



2/2 COMMANDO Courier

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Vol. 31. No. 259 APRIL, 1976 Price 1c

1976 W.A. COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT — J. Carey, 13 Stoddart Way, Bateman, 6153. Phone 66 7050.

VICE-PRESIDENT — D. Fullarton, 13 Riverview Road, East Victoria Park.

Phone 61 6064.

SECRETARY — L. Bagley, 11 Lynmouth Street, Dianella, 6062.

Phone 76 6923.

TREASURER — P. Hancock, 13 Strome Road, Applecross, 6153.

Phone 64 1539.

EDITOR — A. Wares, 16 Waverley Street, Dianella, 6062. Phone 76 4304.

AUDITOR — J. Burrige, 88 Watkins Road, Claremont, 6010.

Phone 86 3737.

WARDEN — G. Fletcher, 29 Kimbarra Street, Nollamarra, 6061.

Phone 49 2264.

ASSISTANT WARDEN — R. Dhu, 234 Nicholson Road, Subiaco, 6008.

Phone 81 9404.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS —

R. Darrington, 186 Stirling Street, Perth, 6000. Phone 28 7551.

J. Fowler, 84 Brompton Road, Wembley Downs, 6019. Phone 41 1716.

R. MacDonald, 13 Northgate Street, Karrinyup, 6018.

R. Nieuzerling, 12 Troon Court, Bentley, 6012.

C. Varian, 41 Nottingham Street, East Victoria Park, 6101.

ANZAC DAY —

**MEMBERS — PLEASE MAKE THE ANZAC DAY MARCH
A MUST. ATTEND AND SWELL THE RANKS.**

**REFRESHMENTS AFTERWARDS AT THE RESIDENCE OF
COL DOIG, 77 ROSEDALE STREET, FLOREAT.**

**P.S. Please read Courier as soon as it arrives and
not two weeks later as again you may miss out on
good social events. EDITOR.**

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT ANZAC CLUB ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 1976

THE PRESIDENT: Mr J. Carey declared the meeting open at 8.10 pm.

PRESENT: J. Carey, D. Darrington, A. Wares, H. Sproxton, R. Dhu, G. Fletcher, R. Neuzerling, R. Kirkwood and L. Bagley.

APOLOGIES from A. Smith, C. Varian, D. Fullarton and P. Hancock were accepted.

MINUTES of Meeting, held on Tuesday, December 16, 1975, were read and confirmed on the motion of R. Dhu, seconded A. Wares.

TREASURER'S REPORT: R. Kirkwood presented in P. Hancock's absence. Financial report was received and accounts passed for payment on the motion of H. Sproxton, seconded G. Fletcher.

CORRESPONDENCE: Inward from P. Kenneally, P. Barden and M. Devlin. Moved A. Wares, seconded R. Neuzerling, that Inward correspondence be received.

KINGS PARK: R. Dhu reported on a conversation he had with a Mr Vern Fyfe, of the Kings Park Board. Mr Fyfe's job is to repair and replace plaques in Kings Park, also he has a master list of all the names belonging to our area. Any new plaques required are now made of aluminium and should be a big improvement on the old ones.

SAFARI 1976: Correspondence from M. Devlin regarding accommodation, charges etc., were discussed, and the Secretary was asked to write to Mick and advise him of the possible number of W.A. participants.

FEBRUARY MEETING: To be held in the Visitors Lounge of the Anzac Club, ladies to be invited.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP: Members recommended by the Committee for Life Membership are:

A. Wares, D. Darrington and G. Pendergast.

COMMITTEE DINNER: It was moved by R. Dhu, seconded D. Darrington, that the Committee and their wives have an evening out, some time in February. Also that a subsidy be paid by the Association towards the cost of the evening. **MEETING** closed at 10 pm.

President

Date

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT ANZAC CLUB ON TUESDAY FEBRUARY 17, 1976

THE PRESIDENT: Mr J. Carey declared the meeting open at 8.15 pm and welcomed back P. Hancock, who has been away on an overseas tour.

