



2/2 COMMANDO Courier

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COMING EVENTS

JUNE 1st — CALCUTT TROPHY COMPETITION

JULY 6th — POOL NIGHT AT ANZAC CLUB

**AUGUST 3rd — FAREWELL TO SAFARI TRAVELLERS
IN VISITORS LOUNGE, ANZAC CLUB. LADIES NIGHT**

**OCTOBER 2nd — ANNUAL DINNER AT THE
IMPERIAL HOTEL AT 6.00 p.m.**

**OCTOBER 3rd — COMMEMORATION SERVICE AT
KINGS PARK AT 3.00 p.m.**

**NOVEMBER 2nd — FINAL OF CALCUTT TROPHY
COMPETITION**

**ANNUAL DINNER MAKE IT A MUST AND MEET
YOUR OLD MATES**

**COMMEMORATION SERVICE — PLEASE SPARE ONE
HOUR OF YOUR TIME TO REMEMBER YOUR
FALLEN COMRADES — SURELY THIS IS NOT ASKING
TOO MUCH**

**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 HOUSE, ON TUESDAY, MARCH 16, 1976

The President: Mr. J. Carey, declared the meeting open at 8.15 p.m. and welcomed the Committee to office, with the thought of a successful year.

Present: J. Carey, A. Wares, P. Hancock, R. Dhu, G. Fletcher, C. Varian, R. Neuzerling and L. Bagley.

Apologies from R. McDonald, D. Darrington, D. Fullarton and F. Fowler were accepted.

Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday, February 17, 1976, were read and confirmed on the motion of A. Wares, seconded C. Varian.

Minutes of Annual General Meeting, held on Tuesday, March 2, 1976, were read.

Treasurer's Report: P. Hancock presented the statement of Accounts as at March 16, 1976 which showed a Credit Balance of \$179.53.

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

Correspondence: Inward from Mick Devlin, Allan Hollow, War Veterans' Home.

Outward to Gordon Pendergrast and Helen and Joe Poynton. Moved P. Hancock, seconded C. Varian that Inward and Outward correspondence be received and confirmed.

Kings Park: G. Fletcher suggested a working bee for Sunday, March 21, and Saturday, April 24, to tidy the area prior to Anzac Day.

Anzac Day: G. Fletcher will arrange for a wreath, which will be laid at the Dawn Service by P. Hancock and D. Fullarton. The get-together will be at the home of C. Dalg and catering will be attended to by J. Carey.

Safari: There has been very little response, by W.A. members for this trip. Tentative bookings have been made for both Rail and Air: 26 bookings for 1st class concession return by Rail at \$373 ea. 15 bookings for Economy class return by Air at \$326.16 ea. These prices are current rates and could change at any time.

Future Functions:

June 1: Calcutt Trophy Night.

July 6: Pool night at Anzac Club.

August 3: Farewell to Safari travellers in Visitor's Lounge of Anzac Club.

October 2: Annual Dinner at the Imperial Hotel.

October 3: Commemoration Service in Kings Park at 3 p.m.

November 2: Final of Calcutt Trophy competition.

Life Membership: It was suggested that G. Green and R. Harrington, be considered for Life Membership for 1977.

Annual Dinner: The Imperial Hotel is to be contacted, and a booking made for October 2, evening to commence at 6 p.m.

Meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING, HELD AT ANZAC HOUSE, ON TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 1976

The President: Mr. J. Carey declared the meeting open at 8.05 p.m., and welcomed the presence of Alf Hillman to the meeting.

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

Apologies from J. Fowler and B. McDonald were accepted.

Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday, March 16, 1976, were read and confirmed on the motion of C. Varian seconded D. Fullarton.

Treasurer's Report: P. Hancock presented the statement of Accounts as at April 20, 1976 which showed a Credit Balance of \$423.63.

Financial Report was received and accounts passed for payment on the motion of G. Fletcher, seconded by R. Dhu.

Correspondence: Inward from Harry Besterill, Clare West, Keith Dignum, Ross McLean, M.P., Qld. Commando News, Pigeon Post, and N.S.W. Commando News.

Outward to R.S.L. War Veterans' Home, and all Country Vice Presidents. Moved A. Wares, seconded C. Varian that Inward and Outward correspondence be received and confirmed.

Kings Park: On Sunday, March 21, G. Fletcher mowed the area while the remainder of the working bee replanted lawn in some of the bare patches.

Anzac Day: All arrangements have been completed for this day.

Unit Glasses: A.C.I. who were to do the printing on these glasses, have now told us that they cannot do the job, and have advised us to send them to Melbourne to be printed. The Committee decided that the expense involved would be too great, and that the 22½ dozen 7 oz. Regis glasses will be sold to members on Anzac Day at 50c per glass.

