SHORTY STEVENS, of Yallunda Flats, S.A., writes:—**

I'm cutting things a bit fine with this and I hope you get it in time.

Was more than a bit disappointed to miss out on the show in April last year but will have to catch up some other time I guess.

In the farming game there seems to be more to do each year and less time to do it in, and we get less for doing it, so I seem to be unable to catch up with any of the lads much. Dudley Tapper called for a couple of hours last Christmas and we were able to have a bit of a yarn.

Am enclosing the butts and a cheque for same, wishing you a successful sweep and my regards to all the lads.

**KEN DOAK, of 10 Katoomba St., Albany, W.A., writes:—**

Please find enclosed P.N. for the tickets which you sent me. I trust this will arrive in time for the draw and regret that I have been a trifle long winded in attending to this. However I'm inclined to forgetfulness these days. Could this, I wonder, be a condition attributable to the marching on of that relentless old chap "Time"? If so then I guess I have quite a sizeable number of fellow travellers.

Another area in which my memory is letting me down very badly is that in which there should be many names and faces from the Cornstalk State which should be familiar to me. There were quite a number of chaps from your State who sailed with the old 1st and there must have been some who came through the debacle of those days of early 1942, but my isolation over here has, I'm afraid, caused me to lose all contact. Also, there were many from your State who were with the 2nd/3rd which Unit took in the majority of the boys who came back from the 1st.

Next year, all being well, I plan



to do a tour of the Eastern States and do hope to run some of the Independent types to earth. I had been planning to use my next furlough for this trip but being now alone, my wife having passed away very suddenly last August, I feel the need to meet old friends. Also I have a brother living at Nabic on the north coast, and I feel also that it is time we met again after some 24 years.

Should you happen to know any of these chaps, and could give them my address, and they were to drop me a note, I would be most grateful. As I have already said, I hope to be travelling East early next year and would like to see as many of the old crowd as possible.

For now I must fold up, wishing you all possible success with your sweep and my very best wishes to all the old Double Diamonds over there. Cheers.

**DULCIE RYAN, of 30 Wresham St., Bicton, W.A., writes:—**

Enclosed please find ticket butts for the Andersons and Ryans, also a cheque for same.

Good luck to you all.

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

Please find enclosed butts and cheque to cover same. I do hope the sweep is a great success.

I trust you are keeping well and give my regards to all the boys.

**CHARLIE GORTON, of 138 Mar-mion St., East Fremantle, W.A., writes:—**

Please find butts and money enclosed for your raffle. Hoping you have a good result as, by all accounts I have heard of the trip it was out of this world.

# Annual General Meeting

**ANZAC HOUSE BASEMENT**

**TUESDAY, 1st JULY (1st Tuesday).**

**Make This a Date to Remember**

**FILM NIGHT FOR TIMOR FILMS**

**Watch This Space for a Big Announcement**

**ANNUAL RE-UNION**

**SATURDAY, 27th SEPTEMBER, 1969**

**ANZAC HOUSE BASEMENT**

**GRAND FINAL OF FOOTY**