PRESENT: J. Carey, D. Darrington, A. Wares, P. Hancock, H. Sproxton, R. Dhu, D. Fullarton, C. Varian and L. Bagley.

APOLOGIES from A. Smith, G. Fletcher and R. Neuzerling were accepted.

MINUTES OF MEETING held on Tuesday, January 20, 1976, were read and confirmed on the motion of A. Wares, seconded D. Fullarton.

TREASURER'S REPORT: P. Hancock stated that the credit balance would be the same as the balance for January (\$206.58) as all the books are in the hands of the Auditor, in preparation for a Balance Sheet, for the Annual General Meeting of March 2, 1976.

CORRESPONDENCE: Inward from Mick Devlin, R.S.L., Legacy, Arncliffe R.S.L., Mr A. D. Stevenson and Nancy Donovan. Outward to Mick Devlin. Moved R. Dhu, seconded H. Sproxton that Inward and Outward correspondence be received and confirmed.

KINGS PARK: R. Dhu reported that some pipe stands, which hold the sprinkler heads, are rusting away and will need to be replaced in the near future. He was asked to purchase the necessary material required and a working bee will then be arranged.

MANDURAH OUTING: The Secretary was asked to write a letter of appreciation to Joe and Helen Poynton for the wonderful day, held at their home on Sunday January 25.

THE PRESIDENT thanked the Committee for their services of the past twelve months, and especially made mention of the work done by A. Wares, P. Hancock and L. Bagley.

MEETING closed at 9.30 pm.

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE 2/2nd COMMANDO ASSOCIATION, W.A. BRANCH, HELD AT ANZAC HOUSE ON TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 1976

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr J. Carey, asked the members present, to stand and face the Honour Roll and observe two minutes remembrance.

PRESENT: J. Carey in the chair, P. Hancock, A. Wares, H. Sproxtton, G. Fletcher, B. McDonald, D. Fullarton, C. Varian, R. Dhu, C. Doig, R. Neuzerling, J. Burr ridge, J. Fowler, R. Kirkwood and L. Bagley.

APOLOGIES from R. Aitken, D. Darrington, A. Smith, J. Poynton, F. Napier, M. Holland and R. Watson were accepted.

MINUTES of Annual General Meeting, held on Tuesday, March 4, 1975, were read and confirmed on the motion of J. Burr ridge, seconded by R. Kirkwood.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

ARCHIVES OFFICER Mr J. Burr ridge stated that he had received very little material for the

archives and appealed to members to submit any worthwhile Association records, which they may have in their possession.

CONSTITUTION RULE regarding Association funds: Mr H. Holder, Secretary of the City of Perth branch of the R.S.L., advised us that as we are not a registered body, the final dispersal of our funds was in the hands of the Committee.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP: The Committee recommendations for Life Membership were — G. Pendergrast, A. Wares, D. Darrington. Mr C. Doig proposed the Life Membership of G. Pendergrast who he said had done a tremendous amount of work for the Association, especially in the 1950s, when he was the instigator of the reticulation system of our area in Kings Park.

Mr J. Carey proposed the Life Membership of A. Wares, and praised him for all work he had done as a Committeeman, President, and as Editor of the Courier.

Mr A. Wares replied that he had enjoyed the past eight years, and was very proud to receive his Life Membership tie bar. Also he looked forward to publishing and editing the Courier. Mr J. Carey proposed the Life Membership of D. Darrington whom he said was a very staunch Committeeman and Vice President. Although a very quiet person, he was a most valuable member.

Mr C. Doig then moved the adoption of the three nominated Life Members, the meeting unanimously endorsed the move with acclamation.

REPORTS:

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: J. Carey presented his report in full of all Association activities for the past twelve months and stressed that the Courier remains the life line of our membership.

TREASURER'S REPORT: P. Hancock presented a statement of Receipts and Expenditure, and commented on each item; to the meetings approval.

