



2/2 COMMANDO COURIER

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EDITORIAL

THANKS

As a result of the last "Courier" appeal for more Editorial material for our paper members have responded excellently if not with Editorials at least with good correspondence from many parts of Australia. Also many persons have rung up regarding writing of articles regarding their particular vocations in life.

We would undoubtedly accept with pleasure such articles. Jim Smailes suggested that he might write a series of articles on the many facets of mining in which he has been engaged and these would be of terrific interest to readers who know nothing of the inner workings of gold and other mining. He also suggested that informed articles written by our farmer members would be of great interest to those members who have never been on a farm in their lives.

This sort of thing opens up a tremendous sphere of excellent reading and will also put members in a position of knowing just what their mates are doing today. You, the reader, may think that the job you do in life is hard, but a person who knows naught of your vocation it will make interesting reading.

Editorial matter is still badly needed so if you good people like Max Davies, Ron Dook, Ron Trenchgrove and others who responded in the past with Editorials care to have a go again your perspiring Editor will be most pleased to print what you send in.

Please give the matters quoted above your earnest attention and see just what you can do.

**BUSY BEE KINGS PARK:
SUNDAY, 30th JULY**

**AUGUST MEETING:
ANZAC HOUSE BASEMENT, 1st AUGUST**
RAY AITKEN will talk on the Cultivation of West Australian Flora.
This should be a treat for both husbands and wives

West Australian Whisperings

Association Activities

CALCUTT MEMORIAL TROPHY

The first evening of the sports to see who can take out this trophy in 1972 was held at Anzac Club Basement on Tuesday, June 6.

We were favoured with a good roll up and excellent competition.

Thanks to the efforts of Gerry Maley everything went along with a swing. The results were as follows:

Bowls: G. Maley 1, J. Carey 2, F. Napier 3, C. Doig 4.

Darts: L. Bagley 1, R. Watson 2, G. Strickland 3, C. Doig 4.

Quoits: G. Strickland 1, W. Epps 2, R. Watson 3, J. Carey 4.

Table Tennis: H. Sproxtton 1, G. Maley 2, R. Kirkwood 3, W. Epps 4.

Progressive Points: G. Maley 7, G. Strickland 6, R. Watson 5, W. Epps 4, L. Bagley 4, J. Carey 4, H. Sproxtton 4, F. Napier 2, R. Kirkwood 2, C. Doig 2.

JULY MEETING

On 24 previous occasions (fourth in U.S.) we held the first contest for Mixed Pairs Bowls for the special Tray Trophy.

Once again we were favoured with a good attendance of both ladies and gents. Gerry Maley in his inimitable way managed by algebra, or some other means known only to himself, to get pairs on the two mats and eventually provided a final. The eventual winners proved to be Percy and Val Hancock.

The next and final contest for this trophy will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 5, so you still have a chance to win and hold this trophy for 12 months.

AUGUST MEETING

The Association has once again prevailed upon Ray Aitken to come along and give us a talk plus demonstration on the cultivation of West Australian trees, shrubs and wil flowers. On previous occasions these evenings have been voted to be outstanding.

Please make a point of keeping Tuesday, Aug. 1, open so that you can come along and enjoy yourself at this interesting and informative talk.

PAULINE ENGLISH FUND

Thanks to the ready response by people and organisations, Pauline has managed to fill her quota of \$1,700 odd and is now assured of her trip to the Heidelberg Paraplegic Games. This is a marvellous result and it now only behoves us to wish Pauline all the success in the world in her initial bid to win gold medals at these wonderful games.

Members are requested not to forward any further donations to this fund.

There is more on this subject in a wonderful write up by Paddy Kennally elsewhere in this issue.

MAMMOTH RAFFLE

Applications to date have been quite good considering the raffle only opened on Anzac Day and will close on Nov. 4, 1972. However there are still approximately 100 applications required to fill this raffle at its maximum of 500.

The Committee would like to see more applications from the Eastern States as the profits are to be split up on a pro rata basis between the States.

Included in this issue is an application form which you are requested to try and dispose of to the best advantage.

Please ensure that if you intend to handle this application that it is returned promptly as the first 500 applications received will be issued with the tickets.

Remember the success of this raffle means that the Branches in all States will participate in the proceeds.

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Committee Comment

The usual monthly Committee Meeting took place at Anzac Club on Tuesday, June 20, and the attendance was as usual excellent. It is most pleasing over the past years to see the interest taken by persons voted onto the Committee. This is a marked change from our earlier years as a Committee.

Treasurer Ron Kirkwood advised that working funds were getting low, but this would be rectified when the Mammoth Raffle was completed in November.

Col Doig advised that applications for tickets in the Mammoth Raffle were rolling in fairly satisfactorily but there was an urgent need for more to be sold. Too much to date has been done by too few as instanced by the fact that 210 applications have been handled by only four sellers.

Gerry Maley advised that the special glasses ordered from Victoria at the time of the Jubilee Safari were now on hand.

Len Bagley, "Sotty" Wares and Col Doig gave a summary of what had been done to date with regard to the proposed Safari in February-March 1974. The proposed venue was to be Melbourne-Tasmania and the opinions of Victoria Branch and Tassie members had been solicited to see if they would be agreeable to the proposed itinerary. Until replies are received from this source nothing further can be done.

Col Doig advised that quite a number of members and others, had already expressed a desire to be in such a trip.

Bill Epps advised that proofs of the new Address Book had been despatched to Eastern States and had

mostly been returned checked and that it was now possible to get cracking with this new book.

Len Bagley advised that he had been in touch with Clarrie Turner and Bob Palmer regarding the Country Convention at Busseton on the long weekend in October and that they were to meet and provide a programme of events. (This has now come to hand.)

Personalities

It is with regret that we have to record yet another of our members has passed away in the person of Joe Tell. Joe joined the Unit from the Dutch end and served with various Sections during our sojourn in Timor and was well regarded as a soldier. Joe took quite a keen interest in the N.S.W. Branch after this was formed. Joe had been in poor health for some considerable time. We extend our sincere sympathy to his loved ones.