Alf Hillman was a welcome guest at this meeting. He was in town for Country Week Bowls. Alf expressed a desire that our Association keep as active as possible; as too many groups and associations are fading out, due to lack of support by their members.

Meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

MAY MONTHLY MEETING

The Anzac Club Lounge was once again the scene of a very pleasant gathering, when on May 4th it was once more "Ladies Night". This time the numbers had grown and we had a merry party of 23 including 9 ladies which was really a great turn-up. When you consider that two of our regular stalwarts at these meetings, Delys Carey and Joy Loudon were absent through sickness, it was very heartening to see such a large number present. The girls had a great evening chatting and exchanging gossip, and needless to say the boys were equally happy. We had our usual light supper (Anzac Club does us very well here) and parted with many promises to "be there next time". Now girls "next time" is August 3rd so what about making the numbers even better by attending. **DON'T FORGET NOW AUGUST 3rd.** Everyone will receive a royal welcome.

The ladies present were Thelma Sproxton, Jess Epps, Dorothy Bagley, Elsie Wares, Mary King, Betty McDonald, Dot Maley, Ivy Ritchie, Maisie Holder.

ANZAC DAY

There was a fair representation at the Dawn Service and on behalf of the Association a wreath was placed on the State War Memorial by Doug Fullarton and Ron Neuzerling. They certainly could not have placed it in

a more conspicuous place as it certainly showed up from the roadway. The parade at 10 a.m. was attended by only 38 2/2nd members and by 6 other members from the 2/3rd and 2/8th. The metropolitan attendance was only 34 and there were 4 members from the country, who on a percentage basis certainly outclassed the city dwellers.

After the march we adjourned to the home of Col Doig and 34 members turned up and spent a most enjoyable afternoon. The luncheon was again in the capable hands of our President Jack Carey and it certainly was enjoyed by all present.

To Col the Association wish to thank you for again making your home available for the rendezvous. All members also wish to thank the President Jack Carey for arranging the delicious luncheon.

COURIER DONATIONS

The President and Committee wish to thank the following for donations towards the publishing of the Courier and Association funds.

Alan Hollow, B. Langridge, N. Scott, T. Bateman, J. Haire, C. West, K. Craig, A. Campbell, F. Sharp, G. Stanley, R. Parry, J. Lett, K. Bowden, P. Mantle, A. Marshall, K. Dignum, A. Wares, R. McDonald, J. R. Smith, C. Paff, W. Hofstein, B. Callinan, T. Adams, G. Laidlaw, Mrs. K. MacKintosh, W. Sharp, R. Teague, R. Dook, C. Varian, A. Hillman, F. Graigie, C. Criddle, M. Wheatley, M. Morgan, D. Hudson, E. Hodgson, B. McMahon, R. Snowden, D. Ritchie, M. Davies, F. Freestone, A. Stewart, J. Burridge, A. Smith, B. Smyth, G. Holmes, R. Neuzerling, D. McEvoy, B. Barron, J. Fowler, J. Lillie, F. Napier, V. Swann, T. Foster, R. Kirkwood, R. Dhu, F. Wilkes, G. Fletcher, L. Bagley, H. Sproxton, T. Bowers, D. Fullarton, P. Campbell, T. Paull, B. Howell, R. Watson, J. Epps, J. Poynton, K. Hayes, L. Haise, D. Boyland, P. Krause, N. Cunningham.

TIMOR APPEAL

The President wishes to thank the following for donations towards the appeal.

B. Langridge.

SICK PARADE

Joe Poynton has been in hospital for a knee operation and last report from Helen was that the knee was still badly swollen.

Mick Holland is being troubled with ulcers on his legs and was the cause of him missing the Anzac Parade.

John Darge from Sydney has also been hospitalised and underwent an operation for what the doctors thought were stones in the kidney. Last report from Joan was that he was home but has to take things easy. (Look after yourself John as I will be over for the Safari — Scotty).

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

DONNYBROOK

This slip of paper is a great idea — see it could get results. Congratulations to all new office bearers and sincere thanks to all old ones for a wonderful job, and service.

Life goes along well with us here on the farm. As one gets older the necessities of life become simpler, warth when it is cold and vice versa, enough food and rest, what else is there. Cheers to all the O.D.'s and many thanks for a good year.

Bernie Langridge

BENTLEY

Thanks for Courier. Have intended for years to mention that my address is 6 not 7 Duke St. Best wishes to all.

Neil Scott

SOUTH PERTH

From lists published it may be thought the 2/2nd has not responded to the Timor Appeal, of course we know the true situation and old members know how they wish to help.

To put my record straight I would just like to say that as soon as Aust-care appealed for funds I sent my contribution direct to them. Kind regards.

