



2/2 COMMANDO COURIER

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EDITORIAL

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

It is felt that the Annual General Meeting has not been accorded the importance that it deserves by Association members in the past. There has always been a struggle to obtain a quorum and practically everybody who attends gets a position on the Executive.

This meeting is really the shop window of the Association in that it reflects what has been done in the past and what the aims of the future are to be. In between times the affairs of the Association are guided by the Management Committee. In fairness to this Committee members should show an enthusiastic interest when the Annual General Meeting is held.

It becomes somewhat disheartening when the Committee prepares reports and sets out to tell what has been and what is proposed for the

future and finds itself talking to itself.

There have been times when high executive offices which should be looked on as an honour have had to be "hawked" to persons who have been reluctant to accept.

In a live organisation such as ours this is a sad state of affairs and does not reflect great credit on members.

The Annual General Meeting this year will be held as usual in the Basement at Anzac House, on Tuesday, March 7, and immediately follows Labor Day weekend. Please do not make this an excuse for not attending. There is much of interest for everyone to hear and your opinions in debate will be well worth while and listened to with interest.

Make a resolution now to be in attendance at this most important meeting.

PLEASE GIVE A RAPID THOUGHT TO SUGGESTIONS FOR THE
1974 SAFARI
AND WRITE IN AND LET US KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

KEEP
TUESDAY, MAY 1st
IN MIND FOR THAT
TRAVEL PICTURE NIGHT
BY T.T.I.

West Australian Whisperings

Association Activities

The monthly meeting was held at Anzac House Basement on Tuesday, Feb. 1, after a recess in January.

It took the form of a Mixed Carpet Bowls evening. Thanks to Gerry Maley we had an extra mat and set of bowls to play with so that everyone was amply catered for.

It was a most interesting night and a trophy was donated by Joy Louden in the form of her backyard vegetables. Guess who won it! With great assistance from Percy Hancock, Joy Louden took off the trophy. This of course was raffled among the ladies and Maisie Holder was the lucky dipper.

These nights are proving to be most popular and we can look forward to many more during the year.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This will be held on TUESDAY, MARCH 7, at Anzac House Basement and is the subject of this month's Editorial. Please do your very best to attend.

COMING MEETINGS

April meeting has still to be planned.

May meeting on the 2nd, has been set aside for the showing of travel films by Travel Time International with special reference to possible places of travel envisaged by the 1974 Safari. Those who saw the films shown by this organisation last year were most lavish in their praise of the high standard of the travel films. This will be a good opportunity to get in a preview of what you may be in for in 1974.

By the time you receive this the picnic at Joe and Helen Poynton's home at Mandurah will have been held and possibly this will be reported on in the next issue of the "Courier".

Committee Comment

Your Committee met for the last time in its term of office on Tuesday Feb. 15. As usual the attendance was excellent.

Treasurer Ron Kirkwood advised

that the books were in the hands of the Auditor for his inspection and report for the Annual General Meeting, but an unaudited balance sheet was submitted and is printed elsewhere in this issue.

Len Bagley reported that efforts to have the Honour Roll duplicated for N.S.W. and Victoria were proceeding and a feasibility study was now being carried out by Wembley Technical Trade School.

The President expressed concern that we had not had some correspondence from N.S.W. or Victoria with regard to matters brought up at the Jubilee Safari Conference.

Len also advised that the purchase of a further bowls mat was in the hands of Bob Smyth.

Arrangements for the Mandurah trip were fully outlined.

It was decided that in future the Unit Cold Plate be only available to Unit members.

The hire of the W.A. Rowing Club Hall for Anzac Day was the subject of discussion and it was resolved to try and obtain this as soon as possible.

Len Bagley gave a very detailed report on what he had been able to accomplish to date with regard to information, costs, etc., for the proposed Safari in 1974.

It appears that since the last report costs had risen quite considerably and that we may have to have second thoughts on the New Zealand project.

Then followed considerable discussion on items for the agenda of the Annual General Meeting and several likely subjects were brought forward.

