



# 2/2 COMMANDO Courier

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## EDITORIAL

Well readers, 1976 is well and truly under way, and to all Association members, their families and friends, I offer my sincere wish for good health, happiness and the fulfillment of some of your hopes and wishes. To quote from something I recently read "May all your troubles be as short lived as your New Year resolutions". Probably few of us were sorry to see the last of 1975 with its sorry story of bitter political strife and frightening inflation. Around the world conflicts still rage in trouble spots, particularly in unhappy Ireland, and nearer to home—very sadly—in Timor. None of us who served in that little island remain unaffected by the crisis that has arisen there with its conflicting stories of the rights and wrongs involved. All we can do is trust that the United Nations will resolve this problem in the best possible way. Let us look forward optimistically to 1976 and hope that our new government will be able to gradually overcome rising costs and unemployment and lead us into a new era of prosperity. Without hope we have nothing, so let us keep our hopes high in the coming months. Within the Association we have our meetings and small social events to look forward to and of course in September we have our Re-union Safari in Sydney as the highlight of the year. All in all it looks like being a good year, and one to remember.

Happy New Year Everyone,—Scotty Wares.

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**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.**

# W.A. MONTHLY MEETINGS

## MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING, HELD AT ANZAC CLUB, ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1976.

THE President: Mr. J. Carey declared the meeting open at 8 p.m.

PRESENT: J. Carey, D. Darrington, P. Hancock, H. Sproxtton, A. Wares, and L. Bagley.

TREASURER'S Report: P. Hancock presented the following statement of Accounts as at November 18, 1975:

	\$	\$
Balance Forward		682.82
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
November meeting	10.00	
Donations	30.00	40.00
<b>PAYMENTS</b>		
Chair hire (Kings Park)	5.00	
October meeting	24.59	
November meeting	15.10	
October Courier	128.00	
Zoo outing (Timorese)	11.00	
Insurance (Kings Park)	15.75	
Paper plates	3.00	202.44
Balance as at November 18, 1975		520.38

TREASURER'S Report: P. Hancock presented the following statement of Accounts as at November 18, 1975:

FINANCIAL Report was received and accounts passed for payment, on the motion of A. Wares, seconded D. Darrington.

CORRESPONDENCE: Inward from H. Botterfill, G. Vandefeur, Tex Richards, D. Dorham, Town Clerk City of Perth.

Moved D. Darrington, seconded P. Hancock that the Inward Correspondence be received.

KINGS PARK: H. Sproxtton explained that a working bee, held on Sunday, November 2, had replaced a main junction and valves for the reticulation system.

ZOO outing for the Timorese children and their parents was reported on by P. Hancock, who said that with the co-operation of D. Fullarton, H. Brooker, H. James, A. Smith and R. Aitken, the day was very successful. Special thanks go to the Education Department teachers,

APOLOGIES from R. Dhu, G. Fletcher, A. Smith, D. Fullarton, C. Varian and R. Neuzerling were accepted.

MINUTES of Meeting, held on Tuesday, October 21, 1975 were read and confirmed on the motion of H. Sproxtton, seconded A. Wares.

who showed the children all the various species of animals.

RAFFLE and Drawing Night: A. Wares reported on the financial outcome of the raffle, which netted an amount of \$3,900. It was moved by L. Bagley, seconded A. Wares that \$3,900 be sent to N.S.W. branch in January. This money is to be used to conduct the Safari in N.S.W. in 1976. Hancock moved that a vote of thanks be recorded for A. Wares and L. Bagley for their efforts in the organisation of the raffle and the drawing night, this was seconded by J. Carey.

DECEMBER Meeting: Presentation of Calcutt Trophy to P. Hancock. Sid Calcutt to be invited to make the presentation. This evening will be held in the Anzac Club Visitors' Lounge, and the ladies are to be invited.

MANDURAH outing: Will be held on Sunday, January 25, 1976 at the home of Helen and Joe Poynton.

**TIMOR Appeal:** J. Carey was contacted by "Austcare," who have started an appeal to help the people of Timor. After some discussion it was moved A. Wares, seconded H. Sproxton, that we conduct a "Timor Relief Appeal." Already donations have been forwarded in anticipation of such an appeal. Further discussions will take place concerning the length of the appeal and the best means of distribution.

