



# 2/2 COMMANDO COURIER

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## Editorial

### DEMONSTRATIONS

Some many moons ago an Editorial appeared in the "Courier" asking the question whether we were becoming a nation of Protestors and Demonstrators. Since that time the position appears to have worsened to a considerable degree. Protest marches on every subject under the sun have been held and demonstrations have been far from non-violent.

The crawl-down by the British Government on the South African cricket tour seems to have given a great fillip to the professional Protestors to step up their efforts in this country. Probably the worst example of all time was the demonstration against the South African Girl Basketball players in Sydney. When a gang of hoodlums and yahoos decide that a dozen decent girls who come here to play an innocent game of sport are the subject for a violent demonstration to a point of disruption the time has come for decent citizens to drop their lethargy and let these ratbags know that the Australian spirit of a fair go to everyone is not dead.

It appears to the present writer that there are too many youngsters with too much time on their hands and too much parental indulgence for their common good. If they

had to put their heads down and work for their good they might have less time for their violent disruptions.

Again I am not too happy at the way certain of our alleged leaders are encouraging this sort of demonstration. Their attitude smacks of mental vandalism and is the sort of leadership we can do without. It is common knowledge that the vapourings and outpourings of youth and adolescence bears no relationship to their latter life thoughts. All youths should be compulsorily made to keep a day by day diary of their thoughts and activities between the ages of 16 and 23 and then made to read them at the age of 28 or 29 to decide just how differently they think when they reach the age of responsibility. For leaders to encourage the irresponsibility of youth is to say the least, criminal, especially when it is only some sort of vote catching gimmick.

The time is definitely here for the various Governments of Australia to act to stop this stupidity before we arrive at a situation that occurred in France not so long ago when a whole nation was brought to a standstill by a heap of irresponsible rabble rousers.

—C. D. DOIG, Hon. Editor.

## JULY MEETING:

FILM NIGHT BY JACK FOWLER

Ladies Are Invited and asked to bring a light plate

# West Australian Whisperings

## Association Activities

### JUNE MEETING

This was held on Tuesday, June 2, and took the form of the first for the year of the Calcutt Memorial Trophy. Unfortunately this followed a public holiday and the attendance was well below par. However for those who participated it proved an enjoyable night and the competition was keen.

Doug Fullarton arrived and just about gave everyone a shock as he was in nearly all the finals. However the ever reliable Jack Carey pulled away in the straight and took the honours of the night.

Results were as follows:

Bowls: Maley 4, Carey 3, Bagley 2, Fullarton 1.

Darts: Cary 4, Fullarton 3, Geere 2, Sprigg 1.

Quoits: Fullarton 4, Epps 3, Carey 2, Hodson 1.

Table Tennis: Carey 4, Maley 3, Hodson 2, Sprigg 1.

Totals for the night: Carey 13, Fullarton 8, Maley 7, Epps 3, Hodson 3, Bagley 2, Geere 2, Sprigg 2.

It is hoped that when this series is continued at the November meeting that attendance will increase considerably to give this competition the support that it deserves. The whole concept of the trophy is that it should give every member a chance to win it and hold it proudly for a year. Except in the first year of competition this has not been the case and the quicker we can get back to our initial standards the better for the prestige of the trophy.

### JULY MEETING

This will be held in the Basement of Anzac House on Tuesday, July 7. Jack Fowler will be showing films of the Great Safari and the trip to Timor. These will be supplemented by other films and should prove to be a good evening.

Ladies are invited and are asked to bring a light plate.

### COMMITTEE NIGHT OUT

The Committee decided to indulge themselves and their wives, etc., in

a night out (at their own expense). This was held at the Floreat Hotel on Saturday, June 10, and proved to be a most enjoyable evening. This is one way in which Committeemen can say thank you to their womenfolk for being so good with leave passes over the year. This sort of evening looks like becoming a permanent part of our usual yearly programme.

### ANNUAL RE-UNION

Keep this well in mind. So far the venue has to be arranged but you will be notified in plenty of time. This night, as usual, fits in with the Grand Final of the League Football.

### CHRISTMAS PARTY

A booking has already been made at the Highway Hotel, Claremont, for Saturday, December 5. The price for this evening has been fixed at \$10 per couple, so you will have plenty of time to save up the necessary boodle to take your wife out for a wonderful night.

### BACKWARDS RAFFLE

This was concluded on Sunday, May 24, with a drawing at Col Doig's home. Len and Dot Bagley and Clarrie Varian assisted in this draw. The result is published in this issue of the "Courier".

Judged by previous performances sales were down about 10 per cent. There has not been time to analyse the reason for the fall off as most members were of the opinion that these tickets were fairly easy to sell. Despite the lesser sales a good profit was made and this will be the nucleus of a fund to finance the Jubilee Safari.

