



2/2 **COMMANDO**

Courier

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JUNE, 1978

Price 1c.

The "TUAN BORT" has gone to rest.

How does one write an obituary about such a person. Perhaps I could start by saying A BOY FROM TRARALGAN who became a legend in his own life time. A big man in every way, a giant at everything he undertook. Marvellous as a soldier, tremendous as a footballer, terrific as a citizen. One runs out of words sufficiently great to do him justice. The Association has lost one of its true characters. His hospitality was so out going that at times it became embarrassing.

Kevin joined our Unit in 1941 at the age of 21. He was already a league footballer with Hawthorn. He quickly made a name for himself as a leader of men and an outstanding sport. For such a big man he was remarkably agile and could run even time. His leadership came out very greatly on TIMOR as is evidenced by the show on Dilli drome. He is the only person in our unit who is credited with killing with the bayonet. He was commissioned in the field and continued his career to the bitter end with our unit.

On return to civilian life Kevin took up his football career with great distinction with Hawthorn and played in the "Big V" so often he became a fixture. His football took him to Bendigo as playing coach of a couple of teams and he started his career as a publican which took place until his death as Mine Host of the Fleece Inn. It was not long before he interested himself in Local Government and he was a city Councillor for many years. He attempted politics on two occasions for two near misses, firstly in the Legislative Council and then the Assembly.

He was a great member of our Victoria Branch and worked with his terrific will on every project that was under way. He will be most sadly missed by us all.

We can but offer our sincere sympathy to Gladys and Denis.

Goodbye Kevin, great big marvellous bloke. We are going to be the poorer for his passing. A friend to everyone.

Vale KEVIN S. CURRAN.

Col Doig.

COMING EVENTS

- 20th JUNE. GUEST SPEAKER. Mr. LONNIE. Bring your wife and enjoy the evening. Bring a plate to augment supper.
- 18th JULY. NOVELTY NIGHT. LADIES WELCOME. Bring a Plate.
- 29th JULY. DRAWING OF RAFFLE. LIGHT SUPPER SUPPLIED.

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL
GENERAL MEETING OF THE 2/2
COMMANDO ASSOCIATION,
W.A. BRANCH, HELD AT ANZAC
CLUB, ON TUESDAY, MARCH 7,
1978.**

THE President, Mr. A. Wares declared the meeting open, and asked all those present to stand, face the Honour Roll, and observe two minutes remembrance.

PRESENT: A. Wares (in the chair) P. Hancock, C. Doig, R. Dhu, G. Fletcher, D. Ritchie, B. McDonald, H. Sproxtton, R. Aitken, G. Maley, R. Sprigg, C. Turner, J. Poynton, G. Rowley, J. Haire, A. Smith, S. Jarvis, G. Barnes and L. Bagley.

APOLOGIES from J. Carey, C. Varian, D. Darrington and J. Burr-idge were accepted.

MINUTES of Annual General Meeting, held on Tuesday, March 1, 1977, were read and confirmed on the motion of R. Dhu, seconded C. Doig.

KINGS PARK: Mr. G. Fletcher said that there was no water available for the grassed area. He also said the galvanised water piping definitely needed replacing with P.V.C. Mr. A. Wares had contacted the Superintendent of Kings Park regarding the supply of bore water, but was told that no water was available for our area. Mr. R. Dhu said that there were two broken plaques which needed attention.

ARCHIVES: Mr. J. Burridge has submitted to the Committee a detailed list of all the material which he has received and filed.

PHOTO ALBUM: Mr. D. Ritchie was complimented on the excellence of the Unit photo album which he had compiled.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP: The committee recommendations for Life Membership were: Mr. C. Turner and Mr. D. Ritchie.

Mr. C. Doig proposed the Life Membership of Clarrie Turner, who he said was a most deserving member to receive this honour. Clarrie has been a Country Vice President for the South Western area for some years, and during this time there had been two very successful Country Conventions held at Busselton. He said that Clarrie had always been a very staunch Association member.

Mr. A. Wares then presented Mr. C. Turner with his Life Membership badge.

Mr. C. Turner replied by saying that he felt very proud and humble. He thought that being a country member restricted him from being more active with the Association, but he would always help in anyway he could.

Mr. J. Haire proposed the Life Membership of Dave Ritchie and stated that he was most proud to do so. He said that Dave had been a committeeman for some time and has always had the interests of the Association at heart. He has given talks on silk screening, compiled a Unit photo album, and is currently making Double Diamond car stickers

Mr. A. Wares then presented Mr. D. Ritchie with his Life Membership badge.

Mr. D. Ritchie said that he was very proud to be a member of the Association and had been on and off the Committee for many years. He said that he enjoyed doing things for the Association, whenever he was able.

Mr. H. Sproxtton then moved the adoption of the two nominated Life Members, the move was endorsed unanimously by acclamation.

REPORTS

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: The Secretary read Mr. A. Wares report, which completely covered the activities of the Association and the Courier for the past 12 months.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Mr. P. Hancock circulated copies of the Annual Balance Sheet and explained its contents to the meeting.

AUDITOR'S REPORT: Mr. J. Burridge confirmed the figures as presented by the Treasurer, and said they reflected a true account of the financial affairs of the Association.

Mr. R. Dhu complimented the Treasurer on the presentation of the Balance Sheet.

Mr. C. Doig moved that reports as tabled be received and adopted, seconded by A. Smith.

ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS:
Mr. R. Aitken was appointed Returning Officer. He then called for nominations, and the following members were elected:

PRESIDENT: G. Maley, elected unopposed.

VICE PRESIDENT: D. Ritchie, 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.

WARDENS: G. Fletcher and R. Dhu, re-elected unopposed.

