



2/2 COMMANDO Courier

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WESTERN AUSTRALIAN COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT:	G. MacKenzie	68 Alfreda Ave., Morley 6062.
VICE PRESIDENT	J. Fowler	84 Brompton Road, Wembley Downs 6019.
SECRETARY:		
TREASURER:		
EDITOR:		
AUDITOR:	J. Burrige	88 Watkins Road, Claremont 6010.
WARDENS:	G. Fletcher	29 Kimbarra St., Nollamara 6061.
	R. Dhu	234 Nicholson Road, Subiaco 6008.
COMMITTEE:	H. Sproxtton	14 Holmesfield Cresc., Carine 6020.
	G. Fletcher	29 Kimbarra St., Nollamara 6061.
	J. Carey	13 Stoddart Way, Bateman 6153.
	R. MacDonald	13 Northgate St., Karrinyup 6018
	A. Blundy	108 Whitfield St., Bassendean 6054.
	D. Fullarton	13 Riverview Road, E. Vic. Park 6101.
	C. Varian	41 Nottingham St., E. Vic. Park 6101.
	D. Turton	12 Spey Road, Applecross 6153.
	L. Bagley	11 Lynmouth Road, Dianella 6062.
	D. Darrington	186 Stirling St., Perth 6000.

COMING EVENTS

ANZAC DAY 25th APRIL 1980

Afterwards at the Clarendon Hotel, Fitzgerald St., West Perth.

**Please read Tony Adam's letter re the 1981 Safari.
Please be prompt with your replies and don't forget to sign the
yellow form. If it is sent unsigned the Queensland Committee
will not know who it is from.**

They have already received one from W.A. with no signature but by the post-mark on the envelope I would say it is from Gordon Holmes.

**MAKE SURE YOU SIGN THE YELLOW FORM
AND SEND IT IMMEDIATELY.**

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ANZAC CLUB TUESDAY, 5th FEBRUARY 1980.

The President declared the meeting open at 8.05 p.m. and asked the members to face the Honour Roll and observe two minutes silence.

Present:

G. Maley, A. Wares, P. Hancock, L. Bagley, J. Carey, D. Darrington, J. Fowler, H. Sproxtion, R. McDonald, J. Burrige. The President welcomed Mr. Burrige along and said that he was most welcome although it was only a committee meeting and that any member was welcome at the time of any meeting.

Apologies: C. Varian.

Minutes:

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed on the motion of L. Bagley, seconded J. Carey.

Business:

Business arising from minutes; a discussion took place on the production of the Courier and a suggestion was put forward that all material collected be typed and ready for the

printer. This to take the form of a meeting one Sunday morning and a busy bee to prepare it. The venue to be at a different place each month. A busy bee also to meet and collate and wrap ready for posting on receipt from the printer.

Treasurer's Report:

Mr. Hancock submitted the financial statement as at 5 February 1980.

Balance Brought Forward	\$116.30
Courier Donations	\$115.00
TOTAL	\$231.30

Payments	Nil
BALANCE:	\$231.80

It was moved J. Fowler, seconded R. McDonald that the financial statement be received. Carried.

Correspondence:

It was moved J. Carey, seconded L. Bagley that correspondence be received. Carried.

VALE — CAROL BOWERS

It is with deep regret that I have to record the passing of Carol, wife of our esteemed member Tony Bowers. The end came as a complete shock to us all in the West. Carol had been watching T.V. on Saturday 16th Feb. when she suddenly collapsed and before the ambulance could get her to hospital, she had passed away.

The funeral service was held in St. Mary's Church, Kojonup, and there was a very good attendance of 2/2nd members and their wives. Those attending were as follows: Jim Smailes, A. Wares, A. Smith, Gerry MacKenzie, D. Hudson, Joe and Helen Poynton, Peter and Pat Campbell, Reg and Laurie Harrington, J. Fowler, C. Doig, J. Loudon, Jess Epps, Alf and Elsie Hillman, B. Langridge, Jean and Mick Morgan, C. Turner, J. Gallagher, T. Paull, Flo and Aussie Stone, Alma and Jim Fitzsimmons.