AUDITOR'S REPORT: Presented by J. Burridge, which verified the figures as presented by the Treasurer.

EDITOR'S REPORT: The Secretary read A. Ware's report to the meeting which explained the number of issues printed and the ever increasing costs of both printing and postage.

Mr R. Dhu moved that the reports as tabled be received, seconded by C. Doig.

Mr C. Doig congratulated the Committee on the outcome of the financial statement, especially in view of the inflationary trend.

Mr B. McDonald supported this statement.

Mr J. Burridge thought that the charge per head for the Annual Dinner seemed low. R. Dhu replied that the charge had always been kept at that level so as to encourage a good attendance.

Mr R. Kirkwood said that any cost incurred for the publication of the Courier was money well spent.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Mr J. Burridge was elected Returning Officer. He then called for nominations, and the following members were elected:

PRESIDENT: J. Carey, re-elected unopposed.

VICE-PRESIDENT: D. Fullarton, elected unopposed.

SECRETARY: L. Bagley, re-elected unopposed.

TREASURER: P. Hancock, re-elected unopposed.

EDITOR: A. Wares, re-elected unopposed.

AUDITOR: J. Burridge, re-elected unopposed.

WARDEN: G. Fletcher, re-elected unopposed.

ASSISTANT WARDEN: R. Dhu, re-elected unopposed.

COMMITTEE: The five vacancies were filled by — B. McDonald, J. Fowler, R. Neuzerling, C. Varian and D. Darrington.

Country Vice Presidents have just completed one year of a three year term.

Mr J. Carey thanked the Returning Officer and all those who were elected to office.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

TIMOR SITUATION: J. Carey said that at the present time, and in view of the Indonesian attitude, there was little we could do to assist the Timorese. Mr J. Burridge stated that the money that has been donated to help the Timorese be held in trust until we can put it to some useful purpose. We would want to know who we are going to deal with so that whatever help we could give would go to the right people.

This view was supported by C. Doig and D. Fullarton.

SAFARI: Mr R. Kirkwood asked how many people from W.A. would be going? A. Wares replied that at the moment 24 people had nominated to go. Tentative bookings for both rail and air had been made.

KINGS PARK: G. Fletcher said that a number of pipes in our area are rusting away and he recommended that they be replaced with P.V.C. piping in the near future. George was asked to secure a price for the material needed.

SOCIAL NIGHTS: Mr C. Doig praised the Committee for the various functions they had organised. These evenings help keep members and their wives together and the attendances were increasing.

IN CLOSING Mr J. Carey thanked the past Committee and congratulated all those who had accepted office. Also he thanked the meeting for their attendance.

EDITOR'S REPORT

This is my first report as editor of the Courier to the Association.

We managed, during the last twelve months, to publish six Couriers and I have endeavoured to have the issues delivered on the 1st April, June, August, October, December, February. Costs both Printing and Postage wise, have risen dramatically and is a very heavy toll on Association funds, although members have contributed very generously on the last appeal to keep the publication going. In the near future we will have to consider another appeal to members for at least a \$2 donation. The Courier is the main link between

members and the Association and it would be a pity to see it fall through due to lack of funds.

There are a few members whom I would like to thank for their support with letters, namely Mick Devlin, Peter Barden, Paddy Kenneally, and I hope that they will continue to be good correspondents.

Whilst I was overseas I would like to thank Len Bagley and Arthur Smith for their efforts in getting the December Courier out.

Should the members be of the opinion that the Courier has been published to their satisfaction, I would be willing to carry on as Editor and I would ask for your support.