COMMITTEE:
J. Carey, B. McDonald, H. Sproxtton, C. Varian, D. Darrington, C. Doig, G. Fletcher and R. Dhu.

COUNTRY VICE PRESIDENTS:
(Term of office is 3 years)

GOLDFIELDS: E. Thornander

NORTHERN: P. Barden

MIDLANDS: R. Harrington

GREAT SOUTHERN: R. Sprigg

SOUTH COASTAL: W. Rowan
Robinson

SOUTH WEST: C. Turner

MANDURAH: J. Poynton,

Mr. A. Wares thanked the Returning Officer, and congratulated all those who has been elected to office.

GENERAL BUSINESS

PRINTING of Courier: Mr. C. Turner suggested that other avenues of Printing the Courier could be looked into, and the Committee could make enquiries regarding price and suitability.

KINGS PARK: Mr. C. Turner praised the efforts of both George Fletcher and Rod Dhu, for all they had done over the years towards our area in Lovekin Drive.

Mr. C. Doig congratulated the Secretary for the way in which he had carried out his duties.

Mr. G. Maley suggested that Mr. R. Aitken and Mr. J. Haire may be able to assist the Association with suggestions for the coming year. Both said that they would be willing to help, if necessary.

SAFARI RAFFLE: Mr. C. Doig said that money from General Funds should not be used for Safari '78. Tickets in the Safari Raffle will have to be sold so that South Australia can provide an itinerary. To do this 350 tickets will have to be sold in less than 14 weeks, for this itinerary to be a success.

Mr. L. Bagley suggested that the Association should be affiliated with the Returned Soldiers League. The meeting approved, and asked the Secretary to write to the R.S.L. for confirmation.

COURIER DONATIONS: Mr. C. Doig said that money donated for the Courier should go to a special account, and be used for that purpose only. Mr. Turner said that not all the bulk of monies should go to the Courier, as the Association needs to be operated as well as the Courier. Mr. R. Aitken agreed with Mr. C. Doig. Mr. H. Sproxtton agreed with Mr. C. Turner. Mr. G. Rowley said we should have confidence in the Committee of the Association to allocate funds to suit the needs of either the Courier or the Association.

Mr. C. Doig congratulated the President, Mr. A. Wares and his wife, Elsie, for all they had done

for the Association and the Courier during the past 12 months. This was supported by Mr. C. Turner.

Mr. R. Dhu moved a vote of thanks to the Mandurah and country members, who were present at the meeting.

THE meeting closed at 10.45 pm.

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING, HELD AT ANZAC CLUB, ON TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 1978.

THE President, Mr. G. Maley declared the meeting open at 8.15pm and welcomed the newly elected committee to office.

PRESENT: G. Maley, P. Hancock, A. Wares, R. Dhu, C. Doig, H. Sproxton, B. McDonald, J. Carey and L. Bagley.

APOLOGIES from C. Varian, D. Ritchie, G. Fletcher and D. Darrington were accepted.

MINUTES of Meeting, held on Tuesday, February 21, 1978, were read and confirmed on the motion of H. Sproxton, seconded B. McDonald

MINUTES of Annual General Meeting, held on Tuesday, March 7, 1978 were read.

CORRESPONDENCE: Inward from R.S.L. War Veterans' Home, Double Diamond (Vic.), Commando News (N.S.W.), Commando News (Qld.). Outward to R.S.L.

It was moved C. Doig, seconded P. Hancock, that Inward and Outward correspondence be received and confirmed.

ANZAC DAY, Tuesday, April 25: The Clarendon Hotel once again will be the venue for the get-together after the parade. Mr. J. Carey agreed to supply the catering needs. Mr. G. Fletcher will arrange for a suitable wreath. Kings Park Wardens Mr. G. Fletcher and Mr R. Dhu will lay the Association wreath at the Dawn Service in Kings Park. It was moved A. Wares, seconded C. Doig that the charge for the day be \$5.

CAR STICKERS: Mr. P. Hancock

has ordered 500 of these at a cost of \$122. The meeting approved of this purchase.

LAPEL BADGES: Mr. B. McDonald reported that 100 Lapel Badges had been made and that he would take delivery of them.

TIMOR FUNDS: The meeting agreed to leave the balance of this fund, including interest, invested until further confirmation of a changed situation.

APRIL MEETING: Wembley/Floreat R.S.L. are to be our guests on Tuesday, April 4, at Anzac Club. Supper and refreshments are to be provided.

MONTHLY MEETINGS: After some discussion it was moved A. Wares and seconded C. Doig that the Committee and General Meetings be held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, and to commence on Tuesday May 16, 1978. The committee meeting is to be held first and the General Meeting will follow.

SOCIAL FUNCTIONS for 1978 will be discussed at the April meeting.

SAFARI RAFFLE: 250 tickets have been sold. In an effort to boost sales, a reminder sheet will be inserted in the April Courier.

SICK LIST: Ernie Hoffman, recently in Hollywood, has now returned home. Clarrie Varian, recently in R.P.H. as a result of a heart attack, has now returned home. Dutchy Holland, was in Charles Gardiner hospital, having treatment for arthritis, but has now returned home.

AFFILIATION with R.S.L.: The Secretary has made preliminary enquiries through Mr. H. Holder of the City of Perth sub branch. Mr. Holder is of the opinion that we are affiliated with the R.S.L.

Mr. G. Maley thanked the meeting for their attendance and closed the meeting at 10 pm.

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT ANZAC CLUB, ON TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 1978

THE President: Mr. G. Maley declared the meeting open at 8.15pm and welcomed the presence of Les Isenhood from Newcastle and Bob Monk from Poowong, Victoria.

PRESENT: G. Maley, P. Hancock, A. Wares, R. Dhu, J. Carey, D. Ritchie, G. Fletcher, D. Darrington, B. McDonald, C. Varian, H. Sproxton, Les Isenhood, Bob Monk and L. Bagley.

