

1972 (Les Bagley)
lots of good stuff here



2/2 COMMANDO COURIER

(Registered for transmission by post as a Periodical — Category "A")
(Address All Association Correspondence to Box T1646, G.P.O. Perth, 6001)
Vol. 26 No .242. December, 1972 Price 1c

EDITORIAL

TO BE YOUNG TODAY

To be young today is not only to enjoy many advantages and comforts unknown to former generations but to suffer many trials and to cope with many problems which did not plague their forefathers. Young people are genuinely puzzled by the frictions and deficiencies in our society.

Impatience comes naturally to the young. They resent the bureaucratic time lapse between pressing the button and getting the answers to their questions or action on their requests for change.

Young people have a consuming passion to make wheels turn, to go somewhere. Discontent with things as they are is not wrong in itself. It is the impetus which has created most of the greatness in men and women in all of history. But discontent which looks only at burdens to demonstrate against and not as blessings to use is unhealthy. Both burdens and blessings are part of normal life. The great scientists, historians and philosophers agree that life on this earth has been and is one continuous, never-ending process of re-

adjustment. Young people know they are maturing in body and mind at an earlier age than did preceding generations, and they want to have that fact acknowledged.. Most young people handle the requirements of life and its pressures adequately. Their urge is to seize the passing hour and fill it with experiments. However, there is no percentage in living only the immediate present, in believing that something that is happening is, for that reason, overwhelmingly interesting.

In lauding our age as one in which we have machines that think, let us be mindful of the fact that human beings must think harder to keep ahead. The highest purpose of society is not to prepare a nation fit for computers, and this is one of the central points in the protest of youth. They seek a profounder meaning to life and a more satisfying culture. This is not to say that invention is looked upon disdainfully, but they want poets and philosophers as well as engineers.

— Max Davies.

DECEMBER MEETING

Night, Basement, Anzac House and
don of Calcutt Trophy, Tuesday, 5th Dec.
dies are invited to attend

West Australian Whisperings

Association Activities

BUSSELTON CONVENTION

This was a real beauty and reflects terrific credit on all who had anything to do with its organisation. Special thanks to Clarrie and Grace Turner, and Bob and Barbara Palmer, who did the initial organisation at the Busselton end and Gerry Maley and Len Bagley, from the Perth end. The following made the trip from the City end: Geo. and Dot Boyland, Gerry and Dot Maley, Bill and Jess Epps, "Scotty" and Elsie Wares, Len and Dot Bagley, Colin and Olive Hodson, Col. Doig and Joy Loudon, Jack and Jean Fowler, Geo. Fletcher, Bob and Betty McDonald, Arthur and Beryl Smith. From Mandurah came Joe and Helen Poynton with their two girls, Cyril and Kath Stonehill, (friends of Joe and Helen and the gang). Ron and Mrs Sprigg from Albany. The locals from the near area were: Clarrie and Grace Turner, Bob and Barbara Palmer, Bill and Gus O'Connor, Alec and Wynne Thompson, Harold and Iris Rowan-Robinson, Bernie and Babs Langridge and these were to be our hosts for a glorious week-end. From Queensland came Neil and Norma Hooper and Alan and Iris Soper to add to an already wonderful gang.

The first arrivals at Busselton started on Friday the 6th and these included Col. and Joy, Bill and Jess and Geo and Dot and as all were among those booked into the Vasse, it started things in a big way. Col was lucky enough to meet a neighbour, Chris McClemons, who is currently managing a firm at Busselton and that was the start of a down fall. Saturday started out wet, but improved as the day wore on, and the first person your editor greeted was Bob McDonald, and from then it was on. Alan Soper, Col. Hodson, Neil Hooper, Bob Palmer, all pre lunch problems. Then the main body of the party arrived in the afternoon and your editor still in a receiving position, but only just upright. The buffet dinner at the Vasse followed by dancing etc in the Timber Top Room, was a beauty. Clarrie Turner made a speech of welcome, it must

have been good, but after a heavy day I must admit I do not recall too vividly exactly what he said. Half way through the night Ralph Finkelstein arrived, having been in Busselton for a golf tournament. A colossal night which will be remembered by all for a long time to come. Your editor decided on a kissing expedition of the ladies and finished up with make-up all over his suit (hands up the lady in question and I'll send you the dry cleaning bill).

Sunday dawned bright, windy and bloody cold. Hangover terrific. Publican not co-operative. Heart starter, not available. Buses arrived to take all the party on a trip to Yallingup Caves. Wonderful little bus which seems to have solved all space problems except you want not to relieve yourself halfway through the journey especially if you were ensconced in the back seat. The cave at Yallingup, I believe, is unforgettable in its grandeur (I chickened out before the start of the tour through the cave as Caves House was in sight, the hour of the session was nigh and my desire for a starter terrific). Those who did the caves tour including 6ft. 5in. Neil Hooper, who crawled, bent, and staggered through the full course, granted he was sighted having a full Scotch soon afterwards, but so what!

The luncheon at Caves House would have to be memorable, food and drinks so exciting that it would have been enough for 500. At the conclusion of an excellent luncheon a short convention meeting was held. This was handled by Clarrie Turner and Len Bagley and brought out a lot of points of interest for future activities of the Association. These meetings can do nothing but good for us all. It was then on to a barbecue at Clarrie and Grace Turner's be cottage at Peppermint Grove near Capel. What a bear! Thompson and good wife their boys had been th got a fire aglow. That was windy and col plenty to drink ar wonderful barbecue lovely it melted in good things come was like Pepys sa

Monday was another day. Golfing threats had been made by the dozen on Saturday and Sunday, but execution is a different thing, especially with a hangover. Somehow or other, most of the party finished up at Clarrie and Grace's farm at Capel, drinking grog and pillaging the garden and the fruit trees. This was to be the end of a most wonderful convention. Thanks a million once again to all who took part in this terrific weekend. There is not the slightest doubt that these conventions have a something that nothing else can provide, and we should do more to promote them on all our localities. I still will have nice dreams of Busselton.

ANNUAL REUNION

A most successful function was held this year at the Imperial Hotel, on Saturday September 30. We were not exactly favoured by the weather and this is about the third occasion in the last four years that we have had a wet evening. The roll up in all circumstance was quite good and the final count was 50 members and 4 guests.

This year the format of the evening was changed to make the evening considerably more informal with a buffet type meal and a minimum of speeches with the accent on get-togetherness. Generally the comment on this form of Annual Reunion was most favourable with but one or two dissenters who continue to favour the old and more formal style of evening. The food was excellent and the service for drinks was very good and we do appreciate the way in which mine host Bruce Smith looked after us.

The toast list was again under the guidance of Col. Doig. Bill Epps proposed the toast of the Queen, Len Bagley handled the major toast of the Unit and Association in his usual most competent manner. Jack Carey had charge of the final toast of our guests which was a gem in the normal Carey style. Responses were made by Roy Lugg, of the Wembley Technical College and Colin Chilcott, a survivor of the ill-fated "Voyager."

Among those present were quite a few from the country, including Ron Sprigg from Albany in full beard, Don Turton from Wandering, Ernie Bingham, Wandering, "Robbie" Rowland-Robinson, Bridgetown, Ted

Monk, Latham, Eric Smyth, Geraldton, Stan Payne, Nukarni and Joe Kalenowski, Mundijong, whom we have not seen for ages. The Metro types included: Len Bagley, Bill Epps, Ron Kirkwood, Gerry Maley, Col. Hodson, Geo. Fletcher, Scotty Wares, Harry Sproxton, Ray Parry, Col. Doig, Joe Poynton, Roy Watson, Mick Morgan, Merv Ryan, Terry Paul, Rod Dhu, Tony Bowers (Kojonup), Clarrie Varian, Geo. Boyland, Percy Hancock, Geo. Strickland, Ralph Finkelstein, John Burrige, Ray Aitken, Fred Sparkman, Don Hudson, Fred Griffiths, Lou Thompson (Wannamal), Dave Ritchie, "Curly" Bowden, Spriggy McDonald, Dick Darrington, Arthur Marshall (Harvey), Doug Fullarton, Mick Holland, Arthur Smith.