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.**

## CAN WE HELP? CAN YOU HELP?

I make no apology for reprinting in this issue the text of what appeared last issue of the "Courier". To date there has been a reasonable response to this appeal and donors will be published in a later issue of the "Courier" when everyone has had a chance to give what they can to this most deserving cause.

Have had a letter from Bernard Callinan which is printed hereunder:

"I mentioned briefly to you Antonio Sousa Santos' troubles when we met in Perth and now I would like you to arrange for some consideration to be given to a special appeal to help him and his wife.

That he is in great trouble is more important than how it came about; but any fault on his part lies in his placing too much trust in the word "Australian".

He signed documents as guarantor for the rent for a business being established by some Australians in Lisbon; they left without meeting the conditions of the lease and judgement has been given against Antonio for a large sum which he could not meet and a distress warrant has been issued against him.

The final blow is that now his wife has been taken to hospital with cancer.

At a time when we needed help he risked everything he had for us and I think most of us would like to do something to help him.

I have sent him a sum of money to help lighten his troubles a little and I am sure that any further help we can send him will be rewarded by the gratitude of him and his wife.

All good wishes."

The background of this matter appears to be that Sousa Santos met,

by some means, an Australian couple who were starting up a hairdressing business in Lisbon and apparently he guaranteed the rent of the premises. They did all right for a year but apparently in the second year failed to pay the rent and skipped the country and Sousa Santos has been left holding the bag to the extent of many thousands of escudos.

He has a judgment summons issued against him for the debt and it appeared he would have all his assets estreated. His greatest sin appears that from his association with our Unit he trusted all Australians. We all know that unfortunately we also breed a nice line in con men and Sousa Santos appears to be a victim of such a pair.

I think it can be truly said that the instigator of most of our material assistance gained in the early months of the Timor campaign came from Sousa Santos who willingly espoused our cause to his own jeopardy. It was he who honoured the early "surats" which provided us with much needed food. At the time he stood high in the administration set-up and his word to other Porto Administration staff was sufficient to see that we were fed by Portuguese and natives alike. Many there were who partook of his personal hospitality at Bobanaro. He was one of the Unit's truest friends and his wife in just as big a way.

Now he has fallen on evil times in his old age and probably as a result of his trust in the word "Australians". We, who had so much from him, should now do our best to repay in some way for his good deeds in 1942.

I give my heartfelt support to this appeal and hope that members will rally to the cause and give something to assist this fine Portuguese gentleman over his stile.

### RESULT OF SDRAWKCAB ELFFAR

- 1st: Absolutely Nothing, 87, Ian George, North Beach Bowling Club.
- 2nd: Our Good Wishes, 800, Smarty, c/- P.O. Leederville.
- 3rd: ½ doz. Swan Labels, 71, L. W. Longbottom, 240 Hubert St., Doubleview
- 4th: 1 doz. Emu Export Labels, 185, Joan Barden, Geraldton.
- 5th: 1 bottle Port, 823, Russell Huntingdon, c/- Smyth & Hickman, Darwin.
- 6th: ½ doz. bottles Beer, 992, Phil, P920, M.T.T. Workshops.
- 7th: 1 bottle Champagne, 335, B. C. Langridge, P.O. Box 53, Donnybrook.
- 8th: ½ doz. bottles Sherry, 125, Jean Morgan, 11 Daly St., East Fremantle.
- 9th: 1 doz. bottles Beer, 905, D. K. Turton, West Pingley.
- 10th: 1 bottle Scotch Whisky, 567, Tom Crouch, Manjimup.
- 11th: 5 doz. bottles Beer, 761, Stan Sadler, Wongan Hills.
- 12th: 10 doz. bottles Beer, 827, R. Knox, c/- Perth Football Club.

## Committee Comment

Your Committee met on May 19 and an excellent attendance resulted. The Treasurer, Dick Geere, advised that the working account was adequate for the present and would be bolstered in the near future by the raffle.

Col Doig advised that the raffle was well under way and he was hopeful of a good result.

Further discussion took place on the functions of Anzac Day and this was voted one of the best ever and arrangements would be difficult to improve. A small profit resulted from Anzac Day.

A long discussion took place on the Jubilee Safari after a report by the sub-committee was given by President Len Bagley. Quite a few matters were referred back to the sub-committee for further report.

It was decided that the Committee have their annual night out at the Floreat Hotel on Saturday, June 10.

Len Bagley advised that the Highway Hotel had been booked for the Christmas Party for December 5. After discussion it was decided that the charge for this evening be \$10 per couple and that this be given the maximum publicity in the "Courier" over the following months.