APOLOGY from C. Doig was accepted.

MINUTES of Meeting, held on Tuesday, March 21, 1978 were read and confirmed on the motion of R. Dhu, seconded A. Wares.

TREASURER'S REPORT: P. Hancock presented the following statement of accounts as at April 18, 1978:

Balance as at April 18, 1978 \$200.75

Financial Report was received and accounts passed for payment on the motion of B. McDonald, seconded J. Carey.

CORRESPONDENCE: Inward from Mrs. B. Mackintosh, Max Davies, Mick Devlin, R.S.L., 2/4-ther, Dud Tapper.

Outward to Dud Tapper, R.S.L. War Veterans' Home.

It was moved H. Sproxton, seconded R. Dhu, that Inward and Outward correspondence be received and confirmed.

APRIL 4 Social Evening: G. Maley reported that the evening was a most successful one, and that the members and wives of the Wembley/Floreat R.S.L. had enjoyed the evening. All told 22 people were present, even though it was the day of cyclone Alby.

SAFARI RAFFLE: Since the issue of the April Courier sales have improved, and now stand at 350. If you intend to be in Adelaide for the Safari and require accommodation,

please fill in the form supplied and return it to Dud Tapper.

SICK LIST: Kev Curran of Bendigo has been taken to hospital. Dusty Studdy has recently been in Hollywood Hospital.

FUTURE MONTHLY MEETINGS:

May 16, Tuesday, Sports night, ladies to bring a plate.

June 20, Tuesday: Guest speaker, Mr. Bill Lonney, ladies to bring a plate.

July 18, Tuesday: Novelty evening ladies to bring a plate.

July 29, Saturday: Raffle draw, a mixed evening with friends, supper to be catered for.

CYCLONE Damage: B. McDonald asked if there were any members who may have suffered damage due to cyclone Alby.

Les Isenhood from Newcastle, has retired and will be in the West for 3 or 4 months, visiting his married daughter.

Bob Monk (son of Ken) from Poowong, is here on a working holiday, both Les and Bob will be present on Anzac Day.

THE President closed the meeting at 9.30 p.m. and thanked all those in attendance.

WEST AUSTRALIAN NEWS

BEDFORD

At last we know the dates for the Safari and so we have filled in the form and sent it to Dud. Yes, we are going but we are travelling by car and caravan as we intend filling in the time after travelling around and being in Duntroon in December. As you know our son Doug, has gone back for his second year and we are going to be there for the Grad. Parade. It will give us an insight as to what happens when his turn comes if he makes it. We sincerely hope he does.

We thank the President, committee and Editor and all the helpers for the work they are doing and wish them all the success in the future. Like everyone we look forward to the Courier.

Pleased to hear Bruss Fagg has got approval for the project he worked so hard for. We had a most enjoyable time with him in Northampton. I'd like to thank Peter Barden for getting me into a team for the Fisherman Fours. Also Peter thank Doreen Jones for Norma's wonderful weekend. We also went to have a noggin with Nip Cunningham one lunch hour. He took us home to show off his culinary art later on. Sorry we missed the Wellers and the Smyths - next time we hope to find them home.

It has taken us a long time to put pen to paper but we are with you all in spirit.

Enclosed is a cheque for two tickets in raffle. See you in Adelaide.

Regards,

Norma and Jack Hasson

GERALDTON

I was just about to write to you, Scotty, when I received your letter about the return "address unknown" of the Courier sent to Eric Smyth. It is with much pleasure that I am able to tell you that Eric and Twy are still with us. Please change Eric's address as it no longer includes a box office number. (check new addresses). I have given Eric the copy of the Courier you sent with your letter.

Eric and Twy Smyth recently returned from a trip to Queensland where they visited daughter Jan of Gympie who had another son to give her a family of 2 sons and a daughter. Eric met up with some of his old 2/2nd mates, including Happy Greenhalgh of McLean, our former "Boss" Geoff Laidlaw of Yamba, (I'll never forget those "dog-eat-dog" football matches!), and Rolfe ("Baldy") Baldwin of Geelong.

Eric Smyth is in the pink of condition now that he is doing outside work instead of accountancy, and he is off again to put in a crop at a friend's farm at Morawa. Tom Foster also looks well and is busy on his farm in the Dongara area. Another double red diamond type, Eric Weller, continues to play an important part in the development of the north of the state by being in charge of a State Housing project

at Exmouth, on behalf of a Geraldton contractor.

Development also continues at a pleasing rate at Geraldton where we have just formed a Regional Development Committee and also opened a Regional Health Centre where the guests included Twy and Eric Smyth because Twy is on the Advisory Committee.

I also met Nip Cunningham a couple of days ago and he also looks well after his annual vacation, which included some time at the Ogilvie farm of his daughter Jan and son-in-law Alan Johnson.

Bruss Fagg of Northampton continues to be kept busy as Chairman of the Pioneer Lodge Homes for the Aged Committee. The outstanding success of the annual auction of donated goods, in support of this project, speaks volumes for his organising ability.

Well I must be off now, as duty calls.

Kind regards to all the boys,
Peter Barden

P.S. My A.B.C. Post office box number is now 211 instead of 310. (Please alter your address books, members to read Box 211) (Thanks for taking the trouble to find Eric Smyth's new address, it is greatly appreciated - Editor)

NEW ADDRESSES

W.S. WALLIS,
16 Eastleigh Street,
Chermside. 4302.
Brisbane.
E.W. SMYTH,
5 Hungerford Street,
Bluff Point.
Geraldton. 6530.
J. SPENCER,
P.O. Box 140,
Boulder. 6432.
K. BEACHEM,
41 Fitzgerald Street,
Koolyanobbing. 6427.
C.G. MCKENZIE,
Lot 131 Alfreda Avenue,
Morley. 6062.
H.A. HOLDEN,
89 Pulteney Street,
Taree. 2430.
MRS. D. HYLAND,
1/32 Curchill Crescent,
Cammeray. 2062.