We were most pleased to welcome from Queensland, Neil Hooper and Alan Soper who were holidaying in W.A. and were fortunate to be able to be present and meet such a big group of the gang.

This was once again an excellent Reunion and there is no doubt the comradeship of the old unit.

COMMEMORATION SERVICE

The Annual Service was held at Kings Park on Sunday, October 1, and we were lucky to be favoured by good weather. The attendance of members and their families was really good and these Commemoration Services appear to be gaining in stature each year.

President Len Bagley gave the address, which is published elsewhere in this issue. This address was most favourably commented on by many of those present. Mick Morgan marshalled the parade in his usual elegant style. The area was in good condition as the result of a good working bee, held the previous week. The Units thanks are due, in a big way, to Geo. Fletcher, who keeps this lovely area in such terrific condition.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Once again, and for the third time, it is my pleasure to address you on the occasion of our Annual Commemoration Service, in which we pay homage to our fallen comrades.

Gradually with the passing of the years, their memories tend to become blended into the past. Time has always proved to be a marvelous healer. We find ourselves so

caught up with the present, that sparing a thought for the deeds of the past, becomes increasingly difficult. We try our level best to reverse the memory of our departed comrades, and I honestly think that this living memorial in Kings Park does reflect in a very suitable way our desire to perpetuate their memories. Year by year this area shows vast improvements, and is becoming the cynosure of all eyes, regarding such areas in this beautiful park. I think, on your behalf, I can pledge that our efforts will never diminish in our desire, that the area which commemorates our fallen friends, should continue to be well maintained and improved as the occasion demands.

Last year at this service we were privileged to have with us our friends from the Eastern States, who were most high in their praise of this area and also in the simple solemnity and reverence of our Service. I must say it made me feel very proud as your President to be the recipient of these genuine words of praise.

We are assembled to pay our respects to those of us who gave their lives, that we who are left behind could live a better life, untrammelled by the fear of war and the heel of a conqueror. One must begin to wonder whether the high purpose of their passing has been achieved.

The world is a pretty sick old place at the present time. To pick up the paper, or listen to the news media, is to discover that man's inhumanity to man is still on the march. The Middle East is in constant turmoil. The African continent is a boiling cauldron. The Indian sub continent ferments like a barrel of yeast. The Vietnam conflict drags on intermitently. The great powers, America, Russia and China are permanently poised like boxers getting ready for the fray. Where, oh where, will it all end?

To date the semi isolation of this Continent has assisted us to keep out of the eternal strife, but distances shrink daily. Our emptiness must be an awful magnet to the "have nots" of this world. What can we do? The watchword of the R.S.L. is "The price of liberty is eternal vigilance", and this is most true. Despite all the protests against conscription and National Service, this appears to be

the only way in which Australia can keep itself in a state of readiness. After all, just this sort of National Service has paid off handsomely for such small countries as Switzerland and Sweden. We cannot forever expect our alliances with America to be our saviour. We in our time have seen such alliances with the United Kingdom fall apart. There is nothing better than your own flat feet when you want to look after yourself. Somewhere along the line we are going to have to imbue the coming generations with a spirit of patriotism and loyalty that will in their minds make Australia paramount. Despite all the anti war, anti-conscription and anti-anything else talk, the best way of keeping your hide in one piece is to be trained and able to defend yourself. Turning the other cheek is a good way of getting two black eyes.

Perhaps it is in this area that we who have been through it all and have reached an age of maturity and discretion, can do our part in trying to form and mould the character of the rising generation, who will be the custodians of this paradise which was formerly built by our forefathers. We must where possible exert all our powers of persuasion to see that the destructive elements in our society do not get into the saddle.

It is with regret that I must note at this stage that the grim reaper is catching up with our members, in a way not thought possible, say five years ago. Never an issue of our Unit paper goes to print that one or more of our friends has gone on. The thinning of the ranks of a Unit as small as ours, leaves a very big void as each one passes. Perhaps it is a sign of the times and that it shows we are all growing so much older. Let us hope that the death rate of members diminishes considerably in the years to come.

For those of us who still remain sound in wind and limb, this is our great opportunity to get together in even a bigger way than we have done in the past. For most of us family responsibilities are diminishing and providing us with more leisure and this presents the golden opportunity to enjoy the company of our mates. Make "Togetherness" the theme of our years to come.

Let me now have a word to say to those who mourn the loss of their loved one, whether they be parents or wives of those who gave their lives on service or who have lost their loved ones since that time. As I stated earlier in this address time is a great healer. Let us revere their memories, but let us not grieve too long. Grief can if carried on too long, lead to morbidity and this is not the purpose of our lives; which are ever too short for anything but the best that life can bring us. I now ask all assembled to rededicate themselves to the work that will befall us in the years to come and do with a will everything that will be demanded of us.

I would like at this moment to thank you all for coming along and sharing in this simple ceremony of homage, and ask you to stand a moment while I read the names of those who grace our Honour Roll.

YOUR EDITORS TRIP TO S.W.

Your editor has one again been on holidays and this time his travels took him to our South West members and included the Busselton Convention. This was most highly enjoyable as recounted elsewhere, so not to dwell on this particular facet, except to say that I can recommend the trip on the Australind as being quite an enjoyable experience. From the Busselton Convention, Bernie and Babs Langridge took charge of us (Joy and myself) and were to prove hosts in a million. The Langridge homestead is comfy and we could not been made more welcome by the family, Bernie and Babs, Kim, Lex and the twins Erica and Gem. The property is now a variegated orchard of apples, pears, peaches, apricots, cherries and what have you, and currently being refurbished on the most modern lines in W.A. and add to this a nice lot of feed country supporting bundles of cattle. Bernie has two dams on his property, one of 12 million and one of 8 million gallons, for irrigating his orchard. He also has a nice property at Binginyup Beach, 15 miles from Bunbury also carrying a heap of cattle. This is a lovely property and has flats the equal of anything you would see anywhere in the S.W. Some of the country near the homestead reminded me of Timor, especially when Berner had me climbing the hills. While there, we

had a quick trip to Manjimup for a field day, and met Tom Crouch, who issued an invitation for a later visit and also met Arthur Marshall, who was at the Field Day promoting the Marshall Super Spreader, and Dame Rumour has it, he had a good day with sales. Marsh felled our ears with bulldust and sales promotion, but the Courier being a non advertising journal, I forbid to print same. The Marsh is always one of the most cheery customer you could ever meet, and had us giggling at his anecdotes for at least an hour.

Bernie, Babs and the twins took us on Sunday to see Harold and Iris Rowan-Robinson (please change your name by deed poll Robbie, it's too long to write). A truly lovely day out. Once again a lovely property, with the bias towards fruit and sheep. Robbie is growing apple trees on a trellis, Espalier fashion, and is currently awaiting results of this new venture. His packing shed like Bernie's is a beauty and a model of innovation. Robbie then took us on a visit of his two other properties on the Nannup Rd. and these too are lovely and carrying his sheep nicely. (He has a Pöll-Dorset Stud). From there we went a little further and saw our first Karri Trees of the trip at a little place called Karri Gully, and these were really lovely specimens of this majestic timber. A barbecue tea and then back to Donnybrook and the Langridge home-stead. Thanks Harold and Iris for a lovely day. Tuesday saw us on the bus heading for Manjimup and Tom Crouch. Met at the station by Tom, who booked us into the Hotel Manjimup, which I could recommend to anyone requiring really top class accommodation. Then out to Toms property and it was in terrific heart. Feed to burn and those Herefords! A sight for sore eyes. Tom, you've got an idyllic existence, never change it. Tom is currently experimenting growing walnuts and the trees look like going on well. Back to the Hotel, by a different route, and dinner at the Hotel. That night to Pemberton to see Ted Loud. Practically dragged him out of bed down to the rubberdy. Joined by wife Phyl and then on to the Club. A good ear punishing evening by all concerned. Sorry we were so late arriving but it could not be

helped. Next day picked up by Tom in his Toyota truck and the grand tour began. Firstly to see "King Jarrah" 1 mile from Manjimup a tree to remember, in a big way and I really mean big. Then to Fonties Pool, which is closing this year. So much has been written about this attraction I will not elaborate here, except to say, it is truly beautiful. I forgot to say our first trip was to the sale yards and we watched the early yarding of the most magnificent fat beef I think I have ever seen. Pen upon pen of gorgeous hamburger on the hoof. Tom reckons this is the saleyard to beat all saleyards for prime beef. A trip to Dean Mill the No. 1 State Mill in W.A. and now owned by Bunnings. The mill we did not look over, but right opposite, Tom introduced us to probably the greatest Cacti collection in captivity in Australia. In the most unpretentious of surroundings (two timber mill houses) there is in these grounds a completely breath taking array of every type of Cacti you could possibly imagine. The owner, Mrs Cotton has spent 14 years acquiring the collection, which is a top class tourist attraction. Over the long week-end a delegation of 40 people journeyed from Perth to take in this rare sight. I can recommend a pleasant 2 to 4 hours to anybody visiting the South West and especially Manjimup, to take in this wonderful collection.