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Meet Dave Ritchie and Say
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RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31/1/1972

RECEIPTS:	\$
Accounts Fwd. from 1/2/1971:	
S. 3080	439.53
T. & C. 3225	2659.13
	3098.66
Interest Received	303.93
Donations	283.30
Monthly Meetings:	
Receipts	146.60
Payments	140.08
	6.52
Anzac Day:	
Receipts	168.00
Payments	147.15
	20.85
Fullbrook Paintings:	
Sale	15.00
Less Framing	1.14
	13.86
Jubilee Safari:	
Receipts	4460.67
Payments	4360.53
	100.14
Mammoth Raffle:	
Receipts	7500.67
Payments	7429.14
	71.53
Miscellaneous:	
Sale of Badges	16.00
Sale of Tie Clips	14.00
Hire of Cold Plate	10.00
	40.00
	\$3,938.79

EXPENDITURE:	\$
"Courier":	
Costs	280.80
Receipts	100.00
	180.80
Honour Avenue	206.26
Christmas Toys	11.00
Name Tags:	
Material	6.00
Sales	4.25
	1.75
Miscellaneous:	
Cost of Clips and Badges	95.00
Administration Expenses	42.48
Gas For Cold Plate	5.60
	143.08
Accounts as at 31/1/72:	
S. 3080	451.05
T. & C. 3225	2944.85
	3395.90
	\$3,938.79

PROPOSED SAFARI TRIP TO NEW ZEALAND 1974

I have to thank those who have written in or spoken of this project in 1974 since the last issue of the "Courier". Quite considerable interest has been evoked and it is still possible that the project will get off the ground. However, since we last reported Len Bagley has been in further touch with Travel Time International and it appears that costs have risen quite alarmingly.

We quoted in the last issue a figure of \$550 per person for a 15 day tour of New Zealand. Attached hereto is an estimated costing of a tour to New Zealand by ship and plane or just plane and you will see how much the price is now.

It appears that with spending-money such a holiday would cost W.A. participants as much as \$2,000 per couple. This could prove to be prohibitive to most couples and we may have to re-think the whole thing.

This is where you, the reader, can help us in our planning as you are the likely participants and if you think this sort of money would be well spent on such a holiday please write in and let us know so that we can make a firm decision one way or the other.

It seems that some type of travelling convention will be held in 1974 and we may be forced to trim our sails quite a bit and settle for one of the mainland cities, probably Melbourne with say a trip to Tasmania as an extra bonus.

The quicker you can get your ideas to us the speedier we can get on with the planning and bookings. **Travel Time International. Estimated Costings:**

1. Fremantle/Sydney by ship. Sydney/Sydney (New Zealand 15 day holiday package). Sydney/Melbourne by air. Melbourne/Perth by air.

Based on Family Plan (applicable across the Trans Tasman sector):

Mr. \$714.50 (14 day N.Z. holiday \$679.50).

Mrs. \$623.30 (14 day N.Z. holiday \$588.30).

2. Air all the way:

Mr. \$694.70 (14 day N.Z. holiday \$659.70).

Mrs. \$603.50 (14 day N.Z. holiday \$568.50).

3. If travel is undertaken during March 1 and November 30 Aircon-

omy Fares (Trans Tasman) apply:

1. Fremantle/Sydney by ship. Sydney/Sydney (New Zealand 15 day holiday). Sydney/Melbourne by air. Melbourne/Perth by air.

\$640.60 per person.

\$606.60 14 day N.Z. holiday.

2. Air all the way:

\$620.80 per person.

\$586.80 14 day N.Z. holiday.

Not included in above rates: Accommodation Sydney and Melbourne Sydney: Double room \$11-\$13.80 per night. Double room with bath \$15.60 - \$16.60 per night.

Melbourne: Twin room \$14.50 per night. Double with bath \$17 - \$18 per night.

Please Note: All rates are subject to alteration without notice and we advise that the fares to be finally charged will be those in effect on the applicable date of travel.

Personalities

It is with extreme regret that we have to advise of the death of Johnny Rose on 19th January, 1974, at Hillston, N.S.W.

Johnny was our youthful and zestful Signals Officer when the Unit was formed. He was a soldier of great courage in Timor where he switched from Sigs. to Infantry. His leadership of intrepid patrols stamped him as a man of supreme audacity. He was of a most cheerful nature and his ruddy boyish complexion was usually wreathed in a smile.