ADDRESSES UNKNOWN

A number of the last issue of the Courier have been returned to the Box T 1646, G.P.O. Perth. I am listing the names in the various States so if anyone knows an address for the name which appears would they please notify me immediately so as to be able to correct the mailing list before the next issue.

N.S.W.: L.E. Webster.

VICTORIA: A. Bennett, C. Browne

W.A.: G.R. Lewis

QUEENSLAND: N. Hooper,
K.D. Jones, G.A. Coulson.

COURIER DONATIONS

The President wishes to thank the following for donations towards the publishing of the Courier: K. Curran, W. Bennett, M. Davies, W. Wallis, L. Litchfield, T. Wilson, E. Chapman, F. Bryant, J. Lyons, M. Murphy, G. Vandeleur, T. Paull, R. Dhu, F. Sparkman, J. Kalonosky, V. Swann, J. Poynton, J. Fowler, T. Foster, C. Turner, G. McKenzie, A. Smith, R. Studd, P. Barron, B. McEvoy, C. Gorton, D. Fitzgerald, W. Holstein, L. Halse.

SICK PARADE

Jim Smalles has been in Hollywood Repat Hospital for a surgical operation and is now home and progressing favourably.

VALE

It is with regret that I have to advise of the passing of Ron Hyland on 25/3/78, as reported by Mick Devlin. To Doreen his widow, we extend our deepest sympathy.

Advice just received from N.S.W. of the passing of our member, Alan Stewart. To his wife and family we extend our deepest sympathy. Alan passed away on 28/4/78.

ANZAC DAY

There was a good representation at the Dawn Service and the wreath was placed on the Memorial on behalf of the Association by Rod Dhu and Terry Paull. Those attending were as follows - Col. Doig, Jack

Fowler, Len Bagley, Dick Darrington Geo. Fletcher, Les Isenhood, Rod Dhu, T. Paull, G. Bagley, Scotty and Elsie Wares.

The march at 10 a.m. was attended by 50 members and was led by the President G. Maley and the flag was carried by Mick Morgan. After the march past the members assembled at the Clarendon Hotel and a total of 54 including visitors enjoyed a delightful luncheon and of course the usual drop of the doings. The luncheon was again looked after by Jack Carey who once again did an excellent job. The country members attending were T. Paull, E. Bingham V. Swann, J. Poynton, G. Barnes, B. Langridge, T. Foster, C. Turner and D. Hudson. There were a number of interstate visitors as follows - Les Isenhood and Denny Dennis from N.S.W. and Robert Monk, son of our member Ken and Margaret from Victoria. Another from Victoria was Gerry McKenzie who has now retired and has come back to his home state to enjoy his retirement.

The Association greatly appreciates the service given by the proprietor of the Clarendon Mr. Don Reynolds and we would like to tender our thanks.

All in all it was a good day.

APRIL SOCIAL EVENING

Members and the wives of the Wembley/Floreat R.S.L. were our guests at Anzac Club on Tuesday, April 4. There were 10 visitors present and 12 of us, a very good attendance, considering that cyclone Alby decided to strike that day. The president, Gerry Maley, thanked the visitors for their company, and in reply their president, Bill Kelleher, said they had all enjoyed themselves. Ernie McGuckin, secretary, also praised the evening and the friendship that existed between us. Len Bagley replied to Ernie's remarks.

Those present were: Mr. & Mrs. Maley, Mr. & Mrs. Bagley, Mr. & Mrs. C. King, Joy Loudon, Col Doig, J. Carey, D. Darrington, P. Hancock, Mr. & Mrs. McGuckin, Mr. & Mrs. B. Kelleher, Mr. & Mrs. Haynes, Mr. & Mrs. Brown, Mr. G. Wright, Mr. B. Crawford.

NEW SOUTH WALES NEWS**EPPING**

Received your copy of the itinerary regarding the 1978 Safari as originally submitted by Dud Tapper to the W.A. committee. I am very sorry for the belated reply and comments from the NSW committee, however due to a three weeks postal strike my hands were tied. What we decided is the need to send out a circular to all members setting out the itinerary and their request for accomodation, mode of transport. We also felt the need to give members a jolt regarding the raffle which at the time of your last letter, looked to be in a sorry plight.

At the moment the whole NSW coast is recovering from the battering we received during the recent big wet. We city slickers escaped with minor damage, while our country cousins are still trying to evaluate their losses. On a more pleasant note I have just received word that Al. Luby and Bill Bennett and their respective wives, Edith and June, have departed for a three week visit to New Zealand. I believe they plan to hire a car and deploy off the main tourist routes, here's hoping they enjoy themselves. I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of association members to extend our congratulations to Kim (nee Coker) and husband Trevor Saviour on their recent marriage. We wish them a long, happy and healthy life together. Also may I extend our congratulations to Don Latimer on the occasion of his being made a Life Member of the Combined Commando Association. Hope to have you on the Adelaide Safari Don with your good wife Dulcie.

Our thanks to Ron and Glen Hilliard for organising the printing of circulars.

Kind regards,

Mick Devlin

EPPING

It is with regret that I have to advise of the passing of Ron Hyland on Easter Saturday, the cause of death was due to a heart attack. Ron and his wife were on holidays in the country town of Gulgong, NSW when he had the attack. I have

written to his wife to arrange a meeting with her.