Then onwards to see the sights on the near hinterland. "One Tree Bridge" a bridge formed over a river in 1904, by the Giblett Bros. then onto the "Four Aces" being 4 of the most magnificent Karri's it would be possible to see in a straight line, as if planted for a grove. The smallest 120ft. to the first limb and the largest 154ft., all in the vicinity of 220ft. high and of terrific girth. It is a sight that makes man look puny. Then back on Forestry Department Roads to Pember-ton, the wild flowers in true profusion. It was on this track we took in Burns Hoppery, with its 200 acres of poles for hops to climb on. Unfortunately it was early in the season and these were in the bare pole (to coin a phrase from dear old Jack O'Brien). We saw the dam which services this hopperly, it contains 250 million gallons and is said to be the biggest freshwater dam in the South-

Brockman Highway to Northcliffe. This is lovely country except that Northcliffe township seems to be set in the most desolate portion of the area. The old shops seeming to lean into one another and this would be a perfect setting to shoot a Mat Dillon movie. Tom assured me the country to the back of Northcliffe was really good farming land. Out of Northcliffe we saw the old Crouch homestead, to which Tom's parents came in 1925, before the area was condemned as too poor for farming. Back to Manjimup through orchards and grazing lands. To see the herds of fat cattle through, the area is a sight to please any gourmet. A really memorable days travel in the hands of an expert, who knows this area like the palm of his hand. Thanks a real million Tom, we will never forget that enjoyable day. Back to Bernie and Babs for a couple of days and then home thanks again to Bernie. How can we say thank you to all you kind people, who were so good to us and who went right out of your way to look after us and show us so much of your truly lovely area. So suffice to say thanks Bob and Barbara Palmer, Clarrie and Grace Turner, Harold and Iris Rowan Robinson, Ted and Phyl Loud and especially thanks to Tom Crouch and that wonderful Langridge family.

Personalities

Had a wonderful time with Norma and Neil Hooper on their trip to W.A. They went everywhere man! They saw it all and had a ball. A very very enjoyable couple, who join in nicely with the gang. Was with them very often and must say how much I enjoyed their company. They were lucky enough to be in W.A. for the Reunion and also the Country Convention at Busselton. Might be a good idea Neil and Norma if you wrote your experiences to the Courier.

After all these years Alan and Iris Soper made it to W.A. per caravan and did they get around. They probably have seen more of W.A. than most of the W.A. bred's. Initially they stayed with Col. Hodson at Vic. Park and used that as a base to get around. Then down the South West to see the beauties of that area and to attend the Busselton Convention,

and back via Albany and the Great ern Hemisphere. Then on to the Southern. Then northwards to stay with Jack Fowler at Wongan Hills. Now on their way back to North Queensland. It was really delightful to see the Soper family in all their glory. Don't leave it so long next time Alan to come over West again.

Have to report that Jack Fowler has sold out his farm at Wongan Hills and will be giving up the farming business after the current harvest.

Sorry to have to report that Fred Napier has not been so well. Fred had a minor stroke just prior to the Annual Dinner and this precluded him from attending that function and also the Busselton Convention. I am pleased to report that he is slowly on the mend and we hope that by the time we next print a Courier he will

be 100 per cent. Keep the chin up Fred.

John Lillie is another who has sold his property at Gidgegannup and will be retiring to the City in the near future.

It is with much regret that I have to inform readers that Bill Epps, the bloke that has been fairy godfather to this paper, has suffered quite a severe stroke, and is currently in R.P.H. Thank God latest reports indicate quite an improvement in Bill's condition, and high hopes of a good recovery. All our good wishes go to Bill for a complete and speedy recovery and also our good wishes to Jess in her present troubles. Keep the chins up both of you.

This will be the last issue for this year, so allow the "Courier" to wish you all the very best for the Festive Season and a Prosperous New Year.

New South Wales News

Our monthly meeting was held at Arncliffe R.S.L. on Monday, Sept. 4, 1972. Present: Alan Luby in the chair; Bill Bennett, Ron Trengrove, Bill Coker, Alan Addison, Jack Darge, Tom Martin, Mick Devlin, Angus MacLachlan, Paddy Kenneally. Apologies from Cliff Paff, who was unable to make it being somewhere in the dairy country attending to his job.

A welcome visitor in the person of Angus MacLachlan, who is currently attending a customs' school in Sydney. This particular school is of five weeks' duration. Angus has passed the two examinations already put to the students. On the marks attained I would say Mac will have no difficulty passing the final with honours. In the last exam, which was crucial, failures being immediately sent back to their port of origin, Mac passed with honours, handicapped as he was by a nasty dose of the flu which is at present knocking all and sundry in our particular part of the country. He arrived at our abode after the exam, hit the cot, and with the exception of a couple of excursions into the warm sunshine, stayed there till Sunday. Helen plied him with hot lemon drinks. Sleep and rest

achieved a quick recovery. He is now quite well. His wife, Lois, flew down for a few days so Angus is at present in good hands, and safe from the machinations of the Kenneallys.

Alan Luby gave us the sad news of the death of Campbell Rodd in a road accident in Victoria, plus the fact that his wife only survived him by a couple of days. To his family we in N.S.W. extend our deepest sympathy in the loss of mother and father. Campbell I knew well, as did the men who travelled to Timor with him. He didn't have to attain the rank of officer to become a gentleman, he was one by nature. Decent, forthright and honest in all his dealings with the men. Those who served with him could also vouch for the fact that as a soldier he was quite fearless. May he and his wife rest in peace with God.

The annual general meeting was held immediately after the monthly meeting. The President, Alan Luby, gave the Presidential Report. It covered all aspects of our activities in the past year. Alan stressed the importance of Safaris such as the Jubilee Safari to Perth, in keeping Unit members of all States in close contact with each other.

Alan then declared all positions on the Executive vacant. Tom Martin took the chair and proceeded to call for nominations for positions on the new Executive. No changes, unfortunately. With the exception of Angus MacLachlan, those present were the ones who had attended all or most of the meetings during the year, and it's hard to get new faces on the Executive when said faces prefer to ignore the existence of meetings, general, annual, or just plain monthly.

The following were elected without opposition: President, Alan Luby; Vice Presidents, Mick Devlin (Senior Vice President), Bill Coker, Alan Addison; Secretary-Treasurer, Paddy Kenneally; Assistant Secretary, Alan Addison; Auditor, Bill Bennett; Country Liaison Officer, Cliff Paff.

So we are as we were with the exception of Mick Devlin who became Senior Vice President. Allan Addison also was saddled with the job of Assistant Secretary.

The meeting elected Tom Martin as Returning Officer for the coming year, a mistake for which I must take most of the blame. Tom possesses too much administrative ability, procedure and protocol, to be wasted, and outside of Executive elections that's what's happening to it because, as Returning Officer he is barred from all positions on the Committee, and as I stated previously this is a waste of good material, and between now and the next general meeting will have to be rectified.

Jack Darge informs me that Tom Field's wife, Rene, is back from England. Welcome home Rene. As the Fields have moved back to Wyong it's rarely we see them now.