It is most sad to see a man taken at such an early age when he should be enjoying the prime of his life.

Johnny was a sufferer for a long time. It is a blessing for his wife, Nance, that the children are grown up and do not constitute a problem for her.

We extend to Nance, John, Tony and Karen our deepest sympathy in their sad loss of a good husband and father and we extend similar condolences to Johnny's parents.

Vale Johnny Rose, good bloke, good soldier, good citizen and outstanding husband and father.

Saw Don Turton the other day and he advised that harvesting was near complete and he was trying to get in a bit of fishing and crabbing in what spare time he could find.

Heard This?

Little Ronnie answered the door bell, and was told by the visitor: "I'm the plumber, and have come to fix that old tub in the kitchen."

Ronnie quickly turned around and yelled: "Mamma, the doctor's here to see the cook."

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

He said the harvest has been good but depressed prices had cut returns pretty dramatically.

Fred Napier advised that he recently had a trip to Augusta and while there met Mal Herbert who was down there seeing his mother. Fred is most enthusiastic of the merits of a holiday at Augusta which he regards as ideal for a summer holiday.

PLEASE DO NOT FORGET THAT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

ON

TUESDAY, 7th MARCH

AT THE USUAL VENUE

BASEMENT ANZAC HOUSE

RANDOM HARVEST

J. G. ROSE, of Hillston, 2675, writes to Col Doig:

I feel sad to have to tell you that poor Johnny was laid to rest here on the 19th.

He had been ill for some time and suffered a good deal earlier on, but his end was peaceful. He was operated on three times for a malignant growth.

He told some of his pals here that he had no regrets as he "had had his quids worth". This was typical of his outlook on life generally.

Reg Martin was over to the funeral from Griffith.

His mother and I are left with many happy memories and we rejoice in the fact that he will have no more pain and suffering.

I felt that I wanted you to know of his passing.

It is 19 years since I met you in Perth and what changes have taken place since then.

John's second son, Tony, completed his service in Vietnam and is back with the Rural Bank in Sydney.

The eldest son, John, is a school teacher, whilst Karen, the daughter (18), won a scholarship to the Teachers College, so Nance has them all off her hands.

Nance herself is in charge of the Public Library here so thank God she should be able to manage.

With very best wishes.

JIM SMAILES, of 55 "Esplanade Court", 87 The Esplanade, South Perth, 6151, writes:—

Just a hurried note to inform you of my change of address.

I have had to give up my house and garden at Roleystone and bought a Home Unit here at Mend-st. jetty. Very handy to transport, etc.

Am keeping pretty good and off to Malaya on Dec. 26 for three weeks again.

As a suggestion, in the new Address Book how about including the Association's addresses in each State. Regards for now.

FRANK and PHYLLIS SHARP, of 22 Quinn St., Dubbo, writes:—

Many thanks once again for a wonderful 10 days' and re-union which my wife and I will never forget your hospitality and warmth of welcome was tremendous.

We had a very good trip home and bade farewell to all the mob at Sydney station before heading home to Dubbo. Your treatment must have been too much for me, I went

down with one of the best doses of the flu that I have ever had since arriving home ended up having to visit the doctor to get some relief. Am gradually shaking it off.

Thanks again old fellow for such a lovely time. Take care of yourself. Kindest regards.

J. BRAND, of 31 Maisie Crescent, Wembley Downs, W.A., writes:—

It is a bit late to wish the Association the best for the New Year but I do so now.

I have had a pretty bad year in hospital twice for one month and a week and another stretch of three weeks, double pneumonia and pleurisy, and now have been ordered no work any more. The old chest won't take it any more.

I am enclosing \$10 to go toward the Association funds.

Will be driving around the country for a bit of a trip soon so may see a few of the boys then. I don't know if I can make the picnic as I am going to Mandurah on Friday for a week and then the daughter and husband go on holidays so have the pets and home to look after.

Cheerio to you all for now.

JIM ENGLISH, of 11 Richards Ave. Peakhurst, N.S.W., 2210, writes:

Find enclosed a clipping from the "Sunday Mirror". I'm sure you will find it interesting and you may be able to use it in the "Courier". Of course when you read it you will understand how excited and proud we are.