Geo Fletcher reported on the Kings Park area and said that a working bee was required to put the area in top condition for the winter months. This is to be arranged in the near future.

## Personalities

Don Turton has turned his spare time into fishing ventures down at Palerup Inlet and has had some prodigious catches of mullet and other fish. Loves every minute of it and always looking for a sparring

partner for his next netting venture. Can assure you the fish taste beautiful having been the recipient of a bundle.

Our commiserations to Kev Curran on again missing out in the Victorian State Elections. Kev was the A.L.P. candidate for Bendigo in the Lower House and although he led handsomely in the initial voting he was defeated on the preferences of the D.L.P. candidate. Don't give up Kev, your personality will pull you through one of these days.

Doug Fullarton has been enjoying a spot of leave and proving to be a good drinking companion for your humble Editor. Turned up at the last meeting and rocked the mob with a good performance especially with the rope circles.

Fred Napier has reached that ripe old age of 65 and has retired from the Public Works Dept. Wife Glad gave him a party on his birthday, June 12, which was a bottler. Alf Walsh and self supplied the Unit interest. I suppose this type of party will loom up more frequently in the near future as our members reach the age of retirement.

## SAM FULBROOK'S PRINTS

Sam Fulbrook has seen fit to donate to the Association throughout Australia 50 prints of one of his epic paintings "Emu and Aeroplane" (pictured). These prints were part of an original selection offered by the "Australian" and sold at \$30 a copy. The issue by the "Australian" sold out within three days of presentation to the public.

The prints now in the possession of the Association are held by Alan Luby in N.S.W. (18), Bert Tobin in Victoria (18) and Len Bagley in W.A. (18).

Sam's idea of price of these is \$15 per copy and the funds are to be

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# CHRISTMAS PARTY:

## HIGHWAY HOTEL, CLAREMONT

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5th

Book Up the Long-Haired Mate

COST — \$10 PER COUPLE

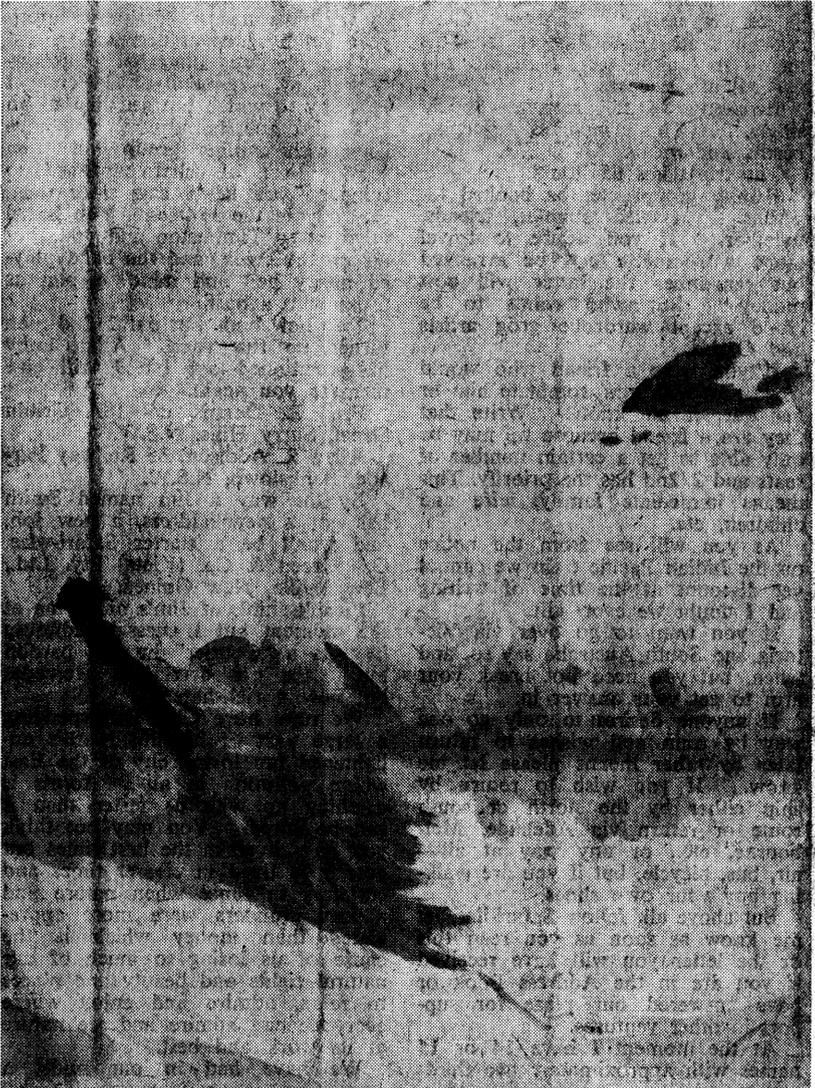
used for Association amelioration purposes. Anyone requiring copies should get in touch with any of the above three persons dependent on their State of domicile.