We haven't heard from Don Murray. However, Don, all your friends from the 2/2nd wish you every success in your new venture.

Tom Snowdon, wife and daughter up from Canberra, had a few beers with Tom and Bonnie at Jim English's where Tom stayed whilst in Sydney. He was going to see Ron Hilliard on the Saturday morning before returning to Canberra. Hope he was able to untangle himself from Arncliffe. Drip can be mighty persuasive, especially as he can walk home under his own steam, and we haven't woweders ourselves into putting the breath test on pedestrians

yet. However, give us time, and we'll achieve it. We can then spend all our spare time at home reaching into the wardrobe and losing the art of conversation. Heigh ho, wonder what Y. K. Chesterton would have to say about us these days. Big brilliant Y.K. was partial to a drop of suds, and laughter.

Alan Luby has moved up the promotion ladder with the Ambulance Service. Alan spends most of his time at H.Q. these days. More work, more worries. Two annoyances Alan handles and always has handled quite efficiently. Congratulations Alan.

Enough for this month. Good luck and God bless all.

Heard This?

Hotel Guest (discovering a pair of nylons in his dresser drawer): "Here Boy!"

Bell Boy: "Yes, sir?"

Guest: "Take these things out and get them filled!"

* * *

Maid: "Madam, your husband is lying unconscious in the hall with a piece of paper in his hand and a large box by his side."

Mrs. Smith (joyously): "Oh, my new fur coat has arrived."

* * *

It was a dark night and the motorist was lost. Presently he saw a signpost. With some difficulty he climbed the post, struck a match and read: "Wet Paint."

* * *

There are necessarily limits to our freedom of speech, but anything worth saying can be said within these limits.

* * *

The customer had just returned to a restaurant for the first time in a long while and the girls had all been outfitted in new uniforms. Across the left breast pocket on each uniform the girls' names were embroidered.

After pirouetting for the customer's benefit, one of the waitresses faced him and said:

"How do you like it?"

"I like it very much," he replied. "But tell me, what are you going to name the other one?"

RANDOM HARVEST

"SLIM" JAMES, of 18 Beatrice St., Scarborough 6019, writes:—

Enclosed please find cheque for \$40. One ticket is for myself, the other is for J. A. Wilson, 46 Deanmore Rd., Scarborough.

It is very good to see the tickets are selling so well, giving every indication of the coffers being boosted once again.

I am still with Mercers at the Metropolitan Markets as salesman in the vegetable side, but as you will realize, late nights and early starts don't agree, hence the non attendance at meetings. However, the news letter keeps Kate and I in touch with all the doings and is well read through each month.

For the past three weeks I have been a grass widow, as Kate and her sister sailed for a round trip to Darwin on the "Koolama" and has only just returned. She says it is a terrific holiday and she recommends it to anyone who is thinking about going.

The voyage to Darwin is the best part, as the ship calls in at numerous ports and sight-seeing trips are arranged with local taxis or buses. However only 15 hours were allowed at Darwin and luckily they were met there by a friend and taken to as many places as possible in the short time.

According to her, the ideal round trip would be ship to Darwin—stay a week there and return by air, as the ship comes practically straight back to Fremantle.

Will close now, regards to all and a special howdy to Beaky Smith and Bill Bennett and their good wives.

TONY ADAMS, of 3 Coudrey St., Rainworth, 4065. C/- A.N.Z. Bank Box 1126P, Brisbane 4000.

I have procrastinated for ages about sending forward my cheque for a ticket in the Mammoth Raffle and I suppose by the time you get this the raffle will be closed and I will have missed out. If that is the case please accept the cheque as my donation towards the Unit funds.

I am afraid I cannot account for where my time goes. Monday is no sooner over than it seems to be Friday. However I have recently had the pleasure of seeing Max Davies who had been holidaying at

Maroochydore and was on his way back to Victoria. Iris has recently seen Bruce McLaren who, as you know, is now at Surfers Paradise and she called to see him when she was down there for a few days a couple of weeks ago. I have also seen Tom Nisbet, Ian McPhie and Peter Hearle but don't seem to find time to get round to contacting any other fellows in Brisbane.

The last ten months have been enormously busy ones at the head offices of the old A.N.Z. and E.S. & A. in Brisbane were merged in one building and this has meant a tremendous amount of additional work which has left me with very little time for anything else. However things are settling down now and I am managing to get my regular game of golf on Saturdays and hope to see a few of my old friends more often.

Since writing to you last we have had a wedding in the family. Paul was married to an English girl in Tokyo in May and has since visited us on his way to England where he is at present. We are happy to have Judy home with us at present. She has just finished another course in Melbourne and presently has a job as a theatre sister.

Iris is well as I am and we send regards to all our friends in Western Australia and thank you sincerely for the tremendous job you do in keeping the Bulletin going. This is a tremendous publication and keeps us all abreast of one another's doings.

Once again best wishes to all.

TOM SNOWDON, of 112 Matina Street, Narrabundar, Canberra, A.C.T., writes:—

Please find enclosed cheque of \$100, being money for five raffle tickets ordered. Hope that everything is going along OK with everyone over there in W.A.

Spent last week-end in Sydney, saw Paddy Kenneally, Ron Hilliard, Jim English and was speaking to Jack Keenahan on the phone.

Must away now and post this money to you, will drop you a reasonable letter at a later date.

Cheerio regards and best wishes to all.

"SHORTY" STEVENS of Yallunda Flat, S.A. 5607, writes:—

I had better make the effort to get this off to you or it will be too late, I'm busy at blazes so this will be brief.

We have just had the usual round of Shows and as our young lass is a keen competitor in the ring Dad and Mum have to go along to.

Have just had 60 pts of rain that was most acceptable, we are currently enjoying the worst heavy summer rains, then nothing till mid winter and then ten weeks of constant rain and nothing since. We have had our average rainfall of 18 inches and have nothing to show for it, I would have said it was not possible if I had not experienced it myself. People are quitting stock all round but I guess we'll survive somehow.

Have become pretty actively involved in fighting the Daylight Saving move in our area, it has cost me a lot of time and some hard cash, next week I've got to wait on the Minister to help put our case, so I'm trying to do my homework. Don't know how we'll go but hope we are successful.

The main reason for this letter is to send a cheque for the Raffle so I had better get around to it. Find it enclosed somewhere.

What a tragic death for Cam Rodd it really rocked me when I thought of it, must have been one hell of a bump his car was given.

Had better sign off. Kind regards to you and yours. Cheers.

BERT BURGESS, of "Burlands" P.O. Box 224, Katanning 6317 writes:—

I enclose reewith cheque to cover raffle ticket. Michael and I have just had a quick trip as far as Geraldton. We did not see in all that distance one crop in ear and this the middle of September. Just shows how late the season is generally. However we did see some very fine crops that could yield very well, given seasonable finishing rains.

I must apologise to our comrades in Geraldton. Actually we were only in the Port for about an hour and that at midday. Did see Peter Barden for about 5 minutes. I had promised to telephone Bruss Fagg but didn't even manage that. We were planning to divert to Wongan Hills and Stan and Charlie Sadler whom we had seen at the Katanning Ram Sales, but

we had missed the Principal of Keaney College on our way up and were hoping to see him on the way back (which we did at 7 p.m.)

Did see David Ritchie in Perth and am pleased to relate that he was busy with customers who always make him look happy.

Kindest regards.

ALAN LUBY, of Ambulance Station, Barker St., Randwick N.S.W., 2031, writes:—

Just a brief note this time to enclose some dough for the 500-Club, 'ere it is too late.

Particulars are as follows: A. Scammell, Ampulance Station, Railway St., Parramatta 2150. Mrs. B. Macrae, 18 Charles St., Liverpool, 2170. A and E. Luby, Barker St., Randwick 2031.

Have only briefly looked through last Courier but did note the programme for 1974 Safari. Looks OK to me—the main thing is that as many of us as possible, gather together somewhere and renew friendships.

Work has been very demanding, with so much paper work that I've had neither the time or the inclination to write on personal matters.