To Tony and the family we extend our sincere sympathy. May she rest in Eternal Peace.

General Business:

The President reported that he had contacted the Clarendon Hotel re the Anzac Day luncheon.

The President reported that the Poynton Picnic was a huge success and that the report would be published in the Courier. It was also moved that a letter of thanks be sent to Helen and Joe Poynton thanking them for allowing the function to be held at their residence. Carried.

Calcutt Trophy: Mr. Hancock suggested that as the Calcutt Trophy was no longer competed for, that the trophy be held by J. Carey as he had won it more times than any other member. Carried.

Proposed President: Mr. Maley suggested that Mr. G. McKenzie be approached to see if he would be willing to occupy the position.

Vice President: Mr. Fowler said that he would again accept and hoped to be able to attend more often next year providing that commitments allowed.

The meeting closed at 9.35 p.m.

**MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
2/2nd COMMANDO ASSOCIATION, W. A. BRANCH.
HELD AT ANZAC CLUB ON TUESDAY, MARCH 4th 1980.**

The President, Mr. G. Maley declared the meeting open and asked all present to stand, face the Honour Roll, and remember fallen comrades.

Present:

G. Maley, G. MacKenzie, J. Haire G. Fletcher, D. Fullarton, C. Varian, A. Wares, A. Blundy, J. Carey, C. Doig, J. Fowler, R. MacMahon, H. Sproxtion, R. MacDonald, D. Turton, L. Bagley, plus two visitors from the 2/3rd Company in B. Naylor and G. Mallet.

Apologies:

Were received from P. Hancock, C. Turner, R. Dhu, J. Burrige. It was moved C. Doig and seconded J. Fowler that apologies be accepted. Carried.

Minutes:

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, held on Tuesday March 6th 1979, were read and confirmed on motion of C. Varian, seconded R. MacDonald, and carried.

President's Report:

Was delivered by Mr. Maley which covered the years' activities of the Association.

Editor's Report:

Was given by A. Wares and he also reported on the state of the Address Book, which to his knowledge to the present time was up to date.

Treasurer's Report

Was presented by A. Wares in the absence of P. Hancock who was on the sick list.

King's Park Report

Was given by G. Fletcher.

It was moved by A. Blundy, seconded by C. Varian that all reports be received and adopted.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mr. Doig was appointed Returning Officer and he called for nominations for the various positions.

President: Mr. G. MacKenzie, elected unopposed.

Vice President: J. Fowler, elected unopposed.

Secretary: As there were no nominations and as Mr. Hancock submitted a letter to say that he did not wish to carry on, Mr. Maley accepted the position until the next meeting.

Editor: As there were no nominations it was decided to leave the matter until General Business.

Auditor: Mr. Burrige, elected unopposed.

Wardens: Mr. Fletcher and Mr. Dhu elected unopposed.

Committee: G. Fletcher, H. Sproxtion J. Carey, R. McDonald, A. Blundy, D. Fullarton, C. Varian, D. Turton, L. Bagley and D. Darrington.

Country Vice President,

Great Southern: It was moved C. Doig and seconded J. Haire that A. Hillman be appointed due to the passing last year of Ron Sprigg. Carried.

General Business:

A discussion took place re the position of Editor and the printing of the Courier. It was decided that members and their wives assemble at the home of a different member each month and type the material available prior to being sent to Swan Print. Various members spoke on the idea and thought that it would work but Mr. Wares said that he did not think so.

Mrs. Epps notified the president that she was willing to collate the Courier when it was received from the printer and have it ready for posting. The idea was passed by the members and thought it was worth a trial. Carried.

Mr. Doig moved a vote of thanks to G. Maley, A. Wares and P. Hancock.

Mr. Maley for the way in which he had conducted the business of the Association over the last two years.

Mr. Wares for his excellent work in producing the Courier since taking over from himself and the late Bill Epps.

Mr. Hancock for the excellent manner in which he had kept the financial affairs of the Association.