Jerry Haire

KARRINYUP

Thank you for sending the two recent issues of the 2/2nd Courier. Also I thank you for paying tribute to my late husband Sid West.

Our family and I were deeply appreciative of the respect shown to Sid when Mr. Wares had the Unit flag draped over Sid's coffin.

As I will be absent from the State till next August I very much regret that I will be unable to attend the Mundijong picnic, but I look forward to being an associate member and

enjoying some of your future activities.

Please find enclosed cheque for the Association.

Yours sincerely,

Clare West

WEMBLEY

Would you be interested in forming a few members who are enthusiastically inclined to play lawn bowls. We hold monthly meetings at Anzac Club, and would like a delegate to sit in. The secretary of the RSL Bowls section is Ernie Newton, 42 Raymond St., Tuart Hill 6060.

I have spoken to Percy Hancock a few times on the matter and he seemed very much in favour of getting together. Best regards to all the gang.

Colin Criddle

CLOVERDALE

I have misplaced the blue sheet, but I wish you all the best. I am enclosing a donation for Courier and a little for the Association.

I was very happy to run into Bruss Fagg whilst in Northampton. He is a very busy man with all his social commitments. I don't travel around very much these days, although I patronise the Belmont pub fairly well, just from a medical point of view, as I think that a couple of hours drinking helps to keep me healthy.

I would like to convey my regards to all members of the unit, all the best.

Doc Wheatley

KALAMUNDA

Please accept this donation from one who knows very well he has let the Association down over the years.

Regards to all.

Les Halse

AMELIA HEIGHTS

Having been a non-active member of the Association for years I admire the efforts of the ones that are. The Editor's dire predictions of inflation (drat the word) and spiralling costs etc. We have on our side a wage freeze. All work being voluntary by members, the appeal for a few dollars at appropriate times is a must to keep the Courier link between all.

Have a few snaps of the boys, can be scrutinised by the Committee and if found of any value for archives will be pleased to pass them on. Best regards to all members

Frank Freestone

RANDOM HARVEST

GERALDTON

At the outset, let me report that Nip Cunningham and I again had the pleasure of marching together in the main Anzac Day Parade at Geraldton which was again an outstanding success. And there's no doubt about it, Nip's arm-swinging ability and keep-in-step prowess would have done justice to an instructor at the Royal Military College at Duntroon.

I also recently had the opportunity of having a couple (?) of noggins with Nip at the Victoria Hotel which is conveniently situated a couple of doors from my A.B.C. office, and he asked me to pass on to the Association, for subscriptions, the note attached to this letter.

A week after Anzac Day, we had our R.S.L. Sub-Branch Reunion Dinner and I was able to have a few (?) noggins with Bruss Fagg from Northampton. He's looking well in his retired life, and sends his regards to all his old mates. I had the pleasure of proposing the toast to the Women's Auxiliary, which was an easy job because this small band of women has won the Country Cup 12 times, including the last eight, as the outstanding country Auxiliary in the State. Although our Sub-Branch lost the Collett Cup to Albany last year, it has won the Cup 12 times as the outstanding Sub-Branch in W.A., and Geraldton M.L.A. Jeff Garr expressed the hope that Geraldton would regain the Cup this year because of its outstanding work in the establishment of a regional War Veterans' Home and in activities of benefit to the community generally.

Receiving an R.S.L. Certificate of Appreciation, the Immediate Past Secretary of our Sub-Branch, Eddie Carbury told the Reunion Dinner that he had received his inspiration for service from a question and an answer given at the formation of the Toc-H movement. The question asked during initiation into the movement when it was founded by Tubby Clayton in the fighting fields of Belgium 61 years ago during World War One, was "What is Service?"—and the answer given was "Service is the rent we pay for our room on earth". What a wonderful inspiration

for all of us! And, of course, this spirit of service is what the office-bearers of the 2/2nd Commando Association are imbued with.

All the best for Safari '76. However, it does not seem that Geraldton will be represented because those members I have spoken with, say they will not be making the trip but extend best wishes to those who are able to do so.

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

Peter Barden

A DAY TO FORGET YOUR TROUBLES

Somebody up there must like the 2/2nd Association for in spite of a threatening Friday and Saturday, Sunday, 16th May dawned a pleasant and sunny day for our picnic-barbecue to Mundijong. We foregathered at the Barrack St. Jetty to embark. For me, and for many others I am sure, this early morning view of Perth and our lovely river, the beautiful sweep of Riverside Drive and the panorama of South Perth was one of the loveliest sights of the day. Fourteen of us boarded the bus (what a pity more could not have joined us. Little do they know what they missed), and we had a most pleasant drive to Mundijong via Northlake Rd. and Rockingham where we were joyfully greeted by our host, 2/2nd member Joe Kalanowski, and also several other members with their families who had made the trip by car. These included a Mandurah contingent (complete with a load of delicious crabs) whom we were very glad to see — the Mandurah folk I mean, not the crabs. Oh dear, we were glad to see the crabs too. I seem to have got myself into a muddle, but that is because by now I had had several glasses of something or other put in my hand, and I had to do something with them, so I drank them. A very merry little party was soon in progress with drinks and chatter and lots of delicious little nibbly things brought along by some of the ladies. For lunch we barbecued some of Jack Carr's well-known steaks and chops and with some of the aforementioned crabs as appetisers we proceeded to stuff ourselves to the eyebrows. It