Bernie Langridge and his wife and two friends have just returned from a trip to Timor. We hope they had a good time and that Bernie will find time to write a bit of copy for the "Courier" regarding his trip, especially informing us of the condition of the Memorial.

Len and Dot Bagley are booked for a trip to Singapore and Malaysia in September and we wish them a pleasant holiday.

Saw Alf Blundy the other day. He had been in town for a medical check-up for some throat trouble. He is now employed at the new freezer at Midland Abattoirs.

Don Turton advises that the season has treated him kindly to date and hopes for a continuance of rain to finish the season off well.

COUNTRY CONVENTION:

BUSSETON, Saturday - Monday, 7th - 9th Oct.

This should be something to look forward to having regard to Country Conventions in the past. Itinerary printed elsewhere.

MAMMOTH RAFFLE:

Please Get Those Applications in as soon as possible

RANDOM HARVEST

**CLARRIE TURNER, of "Killora",
Elgin, writes:—**

Received your letter of May 12, and my thanks to all members of the Association for once again giving me the honour of playing some small part in the Association's activities. I am afraid I have been very lax in the past, but will try and give more time to it in future.

Now to put you in the picture. We have already had a meeting down at Bob Palmer's place. Present were self and Grace, Alec Thompson and Wyn, Bill Conner (or O'Conner) and wife, and of course Bob and Barb.

We had a very good discussion about the whole weekend before making any decisions. By the way saw Bernie Langridge and asked him to join us, but although he has promised support and attendance it was unfortunate for us that at the time he was on a trip back to Timor.

However, this is the proposed line and sincerely hope that it will be a good weekend and we would like to see a good crowd present so that a good time could be had by all.

Saturday evening: Buffet dinner with drinks, to be followed by a social and light supper. Music provided to 12 p.m. Venue "Vasse Hotel". Buffet to commence no later than 7 p.m.

Sunday: Bus to leave Vasse Hotel at 10 a.m. Scenic drive south. Return to Caves House for buffet lunch with drinks, also to incorporate a short meeting or discussion. We feel a general discussion among members would be best.

After lunch see caves or other spots of interest depending on members themselves. Leave for return to Busselton at 3 p.m.

Leave Vasse Hotel by bus again at 5 p.m. for barbecue tea, drinks, etc., Grace and Clarrie's at "Peppermint Grove" beach. Return to Vasse hotel?

Monday is left to members' own wishes. Busselton golf course will be running a competition of 18 holes a.m. and again p.m. I will make enquiries about Capel golf course.

Costs: Vasse Hotel, \$12 double bed and breakfast. Buffet tea \$3. Buffet lunch \$2 to \$2.50. Bus trip? Bob

knows the driver very well and feels he can get this fairly reasonable.

Now the ladies present were very insistent on pulling their weight so will see to supper for Saturday evening social.

Sunday evening all costs will be carried by our South West members and their wives.

Bob Palmer has made a tentative booking for 12 couples at Vasse Hotel. If more accommodation is required please notify either Bob or myself as soon as possible. Also we must have pretty accurate numbers at least 14 days prior to the Convention to tee up meals, etc.

I hope this meets with approval by you and the rest of the members and so for the present regards to all members, wives and families from

—THE SOUTH WEST.

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

Here are the Address Book proofs. I've altered any that have been changed, and included one or two that were missing. Those I've marked "Address Unknown" we have completely lost contact with, and have not the least idea of their present address. I suggest that where I have marked "Address Unknown" we still include the name. We may find or contact them eventually, then the address can be published in the "Courier" and anyone so desiring can copy it into their individual book. Where possible I have included telephone numbers. However I did not go through the phone book looking for all and sundry.

In our recent appeal for funds in this State we notified each member of the desirability of each one including their address and phone number when returning any donations. About two thirds have not even answered the appeal or questions as to address and phone numbers. I can well imagine the enormous task confronting you in re-editing the book and bringing it up to date. Apathy, and this idea of "I'll get round to it later," can be damned frustrating to the person doing the job.

How are you keeping these days. Hope the health is good and you

don't get ulcers trying to organise the disorganised.

Good luck and my best to all in the West.

A Later Letter from Paddy reads:

It's a beautiful day in the sun. I'm writing this sitting in the car with the sun just shining through the windscreen, because out in the wind it's damned cold, despite all the sunshine.

Pauline English made her target and then some. Different bodies raised \$4,000 altogether for her. I think pride of place must go to the crippled children at Pauline's school, who raised something like \$1,500 by their own efforts. We of the 2/2nd are greatly indebted to the Sports Committee of Arncliffe R.S.L., and the general members of Arncliffe R.S.L. for their help and support in the joint action we took to assist Pauline. So financially Pauline is all set for Germany and the Paralympics of 1972. It only requires her coming through the medical examination now and she will be on that plane on August 24.

Pauline's times keep improving and she seems almost certain to win a medal, whether it be gold, silver or bronze in at least one of the events. The best wishes of all who know her go with her in her quest.

We are a little on the lonely side here at present. Nora and Gerald flew out of Sydney yesterday, July 1, bound for Ireland, via Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Barheim, Rome and London. Nora was going fine until the announcement to board the plane came over and the realization that she was saying good bye struck her. One would have thought she was going to be executed as she walked toward that barrier. Gerald said: "Come on Mum". He couldn't have cared less, a bundle of school text books under his arm, he is supposed to do some study while he is away. A forlorn hope. The long summer holidays will commence in Ireland in a few weeks and Gerald will immediately claim Irish conditions, or I'm a poor judge.

Nora will have ten hours in London before flying to Ireland. We both have relatives there and they will meet her. Wouldn't mind being there myself. Of course, when she lands at Cork Airport there will be no shortage of Kellys to meet her as

Nora has seven brothers and two sisters, and Paddy Kelly will at least see one of his Australian grandchildren, whether he'll be as happy at the end of three months will of course be another question.