This is a magnificently generous gesture by Sam and I hereby extend my thanks on behalf of the whole of the Australian Association for the wonderful offer.

Sam has a worldwide reputation as a painter and is regarded as Australia's leading colourist. His medium in the art form is the terrific use of

colour to depict his thoughts. He is a double time winner of the Wynne Prize for Landscapes and this is Australia's paramount prize in the field. He has won dozens of other prizes and is in a position to demand astronomical prices for his original works.

The figure of \$15 per copy is regarded as a minimum figure to be quoted to Association members only. Quotes to outside persons for these signed and numbered prints should be obtained from Alan Luby, Bert Tobin and Len Bagley.



## New South Wales News

### RON TREN GROVE WRITES:

Achtung. Achtung. In other words: Attention all you good, potential intending Safari travellers—read, digest and return your answers immediately even if you have told me personally take it for granted I have forgotten. Have a bad memory or just plain lazy.

Things are moving but we have to book so far ahead and our agent needs to know as soon as possible. There are only 92 Economy Class seats and 52 First Class seats. This means that altogether there are 144 and all are sleepers.

Economy \$125 return, \$66.50 single. This includes sleeping berths and meals.

The trip takes 65 hours.

Family groups can be booked together. Married couples, friends, together. If you desire to travel alone a roomette can be arranged but remember the latter will cost money. But who wants to be alone except wardrobe grog artists and Garbo.

If you have a friend who would like to go with you nominate him or her but let me know. Write that they are a friend because we may be only able to get a certain number of seats and 2/2nd has the priority. This means immediate family, wife and children, etc.

As you will see from the notice on the Indian Pacific train we cannot get discount at the time of writing and I doubt we ever will.

If you want to go over via Victoria and South Australia say so, and when, but you need not break your arm to get your answer in.

If anyone desires to only go one way by train and wishes to return later by other means please let me know. If you wish to return by ship either by the north or south route or return via Adelaide, Melbourne, etc., or any way at all—air, bus, bicycle, but if you are walking buy your own shoes.

But above all, fellow Safari-ites, let me know as soon as you read this or the letter you will have received if you are in the Address Book or have answered our pleas for support in other ventures.

At the moment I have 14 or 15 names with approximately two thirds

with wives and family making approximately about 25 so far.

Anzac Day once again has come and gone. It was well attended and although we expected a few more and surprised at some who could have and didn't, all in all it was a good day. Some of the boys decided to give Arncliffe away this year and go on the Ferry with the Combined Commando Association crowd. This was a very good idea as we have had an invitation every year but have never accepted.

Jack Hartley somewhat reluctantly went to a re-union of Z Force at Hornsby to which I urged him to go as I think one should when you have been with another group you often see or hear of what happened to someone you never saw since then, that day in the 1940s. You heard he went to Timbustoo and you shot off up the creek, and the band played merry hell and mine's a pint as usual with a dash.

Two new bods but old 2/2nd men turned up this year. Allan Luby has mentioned one but I will give them to you again.

Fred R. Dennis, c/- 18A Griffin Street, Surry Hills, N.S.W.

Allan R. Addison, 35 Railway Parade, Bankstown, N.S.W.

By the way a Jim named Smith has got a new address, a new job, and won't be a starter Safari-wise. C/- Green & Co. (Kieta) Pty. Ltd., Bouganville, New Guinea.

I can't think of Jim's nickname at the moment but I guess as long as he gets a "Courier" he will pardon me. He was driving a Mercedes but now a rickshaw?

We now have Cliff Paff spending a large part of his life in this enlightened fun loving city of the East where pollution in all its forms is catching up with us faster than it can be cured. You may not think you have lived in the best times but you have lived in clearer times and certainly in times when nature and natural wonders were more appreciated than money which is the cause of us losing so much of our natural rights and beauty and places to relax, admire and enjoy where everyone can admire and see nature at its work and best.

We have had in our midst a

couple known as the Angus (Rain-bird) MacLaughlin's. Fortunately I found out in time to invite them up to my home and also the Bill Bennetts where a small portion of ale was taken inwardly. I must say that on each occasion that the former person has been a visitor besides a tinned (not bottled) gift. He has also brought rain hence the name and being the good bloke he is he always takes his bird with him and this time Elizabeth I didn't forget your name and Angus said her name was not Iris either and I don't care what Lil's name is over the road I didn't and won't forget your name any more, Sheila.