Mr. Naylor gave a resume of what the Victorian Combined Association were doing towards getting the same medical benefits from the Department of Veteran Affairs as received by P.o.Ws.

Mr. MacKenzie declared the meeting closed at 9.45 p.m.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

At the time of the presentation of this report to the members present at our Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 4th March 1980, it is my earnest hope that there will be a strong attendance, as this will, in my opinion, be one of the most important meetings of our Association ever held.

Firstly, when the meeting agenda progresses to the election of Office Bearers, you will be required to elect a new President, a new Secretary, and a new Treasurer. All the present occupiers of these positions have indicated for various reasons that they will be unavailable for re-election. There are many members capable of carrying out the duties that go with these positions, and to do even more now for the Association than has been accomplished in the past thirty-four years. We need capable and dedicated officers now more than ever before if we are to function in a manner of which we can all be proud.

Also a major subject for this meeting is the future of the Courier. Our Editor, Alex Wares, has advised that he will no longer be able to continue after the April edition. We are all aware of the paramount importance that must be attached to the production of the Courier, which not only binds us closely in our comradeship, advises us of all that is occurring that is our particular concern, but also enables contacts to be retained with the widows and families of those who are no longer with us. We have queried other States as to whether they could take over production of the Courier, with negative results, so we must find a solution to our problem tonight. To Scotty and Elsie Wares must go a vote of deep gratitude for all they have done.

Anzac Day was again well supported by 2/2nd members, 48 of whom marched, plus 2 visitors. Quite a satisfactory roll call. The march was followed by our usual get-together at the Clarendon Hotel. This was certainly a pleasant function, with particular thanks to Jack and Dellys Carey for the fantastic spread they provided. This proved a highlight of the day.

Our Annual Dinner was held on Saturday 3rd November, with 43 present, and I am sure no-one will object if I call it the 'Red Fox' night. The presence of Rolf (Baldy) Baldwin took the function out of the run of the mill events into the realms of the unforgettable.

The Commemoration Service at our King's Park Honour Avenue in honour of our absent comrades was the scene of a thought-provoking march of members who have remembered. Many comments and questions are received from the public who witness the Service and March, and it is good to know that many of our younger generation have not forgotten either. All who attended were kindly invited to a barbecue afterwards at the home of Jack and Dellys Carey, and those who were present spent a most pleasant few hours. The ladies in particular were engaged in conversation by the inimitable Baldy, much to their apparent delight.

We were very fortunate in having Charlie and Mary King invite us to a barbecue at their Bedforddale Hill home on Sunday 23rd September. Many family parties took advantage of a glorious day to go along and enjoy the conviviality and the beautiful panorama. Many thanks to the Kings for making possible this additional outing.

The Festive Season was celebrated at Anzac House on Tuesday 4th December by a representative gathering of members, wives and friends. Supper was provided by the ladies, and as is normal when members of the 2/2nd congregate, an extremely enjoyable evening resulted.

It is unnecessary for me to tell you what a wonderful experience the Poynton Picnic on Sunday, January 27th was for all fortunate enough to attend. Helen and Joe and all the unit boys and their wives living in Mandurah, plus many other friends, combined to make all welcome and to satisfy whatever demands of food and drink could possibly arise. Peter Campbell kindly supplied meat, and everything combined to make the day a memorable one. Our appreciation goes to everybody involved.

During this past year we have lost many esteemed friends whom we will miss even more with the passing of time. A number of our members have also been saddened by the passing of loved ones. We commiserate with all those who have suffered bereavement and trust that the comfort of comrades is some solace.

On several occasions we have, through the Courier, requested members to communicate with their Federal Parliamentary Representatives on a number of matters affecting our Timorese friends. To all those who have done so, we express our appreciation, but judging by the almost complete lack of feedback, the overall effort has been pathetic. The fact that the 2/2nd Independent Company existed and then became the 2/2nd Commando Squadron capable of holding its own in the severest of jungle fighting in New Guinea and New Britain can almost completely be attributed to the courage and assistance of the people of Portuguese Timor. The proud traditions that created the bond between comrades resulting in the

formation of this Association came not from where you fought, but with the Unit and the mates you fought with. This is what we all owe to the spirit of the Timorese. There have been many occasions when we have helped, as evidenced by our recent donation of \$1095.42 to the Red Cross Appeal for East Timorese relief. But there has never been the one hundred percent commitment that is owing by us. Let us in future all be conscious of our continuing responsibility in this area.