If Nora allows Gerald to kiss the Blarney Stone we at home will never forgive her. We are flat out trying to keep up with his blarney now.

Sean, Helen and Michael are sharing the domestic duties. Nora left a list of meals and recipes behind for Helen's guidance. What a time she will have. I hope not at our expense, digestively I mean. Sean is a fair cook in his own right and Michael can do better than boil water when he sets his mind to it.

Merv and Marj Jones came to see Nora off. Both look extremely well. They left the northern beaches area early to look at a car or two. Merv did more than look. He bought a Toyota Celecia and Marj did mental arithmetic and hopes her answer is correct. However they are both thrilled with the buy. Happy excursions to you.

We lost another of our members last Tuesday. Joe, Tom was named. A very sudden affair. Joe was one of the A.S.C. Unit members who came up from Dutch Timor after the surrender down there. Joe was a member of the Arncliffe R.S.L. as well as our Association and the Commando Association. He was one of the Hospital Visiting Officers for Arncliffe R.S.L. and any of our chaps in hospital was always sure of a visit from Joe. He was also in great demand as Santa Claus by various ex-service associations. Our sympathy to his widow in her sad loss. Arncliffe R.S.L. were represented by a strong contingent at the funeral. Tom Martin, Bill Coker, Ron Hilliard, Jim English and Paddy Kenneally represented the Unit, and Don Latimore represented the Combined Commando Association. In fact Don has always made it a point to be at any bereavement service for members of our Association. Don is Secretary of the Combined Commando Association. He tells me that they also have their financial worries added to the fact that the place where their Association periodical was printed was completely destroyed by fire and all blocks, etc., of the Combined Association destroyed thus adding to their financial troubles.

By the way I made a mistake about Tom Martin's lottery win. It was only \$12,000 not \$25,000 as I reported. However Tom isn't complaining. Tom admits to 63 summers and winters, but many of them failed to put their mark on him. He looks nothing like that age—too young looking by far.

Concrete and myself still paired. It seems to get heavier every day. I get along a day at a time, an attitude I should have kept by me years ago. I remember well my grandmother telling me when I was a "Gasoon" in Ireland: "Man proposes, but God disposes", and it's not a bad thought to keep by one.

Helen, Michael and Sean all keeping well, studying reasonably, if not with enthusiasm, Helen excepted of course. She's always studying.

Pigeon breeding in full swing and the Kenneally brothers planning to scoop the pool next season. They only have two left from last year's racing flock. Their losses were heavy. Hope their luck is better next season.

My best wishes to all you in the West. Thanks Helen Poynton, and you Jean Morgan for your card and letter to Nora and Gerald. I'm sure Nora will write to you both from Ireland. Good luck to Joe and Mick.

Harold Newton's son Warren was married on June 24. Harold and Bonnie Newton looked extra well. Warren was beaming and so he should, his bride was and is radiant. Brother Glenn Newton was best man. He is at Sydney University doing excellently and studying hard. Harold's brother and sister were also present so the West was well represented. The stewards were pouring so much champagne down my gullet I finally had to ask if they had beer. The fizzy stuff is all right, but I still prefer beer.

Good night, and good luck to all.

RON TRENGROVE, of 46 Hillcrest Avenue, Mona Vale, writes:—

Having had an unexpected phone call from Neil Bray, a call on Bill Coker and family and as I am at the moment at 9.30 a.m. waiting for my illustrious boss to come out, I thought I might start a letter on this glorious sunny day and perhaps continue it on with events up to and after Anzac Day so it could be sometime until you actually get it.

Neil Bray's phone call was to let me know that he is taking over the licensee of the hotel at Hill End, N.S.W., which is now a National Park Trust area and as you may know was a gold mining area and has quite an historical past. I, myself, am not familiar with it. I have had a few invitations to spend weekends there as a friend of mine has a cottage of sorts in the town and is a historian hobbyist and knows much about the history of the place. He would be of great assistance to you Neil, as apparently the bloke you are replacing is not the exact "mine host" one would expect in a pub in that position.

Since starting this letter a great day has come and gone at Cottage Point which as you W.A.s. will remember in the "Week That Was" is where we had such a wonderful day going up on the Krait from Church Point and return. Well the Kameraka Captain organised a day there for the 2/2nd last Sunday, the 16th April, and although I was late (I haven't time to spit these days) it was everything I thought it would be, and made more enjoyable by the presence of two 2/2nd we have not seen for a very long time—Harold Newton and all his family, and a nice team they make, and John Donovan and his lovely daughter, who John assures me does not mind telling you her age which is 24 because she only looks 17 or 18 and Linda don't be in a hurry sweetheart, as old age and good looks disappear so fast when it starts you wonder if you had them.

Bill took two boat loads for trips almost to Lion Island and back and as usual in his bountiful way dispensed beverages all round, but, yuck, when he gave me that home brew I thought what's he got against me? I espied two liquer glasses which two kind souls apparently did not like the contents of so I poured them in my beer and boy, does Tia Maria make home brew taste like a long drink of Tia Maria. I don't want to repeat myself but does it? My word it is the nicest drop of home brew ever made. Well you can't please everybody Bill.

The day was like a Mini Safari. Paddy Kenneally has all the names and it was a very successful day. I particularly noticed the absence of the Darges but no doubt that family

had more important matters that kept them away, as it did my wife who had her face swathed in sticking plaster and did not want to come out like so.

The star for the day was Pauline English who piloted the boats (what's the name of that 35 foot scow anyway?) up and back and probably had more fun than most of us put together.

Coker has more mixed grogs in that cabinet (right of the bulkhead) than you can poke a stick at. I think he probably does a bit of smuggling. There used to be a lot of it going on in the early days of this and at the latter end of the 1800s so it wouldn't surprise me if he has found a lurk down there somewhere.

Well it just goes to prove that the right place and the right day these sort of shows can be put on and family will go because I think it's true a family who plays together will stay together.