Scotty Wares

**2/2nd COMMANDO ASSOCIATION
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st JANUARY, 1976**

RECEIPTS

	1976	1975
BALANCES FORWARD 1/2/1975		
Working A/c.....	423.30	
Reserve A/c.....	5580.18	
Safari A/c.....	51.86	6055.34
INTEREST RECEIVED:		
Working A/c.....	11.00	
Reserve A/c.....	556.03	567.03
DONATIONS TO COURIER & KINGS PARK.....	546.55	767
BULLBROOK PAINTING - Sales.....	66.50	
MAMMOTH RAFFLE:		
Deposit on hall.....	100.00	
Refund of deposit.....	100.00	nil
SALES:		
Lapel-badges and Tie-clips.....	14.10	25
SALES OF SURPLUS ITEMS:		
Cold-plate.....	140.00	
Typewriter.....	25.00	165.00
		<u>7414.52</u>

EXPENDITURE

	1976	1975
MONTHLY MEETINGS:		
Costs.	227.07	
Receipts	123.50	103.57 13
ANNUAL DINNER:		
Costs.	320.65	
Receipts	126.00	194.65 89
ANZAC DAY:		
Costs.	190.53	
Receipts	189.80	.73 12Cr
COURIER:		
Printing and distribution	825.80	703
KINGS PARK.	73.71	56
PICNIC TO MUNDIJONG:		
Costs.	150.00	
Receipts	70.00	80.00 -
FILM NIGHT AT TRANSIT INN:		
Costs.	214.50	
Receipts	100.00	114.50 72
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES (as attached)	61.00	90
SUNDRIES (as attached)	64.00	129
Balance of A/cs:		
Working A/c.	206.58	
Reserve	5636.21	
Safari A/c	53.77	
	<u>5896.56</u>	6055
	7414.52	

W.A. COMMITTEE DINNER

On February 14, the Floreat Hotel was the venue for a small but pleasant gathering when the members of the Committee and their wives enjoyed a delightful meal and an evening of chit chat. Among those present were President Jack Carey and Delys (in a smart new hair style), Secretary Len Bagley and Dorothy, Treasurer Percy Hancock (newly returned from the Solomon Islands) with wife Val, Ron and Gwenda Kirkwood (Ron was acting treasurer in Percy's absence), Doug and Edna Fullarton, Rod and Doris Dhu (good to see you well again Doris), Arthur and Beryl Smith, Ron Neuzerling, Courier Editor Scotty Wares and Elsie.

THE MANDURAH OUTING

January 25 dawned fine and hot and saw many of the Association members on their way to Mandurah for that great annual event known colloquially as "The Poynton Picnic". This fun filled day is definitely one of the highlights of our social calendar. From everywhere they gathered and spent the morning in the shade looking out over a glorious calm blue sea, chatting and downing a bit of the "doings". Later, some delightful little savoury tit-bits arrived to "stay our stomachs" till lunch time and then it was really on. What a fabulous lunch! Most of us went for the crabs - succulent and delicious - but for the non shell fish eaters there were masses of delightful

other hot dishes, including many of the locally caught fish.

Our thanks go to all the Mandurah members, especially the ladies who help provide these culinary delights, and especially to Helen Poynton who necessarily prepares the lion's share of the feast. I really don't know how she does it and still remains cool, calm and organised.

In the afternoon members chatted on and drank, slept and a few even went swimming, and then as darkness began to fall, out came the steaks and chops and the air was filled with the delicious aroma of barbecued meats.

The indefatigable Helen was ready with many delicious accompaniments — salads of all varieties and great dishes of heavenly fried onions and mushrooms.

During this feast our President, Jack Carey, on behalf of all the visitors, offered our deepest thanks to Joe and Helen for throwing open their home for the days festivities and for their providing most of the delicious food. He also thanked all the other Mandurah members who had assisted Helen in making this day such a great success.

Peter Campbell seconded Jack's thanks and warm applause was given to their words.

It must have been most heartening to all the Mandurah folk to see such a wonderful turn up of visitors especially some country people who attended for the first time. Among the country visitors it was good to see Dot and Reg Harrington from Wyening, Carol and Tony Bowers from Kojonup, and a surprise; surprise; half way through the morning who should arrive but Ernie Hoffman (Porphyry) accompanied by Vince Swann and Peter Campbell of Esperance. These three had travelled since the very early hours of the morning — Ernie had travelled 700 miles to be there. The only regret we had was that Pam and Pat were not there also. Maybe next year girls.