MEETING closed at 9.40 p.m.

### MEETING, HELD AT ANZAC CLUB, ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1975

**The President:** Mr. J. Carey declared the meeting open at 8.05 p.m.

**Present:** J. Carey, D. Darrington, A. Wares, R. Dhu, G. Fletcher, C. Varian, R. Neuzerling and L. Bagley.

**Apologies** from D. Fullarton, H. Sproxton, A. Smith and P. Hancock were accepted.

**Minutes of Meeting,** held on Tuesday, November 18, 1975, were read and confirmed on the motion of R. Dhu, seconded G. Fletcher.

**Treasurer's Report:** P. Hancock is holidaying overseas and R. Kirkwood has offered to act as Treasurer, and presents the following statement of Accounts as at December 16, 1975, which revealed a credit balance of \$262.33.

Financial Report was received and accounts passed for payment on the motion of C. Varian, seconded R. Neuzerling.

**Correspondence:** Inward from M. Devlin, D. Tapper, W. Rowan Robinson, C. Doig, J. Sheehan, T. Crouch, T. Bowers.

Outward to A. Luby, C. Hodson. Moved A. Wares, seconded D. Darrington that Inward and Outward correspondence, be received and confirmed.

**Kings Park:** R. Dhu and G. Fletcher have fertilised the area, and attend to the watering. It was unanimously agreed upon, to donate to R. Dhu one dozen of the best, for his continuing efforts.

**Calcutt Trophy Night:** Sid Calcutt was not able to attend this func-

tion, so J. Carey presented the trophy to P. Hancock. Percy was very proud to receive the trophy and also told us he was leaving for the Solomons within a few days, to visit his daughter and family. It was a very pleasant evening, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

**Safari 1976:** The Itinerary will be reproduced in the February Courier, along with the current fares of rail, road and air.

**The Annual General Meeting** will be held in the basement of Anzac House, on Tuesday, March 2nd, 1976.

In conclusion J. Carey wished all the Committee and their families a Merry Xmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.

## PRESENTATION OF CALCUTT TROPHY

This was held in the lounge of Anzac Club and twenty two were in attendance. Unfortunately, owing to ill health Syd Calcutt was unable to attend and make the presentation, and the President Jack Carey performed the duty. The winner this year was Percy Hancock and due to cancellation of his plane bookings he was able to attend and receive the trophy himself. Percy responded to the President's remarks and said how pleased he was to win it after trying for a number of years. The committee wish to thank Col. Hodson for again supplying such a magnificent trophy. Col always comes up with a different design each year and they are certainly worth winning. Among those present were Jack & Delys Carey, Gerry and Dot Maley, Henry and Thelma Sproxton, Dave and Ivy Ritchie, Charlie and Ivy Ritchie, Charlie and Mary King, Bill Hart from the 2/3 and his wife, Percy Hancock, Len Bagley, Dick Darrington, Arthur Smith, Rod Dhu, Clarrie Varian, Ron Kirkwood, George Fletcher, Ron Neuzerling, Scotty Wares.

## TIMOR RELIEF APPEAL

The President wishes to thank the following for donations towards the Timor Appeal—T. Bowers, T. Crouch, J. Sheehan, C. Sadler, H. Sproston, S. Sadler, R. Rowan-Robinson, J. Burrige, E. Hoffman, B. Burges, T. Monk, C. Dolg, D. Turton, A. Smith, R. Kirkwood.

### PERTH

Herewith my cheque towards helping those who did all to help us; enjoyed the show on Saturday but the noise just blew the top off my head. Everything went very well—congratulations on a well-run show.

R. Kirkwood.

### KALGOORLIE

Enclosed please find cheque for the Timor Appeal. We should do everything to help these people but the trouble is that very little of the aid will go through to the ones who helped us and most of it will be gobbled up by the H.Q. in Dill.

Despite all the bad reports Kal. is still not a bad place, new buildings are going up in Lower Hannans St. although money is a bit tight, and of course the girls getting burst out will be a big blow to the town. There are still a few of the old crowd around and we seem to be weathering the storm pretty well.

Jack Sheehan

### WONGAN HILLS

I am enclosing cheque for the Timor Appeal. I feel we can near repay the debt we owe the people of Timor and I hope when our election is over, whichever side wins, will take an active interest in bringing peace to Timor.