While back on the subject of families, Ron and Marj Goodacre had their delightfully lovely young daughter with them. It seems we have left these family gatherings a little late but now we have them started let's keep the show on the road and if you think my suggestion in my last letter about getting together at the Press Gang's Hacienda, who incidentally has the Chollertons right next door, let our secretary know your thoughts about this, so to further my thoughts about it.

If Frank thinks this is a good idea perhaps he might let us know the best time of the year weather-wise firstly, then whether that would not interfere with his plans for working or business wise. A small committee could work on this much the same as I did on the Safari to W.A. with a trip up to "Bobanaro" to survey the Arena for the "Festival 2/2nd". Perhaps erect bush amenities, barbecues, etc., if required. Why this could even be as good as but only nearly the Week That Was or Safari 72. We might even get Lois Mac and what's that bloke's name who one always seems to see with her? Never mind, I'll remember his name. I think they named a bull after him. Any way you know who I mean. You see if this got off the ground it is so easy to get there as one can see by

studying a map that for the most in any of the Eastern States a day and a half to two days at the most would have you on the spot.

Well folks a rest until after Anzac Day.

26/4/72:

The day after, slightly shaky, but on deck.

A very good roll up considering it was not the best day of the week as one would rather have a recovery day after it.

So all in all 24 troops was good. This was the first year we have discarded our own banner and marched with the Combined Squadrons, which I think was a very good idea. The only thing is when we have to split up when we swing into Martins Place the group who hasn't got the banner leaves the onlookers somewhat puzzled as to who that group belong to.

The usual refreshment was provided at Hastings Deerings old garage and as it is no longer H.D.'s it would be a good idea for one and all who read this to remember it is now Wright's Fords Garage Service Centre.

Some of us made a trip up to see Ruby Dos Santos but she was out, then on to Arncliffe R.S.L. where this year we had a table in the main hall which again I think was better for us as we had a good sight of the entertainment and entertainers. All thanks to Arncliffe R.S.L. Committee.

I was the recipient during a lull in the entertainment of the fifth, I think, of the Life Membership Badge for N.S.W. It gives me great comfort to think that the N.S.W. Branch thought I should receive this honour and that W.A. also agreed with the nomination. While it is agreed that if you were a member of the 2/2nd at some time or other when it mattered most, you are a member for ever it makes one feel that you are just that much more than ever, even though one doesn't hear from so many it is a great feeling when one goes into a business house or standing in a lift and a complete stranger says "I see you are a Double Diamond. That's the 2/2nd isn't it"

The old school tie is not needed to know the best people when you have the honour to wear indeed the right to wear the Red Double Diamond.

If you gather from this gentlemen,

what I am trying to say then I repeat—Thank You.

I was unable to attend the last meeting but I gather that you will all hear of an appeal for help to send Pauline English to the ParaOlympics. This is a wonderful thing and if you who were on Safari 71 I mean hosts as well as visitors to W.A. realize that it was probably this more than anything that made Pauline realize she can live like most of us, go anywhere and do anything that her mind will allow her to do. When the appeal goes out it will be you she will be putting her best effort forward for because as we enjoyed her presence on Safari 71 it will be her way of showing you how she enjoyed being with us, as one of us.

Well, if I wait to write any more news this will be very old hat. I must apologize for not calling in on the Snowdons when I was in Canberra last week but my time was well and truly booked, but will make a better effort in October if I make it for the Local Government Conference.

Also in closing I hope to be in Gloucester on June 16 and 17 to hope to see Cliff Paff.

So Adios Amigos.

BERNIE LANGRIDGE, of Box 41, P.O. Donnybrook, W.A., writes:—

Many thanks for your letter re the Mammoth Raffle. We will be most happy to support your Committee, particularly as we were prizewinners last time. Babs was going to write and thank you but I don't think she ever did.

We are very proud of our S.F. painting. There is something quite unusual about it. I am no art critic, and possibly no great art enthusiast, but that picture is really appreciated.

I don't get to the "big smoke" much now. Kim does all our truck driving. Will write more when the fruit is over.

Many thanks to you all.

MARGARET WELLER, of Roebourne, W.A., 6718, writes:—

I was under the impression that all men could write but I'm beginning to doubt it as my husband so seldom writes I think he must have forgotten how.

So I must once more take up the pen on his behalf. We are once

again in the far north and living in a caravan, as this is where the work is.

I see that the farmers are badly in need of rain and I hope by the time you receive this that they have it. We have only seen two showers in the 10 months we have been up here it rained but not where we are.

We have been flitting from town to town. First Karratha, then Onslow, now Roebourne, and our next stop Karratha again.

We are grandparents now with a score of three, one girl and two boys. Tony is still at University and hopes to be through next year. Ann is up here with us as are the little girls Josephine and Wanda.

The weather is becoming cooler. Just heard we have an 80 m.p.h. wind heading our way. Never a dull moment. But it could turn and go away. I hope. There will be a matter on the job if it doesn't. We will have to tie all the vans down and pull down the lean-to and shift the material. It takes hours to make everything safe, but we are fortunate, all the houses are able to be locked up.

We are all suffering from the dog's disease and feeling miserable as only one can feel with a cold.

We went to Mill Stream on Sunday, the round trip was 160 miles. We went via the Gorges and came back over Mt. Herbert. It's a scary road, single width and winding around the edge of the mountain. One false move would be the last one, but the scenery is beautiful. We also went over one day and had a look at Pt. Hedland. Not as nice now as when we were there years ago. But it is very impressive.

Well I'm off to bed. Kind regards to everyone.

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

I commend your zeal in getting another raffle going as well as all the other work you do for the Association. The "Courier" is always very much appreciated, containing as it does news of members of the old brigade who are scattered over such a wide area.

A couple of weeks ago I was in Adelaide and spent an evening with Keith Dignum and Dud Tapper. It was good to get first hand news of the boys in the West from Dud. I

believe 4 Section was numerically the strongest and with Paddy Kenneally amongst them it should have been the strongest vocally too. He is the best correspondent I know, will answer a three or four page letter with 10 or 12. If anyone wants to be shown the beauty spots of Sydney I recommend Paddy.