I am presently packing and preparing for 3 weeks holiday at Forster on the North Coast. We plan to call in on Cliff Paff at Tuncurry which is only a short distance from where we will be staying. How are the raffle sales and I do hope that they have escalated, as time is running out.

Will write when I return from holidays.

Regards,

Mick Devlin

NARWEE

Enclosed cheque for two tickets in the raffle and a bit extra for the Courier. Again I must say how much pleasure I get from reading the Courier every time I receive it. My conscience sort of gets to me, one reads about the different do's that have been put on for the members. After you read the names of those who attend, you will notice they are always the same ones. I always wish I had gone but I never do. Take for instance the barbecue held at Jack Hartley's place, Merv Jones and his wife said they had a great day and saw quite a few of the NSW members. I'll wake up one day and take a bit more interest in the social side of things. It is years since I have seen anyone from the unit and it is my own fault.

Merv Jones and I were good friends when we were in the army and I remember once when Merv went out on patrol as healthy and happy as one could be in those days and they carried him back on a stretcher. He had picked up some wog and he lost a stone or more in weight. Yes, it would be great to see some of the boys again, maybe if I gave up some of my golf time it would give me some time to do something else. Work and golf is about all I do. I won't be able to play golf for quite a while as I go into hospital on 17th April for six weeks. I have arthritis in both knees and the doctor thinks he can give me some relief for the next 5 years. He will then fix me up with plastic joints.

I thank you all for all the pleasure you give me through the Courier

and hope the raffle sales pick up.

Regards,

Fred Janvrin

SWANSEA

Enclosed bank cheque for Courier funds. Sorry to have been so slow getting around to it. Eric has always suffered from writers cramp so now he is on an Invalid Pension guess he has an excuse.

Regards to all the members and wish we would get around to Association "Do's" but as Eric is Treasurer of Swansea R.S.L. he gets pretty tied up with duties relating to same.

Cheers for now,

Eric and Joyce Chapman

NORTHBRIDGE

Just a hurried few lines to get these tickets across to you before we miss out. Things are still moving quite smoothly over here, quoting on a fair bit of work and getting our share. The way the weather has been one is staggering home from work, watering the garden, have tea about 7.30 p.m. and bed about 8.30 p.m. Always have good intentions of writing but the old head starts to nod after tea.

Talking about weather you have certainly had a belly full this year and we over here shudder when we hear your weather report on T.V. as we generally get it a few days later.

Everyone of the unit seem to be O.K. and every now and again we seem to have a get together (with wives). We go to a different club and in general have a good time.

Sold the boat last September. Started to get a burden on one, every weekend working on it, now I go fishing every second Sunday without any worry. We actually catch some fish in amongst a fair bit of elbow bending. We fish about 12 miles out although every weekend has been bad weather since Christmas.

Our family are all okay daughter Kim was married last month, so Mark is the only one left.

Well I had better go and do a spot of work, regards to all the boys,

Bill Coker

CARDIFF

I am putting pen to paper as Les has a case of writers cramp. He has been going to write but with one thing and another has not got around to it.

I thought it would be nice to let the Double Red Diamond boys know, to beware, you are going to be invaded by the Eastern Block Buster. Yes, Les Isenhood is going west and taking his missus scruff of the neck with him. No really, one of our daughters and her hubby shifted over there last December and are living at Greenwood. Their address is as follows - Mr. & Mrs. P. Conside, 34 Corrigan Way, Greenwood 6024. We are coming to visit them starting on 12th April our 32nd Anniversary, until Gail and Philip have had enough of our company and of course we hope that is not too soon.

We will of course be there for Anzac Day and if possible I know Les would be proud to place a wreath in honour of his mates that passed on.

Looking forward to meeting the fellows I have heard of for so many years.

Yours,

Gloria Isenhood

ANZAC DAY, SYDNEY

Anzac Day in N.S.W. was well patronised, 19 members on parade plus our usual 3 stalwarts, and the following members attended, A. Luby, B. Coker, B. Bennett, P. Kenneally, A. Addison, J. Hartley, M. Mannix, J. English, R. Hilliard, J. Keenahan, R. Goodace, T. Field, S. Weir, M. Jones, H. Handicott, B. Went, B. Hoy, and a welcome visitor from Broken Hill, Lionel Newton, plus our special supporters Ken Glover, Ray Whitby and Greg English with yours truly Mick Devlin bringing up the rear. After the march most members elected to spend the re-union on the ferry for a harbour cruise, with the usual trimmings. This cruise is arranged by the Combined Commando Ass. with Don Latimer, Harry Brittain and President Arthur Littler and his hard working committee to the fore.

The 2/2nd members on the cruise

thought it appropriate and fitting that we bid Bon Voyage to Norah and Paddy Kenneally by way of a toast on their impending voyage to Ireland may I Paddy and Nora on behalf of all our state associations extend to you both, a wonderful trip and safe return, and may the little people ride with you.

Yours,

Mick Devlin

YAGOONA

I had not intended writing until after Anzac Day, as naturally news would have been more bountiful. I have some sad news unfortunately, it is the kind that is becoming much more prevalent as the years roll on. Kevin Curran passed away on 20th April. The Victoria branch will probably fill you in with the details. Kevin's passing will come as a great shock to all who knew him. I well remember him playing football on Subiaco Oval in 1948, when he won the Simpson Medal. His ability as a soldier needs no stressing his very presence inspired men with confidence and a desire to give of their best.

Mick Devlin told me of our other loss, in the person of Ron Hyland, he died suddenly at Easter. It was tragic for his wife, as the hospital staff told her that she could see him, (He had been having a cardiograph). He passed away just before she got to the bedside. We had not seen much of Ron for years, a position he intended to rectify, like all our good intentions he more than likely kept thinking next year, now it will be never. To his wife and son I extend my deepest sympathy at their sad loss.