By the way not only do we want to know what you are doing about this Safari but the West will want to know so tell us and we will tell them but please don't address your letters to the box number at Mona Vale, only to my home address at Mona Vale, as we do not have a box at the P.O. any longer.

Unfortunately something went wrong with communications and Scotty Wares was nearly missed while over here but John Darge repaired a little of the damage and was caught up by Allan who assisted in the repairs. Unfortunately John doesn't know much about poker machine playing so you were in safe hands. Well, that's what wife Joan thinks about John anyway, and I would be the last one to tell her he's an expert.

Time for bed, 11.45 p.m.

I would say that Ray Aitken's wonderful garden would be a must to see for all garden lovers who make the trip to the West whenever you go.

I received a letter from Frank Sharp which I will enclose for publication as it is of interest to us all and as Frank knows so much about the I.P. train it will be like having our own expert on it with us. Thanks for the letter, Frank, and hope this will do for a reply.

With over 40 wrong addresses in our Address Book because people have not bothered to let us know or for many and varied other reasons some who would be interested in the Safari would each and every one of you who know or see anyone who does not receive our "Courier" mention the Safari and also don't let yourself get slack on the idea, the

time, the money required for fares, and a couple of drinks on the way.

To give you some idea of what we mean by saying you will go I quote my own case at the moment. I have \$30 in my Safari Kitty. My wife says we can't make it as a family for more reasons than money, but insists I must go but while I am entered as a starter it is by no means certain I will go. It is easy to cancel but if my name is not on the list by the end of July, 1970, I have no chance. So you see if this sad story helps you make your mind up (as some smart soothsayer has said) "My purpose has been served". Or as the good Lord has said "I shall pass this way but once." And as I expect him to be aboard why not you?

Have you noticed the way the word Safari keeps cropping up in this short note? Must be something going on.

## Heard This?

A girl getting out of a taxi after her boyfriend had taken her out night-clubbing, said: "Thanks for the corsage, the lovely dinner, the taxi ride home, and the unexpected Swedish massage."

She said she would do anything for a mink coat, but when she got it she couldn't do it up.

A scientist invented a serum to bring inanimate objects to life. Secretly he tried it out on a statue of a general in a park. Sure enough, the general gave a quiver and climbed down from the pedestal. The scientist was overjoyed.

"Tell me, General," he said, "what was the first thing you're going to do in your new life?"

"That's easy," rasped the general, ripping a gun from his holster. "I'm going to shoot several thousand of these damned pigeons!"

"How long have you been playing golf?" asked a new club member one morning.

"About two months," replied his companion.

"Two months? Well, you play a very good game."

"I ought to—it took me four years to learn!"

## Random Harvest

**PETER BARDEN, of 6GN Radio Station and ABGW Channel 6 Television Station, Geraldton, writes:—**

We were delighted to be visited once again by Henry Sproxton. He certainly looked in the pink of condition and we are thrilled that this city-ite thinks so much of the "Capital" of the north-central W.A. that he, like General McArthur, "goes to return". Henry, his wife, Thelma, and their son and daughter, Don and Kerry, were extending their fishing activities as far north as Carnarvon—so be prepared to hear about the big one that got away! Incidentally, Sproky was held up on the road near New Norcia for about three hours with car trouble brought about by the big caravan he was towing. Henry said they were delighted to have a Double Red Diamond type from the Geraldton area, Tom Foster, at the Anzac Day march in Perth—and of course at the "do" that followed at the W.A. Rowing Club.

Yours Truly and Nip Cunningham again marched together at Geraldton on Anzac Day. We were near the front of the big procession and Nip set a splendid example by swinging his arms in a manner which would have done justice to any professional soldier at his best. Needless to say Nip and Yours Truly enjoyed a nip or two (rum-impregnated coffee) at the R.S.L. Gunfire Breakfast which followed the Dawn Parade.

All 2/2nd visitors will have no trouble in finding Eric Smyth, because the accountancy firm in which he is a partner has moved to premises in the main street, Marine Terrace, next to the picture theatre, near the corner of Fitzgerald Street. If any of you have the misfortune to need hospital attention at Geraldton you will be in good hands because Eric's wife, Twy, is the senior Sister at the Regional Hospital. Nothing is too much trouble for Twy, who has just been elected Secretary of the Geraldton Sub-Branch of the Royal Australian Nursing Federation.

Bruss Fagg, of Northampton, has been in the news again. Bruss is a stalwart of the R.S.L. Sub-Branch, which at its latest meeting made a move to present him with a Certific-

ate of Merit, in recognition of his services as President and Secretary.