Charlie Sadler

### KATANNING

Your circular Timor Appeal to hand. I have always been most appreciative of the part played by the people of Timor in our survival over there and it is heart breaking to think of what is happening. However, until we can get someone

over there to make a factual report I am not prepared to make a large donation—also unless wanton destruction has taken place I cannot agree that such an agriculturally rich country can be short of food. In the hope that some overseeing will take place I am enclosing a small contribution pending a factual report.

Bert Burges

### KOJONUP

Enclosed please find cheque for Timor Appeal. The appeal is a good thing but think it should be sent in food and medical supplies. the best to everyone.

Tony Bowers

### BRIDGETOWN

Last night a few members of the local R.S.L. had a get together in the local pub by way of a reunion. The hat was passed around for the Timor Appeal and I enclose cheque for the amount.

As usual was kept busy with the local Agricultural Show which was held last Saturday. A special show for me as I was made a life member for my services over 25 years. During those years I have been Ring Master, ran the log chops, shearing competition, President for 3 years and a host of other things. Still find time to give crutching demonstrations and run the barbecue in the evening. Always busy on the farm, but had a bad case of the flu and spent a week in hospital. We are booked for an Indian Ocean cruise on the Oriana on the 1st Feb. for 5 weeks.

Rowan Robbie

### PERTH, W.A.

Herewith cheque for the Timor Relief Fund. Wish it could be more but not just at present, may be able to assist further later. Also a couple of address books, naturally some addresses out of date but have included a couple of photostat copies of the changes Scotty put together. See you soon.

Col Dolg

# New South Wales News

Just a short note to advise you of the death of Don Woodhouse, who passed away on 4/12/75, whilst playing mixed bowls at the Arncliffe R.S.L., where he was a Board Member. I think Don was a L/Cpl. in 7 section C troop, and was always a very active sportsman. It appears that he was being treated for a heart ailment over the past 3 years, although to see him over the past years one would never suspect. I have a letter of condolence to his wife and family and shall be attending the funeral this afternoon, along with A. Luby, R. Hilliard, J. Hartley, P. Kenneally. I will include an official note of condolence in the next Courier if this note fails to make the December issue.

Received the results of Safari Raffle and must again congratulate everyone associated with same. Seasons greetings to all.

M. Devlin

## EPPING, N.S.W.

Received your letter, plus cheque yesterday, and wish to thank you very much for same. I have the information you require and hope that it is in time for the next Courier. Tariff for the Great Southern Hotel is as follows:

Single bed/breakfast \$11.50 per night. double bed/breakfast \$20.50 per night. The cost for the Jenolan Caves tour is \$40 per person and the Cessnock tour is \$10.50 per person. The only other expenses that should be necessary is the individual requirements of the people themselves. As we had no meeting in January I have found it difficult to get a general opinion on the running of another sweep, but no doubt Victoria, N.S.W., and Qld. would assist in it. I am hoping that if this note arrives in time for the next Courier would it be possible to request from all state members a head count on just how many are likely to be participating. If you would be kind enough you could ask them to notify me so was we can finalise the bookings.

(WEST AUSTRALIAN MEMBERS PLEASE NOTIFY YOUR INTENTIONS TO THE W.A. SECRETARY

AS HE HAS TO MAKE TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS. THIS IS URGENT.) W.A. branch will then notify N.S.W.

Had a Bar-b-Q for Gordon Rowley and wife at Bill Coker's home and had a real swing ding. Will give more details later.

Mick Devlin

## YAGOONA, N.S.W.

My apologies for leaving you out of my Xmas Mail, I really thought you were still in Scotland. Attempting to make amends, the New Year greetings will also be late. However, may you have a New Year of health and happiness, and to all our members everywhere.

The Timor news is not too good. What the true situation is would be hard to determine, newspaper correspondents and editors are not the most reliable sources of information. I very much doubt if the unions concerned in the offer to evacuate the Timorese will do the people of that unfortunate country any good. May God help the Timorese because very few others appear to be interested in their plight. On the brighter side was the action of Jim English and Angus MacIachlan presenting me with big donations towards helping the people of Timor. Jim's was sent to Gordon Hart and donated to the first appeal for medical supplies. Mac's donation will go to the latest appeal, except \$25 which he stipulated should go to Association funds, and help the Timorese in our area.