Keith Dignum does not change over the years. Still the same old Dig with the same sense of humour and the same readiness to join in an argument.

The season has started well in this neck of the woods—good opening rains in April, more to follow in May, and a bit of sunshine in between to make the grass grow. Wool prices are looking up a bit and the price of fat cattle is still quite satisfactory.

The local golf course is watered through the summer so the grass is always green in there. The swing is getting a bit slower and shorter and it takes a bit longer to get round to the nineteenth.

My regards to the boys, especially of 4 Section, and best wishes with the sweep.

STAN SADLER, of Box 24, P.O. Wongan Hills, 6603, writes:—

Enclosed are two application forms for the raffle and cheque to cover the cost of the tickets. Be a nice prize to win. I would like to see you win it. Be a just reward for your efforts over the years. Best of luck anyway.

Not much news to report. Saw a brother of Ross Shenn's the other day. He is with Warwick, a farmers wool co-operative. He called in to persuade us to send some wool down there. I saw a likeness and asked him if he had a brother in the 2/2nd. Sure enough it was Shenny's brother.

All well here but starting to worry about the lack of rain. We have had 96 points since last November. Hand feeding all sheep and cattle and can last until the end of June before buying feed in. Could still turn out O.K. if we get the rain during the winter.

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

I have been toying with the idea of dropping you a short note for a few weeks, now I've received the

forms for the raffle I had better get busy and put ink on paper.

Am enclosing one form and hope to get the other back to you later.

A couple of queries. Can the cash be taken in place of the trip? What time limit would there be in making use of the trip?

I'm thinking here of folk working in an occupation where they just may not be able to organise for perhaps two years because of various reasons.

We are all looking to the sky and getting kinks in the necks looking for rain. It is pretty dry and our hay stacks are disappearing fast. I'm pretty right with about three months or more supply, but some around here are out now and for them things are grim. Last year at this time we'd finished seeding two weeks and were sick of the sight of rain. This year we've had hardly any. You're right, it is impossible to please the farmers.

Was talking to Litch on the blower the other day. Tried to get him to go to the city for Anzac Day. Like trying to shift a mountain. So I never went either. One of these days we'll make it.

Have been trying to keep the young horses quiet that I've just broken in. In addition to the usual routine and have decided I'm getting on. Can't seem to find enough hours in the day, plus the fact I seem to have more stiff muscles than I used to. Helen, our elder girl, used to help me keep the neddies tractable but she is studying in Adelaide this year and Anne is a bit small for the younger ones. This leaves Milton and I. School work keeps Milton busy so it's me for it.

Am nearly out of paper. Can't start another page. Hoping you and yours are well. Regards to all.

ROBBIE ROWAN-ROBINSON, of Woodborough, P.O. Box 196, Bridgetown, 6255, writes:—

A quick line or two before the mail man arrives.

Firstly news of Bernie and Babs Langridge. They left with friends for a trip back to Timor yesterday and should be well on the way now. I'm sure we all wish them both a happy trip and a well earned holiday and I'm sure you will agree long overdue.

Was talking to Gordon Rowley on the phone on Sunday. All is well

there and he is kept busy. Still in the chain saw business but has also taken on the Massy-Ferguson Agency too (more of a sub agency I understood). May be seeing him again soon if he can find a suitable saw for me.

Tom Crouch's name is often in the local paper in connection with Council affairs and I see he declined nomination as chairman of Manjim-up Shire.

I see "Slim" James quite often in the market. As you probably know he runs the vegie business for Mercers in the Metro Markets. He manages to keep the "dings" in order pretty well but believe you me they take some handling. Says he does not come to the meetings because he has to be up early. Late nights and early mornings don't mix very well.

I enclose a cheque for the Pauline English Appeal.

ANGUS MacLACHLAN, of 37 Arrowsmith Street, Camp Hill, 452, writes:—

Please find enclosed two application forms for the Marmoth Rifle. Still working on the third.

At this late date allow me to thank all our Western friends for the unforgettable ten days Lois and I spent in your fair land. I fear that my pen does not respond as quick as it should. Must change the brand of ball point to see if it makes any difference. To make amends I have started a one man campaign to have all Queenslanders to migrate to W.A. This does not include the few undesirables your law enforcement agents have picked up in the last couple of months.

On the home front the Mac household has made changes since the new year. Number two daughter Ann was married in May and has now left the protective custody of her stern father. The bright side of this is that she married a police officer—parking tickets and speeding fines dealt with at a discount rate. The young couple are in the process of house building in one of our far flung outer suburbs. My part in this exciting venture is to look forward to painting and papering a 16½ square home in my spare time. That is what Dads are for.

We had a southern visitor for the wedding weekend. Helen (funny) Kenneally graced our humble abode

for a few days to give moral support to two aging parents. It was a blessing to us to have Helen with us. We were so busy keeping Helen out of trouble we did not have time to contemplate the empty house awaiting us. Helen was in her usual fine form which makes it hard to believe her father is really who he is. God bless her mother.

Our number one daughter, Janette, is due to present us with our first grandchild at the end of July. Much excitement in the camp. Mother and unborn child are both doing well and we do not expect any complications. Dad again comes in handy for nursery furniture and decorations. Just remarking the other day, it costs a father more to keep his daughter married than to keep them single. Who would be without them—daughters. not fathers.

Had a phone call from Theo Adams a couple of weeks ago and mentioned that we were going to his old stamping grounds for our holidays. Theo immediately set the native drums into action and did a very good job of trying to con us into going to Geroka for our leave. Very tempting. We are still thinking about it. Trouble is it's a long way to walk.

Regards from both Lois and I to all in the West and especially your hard working self.

TOM CROUCH, of R.M.B. 11, Donnelly Mail, Manjimup, writes:—

Just survived the roughest and coldest weekend for a long time. Surely need the rain, only had 10 inches since last November. Should be 20 or more by now.