was so delightful to sit there in the sun, browsing and drowsing, green grass and trees about us — no wonder we left our cares and troubles behind us, and completely relaxed. A little later our President made a short speech thanking Joe for his kindness and hospitality to us and we regretfully said our farewells and wended our way homeward — another pleasant event in our social calendar behind us. Those attending were Jess Epps and Ann Douglas,

Len and Dorothy Bagley, Gerry and Dorothy Maley, Percy Hancock, Col Doig and Joy Loudon, George Fletcher, Jack and Delys Carey, Kath and Cyril Stonehouse, Joe and Helen Poynton (good to see you on deck again, Joe), Jean and Dutchy Holland and family, Clarry and Lexie Varian, Harry and Maisie Holder, Don Hudson, Rod and Doris Dhu, Scotty and Elsie Wares. Our very pleasant driver was Gary Dyer.

Elsie Wares

New South Wales News

Well another Anzac Day has come and gone, and I am pleased to say without incident, usually one of the boys manages to get himself into some sort of strife, but this year was very quiet indeed. We had a reasonably good roll up for the march and reunion, considering that many of the boys covered by the metal trades award had a 4-day break, being granted an extra day for their picnic. There was a total of 24 in the march, and we collected another 4 after at the usual watering place, at the foot of William St. It was pleasing to see Tom Yates from Kyogle, Frank Sharp from Dubbo, Harry Handicott from Smoky Cape, Ross Smith from South Australia, Bob Smith from Newcastle. It was also good to meet Col Holley again after an absence of many years. John Darge met us at the Arncliffe R.S.L. Club for a few quiet beers, and pleased to say that he continues to make good progress.

With regards to the Safari, time is fast running out and at this point of time I have only received the initial 26 names from W.A. as published in the Courier, plus 6 from N.S.W. country areas. Please fellows if it is your intention to participate in the Safari and you require accommodation let's have your name without delay, and you will be greatly assisting the N.S.W. committee. On the 22nd May a meeting has been arranged for the Committee to meet at the home of Paddy and Nora Kennally to finalise the arrangements. It will appear that some modifications will be made to the original itinerary, although not sufficient enough to greatly affect same. As a follow up a

Barbecue has been arranged at the home of John and Joan Darge, to submit the Committee findings to members and their ladies, for general comment, this event will take place on 30th May, and from that point on it is all systems go, until 5 day in August.

Had two most welcome visitors down from Queensland recently in the persons of Angus and Lois McLachlan, both looking extremely well, healthwise and otherwise. I would like to thank Paddy and Nora Kennally for availing us the use of their home, to extend a welcome to our visitors. Members and their wives who were present as follows, Alan and Edith Luby, Alan and Mary Addison, Ron and Pat Hillard, Jack and Marie Hartley, Snow Went, Mick and Betty Devlin, and our Hosts, Nora and Paddy with sons Shaun, Michael and Gerald.

I would like to extend to Graham Coker and his lovely lady Christine our heartiest congratulations on the announcement of their engagement. Les Collins writes to advise change of address, to Rose Bay, and would you please include Ken Glover, 4 Arabanoo St., Seaforth 2092 on the mailing list of the Courier. Ken while not a unit member, participates in all our activities and always makes an annual donation to the N.S.W. Association. Had a brief but welcome letter from Allan Dixon our ex paymaster, and I think it is 33 years since we last heard from him.

I will advise you of the Safari itinerary as soon as I have final information.

Mick Devlin

DUBBO

I guess it is about time I penned a few lines to all my good friends in W.A. and let you know some news from the Eastern States.

Phyllis and I were so pleased to read the recent Courier to see the names of some of the starters for the 1976 Safari and to see the names of the good old regular starters on the list again. I have been able to arrange my leave to coincide with the Safari so will be able to have another two weeks with you all again.

I am making arrangements with the Transport Commission of N.S.W. to have an extra luggage van to be placed on the Indian Pacific to carry Dot and Elsie's souvenirs, I don't want to see you or Len have a hernia after carrying great suitcases like after the Tassie Safari.