I've been doing a course on Leadership at the Institute of Management which was most interesting and should prove invaluable in my present job.

Was also fortunate to sit on the Bench with the Secretary of the Main Roads Board and Mr. Justice Perignon on a Crown Employees Appeal recently—a most rewarding experience.

As the delegate from our Supts. Association I'm tied up with the State Public Service and have had a fair bit to do with the preparation of our Log of Claims for our Award—trust that will be even more rewarding.

Ede and the girls are well and we trust this finds you likewise. Last couple of months have taken their toll of members, or relatives but I guess we can expect this every now and again.

Best wishes to all.

PAULINE ENGLISH of 11 Richards Avenue, Peakhurst, N.S.W. 2210, writes:—

Once again I would like to thank you all for your wonderful help in raising funds for my trip to Germany.

My coaches and the Officials of Hurstville Swimming Club were all very pleased with my performance. In case you haven't heard yet, I won three Bronze Medals for Team Relay, Individual Medley (I swam 9sec. better than my previous best), and 50 metres Freestyle, swimming 9.1secs. better than my Australian record. There was 5/10th of a second between 1st and 3rd in the Freestyle event.

Heidleberg is really a beautiful city. We stayed at a Rehabilitation Centre built especially for Paraplegics. Many of the Australians felt very envious of the Germans having such a wonderful Rehabilitation Centre.

There was not much time for sightseeing as the swimming events went on until the last days of the Games, but I did have a chance to go on a wonderful boat tour of the Nekar River.

Apart from Heidleberg my favourite spot was Singapore, with all our training finished we really had a fabulous time. The people of Singapore were very friendly and made our stay very enjoyable.

Yours sincerely.

MICK DEVLIN, of 181 Pennant Parade, Epping, N.S.W., 2121, writes:—

Sorry for the long delay re cheque for Safari Raffle. I sincerely hope that everything is working to plan, and that the venture gets the success it deserves. I find it hard to believe that it is now 12 months, since our trip to W.A., and what a beauty it turned out to be. If I live to be a hundred I shall never forget the wonderful hospitality bestowed on everyone fortunate enough to make the trip over, also the terrific goodwill and unity that exists, not only with the boys of the 2/2nd but their good ladies and children as well, Bet and I have now settled back to our old domestic routine, which I may state took some doing after our safari, although I should mention we had just before leaving Perth for the reason for great excitement recently.

turn trip home, Bet purchased a packet of kangaroo paw seeds at Boans and on arriving home I set about building a fish pond cum rockery, the daughter and I then set about collecting some local bush soil etc, and after working strictly to the instructions, as per packet sat back hopefully awaiting, and believe it or not, about mid to late September we raised six beautiful, red paws, and not being a gardener of any note I stood 10 foot tall for the next few weeks, I think we had everyone within a two mile radius in to see them, and all were most impressed. I never realised what an exquisite plant they were, until you really study them closely, we are hoping that they will come into bloom each year, what a wonderful reminder to mark the anniversary of our trip.

Well I never was much of a scribe so will close now wishing you all the best in W.A., please convey my regards to Sprocko, Jack Carey and Tom Crouch, also the hard working members of your committee. Bet promises a note to Thelma Sprocko, and Del, soon. Again wishing you all the best.

PADDY KENNEALLY, of 28 Wilkins St., Yagoona, N.S.W. 2199 writes:—

This will be short, I decided to clean out the fish pond, reckoning on an hours work, and then the pen. I certainly miscalculated, it took me four hours. In that time I hope I slaughtered 100 or so tadpole, introduced into the pool, by Gerald, I'll slaughter him if he does it again, last time I had Sean frog hunting for weeks.

Nora and Gerald arrived home safely last Sunday week they had a wonderful holiday. Most of it in Ireland, three weeks in England and a week in Boston. Ireland free and easy, happy go lucky, scenery superb, and time means nothing. England, beautiful, clean, and tidy, polite and tolerant, Boston, the finest view she saw was Boston at night time, from the top of the Prudential Building. The traffic was frightening, great big cars, with bumps and dents all over them, apparently the Yanks reckon its waste of time getting them panel beaten, or repaired. Couldn't accuse herself to the idea of armed guards in the stores. admired the beautiful big trees she saw every-

where, in Boston, the large blacks of ground surrounding their homes, and the awareness of people generally to the pollution menace. Saw little of New York, if any, and doubts if such a thing as courtesy and good manners exists there, as she said: "Australia isn't a bad place to live in". Gerald had a great time, three months without school, and all the playing time in the world, strangely enough re settled straight in at school as if he were just going back after a week end.

Helen, Michael, and Sean are preparing for exams, Michael is studying fiercely, but may have left it too late, he'll soon find out, as the Higher School Certificate kicks off next week, and then its Michael for the big wide world, and what he does in it or with it is up to him, Its his game now, he will be eighteen next year. Sean will leave this year also after completing the school certificate, he does not wish to go on to sixth year, and from m own observation forcing them to continue rarely has good results. Helen, well I reckon Helen will never stop studying, she has another year to do at Teachers College, but that won't be the end of study for her.

The drought is still with us, talk about seven lean years, they've had them in this side of Australia. Wool prices took a heartening trend up, but for how long? and Billy McMahon is happy about a wheat deal with China, otherwise most farmers over here have little to enthuse about.

Of course land development, going hale and hearty, building blocks sky high, \$10,000 for a block, twenty or thirty miles out of Sydney, and a bloody long, long walk to the nearest transport, and that hopelessly inadequate, boy if we ever get a change of government I can see a lot of developers getting a nice kick in the rear, and about time, I make a living as a result of land development. However, that does not make me agree with what is going on, \$10,000 for a building block, (and that's in the lower bracket) in a country where there's nearly three million square miles, and damn all industry outside of the big centres, and they are concentrated in one or two places in each state, forcing any boy or girl looking for work into the

big cities and a bit more exploitation at their expense; oh well, I'm getting too old and weary to change it now, maybe the young ones will, I hope so. Good luck, drop you a line before Christmas.

ANOTHER LETTER FROM PADDY KENNEALLY

It's a case of all quiet on the eastern front, as we regroup our forces for the Christmas offensive. The attack kicks off at 11 a.m. at Jack Darges, the date 3/11/72, our Christmas bar-be-cue. We hope for a good roll up of members.

A pleasant surprise in the mail, in the form of a letter from Norman Demmery. We haven't seen Norman for years, until the Safari in Sydney, and that was the first time I'd laid eyes on him since 1942 in Timor. Norman is faring well, however, he had quite a worrying time recently because of his wifes health, re assures us all is well now, what appeared to be a severe heart attack wasn't so, he is a much relieved man. Angus and Lois MacLachlan, happened to visit Norman during the illness, Norman assures me they were a powerful help.

Usual monthly meeting at Arncliffe R.S.L. on October 9. Mick Devlin our senior vice president chaired the meeting in the absence of Alan Luby. Present were Jack Darge, Bill Coker, Bill Bennett, Alan Addison, Paddy Kenneally. The meeting voted in favour of a motion that the West Australian branch be granted \$125, to help defray the costs of producing and posting the "Courier". The general feeling of the meeting was that this amount is not quite adequate to cover the "Courier" expenses for N.S.W. and Queensland members. Should this be the position, the N.S.W. branch of the Association would like to know if further assistance is required, so the job is up to your accountants. We know that were the "Courier" to go out of existence, it would be only a matter of time and a short time at that, before our Association folded up, and no one wants that to happen.

Alan Luby is placed permanently at Ambulance Head Quarters now, he was a busy man before, but doubly so now, much reorganisation to be done in his new position, congratulations on the promotion Alan. I made a very bad error in reporting

Campbell-Rodds wife dying as a result of the accident she and Campbell were in. Unfortunately that was how I heard the news, I sincerely hope it did not add to the sorrow, that event engendered in all of us. I notice that Tom Coyle and Jack Ward have also passed away, our sympathy to their families in their sad loss.