Pauline has been working very hard since the N.S.W. titles and her swimming has improved a ton. In fact each time she swims now she is slicing time off her Australian records which is amazing. Pauline trains six days a week, doing up to 3,000 metres a day and also she trains three nights a week and on top of that she swims in races with the Hurstville Swimming Club.

If you decide to use this clipping you may add to it the following: Both Jean and I feel that everyone who took part in the Safari must take some credit for Pauline's achievements, because since coming home from the West Pauline has a new slant on life, not that she wasn't coping with life before, but we think that the way people both young and old, accepted Pauline has

finally taught her that she has the ability to live a normal life (of course running, jumping and rugby league are out). To everyone concerned Pauline, Jean, Greg and I will be forever grateful.

Will let you know how Pauline goes in the Australian Titles on March 13.

Pauline, 15, Finds Independence in the Water

Crippled Girl Sets Records In First Race

A Sydney schoolgirl this week broke two Australian paraplegic swimming records less than one month after her first coaching lesson.

The girl, Pauline English, 15, of Peakhurst, clipped six seconds off the 50 metres breaststroke and 2.5 seconds off the 50 metres freestyle records in her first swimming race.

The Paraplegic and Quadriplegic Association staged the competition at the Killarney Heights swimming pool to select State finalists for the national events in March.

Pauline now is to represent N.S.W. and could make the Australian team to compete in the Paralympics in Heidelberg, Germany, in August.

"Remarkable Girl":

One of the organisers of the Paralympics, Mr. Kevin Betts, said: "The records Pauline broke are not what you'd call world-shattering.

"But I think we've found a remarkable girl with a beautiful style and very fast record of progress in swimming.

"She is a good prospect in her class."

Competitors are classed according to the extent of their disabilities.

Pauline is in Class 4. She was left paralysed from the waist down after contracting transverse myelitis at the age of three.

Pauline's sudden plunge into competitive swimming came as a surprise to her family.

"She taught herself to swim when she was seven but she never took it more seriously than an occasional dip on the weekends," Pauline's father said.

Daily Training:

"Since school broke up, Pauline has been too tied to the house and television so I decided to take her down to the Strathfield swimming pool where the Paraplegic Associa-

tion was organising races for its members.

"I have always had all the faith in the world in her, but I had a terrific shock when she started swimming a 50 metre length at amazing speed," he said.

Pauline, who all her life has had to rely heavily on others for her movements has suddenly found complete independence in the water.

She trains daily at the Strathfield pool under the supervision of a coach and her parents.

"She has only two more months to train for the national competition but she is a very determined girl and is really giving swimming everything she's got," Mr. English said.

TWY SMYTHE, of 5 Hungerford Street, Bluff Point, Geraldton, 6530, writes:—

Erica and I are very interested in the tentative proposals for the N.Z. trip. We already had ideas of doing a trip there in '74 with two other couples. If these people could be included (and they are very interested too) that will be six definite starters so we would appreciate it if you can let us know if there would be any objections to their being included. If so we will go ahead with other arrangements.

We think it all sounds wonderful and hope it comes off. We also think the ship idea would be equally if not more marvellous and of course I'd like to toss in Tasmania while we are about it.

See how enthusiastic we Geraldtonites are?

DUD TAPPER, of 54 Collingwood Ave., Flinders Park, S.A., 5026, writes:—

I guess it's about time I unwound and penned a few lines—the Irish have been having it too easy (no offense, Paddy, you stirred my conscience). I find the older I get the heavier the pen becomes.

Wife and self took a trip East over the holidays. Stayed a few days with Max and Grace Davies. Both looking as well as ever. Over to Bendigo and spent a couple of hours with Key and Glad Curran. Still a big man. We went as far as Wodonga and came down the Murray Valley to Swan Hill and then back to Horsham where it was very wet in more ways than one.

Son Brenton is over in Perth. You have probably seen him by now. He intends to stay some time.

Had a note from Reg Harrington asking me to look after his son's car for a while. His son wrote to say he was not coming so the project fell through.