Gradually as the evening wore on, the visitors departed, carrying

with them many happy memories of a perfect day.

Thank you Helen and Joe.

P.S. — 85 members and wives and friends partook of lunch. A great effort. (Editor)

KENT, ENGLAND

I meant to write before Christmas, I meant to write after Christmas — and since then life has been fairly hectic. However, now that Anne and Ian are married and we've all recuperated from the wedding, I can at last get on to the letters.

We didn't have a white Christmas, we seldom do — it's all a myth I think — but we've had the cold and some snow over the past two weeks.

It's really been icy, with a very nasty North wind, straight from Russia. Fortunately for the wedding on 17th January, it was cold but clear — we didn't want rain. The reception here afterwards seems to have been a great success. I decorated the playroom and cleared out the surplus rubbish and we had the food in there. It looks nice now with cream walls and everything shined up. We fitted in the 85 people there, the hall and the sitting room without any trouble. Anne looked radiant in true bridal fashion and the men were very elegant in their grey morning suits and topers. It developed into quite a party after Anne and Ian had gone away (with car suitably decorated by Jim and Derek).

TOPO is well. We kept the Christmas cake safe, but he had his feast the weekend after the New Year. Ian, Derek and I had gone away for a few days. Jim and Anne were home and Topo made the most of it. He munched up all the chocolate he could find (about 1½ lbs.) and a couple of packets of biscuits, a packet of soup and a jelly. So he's fatter if not fitter.

Must go, papers running out. It was so nice to meet you when you came here. Give our love to Jess and come again before too long.

Margaret Ronald

GERALDTON, W.A.

To start off with, here is another address to include in your Address Books: Mr Bernie Giles, c/- State Housing Commission, Port Hedland.

A friend of mine, George Daly, has just returned from a visit to Port Hedland with the news that he met Bernie Giles who is a Supervisor with the S.H.C. in that town. Bernie, or Boomer as he is better known to most of you, wishes to be remembered to all his old mates.

I see quite a lot of Bruss Fagg of Northampton who is a regular visitor to Sun City, Geraldton (we hate copy-cats like Yanchep Sun City, Alan Bond). He's looking younger than ever, probably because he's being kept busy with his duties as Chairman of the Pioneer Lodge Committee which has already raised thousands of dollars towards the cost of having a home for elderly folk erected at Northampton. Bruss has also just been re-elected Treasurer of the R.S.L. at Northampton. Bruss recently had the pleasure of meeting Doc Wheatley of Cloverdale in the Perth metropolitan area when he was passing through Northampton on holidays. Bruss said it was the first time they had met for about 16 years and they had a great chat over a noggin or two (?). Bruss is justly proud of the Northampton R.S.L. Sub-Branch which has again won the Geraldton shield for the best Sub-Branch with fewer than 100 members. Bruss has also just been re-elected to the Geraldton Regional War Veterans' Home Committee.

On the sad side, we were all deeply grieved to learn of the death of Nip Cunningham's wife, Mary, who was a lovely and gracious lady. Mary, or as Nip used to call her, "The Duchess", passed away in hospital in Perth and Nip said he would like to thank his double-red-diamond colleagues for their attendance at the Requiem Mass in Saint Mary's Cathedral in Perth and at the funeral at Karrakatta.

There is now a Cunningham Street at Geraldton — it runs

from near Nip's home in Augustus Street to Marine Terrace, past the home of Nip's brother, Bill, after whom it has been named because he's the senior member of the Town Council.

Sun City Geraldton continues to attract large numbers of tourists but we don't believe in standing still — meter maids are about to be introduced and we have arranged for a chaperoned meter maid from Queensland's Gold Coast to launch the scheme.