To Percy Hancock and Scotty Wares we owe deep gratitude for their past efforts. I have been greatly assisted by your Committee throughout the year, and to them and to those individual members whose advice and help I have sought and received, I say thank you most sincerely.

May the Association go forward in the future, and may all members find peace and enjoyment throughout the ensuing year.

GERRY MALEY
March, 1980.

TIMOR APPEAL

7th February 1980

Mr. Glen Dunstan,
Australian Red Cross Society,
W.A. Division,
357 Murray Street,
PERTH 6000.

Dear Glen,

Further to our recent telephone conversation, I now have pleasure in enclosing cheque for \$1095.42 to be specifically applied for the relief of the East Timorese people through the agency of the International Red Cross.

These funds were donated by the members of the 2/2nd Commando Association throughout Australia in an endeavour to assist our brave and generous friends who were so instrumental in keeping the 2/2nd Independent Company a fighting unit when it was so desperately needed during that period in 1942 when Australia was under the dire threat of enemy invasion.

As I assured you over the telephone, there are numerous members

of the Association who are prepared to assist physically in any way possible, and upon request, a list of these members will be provided.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,
P.G. MALEY, J.P.
President.

THE POYNTON PICNIC

It is true! It could only happen at this happy gathering. Mid morning Joe receives a phone call, "Am at the Silver Sands. How do I find your place?"

You wouldn't believe it — Pete and Elvina Krause had flown from Melbourne to participate in this so popular event. Naturally Joe said, "Stay put," and shot down to pick them up. That's just about what this happy day, and in fact our whole Association is all about. Needless to day, Pete and Elvina has a wow of a day, and it was a great thrill to all their old friends to meet them again.

The most tasty of food and crabs were provided throughout the day. If you weren't eating or drinking, you were talking. Joe and Helen went to no end of trouble to ensure nothing was lacking, and they were ably assisted by the local members and their wives, and other good friends.

Country faces welcomed included Terry Paull, Clarrie Turner, with Grace, Vince Swan, Ernie Hoffman (standing up pretty well after arriving a few days earlier), Don Turton (hardly a country boy these days), Jack Fowler (ditto), Don Hudson, Gordon Barnes, Peter Campbell (thanks for bringing up the sheep, Peter), Arthur Marshall (looking as young as ever), and Charlie King who only just qualifies as a bushie.

Of course most of them had their charming wives with them, Grace Turner got a particular mention as the longer she stayed, the better she looked, and the greater the cats were left to look after themselves.

Locals, near locals and local mates all with the better halves, were Roy Watson, Don Murray (great to see them after so many years in N.S.W.) Mick (Dutchy) Holland, Arthur Smith, Cyril Stonehouse, Jim Fitzsimmonds, Ossie Stone, Jack Jacobs Don Blechyndon, Jack Fowler (from over the road), and Jim (Tiger) Lyons Boy, what a gang — and what staying power!

Getting to the City Slickers we observed Laurie Tapper and wife, Gerry and Dot Maley, Gerry and Mary McKenzie, George Fletcher, Roddy Dhu, Ron Kirkwood, Len Dot and Gavin Bagley, Alan and Joy Chatfield, Mick and Jean Morgan, Dulcie Ryan, Nellie Mullins, Jack Delys Carey with young John, Jack and Richard 'Poynton with families', Doug and Edna Fullarton, plus Helen and Joe, one of the O'Brien clan (Helen's brother), Joe and Helen's two girls and son-in-law, Ping Anderson, and probably others whom I couldn't see because it got dark early.

Due to illness Col Doig and Joy Loudon and Percy Hancock were last minute scratchings, worse luck, and Scottie and Elsie Wares were stranded in Albany.