Ahoy Queensland, Angus MacLachlan graciously handed over your State Association to us, on the grounds that you blokes are spread all over the second biggest State in our fair land, with not enough of it concentrated in one area to form an Association executive. Therefore my boyos, any donations you wish to make to the Association can be sent to the above address, even if there's no donation send a letter either here or to the "Courier" giving us the G.G. on how you are faring in this vale of tears. If it wasn't for Peter Mantle, we could almost be excused for thinking you are all illiterate, about the only news I've seen in the "Courier" about the Queenslanders, was from Angus MacLachlan, and "Baran" Otway, and I know only too well that Angus MacLachlan is neither, illiterate, or inarticulate.

Farewell for now.

BILL CONNELL, of Flat 2, 11 Base St., Victoria Point, Queensland, 4163, writes:—

Well, at long last, I can put pen to paper once again. I can't actually remember when I last wrote. I have just received the September issue of the "Courier" with the address book and I think Jim Smailes editorial is just the right thing to stir us up. I think we all should write as to what we do for a living etc, as I know I for one would be very interested in what everyone else does, I know, in the last twenty years I have sometimes been astounded to learn what some of you were, (and perhaps still are) before you joined the army. Not having a high education myself, I have been surprised how many of you actually had good jobs before 1941.

One always thinks of others as being on the same level as oneself. Mostly, anyway, for myself I started off as a labourer on a vineyard, then worked my fathers property at the beginning of the war, as he, being an old first war man, couldn't resist the second one, but was too old, and

could only get into P.O.W. guards. At 18 I got my call up, as 19 joined the A.I.F., went to W.A. (Mullewa), then applied to join the Commandos (silly fool me). Went through Canungra and you know the rest. The 2/2 was landed with me.

After discharge I did a carpentry course through re-hab. and carried on at that trade till 1959. I bought a little country Post Office and retired from the trade. My wife and I run the P.O. between us, she has more experience than me, having worked in them on and off for years.

FAMILY: I have two sons, both married, eldest 25, the youngest 22. One grandson, 16 months. Denis, the eldest is a lieutenant in the Army and is at present in Singapore. He is due home at Xmas. He was a high school teacher before joining the Army. The youngest, Terry (a boy) finishes uni. this year and comes out as a chemical engineer. (Both better educated than their father).

My eldest brother was also in the last war and lost his life in Malaya on the railway. It was quite a blow to me. I was in New Guinea at the time the news reached me. I lost my father last year, but my mother, 3 sisters and younger brother are still with us.

Last March we took 3 weeks off and went to Singapore for a holiday. A wonderful place. We went up as far as Penang, in Malaya, and to the Cameron Highlands. I wouldn't mind another trip over there. Singapore is a wonderfully clean city.

I have had a bit of sickness over the last 20 years and two years ago, was put on 50 per cent pension. The funny part is, I don't think they gave me my pension on what I claimed for. I have tried to get extra treatment lately, but have been knocked back.

I am enclosing a cheque for \$5 as I probably owe more than that, but I haven't won the Casket yet. I see where Bruce McLaren has shifted to the Gold Coast. I might call on him for a free bed one night. I have only met 3 chaps of the 2/2 since discharge. It must be a large world after all.

Well, I've never written as much as this since my last letter to my wife in 1946, so I consider it a good effort. Well, come on you fellows write and tell us all what you do in this

world, so as fellows like me can skate about whom we rubbed shoulders with.

It's strange, but there seems to be a dirth of correspondence from No. 1 section. Some names have never appeared in the Courier.

Well, that's it, cherrio for this year.

FRANK JACKSON, OF N.S.W.
writes:—

At long last I will endeavour to sit down and write you a few lines to say thank you for the magnificent time you gave my wife and I when we were over in Perth just 12 months ago for your Safari. I would like to congratulate all of you who were in charge of the arrangements, certainly every detail was well cared for, and we enjoyed ourselves immensely. Not many weeks go by, that some thing or other that happened on this trip comes up for discussion in our home, which helps to keep very fresh memories of a lively trip.

The Barraba Rotary Club have made me an honorary member of their club for 12 months in appreciation of my contribution to community services in this district, and requested me to be their guest speaker one night to tell them of my trip to Western Australia. This I have done and with the help of some beautiful slides loaned to me by Jack Peattie, of Tamworth.

They were all very impressed, and said they were all envious of the good time we had.

As I am on the land here and going through a very long dry time I trust that you people over there are enjoying a much better season than we are. Our wheat crop seems doomed to failure for the 4th year in a row, however, the wool market, and meat markets are very satisfactory, for those who are lucky to have saleable stock.

We enjoy getting the Courier and hearing what some of the people are doing throughout Australia, and also knowing what you fellows are doing to keep contact with the members of your old unit, this I think is tremendous.

I will enclose a cheque for \$20 for a ticket in your Raffle, sorry I have been so long winded about it.

Will close this short letter for now saying thanks a million. Regards to all we met on this trip.

TED MULCAHY, of P.O. Box 1310 Darwin, N.T., 5794, writes:—

Well, after reading the last issue of the "Courier" I thought I had better put pen to paper and tell a little about life up here at the "Top End" in 1972.

I have been here since last December and work for a firm of Insurance Loss Assessors, my case being Darwin, although a vast amount of my time is spent throughout the Territory down to Alice Springs and also over to Gove and Groote Eylandt.

As you know when I was in Perth in early May I was on my way back from a job in Port Hedland. Speaking of my trip down your way I had a wonderful time thanks to Henry Sproxtion and Jack Carey.

Henry took me for the full day in his car and we went around all the highlights of Perth and the suburbs, but I must confess that the main point of that day was my walk along the Avenue of Remembrance in Kings Park.

It made me rather sad and I can say that I got quite a shock to find out how many of our mates had made the supreme sacrifice. May I take this opportunity to congratulate all your members who were responsible for the laying out of such a magnificent memorial. It makes one really proud to say: "I was a member of the 2/2nd."

It was great to see Ralph Finklestein, Joe and John Poynton as well as your good self, Col.

On my way back to Darwin I got off the plane at Kununurra and then took a hire car to Wyndham. Now there is an exciting place. I don't think I saw half a dozen people including blacks, in the town.

I was only back a few weeks when I had to go to New Guinea. I left Darwin at 5.50 a.m. in a Qantas 707 and flew to Port Moresby. From there in a Focker Friendship to Goroka where I changed planes and boarded an old DC3 for a pop over the Bismark Ranges landing at Mt. Hagan at 3.30 p.m.

When I alighted from the plane I was greeted by the native police band and a guard of honour but unfortunately it wasn't for me as they were practicing for the arrival of Mr. Samari a few days later.

The flight over the ranges was wonderful and made me think when looking out of the plane, that we must have been a little fitter 30 years ago to have walked over those "hills".

I spent three days around Mt. Hagen area as I had to investigate a claim where a bridge had washed away in a flood. This bridge spanned the Wahgi River about 10 mile east of Minj and about 30 mile west of Chimbu.

On my return flight I was able to get a couple of aerial photos of the Chimbu strip and airfield and I will send them down later for Henry and any of 9 Section who would be interested to see a view of the village as it is today.

Danny and Jimmy Leigh are both still going well although I understand that Danny is almost blind now.

I left Mt. Hagen on the Monday and as I didn't have to be in Moresby until the following Thursday I decided to go and have a look at Lae.

I had to change planes at Goroka so I decided that I would go into the Ansett office and have a sit down. Lo and behold who should be in there but Theo Adams. Needless to say I didn't get to Lae. In about two minutes Theo had got my baggage off-loaded and we were up and away in his big Toyota station wagon.

I met his wife Ata and her two lovely children who visited Perth on the Safari last year, and also young Billy. He was about 12 months old when I saw him and a fine young fellow.

I stayed at Theo's house and he took me for quite a few drives around the district. The old aerodrome where we used to camp is now the site for a Teachers College which cost in excess of \$3m.

The township is lovely with the beautiful Bird of Paradise Hotel-Motel as the main feature. Theo and I had a smorgasbord lunch on the roof top restaurant. The gum trees that have been planted over the past few years make all the difference to the place as it is not near as barren as when we were there in 1943.

Theo sends his best wishes to everyone and from observation is very happy and doing quite well.