If any of you are looking for entertainment-plus, I suggest you arrange for an old-time Music Hall evening, similar to the one we recently enjoyed at the Geraldton Bowling Club. It was run on similar lines to the Old-Time Musical Hall evenings from Leeds, England, featured in colour on our A.B.C. television, and we enjoyed a sit-down meal while being entertained by the local Repertory Group, Theatre 8.

Well I must be off now as duty calls. Kind regards to all the boys.

Peter Barden

1976 SAFARI

Will members who intend to participate in the 1976 Safari to Sydney please notify the Secretary immediately, and also whether travelling by air or rail, also if you require bookings to be made at the Great Southern Hotel.

TREAT THIS AS MOST URGENT AND ASSIST THE N.S.WALES COMMITTEE.

ARCHIVES SECTION

Mr Burrige, our archives officer, is making an appeal to members for any photos or other material relating to the unit's war service. Should any member have a complete copy of all Couriers since its inception, and wish to donate them to the archives, would you please send them to this address — Mr J. Burrige, c/- Burrige & Warren, 229 Stirling Highway, Claremont, 6010, W.A.

COURIERS RETURNED

Every month a number of Couriers are being returned to the GPO Box number in Perth. This is caused by members leaving the address to which the Courier is sent, and as the Editor has not been given the new one, a member misses out on the main link of the Association. It would be greatly appreciated by the Editor if the Secretaries of the various States were to forward a list of the names and addresses of all members to GPO Box T1646, Perth. The address book, and also the distribution of the Courier, could be brought up to date.

PLEASE GIVE THIS YOUR
UTMOST CONSIDERATION.

Editor

-VALE-

It is with regret that we have to record the passing of the following members:

John Donovan of Rydalmere, Sydney.

Jim Robinson of West Heidelberg, Melbourne.

Sincere sympathy is extended from all members to their families.

TIMOR APPEAL

The President wishes to thank the following for donations towards the appeal - Mr Poseda, A. Hollow.

CHANGE OF ADDRESSES

- R. Dhu, 234 Nicholson Road, Shenton Park, 6008.
- R. Nieuzerling, 12 Troon Court, Bentley, 6012.
- B. Giles, c/- State Housing Commission, Port Hedland, 6721.
- A. Smith, Box 351, Post Office, Mandurah, 6210.
- M. J. Holland, 52 Allnutt Street, Mandurah, 6210.
- R. Cole, 23 Yarabah Avenue, Gordon, N.S.W., 2072.

SICK PARADE

Unofficially I have heard of a few members who are at present on the sick list, so it would be greatly appreciated if anyone knows of any of our mates who are ill, please let it be known so as members can visit them. Those who are sick at present are Bert Tobin, Alan Luby, Merv Jones, Harry Botterill.

The Association sends best wishes to them and hope for speedy recoveries.

NEW SOUTH WALES

Please find enclosed receipt, with many thanks, for the \$3900 to assist the NSW branch with the 1976 Safari. We are hoping for a big roll up from all states. I have enclosed an article by Peter Hastings, called the Timor Problem No.3. This document has been submitted to our committee for perusal with view to running same in Courier in serial form over a period of time, depending on the approval of the W.A. committee.

Also enclosed is the February edition of the Arncliffe RSL news, in which our late member, Don Woodhouse, is honoured.

I must apologise for this brief note as the hour is late. Will follow soon with regular news letter.

Kind regards to all in W.A.

Mick Devlin

EPPING

I thought it about time the NSW news letter was due again so I had better put pen to paper and bring you up to date.

During the month of February we had two most welcome visitors from W.A. in the persons of Percy Hancock and Dot Boyland. Unfortunately Percy was hard pressed for time and was sighted by only a few members, however we were able to pin Dot down for one evening at least, at the home of a friend at Lindfield. Among members present were Merv and Marge Jones, Bill and Carol Coker, along

with Betty and self, and after par-taking of a cuppa and bickies, we settled down for a good old ear bash. Dot brought the news from Victoria that the two stalwarts, Bert Tobin and Harry Botterill, have been on the sick list. Let's hope that it is only for a brief spell and that they are both back at the helm soon.