As we left our hosts insisted on presenting us with a parcel of crabs, great tucker, and what a stand-by in the event of a breakdown!

Again, thanks folks. A great day, but aren't they all? Have never known a more enjoyable setting, better grog, tastier food and lovelier hosts.

NEW SOUTH WALES NEWS

EPPING

Just a few hurried notes before I take off for a few weeks holiday. Attended the Association Barbecue at the home of Bill and June Bennett at Mona Vale last Sunday and while the weather was hot, we had members from all over the Sydney area present, from memory 30 in all. The big surprise, however, was the return to the fold of Frank (Curly) O'Neil, who most members had not seen for many years. He has prom-

ised to become a more active member in future years. Curly had his good wife Betty along and it was good to reminisce with her of early Anzac Day reunions at their home.

Another highlight of the day was the presentation of a Life Membership Badge to Mick Mannix by the President Bill Bennett. Mick has been a committee member for a number of years and has always been active in Association affairs. Congratulations Mick.

The roll-up for the day was as follows: Bill and Coral Coker, Joan Darge, Mick and Betty Devlin, Ron and Marge Goodacre, Jack Hartley, Merv. and Marge Jones, Paddy Kennealy, Don and Dulcie Latimer, Al and Edith Luby, Mick and Elva Mannic, Frank and Betty O'Neil, Ron and Dot Trengrove, Bob and Joyce (good to see Bob looking so well), John Luby and family, and of course our wonderful hosts Bill and June Bennett. I extend to Bill and June our sincere thanks for their hospitality.

Received a letter from Tony Adams regarding the 1981 Safari fund raising ventures; he has come up with some good ideas, which I hope members from all States will support.

Greetings to all, our best to Elsie, Jess and yourself, Mick and Betty Devlin.

BELLEVUE HILL

Well I guess this must be a record, seeing as this is the second letter I have written in 30 years.

Firstly, I would like to say how thankful I am to receive the Courier, as this helps me to keep up with the news of the members from all States, although the faces are fading the names are not, such as Ern Bingham, Don Hudson, Ralph Finklestein, Col Doig, Paddy Kennealy and many more.

As members sometimes don't realise that when you put numbers together like 88 of our passing friends, it indicates to us that we are getting older. Enough of this sad news.

To members of 1 Section I think I have a lead up on "Snowy" Perkins, if it proves right I'll let you know.

The year before last, 1978, I had a bit of trouble — they found I had a tumor on the kidney. So tumor and kidney came out, and last year, 1979, they found I had a tumor on the brain, so this also came out. Sorry Fellows — not my brain! At one stage after the operation I did visit St. Peter but he said, "Not this time", so I reckon I am pretty lucky.

I am still working for the Council as a Plant Supervisor — that is the Woollahra Council. I would like to

retire next year and start to enjoy life so who knows.

Well I must off now, so all the best to all members, wives and children of past members.

Regards, Les Collins.

P.s. Donation for Courier.

(It is certainly great to hear from you and hope it will not be too long before we hear again — Editor)

YAGOONA

The Christmas do at Bill Bennett's was one of the best we have had. A good roll-up, plenty bashing of the ear. I missed sending greetings, the tape recorder was not on when I spoke. When this was rectified I had passed the machine on and did not get around to getting it back. I will pass on my best wishes now to all members in all States, for a joyous Christmas, and may the coming year bring all and sundry health and happiness.

All at Wilkins Street are well. We will have the full complement at home base-towards the end of the week. School will have finished for the year, so Helen will be up from Nowra. Sean blew in from Alice Springs on Saturday morning, with all his swag and dog to boot. He is going to New Zealand for a six to eight week holiday and may head West after that, if he has any money left. He is pretty versatile now when it comes to work, so I expect if he returns broke it will not take him long to earn more. Gerald is also busy, spends more time working than is good for him. Hope he wakes up before his youth has slipped away. He is only 17 so there is hope for him yet. I will call it a day, Scotty, as the writing mood just is not with me tonight.