I spent a day and night in Port Moresby on my way back but I must say I wasn't very impressed with that place. Too many narrow, winding streets and roads for my liking.

Last week I went down the track to Mataranka. I left Darwin about 12.30 a.m. and drove all night and then after going out to two cattle stations returned to Darwin, arriving back about 8.30 p.m. Not a bad drive of 680 miles. The temperature was supposed to have been 100 deg. in the shade but unfortunately there wasn't any shade. I have a thermometer in the car and it was 120 deg at 10 in the morning.

The township of Darwin is growing like wildfire. The latest building is ten stories, high for up here, being built for the M.L.C. Life Assurance.

Houses are fairly easily obtainable up here as there is only about a three month wait for a Housing Commission house, but private houses demand an exorbitant rent \$60 per week.

I am getting writer's cramp so I will close now. All the best.

P.S.: I was wondering if any of the boys are now in the hire car business. Myself and three others are flying into Perth on Dec. 21 and will be sailing back on the Kangaroo, leaving Fremantle on Dec. 29.

We were thinking of hiring a car so that we could look around the place at our leisure.

**MAURIE SMITH, of Albion Hotel,
2 Charles Street, Northcote, Vic.,
writes:—**

A couple more applications for the raffle. One of the other blokes who was amongst the previous lot of names I sent reckons he's paid me the \$20. He sold me a ticket of equal value so he reckons we're square.

A couple of blokes were walking along the street when one turned to his mate and said: "Hey, duck for cover. Here comes my wife with the sheila I'm knocking about with."

His mate said: "Too right. You took the words right out of my mouth."

When I can borrow a few dollars I'll send over the dough for the tickets, or should I say, when I reckon I've got no more customers. I'll send it the same as I did last time. See you in the spring.

MR. P. PEARSON, State President of the R.S.L., writes:—

At the recently concluded State Congress, by a unanimous vote, it was decided that the League should undertake the establishment of a Frail Aged Centre at the War Veterans' Home in Mt. Lawley at a cost of something slightly over \$300,000.

Having due regard to Government subsidies it was decided to undertake an appeal for \$120,000 to be launched at a function at the War Veterans' Home on Sunday, Oct. 1.

This sum of money is an ambitious one and the League will be looking to the public for support, and to this end in getting up its committee has secured the assistance of prominent citizens in the following positions:

Patron: His Excellency the Governor, Major General Sir D. A. Kendrew, K.C.M.G., C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O.

Vice Patron: The Hon. J. T. Tonkin, M.L.A., Premier of W.A.

Vice Patron: The Hon. Sir Charles Court, O.B.E., M.L.A., Leader of the Opposition, W.A.

Vice Patron: Mr. E. H. Lee-Steere C.B.E., Lord Mayor of Perth.

Chairman: Sir Thomas Wardle, Former Lord Mayor of Perth.

Over the past two years while the subject of the Frail Aged Centre has been under discussion I, as President, have been encouraged from time to time by the interest shown by a number of Unit Associations.

Now that a firm decision has been made I write you on behalf of the League, seeking your support for what I am confident you will regard as a very worthwhile "cause" since we are all growing older and the needs of ageing ex-servicemen and women are becoming more acute.

It will be a great measure of encouragement to the Appeal Committee if this letter can receive your sympathetic consideration and any promises of help received prior to launch date will be helpful in building up enthusiasm for the remainder of the active phase of the campaign.

RICHER

You are richer than you were yesterday if you have laughed often, given something, forgiven even more, made a new friend, or made stepping stones of stumbling blocks; if you have thought more in terms of "thy-

self" than "myself" or if you have managed to be cheerful even when you are weary.

You are richer tonight than you were this morning if you have taken time to trace the handiwork of God in the commonplace things of life, or if you have learned to count out things that really don't count, or if you have been a little blinder to the faults of friends and foe.

You are richer if a little child has smiled at you, and a stray dog licked your hand, or if you have looked for the best in others, and have given to others the very best in you.

FRED OTWAY, of 47 Carrara St., Mt. Gravatt, Qld., 4122, writes:—

My wife and I will be attending the drawing of the raffle at Perry Lakes Stadium. I wonder if you could dig up Bloss Lawrence. I notice his address is unknown.

My brother will be taking me up to Meekatharra where my other two brothers are, but I hope to be at the meeting on the 7th.

I should be in Perth on Saturday 4th. I will see you all there or thereabouts or at Perry Lakes.

BILL TAYLOR, President Commando Assoc., Vic., writes:—

I have much pleasure in forwarding my cheque for a ticket in your 1972 Special Mammoth Raffle, and I wish you every success in filling it.

I am taking this ticket in appreciation of the support I received from members of the 2/2nd, all over Australia, when as Secretary of the Commando Association, Vic., in 1963 and 1964 I appealed for donations to erect the Commando Memorial Cairn at Tidal River, Wilsons Promontory.

The response from all Units was magnificent and \$4,100 was donated enabling us to erect and unveil the Cairn with not a cent owing on it.

One good turn deserves another and I am very pleased to reciprocate when you are conducting a fund raising project.

Thank you for sending me a copy of the July 1972 "Courier". I enjoyed reading it very much, particularly the very fine tribute which your member Jim Fenwick of Curtin, A.C.T., paid to his wife.

**GERRY O'TOOLE, "Adahcliff", 81
The Righi, Eaglemont, Vic., 3084,
writes:—**

I sent an application for a sweep ticket P/N to value \$20 about a month ago but can't recollect getting a ticket. Did you receive my note which was made out to 2/2nd Commando Association? Can't find number of P/N so if you have not received it I'll have to get another. Sounds a bit disjointed doesn't it? If you have sent same will you let me know number of ticket as you see this is written in some haste because of my certainty of winning same.

My best to all the boys. One day I will sit down and write a beautiful letter but for now best regards.

RON SPRIGG, of 60 Hill St., Albany, W.A., writes:—

Just a few lines in with the application form for Mammoth Raffle ticket received in last "Courier". I was about to write you asking you to forward one. Am also enclosing cheque for this ticket plus an instalment on the other.

I hope to go on holidays some time in September. Will be going to Geraldton for some of them and hope to make the Annual Dinner.

One of the bus drivers told me last week that Scotty Wares had retired.

At the moment can't see us being a starter in the 1974 Safari but won't give up hope altogether. May win a lottery before then.

F. W. BENNETT, of 186 Warriewood Road, Warriewood, N.S.W. 2102, writes:—

Please find enclosed cheque for \$40 and application forms for two raffle tickets. Hope I am not too late.

June and myself are keeping reasonably well and send our kindest regards to all you good people in W.A. We often talk about things that happened in the W.A. Safari and are very definite starters for 1974, God and health permitting.

We have had a very mild winter in Sydney, almost like summer and hardly a drop of rain. Have had to stay close to home for the last three weeks owing to the oil strike. We have had to be very careful how we used the car. The strike is over now but petrol still almost im-

possible to get, but the position should improve this week.

Tomorrow night is our monthly meeting and the 2/2nd are playing carpet bowls against Arncliffe R.S.L. Should be a good night.

CATH ROBERTS, of 75 Nicholson Street, East Coburg, Vic., 3058, writes:—

At least John filled in the application form so I guess I should be thankful that I didn't have that as well as the covering letter. Please find attached cheque for the full amount of \$20 for raffle. Hope we win so cast your magic spell in our direction please.

Our family are all very well, thank goodness. Ian will be getting out of the army in October—should be married about April-May next year after Sue-Ann finishes her nursing training.

Daughters Sue and Ruth are in a flat down in St. Kilda Road. Have been since the beginning of the year. Have not mentioned any desire to come home thank goodness. We see a lot of them—John seeing Sue every day, then of course they come home quite often. Don't mind them coming home but word that they are in the house seems to spread like wildfire and then we have a crowd of their friends as well. This coupled with the fact that they cannot seem to breathe without the stereo going full blast makes it tough going at our age. Just having the twins at home is quite ample for John and I nowadays.

Ruth had a wonderful time when she was over in the West recently. Rang through to see if she would be allowed to stay over there as she really loved the place but being the hard-hearted parents that we are, John and I both said: "No!"