Dot herself looks like a million dollars and was a wealth of information to the group present. We look forward to having her over again for the Safari.

Merv Jones has been on the sick list for 7 weeks with ulcer trouble, and he shed quite a few pounds. Marge is confident that he will be back to his normal fighting weight before the start of the footie season.

One more member on sick parade is Allen Stewart from Canberra and he is in the AGH at Concord. It appears he has suffered a few minor blackouts and is in for tests to ascertain the cause. Allen is confident that his problems will soon be resolved and that he will be back in Canberra with his family soon.

While in Sydney for the March meeting, we took the opportunity to arrange the bookings at the Great Southern Hotel. Al Luby, Cliff Paff and self were taken through the hotel and we were pleasantly surprised with the modernisation and we are sure that it will meet the approval of all. The dining room is ready made for the re-union dinner with a chef at our disposal with regards selection of meals.

Whilst on the subject of the Safari, please contact your state secretary and notify him if you are to be a starter and also your intentions as to accommodation. NSW have to finalise the arrangements long before the 27th August so please assist them by early replies.

Please give my regards to all in W.A. and look forward to seeing you soon.

Mick Devlin

PLEASE ASSIST NSW BY SUBMITTING YOUR NAMES AND ALSO IF ACCOMMODATION WILL BE REQUIRED AT THE HOTEL AS A GREAT DEAL OF WORK HAS TO BE PUT INTO ORGANISATION AND FINALISATION. (Editor)

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN NEWS

Find enclosed cheque for Timor Appeal. It is only a small token for debt I can never repay, both to the people of Timor and members of our unit, and finally the doctors and nurses of Heidelberg. With a debt of such magnitude there is little I can do except say thank you to all concerned.

Allan Hollow

RANDOM HARVEST – DOUBLE RED DIAMOND (U.K. Style)

When we planned our trip to U.K. we determined to contact the Association members there whose addresses we (thought) we had. Alas! for our intentions.

Somehow we never got near Worchester where P. Wakefield lives. At Bristol we found Scotty Taylor's address with no difficulty but no one there had ever even heard of him. Later we spent an afternoon trying to find a West Buffet where Mike Calvert lived, but no one had ever heard of the place. We consulted telephone books and electoral rolls, but no West Buffet. Finally our A.A. office had a bright idea that it must be West Byfleet and gave us directions. Sure enough, after much getting lost and driving in circles (it was now late evening and very dark) we found Mike's address, only to find that he had left there 7 years before!!

Luckily the people there knew Mike and very kindly made some local calls and finally procured his address. It was in Kensington, London, in the next suburb to where we were staying at the

hotel. Scotty did contact Mike by phone but unfortunately he was leaving on a lecture in the north of England so once again we missed out.

However we had already received a letter from Ian Ronald of Kent asking us to contact him when we arrived back in London after our 6 week car tour. This we did and arrangements were made for us to take the train to Shortlands the following Sunday.

Scotty had never met Ian but this didn't seem to matter much as the usual mateship was soon established on our arrival. Ian drove us to his lovely home where we met his charming wife Margaret (also an Aussie). They had planned a trip to Westerham, the nearest village to Chartwell, the home of Winston Churchill. Kent and Surrey were two counties we had not reached on our car tour so it was delightful to drive through this part of the country. Chartwell was lovely — a truly gracious and comfortable manor house set in the middle of glorious lawns, gardens and rolling grass lands. It was one of the few places we visited that looked really "lived in". It was not magnificent, even a little shabby here and there, but supremely comfortable and homely even to the fire burning on the drawing room hearth. It was a moving experience to see Sir Winston's study, essentially as he left it for the last time in October 1964 — a cigar butt in the ash tray, his pen lying on some papers where he had been writing, reference books in disarray, and his chair pushed back where he had risen from it. The grounds and garden were lovely, especially the Golden Rose Walk — a gift to Sir Winston and Lady Churchill from their children to celebrate their Golden Wedding in 1958. By the fish pool, filled with Golden Orfe, is a seat where the great man often sat and I had the oddest feeling that round the next corner we would see that familiar figure. We had a scrumptious afternoon tea then drove back to Ian's home for tea.