If any of you are up at Exmouth don't hesitate to drop in and say hello to my eldest son, Ross, his wife Nancy, and their young daughter Petrice. Ross is a plumber with the Geraldton Building Co., which at Exmouth has just completed a new Post Office, has almost completed a new school, and has just been awarded a huge contract for work at the R.A.A.F. Airport at Learmonth. Ross, a keen basketballer, is also captain of the Demons team which has won both games in the night football competition introduced at Exmouth this season.

I must be away for now, because I have a Town Council meeting to cover for T.V. and radio.

Kind regards to all the boys.

**J. P. KENNEALLY, 28 Wilkins St., Yagoona, N.S.W., 2199, writes:—**

Anzac Day arrived. Unfortunately many of our members didn't. We mustered about 21 for the march. Cliff Paff down from Gloucester was the only member from the bush. Tommy Martin from Gosford could not march because of the injuries he received in an accident recently. He looked after the beer truck at Hasting Deerings. Jack Keenahan gallantly volunteered to keep him company. By the time we got back from the march Tommy was unable to give us much information regarding his accident, whilst Keenahan had that smirk usually associated with cats who have managed to find a way into the aviary. There was, however, plenty left to irrigate the tonsils.

About 14 of us went to Arncliffe. Jack Hartley went to Hornsby R.S.L. to meet some of his "Z" Force mates from interstate. Billy Hoy, Jack Keenahan, Snow Went and Jim Hallinan went on the ferry trip round the harbour, acting as our reps. at the re-union of the other Squadrons.

Jimmy Smith had to head for home as he was leaving for Bouganville on the 27th. He has taken a new position running a trading post at Kieta, and I mean trading post. It has a turnover of about \$2,000,000 (yes, two million) per year. Jim, wife and family decided

the tropics were just what they needed. The boys will attend High School in Rabaul so it will be some time before we hear his uproarious laugh again. We'll miss him on Anzac Day and at the few functions we do run.

Had a very quiet day myself. Home by 6.30 p.m. I was tired before I started.

Jim English was ill but Ron Hilliard was right on deck. Ron Trenchgrove has the roll call. My memory is not what it was.

The weather here is lousy. No sunshine and damned cold. Poured a load of concrete at 1 p.m. one day, finished it in the dark, as wet as when it went in, and to top it all off walked on it next morning and left my hoof prints in it. Gives you some idea of how much drying there was in the air.

Credit restrictions are here. However there is an abundance of work. There's a nigger in the wood pile somewhere. A building company approached the bloke I'm working for, and offered him a flat rate for all the sites. He wasn't too interested so I reckon the only sufferers in this credit squeeze will be the poor unfortunates buying a building site, or having a place built. The finance companies will be there with the pelf at a much steeper rate of interest.

Angus MacLachlan was down from Brisbane. I was busy painting the kitchen when he arrived. He gave me a good excuse to knock off. He and Lois look well. Mac has put some beef on the shoulders. Gave up smoking. He's still matching wits with the Chinese seamen in the Port of Brisbane. They'll keep him young and busy.

We discussed Sousa Santos' case at our monthly meeting on Monday night, June 1. We decided that "An appeal be opened on a personal basis and a modus operandi be formulated for the collection and disposal of the funds collected. We emphasise the urgency of the matter. If we are to render any worthwhile assistance to Sousa Santos."

I am enclosing a cheque for the fund. Perhaps I am jumping the gun sending it to you people, however I feel your organisation over there is much better geared to handle this than either ourselves or Victoria

—you have had the experience of the Memorial Fund collections.

We should all be grateful to Bernard Callinan for bringing the sad plight of Sousa Santos to our notice. As Bernie has pointed out Santos played a leading part in getting the Portuguese and native help we so badly needed, particularly in the early days of the Jap landing. It's a safe bet that most of us would not be around today if that help had not been so unselfishly given. Surely we who were in Timor know and remember what these people risked to help us. We are being asked only for money to assist this man. He and his compatriots risked their lives and the lives of their families, to help us. There should be no hesitation in the matter. We've got families of our own now only because of those people. How many of us would be prepared to risk them to help a bunch of foreign soldiers to continue fighting and to survive? Yet that is what those people did and with no possible chance of a reward for their help. So come on and let us show in this matter that we have not forgotten what these people did for us.

Good luck to all in the West. I hope to see you next year.

**PETER MANTLE, of Box 120, Biloela, Q'land, writes:—**

Enclosed cheque is to any fund that we have for Antonio Sousa Santos, as mentioned by Bernie Callinan in the May "Courier".

Well, it looks as though the rains have failed, and there will be no wheat planted in my district this year. Wheat is a winter crop here, and has been the mainstay of the area for many years now. As it is over production has brought wheat quotas, limiting what an individual farmer can send to the Wheat Board at top price. So the outlook is gloomy indeed.