God bless, Paddy Kennealy.

SOUTH WEST ROCKS

Another Courier has arrived and been read and still I have not put pen to paper. I have no excuse today as I am having my car serviced at "Beautiful Port MacQuarie", Australia's first tourist resort — well that's what they advertise.

Saw Bob and Joyce Smith a couple of weeks ago, just for half an hour.

Bob was looking a lot better than the previous time we saw him. He was telling me of all the visitors (unit) he gets. We were very pleased to see Tony and Iris Adams as they were heading home. They had a cup of tea with us at the lighthouse. When they were leaving they asked us to have dinner with them at the R.S.L. in Kempsey, where we met Bill Walsh.

We had a visit from Jack and Norma Hasson while they were east.

It is with regret that we hear of our mates passing on. Our sympathy to their families.

We are having a very dry season in the Mid North Coast, could do with a steady 12" of rain to kill the bush fire hazard, but I guess the Christmas holiday-makers would not.

We will certainly have many places to see when we go West one day — One day! Hope to be with the boys in Sydney on Anzac Day.

Have enclosed a small amount for the Courier.

I will close now, regards to all,
Harry Handicott.

LINDFIELD

Due to continuing ill health and the necessity to be closer to more sophisticated hospital treatment, we have left the Blue Mountains and are now residing in Sydney.

Would you be kind enough to amend the mailing list from Bullaburra to 66 Bent Street, Lindfield, 2070.

Enclosed is a cheque as a contribution to the stamp box.

Kindest regards, R. Field.

SHORTLAND

Well old friends, I am so sorry it has taken me so long to get pen (typewriter) to paper, but I must confess I have had a bad case of the lazies for some time now and I find that I do not want to be bothered with anything (even my hobby of landscape painting has suffered) and am very lethargic about wanting to get cracking on anything at all. I think it must be a combination of the very warm, humid weather plus a carry over of the treatment and the

boredom of our life. For twelve months now (actually 18 months) all Joyce and I have seen are either the four walls of a hospital or of our home — and I can't wait for the day when I may be declared fit again — then we will be off like a shot. Anyhow, I am not doing too badly today. The following is a very exciting resume of the day's doings today (anything to fill a few lines as news is on the light side). Rose from bed and had breakfast, watched Willisie on current affairs, repaired my grandson's race-track, and in the process has a couple of "drags" (toy cars) with him, wrote a letter to Paddy Kenneally, had lunch, threw a bucket of water on a dog (next door neighbour's) who has been wrecking Joyce's gardens by finding sleeping positions in amongst the flowers and who has wrecked another one today, repaired by soldering a lead on Joyce's transistor, and here I am to the present writing you this very mind-boggling account of it all. Doesn't it make one reel with the sheer breathtaking activity. Anyhow, do forgive me for boring you with this muck, but I felt like being light-hearted for the moment.

My reason for writing with typewriter is not to copy you but one of the side-effects of the chemotherapy. My fingers become numb and feeling is non-existent in the tips of the fingers and therefore my writing suffers (could it possibly get any worse?) and it becomes difficult to manage the pen.

Since Joyce and I attended Bill and June's barbecue just prior to Xmas, we have had calls by phone from Bill Bennett, Alan Luby and a personal call-in yesterday by Jack Peattie from Tamworth, so we are kept in touch with most things, and this we appreciate very much. Just before we went to Sydney to hospital last week, Joyce rang Joan but was unable to contact her, and also rang in Sydney but again was not able to contact her. Joyce also rang the Luby's place but was out of luck with them also, but was able to make contact with Paddy and Nora Kenneally and have a good yarn with them.