Don Woodhouse passed away in December, and to his wife, and family our deepest sympathy. St. Davids Church, Arncliffe, was packed with mourners, many representing Earlwood-Bardwell R.S.L. and Arncliffe R.S.L. Among the 2/2nd members present were R. Hilliard, B. Bennett, Snow Went, B. Coker, A. Addison, T. O'Brien, J. Hartley, M. Mannix, M. Davlin, this list is from memory and my apologies to any who was present and I have omitted.

Helen is off to Indonesia in February, she was selected for a Rotarian Fellowship. Her plans at pre-

sent is to do it at a Jesuit University in Jakarta, and with a possible period at a school for handicapped children. My brood growing, the youngest will be 14 in Jan., still the busiest man in Yagoona. He never seems to be unemployed. Michael will be 21 in Jan. He is still helping to run the Treasury for Tom Lewis, I give him no marks for that. Tom is our Premier and was in one of the Commando units. Hope he treated his mates better than he treats N.S.W. He's got more ways of taxing us, than most of us knew existed. He's probably a nice bloke. (I'll censor that bit myself. Scotty.)

Sean wound up Tech. this year but don't know any results yet. He has one more year of his apprenticeship to go, and after that his plans are I don't know. Nora has been in indifferent health the last few months. She and a friend have visited the Timorese at Cabramatta Hostel a few times and helped to make their Xmas brighter.

Jim English had a spell in hospital but is out again. Pauline will be swimming in Brisbane in the Australian championships for Paraplegics. She just about holds every record for her class now. Best of luck Pauline.

I'd better hit the cot or I will not be working. To all members of the Association I extend a happy New Year, and the best blessing of all—Good Health, so good night and God Bless.

Paddy Kenneally

### YOUNG, N.S.W.

Well it is time for me to try and type my Christmas Letter again and it doesn't seem very long ago, that I was doing the self same thing. I must be getting old and slow, if time is passing so quickly.

We are all well, and have had a funny mixed up year this year. I am still at work and still enjoying it too. The work is exacting, and everyone is really very good to me here, and we are altogether a happy lot, and all get on very well together. Keith is still at the shop, and Mates have now sold to "Meaghers," so that although he hasn't changed his job, he has had about 4 different firms that he has worked for over the years we have been in town. This year we have

had a very wet winter, and it was very hard to get into the garden, and it really got beyond a joke at times, as we had wet weekends practically every weekend. However, he did manage to get things a little bit in order for Jan and Stan's wedding, and we had reasonably good weather. At least it didn't rain, but it was cold.

We had a trip to Gouldburn early in the year, as it was my sister's birthday, and Phillip came up from Sydney, as it was his a day or two later, and we all had a real get together. Then in April, Keith Jan and myself flew to Sydney for the Anzac Weekend. We had a lovely time, and met up with so many of the 2/2 Commando Boys and their wives. While the men went to the march and the trip on the Harbour for lunch, we all met for lunch and then came back to the Unit we had at the Zebra Motel, and had a wonderful time together. Phillip took us out to Holsworthy, where they had been building a new aerodrome and runway and some of the machinery they used, amazed me. Then on the Saturday we all went to dinner and dance, at the Town Hall with the Combined Commando Association. We all had a wonderful time together. We had a look at the Opera House, which we thought was really beautiful and worth every cent it cost went through the Art Gallery and inspected the visiting exhibition of Overseas Artists. It was really wonderful to see some of those old masters, and huge crowds were there to see them all.

We arrived home on the Sunday night, and on Monday I entered Cowra Hospital for a big operation and spent a month there. I spent 5 weeks at home after, with Janette, then Keith and then Phillip having time with me, and looking after me. Everyone was so wonderful and were a great help to me. I don't know what I would have done without them all really.