The summer grain crop here failed completely on some properties (on my farm for instance) was only good for grazing on others, and made a paying crop on a few. So there's little rural income to be expected. In fact there are some farmers who haven't taken off a crop for 2½ years, and not for 12 years have we had really good rains here.

I certainly chose a bad time to buy a property. As well as interest

and redemption of bank loan, I've paid out thousands on work on the farm, and got back not a cent.

For quite a long time now, some farmers have been off their land getting jobs on the Council gangs, at the meat works, labouring at the powerhouse, Moura mine, and so on. And this is not just the little men who were just starting out laden with debt.

Retail trade is badly hit, and quite a lot of staff have been put off.

All this has its effect on me as the local paper depends on advertising, though we still eat regular.

At a time when the Government increases the bank rate to dampen down a booming economy and control inflation, Central Queensland is deflated and unbooming.

Woman went to a doctor for an abortion, said she couldn't afford the \$300 demanded. "Well," said the doctor, "we do have a Wednesday Special at only \$50 . . . but we're booked up for that 12 months in advance."

And did you hear about the poor woman who was approached by the Federal President of the KEEP AUSTRALIA BEAUTIFUL League? He asked her to emigrate!

All the best.

**JOCK PEATTIE, of 11 Denne Street, West Tamworth, N.S.W., writes:—**

I dropped a note to Ron Trenchgrove last night telling him that as long as the dates fit in with my holidays that I'll be on the Safari with my wife. I also asked him for any information that he or any of the Sydney boys might have on Charlie Anderson.

I have a friend who has done some writing for "Walkabout" and other periodicals over the years. He has had a plan of a book on the achievements of the Australian aboriginals and Thursday Islanders accepted for publication later this year. He has done a lot of research on the topic and knowing him, it should be a worthwhile effort. I have it in the back of my mind that Charlie told me when we were training in Foster that his people came from Northern Queensland. If this is so, it would provide an excellent opportunity to have recorded some of the things that endeared Charlie to all who knew him. Any information would be most welcome but

especially details of his service record with us, in Korea and of his death in Malaya as well as stories of his sense of humour and comradeship. Any information could be sent to me or direct to: J. F. Hobden, 341 Goonoo Goonoo Road, Tamworth, N.S.W., 2340.

As the book should be finished about the end of July the sooner Jim Hobden can get the information the better.

Marj and I saw quite a bit of Charlie after the war. He used to come to Tamworth or pass through quite often and would always drop in here.

Well, things have been going along pretty smoothly of late but our son nearly became one more road statistic in early January. He was in the back seat of a car that went into a skid and the part of the car where he was, connected with a foot square cement post on a bridge. He had 17 bone breaks, collapsed lung and drowned in his own blood. Although it was on a country road near here another car was on the scene almost immediately. A phone was nearby and an ambulance on the scene in minutes. Ours is a Base Hospital in Tamworth with special equipment for the north and north-west of N.S.W. On top of this the doctor on duty was one of our best surgeons (just returned from Vietnam). If it hadn't been for all this good luck he wouldn't have been here today. Even so it was a week before it was definite that he would pull through. He had a long convalescent period before going back to work a few weeks ago. He's of a quiet nature and with all he went through hasn't complained yet.

Our daughter is still slugging away at University but likes it. This should be her last year at Uni. Then she will have one year at Teachers College before going out.

Marj and I are still keeping well but busy but at least it keeps us out of trouble.

Best regards to yourself and the boys in the West.

**GERRY GREEN, of 158 Lansdowne Rd., South Perth, W.A., writes:—**

Herewith raffle tickets and cheque to cover same. Will you please allocate the balance to the fund being organised to assist Sousa Santos.

**BERT BURGESS, of Box 224 Kataning, W.A., writes:—**

I am enclosing a cheque from Marie and me towards the Sousa Santos appeal and balance for sweep tickets. Should the go slow tactics of our civil servants delay the arrival of this letter and sweep ticket butts the cheque will still be good.

Normally I would not have had any difficulty in selling these tickets but for the past few weeks my sole occupation has been the cropping programme and feeding of sheep.

We have had sufficient rains for germination but not enough to give any bulk of green feed. The sheep have so far come through remarkably well but I'm afraid the tally of bales later on will tell the story.

Marie and I join Paddy Kenneally in congratulating Twy Smythe on the expression of her thoughts in the Editorial. As you say in this issue's Editorial it is only the minority who have no trust in their neighbours but, unfortunately it is this minority that is given so much publicity today. I guess that it will take the next generation to realise how foolish this one is.

**FRANK SHARP, of 22 Quinn St., Dubbo, N.S.W., writes:—**

No doubt you will be surprised to hear from me but I had a letter from "Drip" Hilliard a few weeks ago and I wrote to him for some information regarding the trip to W.A. next year and he gave me your address so I have decided to drop you a few lines to find out how my wife and I could join you fellows and make the trip.