John is keeping fairly well. Too much work and not enough pay, but he's happy. My job is keeping me well and truly busy what with metrication on its way but it keeps me mentally alert.

Do hope you are well. Give our warmest regards to all the boys and their wives.

A. MacLACHLAN, of 37 Arrow-smith St., Camp Hill, 4152, writes: Greetings from the Sunshine State. I have been informed that our lottery has been sold out so had better send you some bread or miss the bus. Please find enclosed cheque to cover T. Quinn and myself.

Today I start my annual holidays. By a strange quirk of fate my number two daughter has a brand new house all ready for painting. No need to tell you where I will be spending part of my holidays. Two weeks hard work and then two weeks touring North Queensland. Had intended going to New Guinea but had to change our plans and our holiday times to suit working conditions and my daughter's house.

Have just returned from Sydney where I spent five weeks attending a Customs' school. Our field of work is constantly changing and it takes a good man, or a lot of hard work, to keep up with it all. Sufficient to say the school took us into new fields of risk assessment in areas which come under our control.

While in Sydney mine host at week ends was one Paddy Kenneally. What a relief it was to be able to get away from it all at weekends, to a moderately sane family. With Nora and the talking machine Gerald in Ireland the household was like a ship without a captain, or a ship with four captains. If ever there were four people glad to see the boss come home it would be the Kenneally household. By now I'm sure Nora has them all whipped into shape.

By the way, I can recommend Paddy as a doctor and Helen as a nurse. Caught one of Sydney's wogs (not the two legged variety) and was ably looked after by the two above mentioned members of the medical profession. Took my life in my hands by going to the Sydney Rugby League finals with Paddy. He must be getting old, didn't want to fight anybody.

Had the good fortune to be able to attend the annual meeting of the Sub-Branch at Arncliffe. Don't know which I enjoyed the most, the beer, John Darge and Bill Bennett trying to beat the poker machines, or Paddy trying to find a few cents he had misplaced out of kitty. Just as well Paddy doesn't play the pokeys.

Would have had doubts as to where those few cents went.

I had occasion to make comment on the two dollars annual subscription asked by the N.S.W. Sub-Branch of their members. I was interested to know to what use this money is put. Alan Luby kindly put me in the picture. From memory, quite a percentage of it goes towards helping publish the "Courier", that is N.S.W. part of it. This brought up a discussion I had with Paddy a year or so ago. I had written him and asked if I could contribute to Sydney to offset the benefits I receive from being on the mailing list of the "Courier". Being a good Irishman, Paddy ignored me. I again brought this up at the meeting as I feel that it is important that everyone pull his weight.

The "Courier", I feel, is the backbone of our far flung Association. For those who are not in a position to attend Branch meetings it brings the news and views of all and sundry. Without it we in the outpost would soon lose contact. That's not bad for someone who only writes once a year. My point is, if a thing is worth having, it's worth paying for. Now I'm not in a position to know what other Queensland members do, whether they contribute to the West or just read their "Courier" and enjoy it. If they do the latter I would suggest they join their mates in N.S.W. and send along their \$2 to the Branch Treasurer, to wit John Kenneally. I feel that every Queensland member is, in reality, a member of the N.S.W. Sub-Branch. As such a couple of dollars a year makes them financial and helps pay for our life line, the "Courier". What about it Banana Benders?

See a photo in tonight's paper. Helen Shields, George Shields' daughter, Bowen finalist in the R.S.L. Girl in a Million. Helen definitely takes after her mother. You could not call George good looking.

All on the home front is quiet. My youngest daughter, the one with the paint pot, is finishing her first year teaching at the deaf school in Brisbane. It is not my cup of tea but she enjoys it and feels that it is a worthwhile job, which it is. My eldest daughter presented us, a couple of months ago, with our first grandchild, a girl, Kylie Ann. If

ou want a completely unbiased opinion of her, she is the most beautiful creature you ever did see. All we have to do now is sit back and wait for a few more.

Regards to all in the West. Will see you some more in 74. Best wishes to yourself.

"Scotty" TAYLOR, of No. 2 Flat, The Old Police Station, Calcott Road, Knowlf, Bristol 4, England, writes:—

Many apologies for not dropping a line occasionally and giving my new address.

I had the real pleasure of meeting Joe Burrige this week, who I must say had a bit of trouble tracking me down. I imagine he must have smelt me as I was quite close when he was trying to find me.

Joe was on the way to London when he arrived but we had a couple of hours and a couple of beers and plenty to talk about. When you see him ask about the "Newcastle Brown".

I myself am still fit and well, still do a bit of fishing most weekends and have a nice caravan right by the river and near the village pub.

At the moment we are having a very good late summer, have had no rain for nearly a month.

Am very pleased to hear that the Association is still going very strongly. I imagine that Doig has something to do with it.

REG HARRINGTON, of "Ainaro", Wyening, 6500, writes:—

I am writing with a belated request for another ticket in the trip and enclosing a cheque to cover same should there be one available.

I would not be surprised if I get another request yet, too. I haven't exactly hawked them, but just spoken of this fabulous cabaret in the right places. Mind you having a flight booked to Singapore next February I am hoping that we have already purchased the winning ticket.

Things are looking up on the farming scene lately with wool prices moving up and wheat sales that embarrass the board. It would be a pretty confident bet that the wheat quotas will go overboard next year. It is a bit late for people who were starting on new farms and developing, who got lousy quotas that would

not allow them enough to face their commitments and so had to walk off.

I felt very saddened to hear of Russ Symonds death. It is always bad to hear of the passing of one of the boys, but it gets even closer to home when it is someone from your own Section.

No doubt there will be a number of very tired commandoes about today after the Busselton weekend. We had planned to be in it but found the school sports were on at New Norcia where we had a couple of competitors so were involved in that.

Must away now and strike a blow for progress.

RON GURR, of "Tarquin", Private Bag, Naracoorte, S.A., 5271, writes

It is pleasing to hear the raffle is proving popular. Enclosed is the necessary for two tickets applied for. Whoever claimed it was an investment not a speculation was a fair sort of salesman.

The recent run in wool prices is most welcome to the cockying fraternity as the last two or three years have been pretty lean ones. It was not only the low wool prices but also the effect they had on the returns from surplus sheep that made things tough.

The season has been a good one for feed in the south east of South Australia but well below average in most of the State, particularly the wheat country.

Congratulations to you on the September "Courier". It was bigger and better, more interesting than ever.

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Near Miss: No. 450 R. Darrington,
186 Stirling St., Perth

Near Miss: No. 452 Mr. and Mrs. L.
Ferguson, Calingiri

55 PRIZES OF \$20:

- 6 Elan EVANS, 135 Burswood Rd., Victoria Park
22 Norman Aisbett Snr., 30 Green St., Joondanna
40 M. D. BEARD, 59 Minora Rd., Dalkeith
49 K. BARTON, 46 Ferdinand Crescent, Coolbellup
53 D. H. KILPATRICK, C/- T.A.B., Canning Bridge
81 Wane RAMSHAW, 71 Talbot Avenue, Como
86 V. HURT, 26 Beatrice St., Doubleview
101 John SHENTON, Wannyne St., Mandurah
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171 S. A. STEWART, 39 Longstaff St., Lynham, A.C.T.
183 Joe SPERRITT, Queen St., Ayr, Queensland
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187 K. J. ABBOTT, 6 Loch Street, Claremont
193 W. ORR, 190 Birkett Street, Dianella
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217 Brian BRESLAND, 11 Wattle St., Lathlain
219 May and Frank CARTWRIGHT, 122 10th Ave., Inglewood
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257 N. E. HUNTER, 43 Palmerston St., Bentley
284 A. JAURING, C/- F. Sparkman
295 Philip Bingham, R.M.B. 245 Pingelly
296 R. S. and G. M. KIRKWOOD
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300 Alan CROSS, C/- P.F.C.
325 William PRATLEY, 1 The Boulevard, Mt. Hawthorn
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378 Howard NOCK, 4 Acton Ave., Rivervale
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