The only real worry I had, was the making of the wedding cakes. But with the help of them all, I managed to get them made. Janette and Stan cut the fruit and I weighed everything up, and then Keith and Janette stirred and stirred under my eagle eye until I was satisfied that they were ready for

the oven. I cooked them and tested them, and they turned out just right. We made 2—1 lb. cakes and then a ¾ lb. cake. Jan had the 2—1 lb. cakes—as a base, with the ¾ lb. bridging the two of them, and it was decorated with red roses. She had everything in red and white and it was really lovely. It was a real combined family effort. Stan said he never wanted to see another piece of fruit to be cut again, but I told him it was his own fault, as he did want me to make the wedding cake. Janette had decided long before I think, that I would have to make it, and I was only too happy to do so, even though when I had to make them I didn't feel like it, nor was I confident that they would be really good. However, things were on my side and they were really good. I started back to work on 30th June, which was very good, and of course came straight into all the yearly balances. This was, I guess, pretty good for me, as I didn't have time to think about it, if I didn't feel quite up to scratch, and I made it through to the wedding, when I had a week off, so I could be home with the family when they all arrived.

My brother-in-law came from Adelaide to marry them, and the wedding was at St. John's C. of E., Young, at 4 n.m. Friends of ours and their family came from Scone to the wedding, and they used to be neighbours of ours. It had been wet and miserable all the week, and Brett said at the wedding that he hadn't prayed for the impossible Mrs. Craig, only that it didn't rain while Janette came to the church and didn't rain, so they could have some photos taken.

He is very practical, and his prayers were answered as the sun even shone, when they came out of the church, and the photos turned out beautifully. Jan. had on bridesmaid in a flame red frock, made very similar to her own. Both frocks were heavy crepe, and Jan. had a nice long train, with a cathedral length 3-tiered veil, with a white bouquet with a few red roses sprinkled through it, and Lorraine had a red bouquet with a few white roses through it. I had made lace posies, with coloured flowers in the centre for the pews. They took me

hours and hours to gather the lace, but worth the effort. We put red and white ribbons on the posies, and they put a red and white and so on up the aisle.

We decorated the Town Hall with camillas, and with red and white candles and red and white serviettes, it looked really super. The ladies excelled themselves with the dinner and everybody had a wonderful time together.

On the Sunday we had about 60 people for a bar-b-q lunch. It was lovely to see so many together, and really enjoying themselves. Twelve of the boys from Camp came with their wives, and some of the school teachers also came up too, and then to top it all off Janette and Stan called in and had lunch with them all again, before they left for Canberra. Of course no one had been able to throw confetti at the church, or the Town Hall the day before, so Craigs had a Multi-coloured lawn for weeks and weeks. They didn't mind a bit anyway, and I am sure they were glad they had called in on their way through. Some of Keith's relations had seen my relations since our wedding 27 years before, so they had a good old chat. Keith's father was there and enjoyed every minute of it too. He is 91, and was up at a quarter to four, the day of the wedding to come down, and stayed to about the end of the evening too. He had a great time on the Sunday chatting to relatives he hadn't seen for years. Altogether it was a really great reunion.

On the Monday we had a very quiet day together, just my sister Val, my sister Helen and her husband and children (Conrad had married Jan. and Stan) and I am sure we were all glad of the day together so that we could relax and talk. They all left on the Tuesday and Keith and I had a lazy day on the Wednesday before we had to go to work on the Thursday.

In september Keith and I went to Gilgandra for a long weekend, and went to the wedding for one night. It was great to see them, and have a bit of time with them too.

Luckily we had the proofs of the wedding with us, and they were able to see them too. We were also able to spend time with Keith's

father and talk as we didn't have too much time with him, when he was down for Jan's wedding. I was talking to him yesterday on the 'phone and he said he was really well. He is amazing really.

This year I guess we will have a fairly quiet time at Christmas, but it will be nice just the same. I don't know whether or not we will have anyone to stay. Phillip could be here for Christmas Day, but said he was to go in the Murray Marathon, which commences on Boxing Day. He is to be in the Army team or something, but I don't know if it is still on or not. Will have to wait until he gets home to check up on it.

My sister and I spent 4 days in Sydney at the end of September while I went to Sydney Hospital for checks and information, and I came back to see the specialist here, and got a really good report, and everything is going along well. Someone said I seemed to be walking on air that day, and that is just how I felt too.

We are now looking forward to the time of the Safari, which will be in Sydney in 10 months. Time is getting short again, and it won't be long before we have to make bookings, etc. for that. It will be good to see all the folk from other states who we have not met, and to be able to be with them for a time. We hope that they will enjoy the time they spend in New South Wales, and I hope that we can help in some small way. The folk in Sydney who are doing to much of the spade work for the Safari.