Mick Devlin would like anybody knowing Ron's service record in the unit to contact him and give him any information. Mrs. Hyland knows little of his service in the army. This particular business I raised some years ago at one of our meetings in Sydney. Members should be advised to give particulars of their army service to their wives in writing, so that they will at least have some record when they contact Repat., Legacy, or R.S.L.

Talking about voyages Scotty, Norah and myself are off to Ireland

on the 27th April two days after Anzac Day. I have been advised to at least keep myself in one piece on Anzac Day. No falling off trucks, railway platforms or giving "Queers" a smack in the gob for trying to inveigle me to their flats, cabins or what have you. So on Anzac Day I am going to be the most careful bloke in Sydney and land in County Cork in one piece, so that my numerous cousins to the fourth degree, not to mention my six brother-in-laws, plus my father-in-law, all wanting to buy a drink for the man who took their fighting daughter off their hands, and allowed them to live in peace.

Seriously Scotty I wish you and all the boys in the West a great Anzac Day and a safe return to your homes and families. I hope to be in Adelaide for the Safari and Nora is looking forward to seeing you all again. I will drop you a line from Ireland or Scotland.

Good luck and God Bless You All,
Paddy Kenneally

VICTORIAN NEWS

ROSANNA

Hope this finds you well and I must say I am feeling a bit better now, so into the letter writing.

Enclosed is a cheque for tickets in the raffle as Ron wanted to be in it. I would like to see you all in Adelaide, so would you let me know the dates and where you are all staying. I would drive over for a few days. I am now back at work which I am glad to have, as it occupies my mind during the day and is really good company.

Will close now, kind regards to you both,

Carmel Eastick

MORNINGTON

I am enclosing a cheque for a further three tickets plus a few bob for kitty. As things stand at present we hope to make it to Perth in June sometime. We hope to go up the coast to Darwin, providing the health and cheque book will stand it.

Regard to all,

Max Davies

RINGWOOD

Herewith is some recognition of the Mayday screed. It seems that retirement and natural parsimony is finding us out - of lots of things. It was good to hear from Bunny who ? who was not only a first class headger but always a philosopher in the matter of sharing our boots with the rats who used to wear them at night. I doubt that it was he who claimed that the rats paid for the privilege by leaving their pieces of eight scattered around in liberal traces, but that was how it was. Sawks that's lots of coffee ago.

Nought to report except that I am throwing in a few extra pumpkins each year to be ready for when Tom Tierney and pumpkin Kevin lose so much on their horses that they'll join me in the dole queue and the soup kitchens.

Regards,

Ole Smash Hodgson

QUEENSLAND NEWS

MERMAID BEACH

Received your very welcome reply to my letter and I am both pleased and happy to hear that the 2/2nd Association is still going strong and I hope it will continue for a long time to come.

I remember you very well Scotty but I suppose you, like me, have changed quite a bit over the years, but time must go on and we age with it.

As regards Colonel Spence I only remember that his first name was Alex but if you can come up with a second name I might be able to locate him and get his address.

I lost contact with most of the people in the West many years ago as I have been here for 25 years. On my wife's insistance I wrote to my sister and found out that she had been in touch with the 2/2nd trying to locate me and forwarded the Associations address to me, so that is how I came to get in touch again.

I am working as a panel beater, a job which at least there is still a demand for. I had my own business a few years ago but lost it mainly

due to failure of insurance companies.

As regards the Adelaide Safari later in the year a lot will depend on what happens in the next few months as to whether my wife and I can get down there.

I saw mention in the Courier of a Double Diamond tie pin and lapel brooch and I would like you, if possible, to let me know if they are still available.

Enclosed is a donation for the Courier and Association.

Regards,

John Hanson

BRISBANE

We have made a booking at the Imperial Hotel, we sent a deposit but we are not sure if they received it as we have had no reply. We phoned through last week but the man that Edna spoke to did not seem to have any information. She asked him to ring us but he did not. If it is not too much trouble could you find out for me, did they receive the deposit.

I have the name and address of another member of the 2/2nd who was in Timof. I had not seen him for years but I know him quite well. I told him about the Safari and Address Book and he said he would be interested to hear from the Association. He was in C Platoon in Timor and left the unit at Canungra.

Happy Greenhalgh and his sister are going to Singapore for a holiday and in May we will be paying them a visit for two weeks.

Regards to all,

George Vandeleur

(Checked with Imperial Hotel and everything in order. Thanks for Wilbur's address. Editor).

MT. GRAVATT

I already have a ticket but I can't find it as yet, I will have to have a real look through out the house. Nothing of any consequence to report, I saw Sam Fulbrook a month ago, he was attending the Commando Association, whose meeting is held at a pub which I happened to be at. I have not seen much of anyone lately.

I went to Tassie for my holidays, two of my grand kids, my son and daughter are at Mt. Roland, not far from Merv Jones' son. It is beautiful country there. After the Safari I will go on to Perth. I have asked Mick Devlin to pass on to the S.A. committee the names of all persons going, as this stimulates interest but I suppose I should have written straight to S.A.

Regards to all,

Fred Otway.

TAIGUM

Please find enclosed M/O. I would like a double diamond pin and balance to go to Courier. We are enjoying unusual warm weather for this time of the year, have averaged 30c cel. this week, fortunately nights are getting cooler.

Thanks Scotty for inquiring about receipt of our deposit on accomodation in Perth.

Regards,

George Vandeleur

BRISBANE

Reference your note of the other day - yes, I own up to having carried the nickname of "Wilbur" through my time as one of Joe Burridge's boys in 8 Section "C" Platoon, although the proper handle is Bill. I thank you most sincerely for sending me the current issue of the Courier, and also the address book, and I'll still answer to Wilbur.