Well, to bring you up to date — I went into hospital on 10th December for what was supposed to be a

review, but it was found that I was suffering from "Shingles", (I had been in severe pain for some time but thought it was just something to do with the old complaint) and that I wouldn't be able to undergo some of the tests, so they wiped them all. It was decided to give me a treatment and needles into the back near the spine to alleviate the pain from the "Shingles" — this was done and I was allowed to return home where, luckily, I had a pretty good period before having to return to hospital on 7th January. By the way, I was told by the doctor that many cancer patients get "Shingles" when being treated with Chemo-therapy as one's resistance is lowered to all viruses. I returned to hospital on the 7th and was there three days undergoing tests and was sent home to await the outcome of these tests. The panel of doctors were to meet in Sydney today and the results would

be sent to me and any instructions on further treatment, so at present I am keeping fingers crossed.

I had a letter from Bill Sharp in Melbourne a few days ago and he is out of hospital again and I am pleased as he had not had the best of health (mostly his nerves from what I can gather from his wife, Eileen), and could certainly do with a break from hospital. I was interested in the latest Courier that there are some chaps suffering from Diabetes who served in Timor. Is it wide-spread Scotty?

Well my dear friends, this must be all from me this time — I hope that I will not take so long to write next time. In the meantime, do take care of yourselves — we do hope that 1980 brings all that you desire and that continuing good health is yours.

Our sincere good wishes,
Bob Smith.

VICTORIAN NEWS

MORNINGTON

I have just completed Bash Adams questionnaire so thought I would drop a line while on the job to the West.

All going well we hope to get over to the West somewhere around next June with the idea of going up the coast to Darwin. Always provided petrol is still available then.

I am enclosing a cheque, Scotty, and would you please make me financial and put the balance to the Timor appeal.

Regards to all, Max Davies.

(Great to hear from you but check your cheque butt as you forgot to put the cheque in the envelope — Scotty)

EAST COBURG

John and I have just returned from our annual holidays and even though just back into the old routine for one day, as usual it's just like a dream. However, we must keep our heads down for another eleven months and there is nothing we can do about it.

Did not get around to the usual Christmas letter this year for which I apologise. Before going any further,

John and I would like to thank all who sent us greetings and letters. If we neglected anyone it was unintentional and wish all 2/2nd friends our heartfelt good wishes for 1980.

When one looks at the past month, it has not been a very happy start to our new decade and one can only hope that as time passes things will improve. I sincerely hope so but the way things are shaping at the moment, I'm not very optimistic. Here's hoping that I'm wrong.

The past month, although as I mentioned before was our annual holidays, it was rather hectic. Not that we complained as we have had daughter Ruth and husband Glyn over for a month from England. It was really delightful to see them — two years since Ruth's last visit, but they haven't changed in the least. Have bought a new house just outside Shrewsbury — very modern but both agree that it hasn't the character of their old home, but the modern conveniences make up for that as far as Ruth is concerned seeing that she is still working. Things are really expensive over there with beef being a real luxury and even fish, very cheap when they first went to England is now a luxury. Pork although

in short supply is comparatively cheap, as is poultry. As Ruth says, there is always the old fish fingers and they are far from starving. Naturally whilst with us, they ate meat, meat, meat and it was a delight to see them doing so. Petrol as you may be aware is very highly priced — approximately one pound twenty new pence per gallon (\$2.40 in Aussie currency), so the pleasant Sunday afternoon trip is a 'budget' item. However, Ruth loves it over there and is happy which is the main thing.

Sue and Eric who have been in London for approximately 18 months will be returning to Australia about 10 March after having a holiday beforehand. How long they will remain here is uncertain — all depends on Eric's newspaper. Twin son Craig is hopefully going over to England in June for a few months with Jane following later on in the year. At least this is their plan at the moment. What with the comings and goings of our brood, John and I have got to the stage where we just accept things. Good luck to the younger generation for taking the initiatives. If they do not do it whilst they are young, most of them will not do it later on in life. Only members of our family who seem to stay put is son Ian and wife, and our grandson. Had a family Christmas with them this year, with yours truly not having to even peel a potato. This was a tremendous break for us as we had American relatives over here on a trip the week before Christmas, John flat out trying to get his work up to date with the same as myself. Like most people I have to leave the desk 'clean' before I go on holidays — it's usually piled high on my return but at least I'm just that far ahead.

Thought that the enclosed newspaper clipping announcing Bernie Callinan's presidency of the Melbourne Cricket Club would be interesting to members.