I am running out of paper and news, but we sincerely hope that this will find you all very well, and enjoying the best of health. We hope that you will all have a Very Happy and Holy Christmas, and that the New Year, will bring all the good things that you wish, or at least are good for you. Our best wishes to you all, and we trust it won't be long before we see many of you again.

Betty and Keith Craig

## SOUTH AUSTRALIAN NEWS

Without a great deal of difficulty we managed to stage a get together for as many members who could make it, in the form of a counter tea at the Shanden Hotel on Saturday night. Those present were Bob and Clarice Williamson, Bert and Sylvia Bache, Keith and Betty Dignum, Ted and Vera Timke, Alan and Hazel Hollow with Frank and Muriel as guests, Dud and Audrey Tapper. All agreed that it was an excellent evening and that it should be an annual event. We hope to increase the attendance next year by an influx of country members.

We had two apologies, one from Ross Smith and one from Ron MacKie, who phoned from Darwin. We really did not give our country members enough notice and apologise for same but hope to see all of them next December.

Audrey and I are departing on 20th Dec. for our trip East and intend to call on who and when depending on where we are, as we have no set plans. I cannot say definitely but we intend to be away about a month.

Dud Tapper

## VICTORIAN NEWS

### FISH CREEK

Don't think it is the end of the world just because I am defacing a bit of paper. Maybe it is getting a bit close and this will help it along. "Haven't been able to afford the postage," so will supply my own delivery service, it's not much dearer even by air.

Seriously, our eldest daughter Ann is going West on a holiday. I thought it a way for her to fill in the time at some stage and if she does not find you then she

will have to sacrifice the price of a stamp.

I am enclosing a small donation towards the Courier or as it is required. Ann is not leaving until next Saturday so this letter will travel slowly. She is nursing at Heidelberg repat and doesn't come home again before leaving. I trust this finds everyone of the old clan in good health as it leaves myself and family.

Bill Petersen



## 1976 SAFARI

The proposed itinerary for the 1976 Safari is as follows:

Expected date of arrival—Monday 30th August, 1976. Time—uncertain. DAY

1. Monday.  
Arrival by Indian-Pacific Central Station. Welcoming reception followed by settling in at Great Southern Motel. Free night.
2. Tuesday.  
Free day. Evening Re-union dinner at Great Southern Hotel.
3. Wednesday.  
Guided tour of Rocks Area by Mrs. Ball. Lunch. Visit to Water Police Department—Mines Department—Dinner at Spaghetti Factory.
4. Bus tour of the Pittwater Peninsula. Barbeque lunch at the Palm Beach R.S.L. Club—Smorgasbord tea at either the Jones or Bennett residence.
5. Friday.  
Bus tour of South Coast area—Wollongong — Port Kemble—Leagues.
6. Saturday.  
Free day. Races—Football, etc.
7. Sunday.  
Harbour Cruise—lunch on board the ferry.
- 8 and 9. Monday and Tuesday.  
Bus tour to Jenolan Caves, via St. Marys and Katoomba. See as many caves as possible—stay overnight at Caves House—return Sydney via Karrajong, Richmond, Windsor and Parramatta.
10. Wednesday.  
Free day—dinner at the Summit Restaurant—visit to the Opera House.
11. Thursday.  
Bus tour of the Botany Bay area, taking in Cronulla, Wotomatta, Kurnell, Cook's Lane and Gaffney Refinery. Lunch at Cronulla R.S.L.
- 12 and 13. Friday and Saturday.  
Bus tour of the Lake Macquarie area—via Morriset, Toronto, Vineyards, Hunter Valley. Stay overnight at Cessnock and visit one of the wineries for dinner. Return to Sydney, via Lakes

Way, Gosford. Lunch at the Etatong R.S.L. Visit Old Sydney Town.

14. Sunday.

Visit Zoo.

15. Monday.

Farewell from Central Station.

The concession fares from Perth to Sydney return by rail and air are as follows—

RAIL.

1st Class, \$373 per person return.

1st Class pensioner, \$261 return.

Economy Class, \$274 return per person.

Economy Class pensioner, \$203 return.

AIR.

Economy Class, \$308 return.