South Australia is expecting a bumper harvest (cutting enclosed):

"A bumper S.A. harvest of 109,186,000 bushels of wheat, barley, and oats is expected for 1971-72.

"This is 39 million bushels more than the 1970-71 yield and the highest since the record production of almost 125 million bushels in 1968-69.

"The burea said estimates indicated the current acre yield of wheat would be 2.91 bushels more than the average of 16.90 bushels obtained in the 10 seasons from 1961-62 to 1970-71."

Haven't done much sailing lately. We went across the Gulf last Friday night, a little wind, about five knots and came back Monday in a flat calm.

Haven't seen any of the boys lately. Keith Dignun rang the other day. He is well.

I am still laying bricks for a living. The industry is still reasonably good although most brick work is now done by sub-contractors. Adios Amigo.

BETTY CRAIG, of P.O. Box 234, 43 Edwards St. Young, N.S.W., 2594, writes:—

Well I've done it again. I certainly never do things by halves. I wrote to you a long long letter, very much after the same style as Ron Trengroves lovely letter, which was a real credit to Ron. The little personal snippets were wonderful and I am sure brought many happy memories to a lot of people. Those tea parties were wonderful. The hallways around our room was a real meeting place, and there wouldn't be a soul about, but dare you decide to have a "cuppa" they arrived like bees to join the honey pot. I think they went from our room to Smiths, Peatties, McLaughlins and Cokers. No one, but no one, dare rattle a cup and saucer without Coral Coker appearing from somewhere. I'm sure she had the best "nose" for "tea is on", but the rest of us were running her a very close second.

The cups of tea served with toasted raisin bread in the little cafe around the corner were superb, and many were the trips we had there, with plenty of company of 2/2nd friends.

Keith and I also had a wonderful trip with Tony Bowers who took us down south and gave us a wonderful trip, to beaches, and down the coast, then inland and back to Perth. A wonderful day really.

Then the Saturday we were leaving Perth. The Peatties and Craigs made the trip to Rottnest Island. It was a wonderful day and well worth the rush in the morning. We took some wonderful photos of Rottnest and thoroughly enjoyed our boat trip.

Have been able to write a few letters to different folk in W.A. since returning home. We have all been very busy since coming back from W.A. but since Christmas have had a bit of a spell from everything. Have had plenty of rain, which has meant plenty of work in the garden naturally.

Phillip joined the army and entered camp in November. Next weekend is his passing out parade from Kapooka. We will go to Wagga and stay a night as Phillip will be based at R.A.M.E., Melbourne, from next Tuesday. He hopes to do his Degree of Engineering whilst in the army. I hope he can do this.

Janette still at the library and likes it very much. The Head Librarian is a good friend of Nance Rose, and she rang to tell me that John Rose had passed away the other weekend. He has been sick for a long while in Griffith Hospital.

Keith and I would like to nomin-

ate for the New Zealand trip. We think it would be wonderful to be able to see New Zealand and hope it can be arranged.

I am going to give up my job at the end of April when Keith goes on holidays and then only do a bit of casual work. Will be just as well off I think.

Also would it be possible to take another couple on the trip as we have friends who are very keen, and wish they had come to W.A. with us.

Allan and Joan Saines, and Allan was an army man.

Do hope you are well and still receiving plenty of mail. Thank you just doesn't seem adequate for all you did for the Safari, but I am sure you know how we feel. It was a moving and marvellous experience and I was honoured to have been a small part of that great Safari.

As I said when I started the letter I never do things by halves. Your long letter was returned to me, from of all places, Perth in Scotland. I had forgotten to put the 6000 on it. So for a person who can go into a shop and buy two left slippers and then have my letter go to Scotland, you can see what I mean when I say I never do things by halves.

However this is to say sorry about the other letter and that you didn't receive a word of thanks from me before this.

Re the Address Book, our address is still Box 234 Young, but we live right in town now, 43 Edwards St., and would welcome anyone who can call on us.

All the best from us both.

PLEASE DO NOT FORGET THAT
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
 ON
TUESDAY, 7th MARCH
 AT THE USUAL VENUE
BASEMENT ANZAC HOUSE

PLEASE GIVE A RAPID THOUGHT TO SUGGESTIONS FOR THE
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