Prime reason for writing is to make a contribution to Pauline English and surely hope that I am in time for you to get it over to her. How about sending her one of our tie bars too? Just to set off her grand parade dress.

Will take a ticket in the big raffle and would prefer a trip to one of the mainland capitals for a get-together than going to N.Z. Would like to go to Geroka and Chimbu but at the moment think it would be politically unwise. Please note Theo Adams, lots of cows have six teats.

Will write a more comprehensive note later. Get this into the mail now to allow you enough time for forwarding.

ALAN STEWART, of 39 Longstaff Street, Lynham, A.C.T., 2602, writes:—

I have not sent you a Canberra report for sometime but feel I must support strongly a suggestion that another Safari of some direction should be on the planning list. I was very sorry that I could not join the venture to the West, of which we have had some glowing reports, as I had quite a spell in hospital. I have had some severe trouble with the old "comic cuts". No doubt due to the rubbish they have been subjected to over the years. Remember Kiwi's "home brew" at Geroka in 44 in which he was abetted by George Lewis, Brooker and Bob Smyth? No wonder the stomach has given up the unequal struggle. Anyhow we are getting on in age at least if not wealth and a little jaunt would be welcome. Personally I don't mind if it is Alaska, as with four kids at High School and two at University I am so far in debt that destination is absolutely no object.

My eldest daughter went to Perth —Geraldton—in the Christmas vacation and had a marvelous time, which stretched over some six weeks. She and her girl friends thought the place quite staggering and now I cannot get anyone to drive me to Sydney to see my aged mother. Nothing exciting they say. Incidentally Mum still enquires after Paddy Keneally. She was quite friendly with Paddy's mother during the war. Paddy's reliable contributions to the "Courier" give her great interest. You have a fan Paddy.

Canberra is certainly booming. You who were here some four or so years ago would not recognise the vast expansion. but it is really getting far too big and we are meeting city problems now—pollution, parking, traffic snarls and the rest. It is quite interesting though, some very worthy buildings and scenic improvements and it can well be recommended to the tourist as a "must" on any trip into the southern N.S.W.

I have had little contact of late with members in this vicinity, none at all in Sydney as I have not been down there. I am the Treasury representative on several committees, dealing with problems of the Regular Services. In this regard I was fortunate in being able to get Dave Dexter's assistance in looking at liv-

ing accommodation for students at the A.N.U. to give some equalising factor for service boys studying at the Military, Naval and Air Colleges, as well as the apprentices and others of the younger brigade doing their studies as part of military training. I have also had some interesting trips to the North of Queens land where I spent some time at the Army's Tropical Trials Establishment. This is quite fascinating in that Army are testing all sorts of equipments, foods, clothing, vehicles, ammo, weapons (you name it) under rigid tropical conditions. They take almost hourly readings of temperature, pressure, rain, humidity and every other environmental affect on material. It is a project that should ensure reliability of our equipment in the future.

I also saw some of the aftermath of cyclone Althea in Townsville, and more especially in a small town of Rillingstone where the main force hit. Boy, what a mess thereabouts.

Regre. I have no news of other members of our tribe and hope to see more of the Sydney members shortly.

JIM RENWICK, of 71 Mosman Crescent, Curran, A.C.T., 2605, writes:

Your appeal for letters, etc., has shaken me up as I realize I have been putting off writing for years. Fact is since the Sydney Safari.

Many things have happened to us since then. My family is growing up.

Peter, my eldest son, is doing a Secondary Teachers course at the Advanced College here. He was originally offered a Primary Teachers course at Wagga for N.S.W. Teachers course, and was all set to take it when the A.C.T. Education Department came to the party so he took the Secondary Teachers course here at Belconnen.

During the middle of his High School examination he got knocked over when crossing the road in the middle of a pedestrian crossing. The case is still being heard.

Ann, my eldest daughter, is sitting for her School Certificate this year. She represented A.C.T. in tennis in Brisbane at the beginning of the year. She has been playing tennis and doing well since coming here. She has retired for the rest of the year until the end of exams.

Brian is doing well at school. He is at the Marist College, Pearce, and is now strutting around in Air Force uniform as he recently joined the A.T.C.

Ruth is still in primary school. Joan, my wife, is still looking after her family (myself and four children) very well. I certainly struck the jackpot when I met her.

I had hoped to get to Perth for the Safari but unfortunately the tracking station where I work changed hands and I couldn't get away so here's hoping I can make the proposed trip to Melbourne in 1974.

Speaking of Melbourne, Joan and I managed to get a few days there in January. I managed to track down Harry Botterell and while we were knocking over a few saw Alf Grechon and George Kennedy. I tried to contact Johnny Roberts but no go. Harry told me where to contact Roy Splatt. Thanks Harry, Roy and I had quite a yarn.

Maven't been across to Young to see Keith Craig and family for about 18 months or so, but will make it soon.

Had see Tom Snowden and some of the other Canberra-ites this year. Last time I called at Tom's it was all locked up and they were on holidays.

Trouble with working out in the mountains about 40 miles from Canberra, I just don't see many people around town and at weekends I get tied up with running the kids to tennis, etc.

I guess one of these days when Ron Trengrove comes down again he might make it out to 71 Morgan Crescent, Curtin. No, I am not on the phone. So I guess its pot luck. My work number is listed under the Department of Supply, in the Government Department listing in the Canberra telephone directory. Look for Orroral Valley Tracking Station. I would give you the current number except that is about to change and they haven't got around to telling us what it is.

The weather here is great. Of course the farmers don't appreciate the dry spell. This sunshine most of the time suits me and the cold can be beaten.

Last time I went through Sydney I tried to ring that laughing Irishman Kenneally but his phone was en-

gaged, so seems he was ear bashing somebody.

I've tried to ring Harold Francis Newton a couple of times, but they are either not answering or engaged or they no longer live at 4 Church Avenue, Westmead. Get rash H.F. and drop a line.

Well, I hope you can decipher this scrawl and I hope all are well and that the plans for a 1974 get-together in Melbourne come off.