We were so pleased to read about your trip abroad and also having Jess Epps with you, and also meeting Ian Roland and his wife and family in London.

If I am able I hope to travel to Sydney for Anzac Day and meet the boys. Will close now with best wishes to all and looking forward to seeing you at the Safari, regards —

Frank Sharp

YOUNG

Keith and Betty Craig, with son Philip, are hoping to make the trip to Sydney for the Safari. Betty will not be able to go on all the trips, as it would be wise to rest in between, but other than that we hope to make most of the main ones.

Philip is looking forward to meeting everyone and re-meeting the Sydney folk after last Anzac weekend (1975). He had a wonderful time then and is quite sure this time will be just the same. We have booked accommodation, so here's hoping. Janette and Stan are very disappointed they can't make it, but all leave for Stan has been cancelled until after Christmas, when he will have finished his course. They are now living at Albury and are hoping for a house at Bandiana soon. It will make it easier for Stan.

We have had Keith's father staying with us for a fortnight, he is 92 and very well. Bob and Joyce Smith called the other night on their way back from Tasmania, and had fun with windscreens, breaking two in the

one day. Wonderful to see them. All the best to everyone, and hope to see you all soon.

Keith Craig

MAGLEAN

After about three months of wet weather during which we had about 40 inches of rain we are having a few nice days. Rene and I are in good health and settling down in our new home. Saw Geoff and Lola Laidlaw a few days ago and both are looking very well. Billy Walsh from Kempsey called in a couple of months ago and tells me he has to lose a bit of weight. Occupational hazard as Bill is head steward at the R.S.L. Club.

Along with all who were in Timor I am most disturbed with events there and agree wholeheartedly with Jack Carey that it's no good handing money over to anybody unless we know it's going to the right people. Events make you wonder if we would have had the support in 1942 if it had been known that Australians would dump them in 1976 when they need us. Boy did we need them. I notice that numbers of our Federal M.H.R.'s of all parties are going to petition the U.N. for the withdrawal of all Indonesian troops. Bit bloody late; Why didn't they speak up when it first commenced. The Indonesians must think we are pushovers.

Kind regards to all.

Happy Greenhalgh

YAMBA

Ran into Ken ones recently here in Yamba. He is farming up on the Dorrigo and looks fit and well — his present address is K. D. Jones, Snows Road, Dorrigo, N.S.W. 2453. See Happy Greenhalgh and Ron Orr fairly regularly and both in good shape. All is well with me and mine and enjoying retirement.

Geoff Laidlaw

MUSWELLBROOK

Have been at this address for last three years. Decided to buy this place rather than pay rent to employer.

I am very involved with State Emergency Services. Was appointed Divisional Deputy Controller for Upper Hunter this year, and am responsible mainly for training and organisation.

Sorry we will not be able to join in the Safari as we will be on a

Pacific Islands cruise in August-September: Thanks for the Courier and best regards to all.

Ron Teague

CANBERRA

Have returned home from Concord Repat. Hospital after a couple of months stay. I was pleased to see Mick Devlin and Paddy Kenneally who came in to see me and brought me up to date on news of members in N.S.W. Also had a visit from Alan Buckley of the Combined Commando Association — he was on the same draft to Foster from Brisbane as myself in 1942. Have not yet returned to work — so far I have only been to work for 3 weeks in 1976 — poor taxpayers.

Winter has set in early this year — cold winds and frosts already. A good turn out of Ex-Commandoes at the Memorial this year — I was only a spectator. The Canberra scene is quiet after the ructions last year — an odd demonstration etc., but now a round of budget blues. Regards to all.

Allan Stewart

HUSKISSON

Not a lot of news down this way. Have not seen any of the boys for some time. Jack Keenahan was down a while back.

Had quite a good day here on Anzac Day, must have been 200 marched, plus the Navy, and had a full Scots Band. There was plenty of food and drinks and the usual game of pennies. Well guess that is about all for now probably see you at the Safari.

J. Hallinan

WARRIWOOD

Hopefully the Courier is ready for another story from me, about Bill's and my trip to South East Asia. We left Sydney by Qantas and it was first class service, with a very pleasant crew. The passengers were invited to visit the flight deck a few at a time. It was quite fascinating — a small area with a myriad of instruments.

Arrived at Kuala Lumpur at 9.30 p.m., about 7 hours flying time, and taken to Hilton Hotel. Quite a building of 28 stories and we were on the top floor, with a panoramic view of the city. The hotel has 4 restaurants and 5 bars including one with tropical vegetation and a live bird aviary. The first morning we took a taxi to

the National Museum. It was very absorbing as one doesn't realise how much ancient culture there is of the Malaysian Peninsular. We did more sight seeing on our return as we left for Hong Kong that evening. We travelled by Cathay Pacific this time and found it similar to Pan Am, the only difference, the drinks are free. The long narrow runway of Hong Kong Airport juts into the sea and as it was raining the pilot had to make several attempts to land. Eventually he did with many sighs of relief from me. We stayed at the Sheraton Hotel and we were on the 16th floor. We had smorgasbord type breakfasts throughout the journey, with lots of fresh fruits and juices and the usual bacon and eggs.