I do not get any chance of seeing you boys down in the city but I get the "Courier" every month and a couple of books of tickets to sell each year for our sweeps.

I would be grateful if you could drop me a few lines to let me know what I will have to do to make the trip and how I have to finance it.

I have been doing a lot of working on the Indian Pacific since it has started running from Sydney to Perth. I am a Railway Loco Inspector and it is part of my job to teach drivers how to drive goods trains and fast express passenger trains and all about train working. I have been running between Parkes Broken Hill and then back to Parkes since this train has started running.

It has a Loco Inspector on the engine from the time it leaves Sydney until it reaches Broken Hill and the same on the return journey back to Sydney. Three of us do the journey, my section being the Parkes Broken Hill Parkes section. It is a beautiful train and everything is there for a wonderful trip. It is like a floating hotel on wheels. It is air conditioned sound proofed, hot and cold water, and beautiful cabins and suites, good meals and nice dining car and lounge.

I would like to pass on to you that the bookings are very heavy and at present all first class accommodation is booked out until next February and the Economy Class until September. I think it would be a good idea if you could make enquiries regarding same and make your bookings as soon as possible. It seems to be very popular and I have noticed the train appears to be always full. Probably by getting in early and making a block booking and explaining the reason of the trip you may get everything fixed up by September 1971. Should you have any difficulty let me know and I may be able to pull a few strings to help you as I have a few contacts amongst the heads of the Railway Dept.

Trusting you are keeping well. Will close now and hoping to hear from you in the very near future. Kindest regards to all the boys.

**GEORGE STRICKLAND, of 15 Dudley St., Rivervale, W.A., writes:—**

Sorry to be so late with the butts. As usual they were put away when they arrived and forgotten. We have brought them ourselves only because I never got around to selling them.

Hope the sweep is the success it deserves and will see you one day.

I've been working on my own at home making cupboards, etc., since last September.

**SGT. L. A. MITCHELL, 31696, I.C.O.D., Bandiana, Vic., writes:—**

Having received the "Courier" regular, its not before time that I should drop a line towards it.

During the past three years I've spent two years up in Brisbane, and one year in Sydney, and once again I'm posted back to the camp where I have spent so much time—Bandiana, Vic.

Missed out seeing the ones that came over from the West on the

Safari. Mind you, I've still got a few years to go yet and that's one State I've not been posted in and that's the West.

Do pass on my regards to all members of the Association, plus wish the Unit chaps that I remember so well, such as Jack Carey, Harry Sproxtton, Tom Crouch, Jack Wicks, Charlie and Stan Sadler, Robbie Rowan-Robinson.

**DOT HARRINGTON**, of "Ainaro", Wyening, W.A., writes:—

Just a couple of lines to enclose with raffle butts.

Reg and the boys are busy clearing and putting in crop on the boys' block at Bakers Hill. Haven't had enough rain here to do very much yet but the feed is beginning to come away nicely.

Well, it is over 12 months since our Timor trip—time certainly flies doesn't it? Our contact with Timor is very close—the little boy we are educating in the Seminary at Dare is learning English very quickly and we have had several letters from him. It is really wonderful—you have no idea the pleasure it is giving us. He is 16 years old and believe it or not his birthday is on the same day as

Reg's. He has the typical grin of all Timorese children—in fact he is quite a handsome lad by his photo. We only hope that by the time he is ordained we will be able to take another trip to attend the ceremony.

Laure has settled down as a married man—very domesticated, and we have a very sweet daughter-in-law. The other five are all well. We only have two at school now, so that problem is nearly over.

I must away now—hope it isn't too long before we see you all again. Do hope to make Ladies' Night. We are very involved in different activities in our district and it is hard to get a date that doesn't clash.

**F. P. CUNNINGHAM**, of 182 Augustus Street, Geraldton, writes:—

Am enclosing a money order and sweep butts. I hope the raffle meets with every success.

Mick Morgan called in to see me last Friday evening. As I was on shift I never got the opportunity of knocking off a couple of lagers with him.

Regards to all.

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

## JULY MEETING:

TUESDAY, JULY 7th

ANZAC HOUSE BASEMENT

FILM NIGHT BY JACK FOWLER

Ladies Are Invited and asked to bring a light plate

## ANNUAL RE-UNION:

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3rd

VENUE TO BE ARRANGED

Grand Final Football Night. Keep This In Mind

## CHRISTMAS PARTY:

HIGHWAY HOTEL, CLAREMONT

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5th

Book Up the Long-Haired Mate

COST — \$10 PER COUPLE