I have not been in touch with Rolf Baldwin recently, must do so soon.

Harry Botteril's letter explained all that has been happening over here so will not elaborate on those events further. Do hope all are saving for the next Safari and that it will be a good roll-up. Till the next time, our warmest regards to one

and all with our very best wishes for your good health.

Cath and John Roberts.

P.s. See quite a lot of Pancho and Win Humphries — in fact they spent the Australia Day weekend with us. Nice and restful for us all.

SIR BERNARD CALLINAN NEW M.C.C. PRESIDENT

It's a little misleading to use the word "new" for the relationship between Sir Bernard Callinan and Melbourne Cricket Club.

Although he has been MCC president for only one week, the Callinan family connection with the club goes back nearly 80 years.

Sir Bernard's father, Joseph, was a member for about 55 years before his death in 1958.

Sir Bernard, 67 next Saturday, has been an MCC member since 1933.

He was appointed to the committee in 1966, became vice-president in 1978 and was elevated to the presidency following the death earlier this month of Hans Ebeling.

He is a Commander of the British Empire and holder of the Military Cross and the Distinguished Service Order.

Sir Bernard said the club was continuing towards a solution to its problems with the MCG and its football club.

He said the ground improvement program already had made the outfield "better than it has been for many years", and that the controversial wicket area had also been improved.

The wicket area has been scarified with the level raised to lessen the risk of water damage. A new strain of couch also is being tried to improve grass cover.

"One of our main aims is to continue to improve the playing facilities for the public, and we have spent several hundred thousands during the past five to ten years", Sir Bernard said.

On relations with the football club, Sir Bernard said: "We're anxious to settle what problems we have had, but there really hasn't been any quarrelling."

He was due to meet MFC chairman Wayne Reid today for the latest in a series of discussions.

“The talks have been reasonably harmonious and there has been no

antipathy as far as the cricket club is concerned”, he said.

(Reprinted from a Melbourne newspaper.)

QUEENSLAND NEWS

Thank you for your letter of 27th December and for enclosing the yellow slips in the last edition of the Courier.

To date we have had 24 replies from members and expect 25 men and 23 ladies to attend.

However, we are looking for replies from ALL members so we will have an idea of who IS likely to attend.

Would you please run a reminder on the front page of the Courier pointing out THIS IS URGENT as we cannot reserve accommodation unless we have a rough idea of numbers.

We should have requested members to indicate on the yellow slips the period they intend to stay.

Per medium of the Courier would you please ask those who have already replied to let us know and those who are still to send in the yellow slips to indicate on the bottom of the slip the expected length of their stay.

We formed a small sub-committee to report on accommodation and at our last meeting a couple of days ago we accepted their recommendation to book the Broadbeach International Hotel for all the Safari functions and accommodation. The hotel will need

to be booked by July so everybody needs to reply PROMPTLY. The urgency is because the Commonwealth Games Committee is having a dry run to test facilities in October 1981 and we want to have our bookings made well in advance.

To refresh members regarding Safari details:

DATES:

5 October to 19 October, 1981.

ACCOMMODATION:

Broadbeach International Hotel.

\$19.50 per person per day for bed and breakfast.

Tarrif is based on 2 persons sharing and is subject to increase by Safari date.

ITINERARY:

Will be adequate and suit all tastes. Detailed itinerary will be issued later plus travel details.

Would you please send all correspondence re Safari matters to:—

Angus MacLachlan,
37 Arrowsmith Street,
Camp Hill,
Queensland 4152.

who will be the Safari secretary.

With kindest regards to all,
Tony Adams.

CHANGE AND NEW ADDRESSES

F.W. STEPHENS,
104 Crouch Street North
MT. Gambier 5290.

R. FIELD,
66 Bent Street,
Lindfield 2070.

W. TOMASSETTI,
18 Claines Crescent,
Wentworth Falls 2782.

D. BAILEY,
c/o Norfolk Island P.O.
Norfolk Island 2899.

DONATIONS

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