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

Just a note in with application forms for Mammoth Raffle plus a cheque. I will forward the balance in about four payments. Must try and make the draw this year. Have marked the calendar for the Country Convention this year. Could be on holidays about that time.

It looks like the weather has broken and at last am going to have some winter. Things were looking bad. We have had the most beautiful June you could wish for here.

Have not seen any of the boys down this way for some time. The last were Gordy Smith and Ernie Bingham during the last racing season.

ALF HILLMAN, of 2 Forrest Street, Katanning, W.A., 6317, writes:—

I have just returned from a three week trip to Melbourne and though I did not see very many of the gang those I did sent their regards to all over here.

The day after I arrived I rang Harry Botterill who said there was not much doing over there at the moment but gave me directions to find some others.

Elsie and I had flown over to visit one of the boys who is with the P.M.G. over there. Before I could look up anyone he took three days off and we did a caravan circle through the middle of the State calling in for a couple of hours with Kev Currah. Called in at Stawell but had been told that Max Davies had moved on to Horsham. Missed Bluey Sargent by ten minutes with Curran.

On return to Melbourne went in and looked up George Kennedy, Bert Tobin and John Roberts at their jobs. Had quite a long yarn with Bert and was going to take him up on a football game but it rained all

morning so made other arrangements and then it cleared up so I missed out but visited the art gallery and museum instead.

While in with John Roberts George Kennedy took a few minutes off to join us in an ale or two.

Harry Botterill rang up and arranged to pick us up and we went down to Ken Monk's for a very interesting and enjoyable day. We found out why land is so valuable there, five to seven hundred dollars per acre but owing to the lie of the land an acre there is three times as big as one of ours. Their's stands on edge.

Then one afternoon we went into town and waited for John Roberts to call it a day then went home with him for the night and had an enjoyable evening with he and his wife Kath.

Tried to contact Mick Wellings who was the nearest to our headquarters but was told he had moved no one knew where.

We were staying at Mooroolbark, 24 miles out in the foothills and looking up those I knew best in phone book. I could only find about six numbers and most of them were anything up to 20 miles away.

A large number of the Victorians members joined us after I had come home from N.G. or at Canuagra just before we went over so are only names to me. Other than those I met on the Safari.

We flew direct to Melbourne on the morning of May 10 and left again on the evening of the 27th. Coming back found that we had been booked on a broken trip and had to change planes at Adelaide.

It was Elsie's first plane trip and my first since return from New Guinea but I think we might make it again if the Tasmanian trip comes off.

**TOM SNOWDON, 112 Matina St.,
Narrabundah, Ianberra, A.C.T.,
2604, writes:—**

Just a note to accompany forms for tickets in your Mammoth Raffle. Firstly I would like to wish you all the very best in your venture.

You will notice that I have not got one for myself yet but trust that you will be able to make one available to me at the appropriate time. I have collected all money and will send you a cheque when we find

out if venture is fully subscribed. That will save any unnecessary work. I will give you the names and addresses here so as they will be understandable for you to follow. You can send me the tickets and I will distribute them out, that will save you some postage.

Should a venue for our next reunion be made, myself, I prefer the proposed Tasmania plan, however that I imagine will be up to the majority.

How are all you good folk over in W.A.? My wife, Maureen, and myself, will never forget the wonderful time you gave us whilst over there. The three of us wish to be remembered to all those wonderful people and friends who we were honoured to meet on that occasion.

We are all well, although Bonnie's arthritis is a continual nuisance and never appears to be any better. Maureen is still learning the guitar and appears to be going along O.K. at school. She is in second form this year.

One of our sons is being married on Jun 10. Undoubtedly a full day in every way.

I am still wrapped up in the football, being in my sixth year as Chairman of Selectors for our team. In that time we have already won four premierships and one runners-up. Billy Vaughan is still playing good football for us. At the moment I am acting coach for six weeks as our paid coach has been suspended by the League for abuse of an umpire.

Things over here are terribly dry and as from the 1st June we are being declared a drought area. On the whole, however, the weather has been beautiful, that is for this particular part of the country which normally at this time of the year is freezing cold.

As I want to get this letter posted I will not bore you with any more of this scrawl but in once again wishing you all the very best with the raffle I will say good-bye.

Could you furnish me with full details on completion of raffle draw, for satisfaction of clients.

**BARB PALMER, of 2 Reynolds St.,
Busselton, W.A., writes:—**

Just a few lines to let you know that we folk around Busselton still exist. You will soon be hearing

from Clarrie, if you already haven't, to let you know what sort of a programme we drew up for the weekend in October. Hope it meets with approval. The weather should be pretty good by then.

The two small girls and ourselves are going to Carnarvon in August holidays and looking forward to the trip. Henry's at high school this year and rather objects to being classed small fry. However with all the others married they do get looked upon as small fry.

Bob is extra flat out lately and quite happy with the result. I think he enjoys it more now that he is out on the road most of the time.

Am enclosing two Mammoth Raffle applications. Will drop you a note again later on.

ALF HODGE, of Farm 1325, Whittou, writes:—

I received your letter, plus the application form. I think it is one of the best ways of making a few dollars, and the prize is well worth thinking twice about. So enclosed you should find application form and a note for full amount, and I wish you all the best, as to how these things takes a lot of time and thinking.

Give my regards to all the 2/2nd chaps over that way.

I seldom see any of the boys out this way, except of course Roy Martin, who lives here in Griffith.

I don't know when I am likely to go over to the West. Things will have to improve on the rural section first. We are at present having one of the driest winters on record. Only about half the crops are in, and once the feed is eaten off that's it, as it needs rain to kick it along.

I appreciate the good work you and your willing helpers do regards the "Courier". It is something I think everyone looks forward to receiving, as one would often wonder what has become of who.

I have a brother living over in Perth, at Mt. Yokine. He is a painter, so one day you may run into him (Charlie by name). He is at present over here for a few days, as our mother is in hospital. Wasn't very well and is the ripe old age of 84.

Well, cheerio for now and all the best to you and the boys, and a cheerio to all 4 Section.