Ian and Margaret are a delightful couple, with an equally charming family of 5. One married daughter and a son in the armed services we did not meet, but we were introduced to Anne and brand new fiance Ian (she has since married) and Jimmy and Derek, still at school. I mustn't forget Topo the black retriever and assorted cats — all part of the family. We had a marvellous evening and then caught our train back to London.

The following Sunday, Ian again invited us to join them — this time on a longer drive that took us to Rye, one of the Cinque ports. In Medieval times, the English fortified 5 ports against the French 'invaders'. These ports, of which Rye is one, were then right on the coast, but now Rye and another port we later visited, Winchelsea, are now 5 miles from the ocean. This phenomenon is due to the ocean receding.

Rye was delightful with lovely homes dating back to the 15th century. Cobbled streets, very steep, reminded us of our beloved Cornish villages, although the streets were much wider. The Mermaid Inn, built originally in the 13th century and rebuilt in 1420, is still in use. We prowled around a beautiful old church, St Mary the Virgin, and then had afternoon tea at the oldest tea shop in Rye — dating back to the 17th century.

Rye and Winchelsea were once walled cities, although all that now remains are a couple of entrance gates.

Back to Margaret and Ian's for a delightful buffet supper. Something really funny happened then. We were eating in the lounge room, the food being laid out, help yourself fashion, in the kitchen. Margaret went to cut herself a slice of home made fruit cake and then announced that all that remained were a few crumbs. The culprit was not far away — Topo the dog, trying to melt into the shadows under the table, still had a few guilty crumbs sticking to his chops. It illustrates the happy sort of family the Ronald's are, that every-

body just laughed and Topo was only very mildly scolded. (For further reports on Topo's peculiar dietary habits, read Margaret's letter elsewhere in this issue.)

It was with great regret that we said "Goodbye" to the Ronalds. Thank you Margaret and Ian for all your kindness and hospitality — thank you for just being you. May we meet again someday.

Elsie, Jess, Scotty

*P.S. — Ian was really delighted with the double diamond tie clip and lapel badge Scotty gave him.
Elsie Wares*

— COMING EVENTS —

MUNDIJONG PICNIC, SUNDAY, 16th MAY

Bus will leave Barrack Street Jetty 10 am. Members intending to go, please notify Secretary by phoning 76 6923.

Treat this as urgent.

This was a great day last year.
Rendez vous at Hotel.

1976 SAFARI

The following is a list of intending participants in the Sydney Safari — Doug and Edna Fullarton, Henry and Thelma Sproxton, Charlie and Mary King, Len and Dorothy Bagley, Col Doig, Joy Loudon, Les and Katie Dingle, Jack and Jean Fowler, Rube and Ede Hewitt, Ted Monk and wife, Jess Epps and Ann Douglas, Alex and Elsie Wares, Bill Hart and wife and 2 children.

It would be appreciated if any other members intending to go would notify the secretary immediately as bookings have to be made, either by rail or air.

Departure times ex Perth — train 9 pm, 26th August; Air 12.10 pm Sunday, 29th August (direct), 1 pm (via Adelaide).

Fares — Rail, \$414, Concession \$373; Air \$363, Concession \$330. The concession applies if 6 bookings are made by rail and 15 by air. There are no budget air flights during the period of the safari as it is classed as a holiday period.

To: THE SECRETARY,
2/2nd COMMANDO ASSOCIATION
BOX T1646
G.P.O. PERTH
6001

DATE

Dear Sir,

Please add my name to your Financial List for 1976. I am enclosing payment as follows:—

COURIER DONATION \$2.00

ASSOCIATION DONATION

RECEIPTS will not be issued, but acknowledgement will be in the Courier

NAME

ADDRESS

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POSTCODE

NEWS and NOTES for Courier

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