The air travel would have to be made on Saturday or Monday night at 12 midnight as there are no flights on Friday or Sunday.

Perth—Sydney by road and return would cost approximately \$500 per couple travelling in one car. This allows for 5 nights stop over at motels at \$20 per couple, per night. Should two couples share a car the cost would be greatly reduced and would be approx. \$300 per couple, including motels.

In addition to the fares and depending by which means you travel the following costs have to be added. There are as you can see by the itinerary two bus tours of four days costing \$101 a double, and \$52 a single. The cost for the stay at the Great Southern Hotel is \$246 a double and \$138 single.

It would be greatly appreciated that members intending to travel please submit their names to the Secretary, Box 11646, G.P.O., Perth. The Rail and Air bookings have to be made at least six months in advance so help the committee by a prompt return of your intentions.

## VALE

It is with regret that we record the passing of two of our members in December, 1975.

DON WOODHOUSE, 4/12/75.

SYD. WEST, 5/12/75.

Sincere sympathy from all members is extended to their families.

## RANDOM HARVEST

I recently had the pleasure of meeting Laurie Tapper and his wife when they were on vacation from Perth and we had a good chat over a few drinks at the Geraldton Bowling Club. It was also a pleasure to have a few (?) noggins with Plugger Watson at the Victoria Hotel which is conveniently situated two doors from my A.B.C. office, when he and his son-in-law were up from "the big smoke" as truck drivers for a company which transports Sun City's delicious rock-lobster tails to Perth.

Nip Cunningham and wife Mary are justly proud of the efforts of daughter Fran who won the title of Miss Charity, Northern Territory, by raising about \$10,000 in the Miss Australia Quest, to help Spastic Children. Fran is a nursing sister at the Gove Peninsula Hospital.

Eric Smyth has been having a busy, but enjoyable time, helping with the Gwen-12 national yachting championships at Geraldton. His boat Mullama was used as the official pick-up boat. The national championships attracted yachtsmen and yachtswomen from all the main States and it was my pleasure to compile radio and T.V. news items for use in various States. Eric and wife Twy had son Phillip and daughter Eric home for the festive season and naturally outings in Mullama were among the popular activities. Phillip is a cartographer with the Lands Department in Perth while Erica has the distinction of being the only woman geologist in the field with the Newman Mining Company in the Pilbara area.

Bruss Fagg of Northampton continues to have a busy time as Chairman of the Pioneer Lodge Committee which his raising money to erect a home for the aged, costing about \$100,000. He's delighted with the way in which citizens have been responding to the appeal, some farmers having donated full truck-loads of lupins, oats and barley. In addition, about 20 Lions Club members carted hay on two farms and received from their efforts of 1½ days, \$800, which they gave to the Pioneer Lodge appeal.

My elder son Ross and his wife and two children have returned to Geraldton from South Hedland where Ross had a supervisory job with the Geraldton Building Company in the erecting of almost 200 houses and a big block of flats. Their house was flooded during the Port Hedland cyclone but they had no food problems because the company has a big generating plant at South Hedland. They intend having a spell at Geraldton so Yours Truly will be kept fit playing with two very active grand children. My wife Joan and I recently had the pleasure of visiting our younger son Rex at Kalgoorlie when he had a weekend off from his exploration duties with Western Mining. He showed us many fascinating places associated with the history of the goldfields and nickelfields.

Peter Barden

### QUOTES TO REMEMBER

We often read bits and pieces that are really good to remember. I thought we might incorporate a few of these in each Courier. What about sending to the Editor your favourite quotation, be it funny, moral, or whatever. Elsie has supplied a couple of hers for this issue.

Nothing stretches slacks like snacks.

At times it is better to keep your mouth shut and let people wonder if you're a fool, than to open it and remove all doubt.

Thick wreaths of mist eddied eerily in the bitter cold air and through it, dimly, I could see a few disembodied shapes walking down that road where once stood great barracks. For a few horror-filled moments those forms became the ghosts of others who had walked that road—aimlessly, hopelessly—beings who had lost their last tie with the human race—their identity. I had to force myself to remember that it was 1975 and that those forms were other people like ourselves, people making a pilgrimage of remembrance to DACHAU the former prison camp outside of Munich.