We did not go on the first morning trip as we wanted to place our orders for tailored suits. Bill has given up smoking about 12 months ago and now his suits are getting quite tight around the tummy. Still he looks much better for it and I am glad for him health-wise. Next day we took the trip to Macau, the Portuguese colony across the South China Sea from Hong Kong. It is very beautiful, many gracious homes and gardens. The population is 95% Chinese and 2½% Portuguese. The tour took us to the Chinese border where Macau is just 1 mile wide, and we saw the gate into the People's Republic of China, which is guarded. We were then taken to the huge Casino, quite ornate and equipped with about every gambling device. It was built and controlled by Chinese millionaires, with Porto permission. We lunched in quite a splendid dining room, carpeted and curtained in red, with white table cloths and gleaming silver. The group then moved to the gambling areas. Bill and I tried our luck on the roulette wheel. After an exciting run of 10 minutes with red numbers it then stuck on black and we lost a whole \$10 Hong Kong. We also visited a very old Buddhist temple there, where the outside courtyard surroundings were decorated with small exquisite porcelain figures.

The whole tour was a Jetabout, which was very good in service and value, provided you are not looking for a rest cure. Our group were a fun crowd and included several older widowed ladies. So one night in Hong Kong we decided to visit a

"TOPLESS BAR" and take two of the "oldies" with us. Each bar has a leathered covered surround, the girls sit in the centre and serve drinks, (which are quite expensive). They wear shoes, a fringed G-string around the nether regions and a sweet smile. Their movements are slow and studied and they seem oblivious to the whole thing. As the numerous signs on the wall read, the Hostesses are available for escort, one of our dear old friends whispered to Bill away you go we will look after June. Haven't figured out yet why he did not take up the invitation.

We toured the New Territories which starts with factory and warehouse areas and huge blocks of flats. Our guide tells us the reason for so many walking the streets, one half of the family walks, so the other half can have the beds to sleep. Another night we took the "STAR FERRY" across the harbour to the "Poor Man's Nightclub". It is a large parking area by day and comes to life at night with dozens of stalls selling clothing, music of all types, food of all weird and wonderful concoctions and many makes of magic tricks. We also visited the "Floating Restaurant" at Aberdeen. We were taken by sampan operated by women. As we were on tour we had a selected 8 course menu, which was quite enjoyable, lots of laughs, trying to eat with chopsticks.

Next stop Bangkok, city of crazy traffic and honking horns, worse than Rome. Like Rome, religion plays a big part there. There are 2,500 temples there and the Thais place tiny bits of owers on the temples. First night we attended a Cultural Dinner and Dancing display, set in a large Thai home. Dinner is served at long low tables, where one sits cross legged on the floor. Luckily for tourists the floor is hollowed beneath the tables, for them to place their legs. Each person was given a large plate and grouped around it, in small covered bowls were selections of tasty chicken, fried noodles, soup, rice, spicy salad and prawn dishes. Accompanied by rice wine, which tasted like ginger beer. This was followed by a platter of prepared fruits of several varieties.

Another tour was to the "Floating Markets", where sampans travel along the canals, called klongs, car-

rying all sorts of commodities. They congregate in this area to trade, Bangkok is called the "Venice of the East" as the klongs are widely used for transport. We did one tour of the klongs, firstly by a sampan, fitted with an outboard motor which raced like a speedboat. The canal banks are crammed with houses, where the people use the river for all their chores, from washing the dishes to having a bath. We visited a farmer's house, very clean but also frugally furnished. The cruise back to the city was much slower and relaxing. A large converted barge is used, it has seating and tables laden with fruits, chips (banana ones) and nutty biscuits, and a bar serving most conventional drinks. I think our most memorable tour in Bangkok was to the Rose Garden, a large garden estate, where we were shown all sorts of handicrafts, like silk making, pottery, painting and cooking arts. Then to the huge auditorium, where we saw the classic "FINGER NAIL" dance, the girls wear long brass type fingernails and use beautiful hand movements.

We noticed the unusually life-like appearances of the film-boarding advertisements and were told they were painted by hand. They were certainly most effective. We also visited a jewellery factory, and the gems were many and magnificent, diamonds, rubies and sapphires.