What memories the names in that book have brought back after 34 odd years - incidents and people I had not known I possessed or even thought about for so long!!! Putting faces to names is quite difficult after that period of time, but as I sat and read through them, memories came flooding back.

Joe Burridge - did he really work for the Bank of New South Wales (and marry the Tivoli show-girl) and used to insist that we censor his letters home because he was required to censor ours, and he believed it was only fair that this should be so. Gordon Rowley from just outside Manjimup - is he still called "Enessa Karou", because he was big like a buffalo? My friend Teddy Monk (10469) of Latham, who brought back

many memories but this one I like best, was the memory of an early morning visit to a clairvoyant who read our fortune in the crystal ball, and for me never got near the mark. Is that Arthur Smith the C. Platoon sergeant who lives at Falcon? My memory recalls he married a young lady schoolteacher from Northam in early 1943 and I was bestman at their wedding in the C. of E. Cathedral in Perth - and have a photograph to prove it!

Arch Campbell the champion footballer (was it East Perth or East Fremantle?) who seemed to have trouble with his shoulder at inopportune times; big Kevan Curran, also with claims to being a footballer of some ability, and am I imagining that he ran in the Stawell Gift in the late 30's or early 40's!? Other names, other incidents, Gerry Maley who was a symbol of achievement for us, Doc (M.L.) Wheately the Kangaroo shooter (not many of those in Cloverdale I'll wager!!) - Alf Martin, "Corp" of the sub-section of which I was and still am proud to have been an original member - Fred Napier - is he still telling the story of how he was drummed out of the Boy Scouts for an indiscretion!!! - or is my memory at fault and I have fitted an incident to the wrong man?

I am sad that some of the names are missing - Doc Dunkley, George Boyland (although I see Mrs. Boyland's address) - no doubt there are others that have passed on, touched us briefly in their passing and left us much better persons than we were before.

How I envy the participants of Poynton's Picnic - what a gathering that would undoubtedly be, maybe I will one day get there and again be able to put faces and names together - does my imagined description of Col Doig, Jerry Smails, "Sparky" Sparkman and many others fit the man or am I mixing names and faces.

I could go on, but one must finish somewhere. The only contact I have had for many, many years with the old unit has been George Vandeleur, and that only spasmodically of late, as he has retired and devotes most of his time to fishing and bowls

Please send me a couple of tickets in the raffle, and though I am not

able to make it to the Adelaide Safari this year, there will undoubtedly come a day when it can be arranged. Herewith the wherewithal for the tickets and a little over for the Courier as I really appreciate being included on the mailing list.

Would also like to join the Association so please let me know what is involved with joining fee, subscription etc, and I notice that lapel badges, tie bars and ties are available also - would certainly appreciate one each of those too in due course, and trust that the enclosed will cover the cost.

Yours most sincerely and with appreciation,

Wilbur (Bill) Wallis

BRISBANE

This is the first time either of us have written to the Unit since we last met in Sydney, but it isn't for the want of trying. My husband has the worst type of writing cramp in history, and as it hasn't improved, I have finally had to get on the job myself to forward money for the raffle, and also for the Courier. You will find a cheque for that purpose and I hope it will cover our debts.

We are both looking forward to the Adelaide Safari, and hope to meet up with a lot of friends from the West. Of course, we still have intentions of having a holiday over there, but up to date, have been unable to make it. However, the future is always there, and some day, some time, we will make it to Perth. Some of our friends just got there in time to welcome the cyclone, so we will hear all about that when we meet again. Queensland has been lucky so far this year, and we haven't had any of the bad ones in Brisbane.

We haven't seen any of the Queensland members of the group except when Fred was attending Repatriation out patients at Xmas, he met George Matherson, who was also attending.

I hope all of the members over there are in good health, and that you didn't suffer any loss from that cyclone I spoke about. Rain is still something that we are looking for

in a lot of Queensland, but the city has had its fair amount.

Fred sends his regards to all of the boys and said he would like to be with you on Anzac Day, and my best wishes to all.

Sincerely yours,

Fred & Phyllis Bryant

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN NEWS

FLINDERS PARK

We held another meeting last Thursday, 6th April and we are making progress. Trying to cost some of the events is a little difficult not knowing the number to cater for but we will overcome these small problems as time goes by. Ross Smith at Clare is handling the bus trip and he is lining up an excellent outing. A visit to a slate mine and winery with a barbecue lunch and refreshments as part of his programme. Bert Bache also has some good ideas in the way of souvenirs for members, will give you more of that at a later date.

In the matter of booking board for members we can also book caravan sites for those requiring them.

Enclosed cash for raffle ticket, I will write again next month after our meeting.

Yours,

Dud Tapper

MITCHAM

On the 2/2/78 I sent an application form and cheque for one ticket, but I have not received a ticket or acknowledge in return, has it gone astray in the mail. I am enclosing another form and cheque for one more ticket, as a holiday like this is just what I need! Along with so many others.

Thank you very much,

Betty Mackintosh
(Great to hear from you and I believe the Secretary has fixed everything up. Editor)

IMPRESSIONS OF ANZAC DAY

On Anzac Day Eve during the service at the War Veterans Home - a gallant old man 93 years, laying a wreath on behalf of the inmates of the Home - standing back and

raising his hand in a shaky salute - for one moment a young soldier at Gallipoli - strong, patriotic and daring - the high sweet voices of the children's choir at the same service - the words of a poem read by the clergyman giving the address.

At the Dawn Service, the War Memorial turned to silver by the brilliant moonlight - the flags hanging limply at half mast after the "Last Post" - the poignancy of the final note of the "Last Post" - the perfume of the flowers hanging heavily in the still, dawn air - the reverence of the crowd at the Service especially - perhaps unexpectedly - of the teenagers and children - the far off remembering looks in the eyes of the old, old men.