CLIFF PAFF, of P.O. Box 96, Gloucester, N.S.W., 2422, writes:

I received your circular re raffle, also application form but I have mislaid it somewhere. I am forwarding cheque for \$20. If too late for raffle accept as a donation.

Had a word with Alan Luby today at Ambulance H.Q. He is well and has received a promotion on the slow moving escalator of the Public Service.

I am building a cottage at Tuncurry. Paddy Kenneally sent a change of address over to you, but sent the wrong address. What would you expect from Paddy?

The address is: 35 Bent St., P.O. Box 16, Tuncurry, 2428.

My brother Leo and I are having a trip to Tasmania commencing on Aug. 1. By boat both ways from Sydney and bus over there. Twelve days in all. Hope to see some of the lads over there.

Have had a few ales with Joe Garland at Aberdeen. The old Sheriff hasn't altered very much.

I see quite a bit of Bob Smith and sometimes he comes with me on my work around the Hunter Valley.

Ron Trengrove was in Gloucester a few weeks ago. Drove his boss to Gloucester for a meeting of Local Government bodies in the area.

We dealt with a few ales and had a good old ear bash. Our trip West is still a very popular topic.

Give my regards to all the gang and I trust we may be able to get together again before long.

DUD TAPPER, of 54 Collingwood Avenue, Flinders Park, S.A., 5025, writes:—

Envlosed \$20 for one ticket for Jack Watkins. The other one is for myself on the instalment plan. At the moment I am out of change and it is too late tonight to do anything about it but will catch up.

Wife, Brendon and self intend to travel up through Queensland at Christmas time all being well. We hope to get as far as Cooktown. I will let you know how the trip turns out at a later date.

Ron Gurr paid a short visit to Adelaide awhile back. He is looking very fit. We had a few beers with him at the Dignum house. Dig showed a few slides showing Paddy and Drip and Jim English taken in Sydney. Some people think Drip

has writer's cramp but such is not the case. Believe it is called Bandits Bends. Also Bert Bache called in a few weeks ago. I managed to procure some records of the Gondoliers that he wanted to put on tape. He is still with the same firm but they are now twice as big.

Well, that's about all for the present. Bon Notte Amigo.

JOAN STANLEY, of 123 Jubilee Tce., Bardon, Qld., writes:—

As regards your Mammoth Raffle can the winner have the cash instead of the trip if so desired?

This was so last time and we do feel the tickets would be easier to "flog" if this was the case. Do let us know in the near future and we'll see what we can do.

We do hope it's as big a success as last time.

(Yes Joan, same as last year.—Ed.)

REV. ARTHUR BOTTRELL, of 6 Grantley Avenue, Daw Park, S.A., 5041, writes:—

\$1,500 FOR LEGACY "CAMEOS OF COMMANDOS"

If we can sell these last 200 copies of "Cameos of Commandos" I can see Legacy collecting a sum of about \$1,500 in the final reckoning!

Probably most of our readers are just about as sick of reading about "Cameos of Commandos" as I am of writing about the book, as it looks as if I am trying to sell myself. God forbid. But we are all pushing the sale of the book in the total financial interest of Legacy.

Orders for this last batch of 250 that I obtained are beginning to drag. So very few of the order slips that were inserted in each book sold have been returned to me. We are depending on the sales talk of our cobbler customers amongst other old cobblers to sell these remaining and vital 200 copies.

575 copies of Cameos have been sold to date. From the enthusiasm for Legacy of 575 buyers we ought to get at least 200 keen agents, who can be urgers on others. What about another copy to give as a present to someone? One of our Commando Associations has bought another 20 copies to give as a present to visiting V.I.P's.

I thank the many friends for their kindly words about the book, such expressions are encouraging to this

old and amateur penman. All State National Libraries (awaiting word from W.A.) have bought copies of "Cameos of Commandos". The Private Secretary of Prince Phillip has intimated that H.R.H. will be pleased to accept a copy (I must put up the price!). All we ex-commandos share in the pride that the book has been purchased by men in high positions at home and overseas. After all, the elite of Australia's Fighting Sons, deserve such recognition and worthy publicity, even if somewhat belated.

We are all grateful for the way in which our Associations have consistently promoted the sale of the book over many months.

HELD OVER

We have on hand a very interesting letter from Jerry Haire who encloses an article taken from "Australians In Nine Wars", which includes the Timor Campaign. This is very interesting reading but owing to the pressure on space we reluctantly have to hold it over. —Editor.

Heard This?

"The bravest man I ever knew," said the explorer, "was the chap who took a taxi to the bankruptcy court, and then instead of paying his fare invited the driver in as a creditor."

* * *

A girl we know claims she got her mink coat for a song, but we suspect it was really for an overture.

* * *

Next to a beautiful girl, sleep is the most wonderful thing in the world.

* * *

Have you heard about the city lass who thought a meadow lark was a farmer's picnic?

* * *

Marriage is like a card game—she starts with a diamond—she with a flush—and they end up with a full house.

* * *

Clown: "I object to going on after that monkey act."

Circus Master: "You're right. They may think it's an encore."

**BUSY BEE KINGS PARK:
SUNDAY, 30th JULY**

AUGUST MEETING:

ANZAC HOUSE BASEMENT, 1st AUGUST

RAY AITKEN will talk on the Cultivation of West Australian Flora.
This should be a treat for both husbands and wives.

MAMMOTH RAFFLE:

Please Get Those Applications in as soon as possible

SEPTEMBER MEETING:

ANZAC HOUSE BASEMENT, 5th SEPTEMBER

Second Evening of Mixed Pairs Bowls for Special Trophy

ANNUAL DINNER:

IMPERIAL HOTEL, SATURDAY, 30th SEPTEMBER
(Footy Grand Final Night)

COUNTRY CONVENTION:

BUSSELTON, Saturday - Monday, 7th - 9th Oct.

This should be something to look forward to having regard to
Country Conventions in the past. Itinerary printed elsewhere.