Next morning off to Penang Island by Thai International and were impressed by the service and food of this airline. We landed at Butterworth Air Base, then taken by vehicular ferry to Penang. It is a delightful spot and we enjoyed our five days there. The hotel "Casuarina" was situated right on the beach on the Malacca Strait, all balconies facing the sea. The food was good also the service and the people were friendly. We feel Malaysia should be called the "Land of Smiles", more so than Thailand. One night was spent at a barbecue, complete with lamb chops, would you believe. I enjoyed the satay more, and once again the tropical fruits. One large green type is called durian, supposed to smell like hell and taste like heaven, but we didn't indulge.

So, on to Kuala Lumpur again, the last stage of our journey. Back to the Hilton, and as Steve (our son) had told us of a nice little restaurant

nearby, called "The Ship" we had many marvellous meals. It is decorated like a ship and the pretty smiling girls wear sailor costumes. They served great seafoods and we enjoyed Tasmanian Crayfish.

Time to head for home again, good wishes to all, especially our friends in the West, and wish to see some soon on the Safari.

June and Bill Bennett
P.S. Thanks Scotty.

VICTORIAN NEWS

It is with regret that I have to pass on the sad news that Jim Robinson passed away in March — he had been very sick but was always cheerful and we will miss him very much as he was always a great supporter of our Association, and we will pass on our deepest sympathy to Mavis and family and our thoughts go with you all. The funeral was on the 3rd March and the following boys attended, John Roberts, John Southwell, Leith Cooper, George Veitch, George Humphreys, Gerry O'Toole, Harry Botterill — some of the boys acted as Pall Bearers.

Bert Tobin is coming along slowly after his recent operation — having many tests etc., but is managing to get to work for a few hours each day — keep up the good work Bert — we will all want to see you well again.

As far as I can gather there will only be a couple of starters for the Safari. John and Kath Roberts, George and Wendy Humphreys are planning to make the trip.

Dot Boyland was over here recently, and Olive and I had the pleasure of her company — and after Dot did a quick trip to Sydney she stayed with us for a few days before returning to the West.

That is all the news for the present — but with Anzac Day coming up should be able to have more news later. So until next time, all the best.

Harry Botterill

ST KILDA

Bill says, send his regards to all. Unfortunately he spends his days on the permanent sick list — forced to give up his trade as a painter, joined the Corps of Commissioners, but has not been well enough to work for about two years now, and has had quite a few lengthy spells out at the R.G.H., Heidelberg — delighted to say that he is enjoying a fairly good time just at the present and looking forward to seeing some of the Squadron at the Anzac march.

Enclosed cheque towards the Courier. Best wishes to all.

Eileen Sharp
Hope you keep on improving Bill.
Editor

RINGWOOD

Hi Sec., and members Herewith much hoo-ha. Chop up the enclosed Postal Note to serve the most urgent needs. Nobody wins nothing, anyhow, here, but just to be among the survivors, and aware of the fact that one is breaking even is a most pleasurable cognisance.

A charge of cheers to all, and a special choice to that excellent team of Eisle and Scotty.

Ted Hodgson

WODONGA

Greetings and best wishes from Victoria. Please note my new address. The Albury-Wodonga Development Corporation have bought half the farm and intend buying the rest if the whole project is not scrapped by the present Government. At the moment I am semi-retired which might be the best thing with the present beef prices.

Cheers and regards to all.

Bob Snowden

MORNINGTON

Cheers to all. Met up with a few of the boys on Anzac Day and had a few drinks and a good yarn but apart from that the only 2/2nd chaps I've met up with are Dud Tapper and "Tuan Bort" Curran at Christmas. Both look fit and well. (More than I can say for myself when I left them).

Hope to see you all in Sydney in September. Grace is looking forward to a ball by ball description of the trip from you Jess. Regards to all.

Max Davies

MENTONE

Sorry to be late with cheque. Eivina and I had 3 weeks in Malaya and Singapore over Easter and Anzac Day, which has upset the correspondence. Met a cobbler of Jerry Green's in Singapore, it is still a small world. Regards to all.

Peter Krause

QUEENSLAND NEWS

BRISBANE

No outstanding news from up this way except that my "DEARLY BE-LOVED" gets creeping paralysis of the right hand every time he picks up a pen to write a letter. He then says "you write it dear". "Dear" has doubts that Gordon can still write. I had a wonderful trip around the world last year and then, as an encore Gordon and I did a tour of the East. Now we both have itchy feet, I hope it won't be too long before we can get overseas again. It's a big wide wonderful world out there, to use a cliché. Regards.

Joan Stanley

ROCKHAMPTON

To every member of the Company I send my best wishes, this letter may be something of a shock as I think it is only the second one in thirty years. I would never make an author, I hate writing but I must thank both past and present committee members for keeping me posted via the courier.