KALGOORLIE — HERE WE'VE BEEN

Part of our family - son David and his family - recently having been transferred to Kalgoorlie, we last week went up for a brief visit. (We know we should have gone before as they have been there since January, but could not face the heat) Of course, Perth very sneakily turned on a bit of a cool change the moment our backs were turned, while Kal. decided to warm up a little. We decided for once to leave the car at home and travelled on the "Prospector" and a very good trip is was too. We arrived late on Friday night and spent Saturday morning with the family and the little 'Grandies'. In the afternoon David drove us to Eric Thornander's and there was the usual grand re-union greetings. Ern and Scotty dashed over to see Jack Sheehan while I stayed and chatted cosily, and "cup of tea'd" with Eric's wife Molly. Molly is a fantastic person - she is frightfully good at handicrafts of many kinds - the results of which are sold mainly for the Red Cross although Molly is involved in many organisations. In fact when we arrived she was in the middle of icing a Mothers Day cake to be raffled on behalf of one of the kindergartens. Scotty was relieved to find out that Eric knew the whereabouts of Jackie Spencer. Since he had Jackie's Courier returned "Address Unknown" he has been trying to locate him and wouldn't you know it! - he has a

little camp about 15 miles north of Kal. where he indulges in a bit of alluvial prospecting. Scotty and Eric had a good visit with Jack Sheehan, and he is still the same and is in very good health, and keeps fit by being busy on the wood heap. Sunday we spent mainly with the kids, just contacting Tony Davidson and wife Agnes for a while in the afternoon and making arrangements for seeing them for dinner on the Tuesday. (Tony comes from the same town in Scotland as Jess Epps and Scotty). Tony did however drive us to the reservoir at the top of Mt. Charlotte, from where there is a breathtaking panoramic view of the whole Kalgoorlie township and surrounding countryside.

Early Monday morning Eric and Molly picked us up in their car and we drove out to visit Jackie Spencer. Well what a morning that was! Jackie has a small caravan and bush hut right in the middle of an old alluvial digging. This is his life and he loves it. Jackie is a warm and friendly person with a great sense of humour. His needs are few and simple and so he has few worries. He is free as the wind and he is doing exactly what he wants to do, and how many of us can say that? For companionship he has a dear little cat, a friendly lizard and all the birds and shy bush creatures as his friends. When Jack feels the need of human fellowship he visits his mates in Kal. but always returns gladly to his home. God be with you always, Jack, I thing maybe you've got the best of it. He was really delighted to see us, and in no time flat he had me pounding up ore in the "dolly pot" and then "panning" the resultant crushed stuff in a little dish. I've often seen pictures of prospectors doing this but didn't think I'd ever get to do it too. It's not as simple as it looks to wash away the waste ore, but Jackie said I wasn't doing too badly, (polite I think) and I finished up with what they called a "nice tail of gold". I was allowed to bring this home with me but now I've got to find it again as it is all mixed up with red dirt again. Right after I finish this, I'm going to put on my hat with corks around it and my bowyangs and go "pan" it some more! I just know I was born to be a

gold digger - oops - miner.

After a cuppa we reluctantly left Jackie and returned to Kal, pausing on the way to visit Hammond Park, where an up and coming Mr. Kaspar has built a replica of a very historical German Castle. This is a real tourist attraction and the castle is a faithful replica complete with jousting knights in armour, ladies peering from narrow windows etc. There is also a beautiful rustic bridge over natural lake where ducks and other water fowl abound. In the park a wild life sanctuary is home for many very tame kangaroos and emus. We happened along just at feeding time and gave these gentle creatures lots of bread, which they ate daintily, holding the pieces in their delicate front paws while a very snooty looking emu looked on and occasionally gobbled down a large piece. We were pretty hot by now so called at the "water hole" for refreshments then back to Molly's for a delicious lunch. When Eric found out I had never seen Kambalda he insisted on driving us there so we set off about 3.30 pm and I am very glad I went as Kambalda is quite a wonderful place. The town itself is in two completely separate parts, each complete in itself with facilities and shopping centres. Many of the pretty homes are, sadly, at the moment vacant, but everyone seems optimistic that the recession will soon be over and everything will be as busy as before when the nickel boom was on. It was fairly late when we returned and partook of dinner with this beaut couple - Eric and Molly - From first to last it was a great day and we do both thank you so much not only for your hospitality but for your warm friendship and companionship.

Tuesday we spent again mainly with daughter-in-law Loy and the children. I forgot to mention that David drove us on the Saturday morning to the High School where he teaches. I have obviously left teaching too soon! This new school is air conditioned, sound proofed and carpeted. What a life! Tuesday afternoon we arrived at Tony and Agnes home for dinner. Agnes who is a real sweetie works as a nursing sister at the St. John of God Hospital in the Geriatric Section. The fact that she

does not knock off till five, didn't prevent her from turning on a most delicious dinner - she is a really great cook and says she loves it. We really had a fun evening with Scotty and Tony getting pretty stinking and Agnes and I just moderately uplifted. We went back to the hotel where we had been staying by taxi because Tony did not think that he should drive. We had a wonderful time and to you Agnes and Tony - "thank you again for your warm and friendly welcome. It was great."

Wednesday we toured a bit around Kalgoorlie and visited some museums and in the afternoon said "farewell" to our family and left Kalgoorlie to her dreams of former glory and to her eternal red dust. Kal. will always be a living memorial to our fine pioneers - my mother and father among them, and even now the friendliness and camaraderie of those early days lingers on.

Elsie Wares

STOP PRESS: Advice received from Sydney that Geoff Laidlaw passed away on the 21st May, 1978. Further particulars next Courier.
Sympathy to the family.