We had come there knowing that it was going to be awful—and #

was—but we felt we should go and I can never be sorry that we did, even though we left the place so chilled, not only in body but in spirit that we felt we would never be warm again. In the former main offices of the camp and now a museum of photographs and documents we learned the history of what happened there without any punches being pulled. Later we made ourselves visit the gas chamber with its terrible little pipe set into the wall—and the ghastly crematorium—we saw the block where bio-chemical experiments had been carried out on defenceless prisoners—we saw the trenches dug by the prisoners themselves, where their dead bodies fell as they were shot—we saw where prisoners were tortured by flogging and hanging at the stake.

31,951 prisoners are known to have died in DACHAU concentration camp, and thousands of others, unregistered, were killed by shooting. Many prisoners, lost to all hope, committed suicide by throwing themselves onto electrified fences, and these people are represented by a symbolic memorial or iron showing a skeleton body impaled on the fence. The ashes of many of these unfortunates are now buried beneath beautiful, well tended gardens, and 1233 are buried in the town of DACHAU.

There are now 5 memorial churches and temples built since 1960 surrounding this grim place—little simple places of prayer where the dead are forever remembered. At the Protestant Memorial Church we met the Minister in charge who was himself a prisoner of Dachau from 1933 when he was arrested for daring to speak openly against the Hitler Regime. He told us of his struggle for existence and of how he, too, almost gave in to hopeless despair—saved only by a smuggled in letter of faith from his wife and a word of encouragement from another prisoner.

Why did we torture ourselves by going to this place? We know that many people believe that such places should be obliterated along with the memories. We did not agree. A child who burns his finger on a stove will never again go near a stove while he remembers the pain of his burns. A nation that

sears its history with its allegiance to a fanatical, power hungry leader will never repeat its mistake so long as it remembers the result of such allegiance. We must remember these things, not with bitterness and hatred, but with courage and foresight so that we will never let such things happen again.

While in Scotland we had visited the battlefields of Culloden Moor, where in 1746 the gallant followers of the "Bonnie Prince" received their final defeat at the hands of the Hanoverian soldiers. We had been much moved by the simple memorial stones standing bravely in the field, carved with the clan names of those who had died. The conquering army had carried out some atrocities on the wounded Scottish soldiers and for this reason Culloden is particularly remembered. But that, we had thought, was in the bad old days—yet now at Dachau we were confronted by memories of far worse atrocities committed within our own living memory. And not only on soldiers in the heat of battle, but on civilians and women and children. No wonder Jess wrote in the visitors' book: "Dear God—let it never happen again". I remember I couldn't think of anything except "LEST WE FORGET," but I meant just that—**"LEST WE FORGET."**

Later in our trip, we had a very different experience. We went to Lourdes, a little town in the South of France, where in 1858 a simple peasant girl, Bernadette Soubirous, saw a vision of a beautiful lady"—a beautiful lady who asked that people come there and drink of the water and bathe in the spring. I am not of the Catholic Faith but have always been fascinated by the story of Bernadette. I wish I could tell you what it was like—a single cross in the grotto where the vision appeared to Bernadette in a niche in the rock—a place where the very atmosphere breathes faith and hope—a place where many have healed by reason of that faith and hope. I only know that there in Lourdes, a wonderful feeling of peace and hope came to me, to heal the mental scars left by our pilgrimage to DACHAU.

Elsie Wares

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## ADDRESSES UNKNOWN

The last two issues of the Courier sent to the following members addresses, have been returned to the Perth Box number, and marked left address: S. Witford, C. McCaffery, K. D. Jones, W. Hollis, J. E. Barnes.

Should anyone know of these members new addresses please let the secretary know and help to keep the address book up to date. Whilst in England I tried to contact Scotty Taylor at the address in Bristol where the Courier is sent each publication but unfortunately he does not live there now. Should any of readers know of his present address would you please send it to Box T1646, G.P.O., Perth. This is also

a request to all members that should you change your address, please let the Editor know and the Courier will be sent to the new one.

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

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ENGLAND.

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## COMING EVENTS

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**TUES., FEB. 3rd. ANZAC CLUB LOUNGE, SAFARI DISCUSSION. Bring the ladies along.**

**TUES., MAR. 2nd. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. ELECTION OF OFFICERS 1976.**

**Members make this a must and support the committee.**