I was very disappointed when I missed Eric Smythe on his trip up here. Mum and I were out shopping for our weekly supplies, thanks Eric for calling in. Paddy Wilby has for some years been living at Yeppoon near here, and I told him to write to you and showed him the Courier and requesting his address. I understand that he has shifted to Brisbane but will let you know if he should return. I would very much like to have a lapel badge, so if the enclosed donation will not cover it let me know.

I have been a T.P.I. for the last 5 years, would not be much good over the Timor hills, but to keep my mind active I do two half days a week as honorary adviser on repat matters with Rockhampton R.S.L.A. so kill two birds with one stone — "help myself by helping others". (I hope). Best of luck to the Committee and may everyone be spared to enjoy a long life. Sincerely,

Frank Craigie

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN NEWS

SEATON

Sorry I have never answered letter dated 24/9/75 re the albums. I put it to one side to answer after some news worth event had happened in S.A. and now by accident I have just come across it.

About the albums, well I am pleased that you had received them, as I was worried that they had gone astray, but news did filter through that it had arrived.

You may have guessed that photography is my hobby and I derive a lot of pleasure from it. I thought a pictorial record of chaps as the years roll on would be a great interest, a name in the Courier is a face conjured up, but the face is 30 odd years old and has no resemblance to the face of today. An album could be kept of any of the lads, as a photo came to hand and placed in the album, then brought out for viewing at any roll up which may be attended by some of the out-lying country chaps. I have made 4 albums

S.A. — W.A. — Vic. — N.S.W., each photo is numbered in left hand corner, this is to identify each one and a list of names kept.

Ern Hoffman was over and we had a dinner at the St. Lenards Inn. Those present were Ern Hoffman, Allan Hollow, Dud Tapper, Bob Williamson, K. Dignum, accompanied by their wives.

Will close now and please find cheque enclosed

Keith Dignum

FINDON

Sorry about the mix up with the cheque but apparently it was caught up in the changeover from one bank to the other. This cheque is for the Timor appeal and association funds.

I hope you are keeping well and my best wishes to all members. I hope to visit the West soon but you know that everything is now getting very costly. Regards.

Allan Hollow

MITCHAM

I have newspaper cuttings and photos of unit doings from Foster days on, as you know Ken was in from the beginning. Does John Burridge want to keep them or does he just want to sight them. Give me a week or two to look them up and I will be able to tell you more fully what I do have as I have not looked at them for years, regards.

Betty MacKintosh

Photos would be greatly appreciated for archives. — Editor.

DARWIN

Please note my new address as I have been transferred from Canberra.

I am taking up the posting of Northern Territory Manager for the company, this will be my first trip to the Territory since the war years. We have a guest house in Catherine which I will be visiting from time to time. Also we run a guest house at the Alice.

Looking forward to receiving future copies of the Courier, regards.

Ron Dook

QUOTES TO REMEMBER

Youth is not a time of life — it is a state of mind. Nobody grows old by merely living a number of years; people grow old only by deserting their ideals. Years wrinkle the skin, but to give up enthusiasm wrinkles the soul.

You are as young as your faith, as old as your doubt; as young as your self-confidence, as old as your fear; as young as your hope, as old as your despair.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

K. Beacham, Davis Street, Boulder 6432.

W. Holstein, 16 Boyce Street, Taras 2430.

K. D. Jones, Snows Road, Dorrigo 2463.

R. Teague, 12 Shaw Crescent, Muswellbrook 2333.

R. Dook, Commonwealth Hostels, The Esplanade, Darwin 3790.

R. Watson, 19 Rambures Way, Hamilton Hill 6163.

A. Longbottom, 3 Carter Street, Hamilton Hill 6163.

T. Foster, G.P.O. Box 1218, Geraldton 6530.

J. Liffé, 23 Riverview Street, South Perth 6151.

B. Barrn, Lot 2, Wanneroo Road, Wanneroo 6061.

E. F. Freestone, 33 Glenwood Way, Amelia Heights 6021.

G. Pendergast, Flat 12, Warralong Street, Goldsworthy 6723.

K. Glover, 4 Arabanoo Street, Seaford 2092.

L. Collins, Unit 11, 97 O'Sullivan Road, Rose Bay 2029.

MAY GOD BLESS AUSTRALIA

(Timorean Refugees' Prayer)

Acrostic by Ans. Bart de Almeida
Himself a Refugee

May God bless Australia
Ardently so we pray
You have been good to us

God may bless Australia
Our thanksgiving, we say have
Done your best to help us

Behold! Land of sunshine!
Let's show our gratitude
Ever cherishing you
Seeing what utmost you've done
Sustain our love for you

Australian and people
United: Young nation
Supporting high ideal

Towards all mankind
Racial hatred be none
All equal, hand in hand
In amiable cup

Australia's building up
Darwin, 18th Sept., 1975