

2/2 COMMANDO Courier

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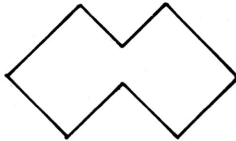
JANUARY, 1980

Price 1c

COMING EVENTS

POYNTON PICNIC

JANUARY 27th, 1980. SOCIAL EVENT OF THE YEAR
AS FAR AS THE ASSOCIATION IS CONCERNED.
BE THERE AND SWELL THE NUMBERS. BRING
YOUR OWN CHOPS AND STEAK. ALL SALADS AND
CRABS PROVIDED.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday,
4th March, 1980 at 8.00 p.m. at Anzac Club,
Sherwood Court, Perth.

Members please make a special effort to attend and
give the association the support that it deserves. The
Committee Members give a great deal of time and
effort to keep the Association going, so what about
attending and letting them see that you are interested.
Mark your 1980 Calendar with a circle as a reminder!
SO WHAT ABOUT IT?

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT ANZAC CLUB, TUESDAY, 6th NOVEMBER, 1979

The President declared the meeting open at 8.15 p.m. and asked all present to stand and face the Honour Roll.

PRESENT: G. Maley, A. Wares, A. Blundy, G. Fletcher, L. Bagley, R. McDonald, H. Sproxton, J. Fowler, P. Hancock.

APOLOGIES: J. Carey, C. Varian, D. Darrington.

Minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed on the motion of P. Hancock and seconded J. Fowler.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Receipts:

Balance brought forward	\$177.63
Transfer from T & C	\$250.00
Car Stickers	\$ 4.50
Badges	\$ 8.00
Reunion Dinner	\$228.00
Donations	\$312.00
TOTAL	\$980.13

Payments:

Photo Album	\$ 3.25
Funeral Notice	\$ 15.00
Kings Park Ins.	\$ 26.00
Courier	\$320.00
Reunion Dinner	\$351.29
TOTAL	\$715.79
BALANCE:	\$264.34

The report was received and accounts passed for payment on motion of J. Fowler and seconded H. Sproxton.

CORRESPONDENCE

Inwards: P. Drummond, R.S.L., R. McClean, D.J. Killen, M. Martin.

Outwards: Telegram, Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Correspondence was received on motion of L. Bagley and seconded A. Blundy.

REPORTS

The President reported on Annual Dinner and said it was very successful and asked Mr. Bagley to convey to the caterer our thanks for a very fine job.

The President reported on the Commemoration Service and said how he was pleased to see quite a fair gathering of members. He was also very happy to see the widow of our late member Kev. Waddington attend with her family.

The Barbecue at the home of Jack and Delys Carey was well attended and the President wished it to be recorded in the minutes our thanks for allowing us to hold the function at their home.

The President also wished it to be recorded our thanks to Rod Dhu for the arranging and carting of the chairs for Kings Park.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Moved J. Fowler, seconded H. Sproxton that an honorarium of \$50 be granted the President. Carried unanimously.

Enquire the cost of a group booking to Caversham by boat on a week day.

The Secretary reported that more attention be paid by members re visiting our members who are unfortunate enough to be hospitalized. It was decided that an article to this effect be published in the Courier.

There being no further business the President declared the meeting closed at 9.30 p.m. and thanked all those present for attending.

WEST AUSTRALIAN NEWS

PERTH

It is not easy to convey with simple written words a feeling of intense emotional comfort, but I am sure you will understand when I say that to see so many of Dave's mates from the 2/2nd turn up for his funeral helped so much to fill a vacant hollow feeling in the hearts of myself, my sisters, his wife and family. We all

experienced in a deeper sense the meaning of the words: "We will remember them".

But of course life must go on for better or for worse. I'm a little ashamed to admit I let it temporarily head in the wrong direction. That night I was on my own and I allowed memories of Dave become so big that soon there was no room left in my mind for cold logical common

sense. So I felt it was proper to hold a little personal WAKE. Something just between Dave and I.

Scotty, the last Courier I received was the June issue and you said the ones since have been returned so it must have been whilst I was in Hollywood for a fairly long spell. The Courier does a terrific job in keeping us in touch with one another. I would appreciate it if you could send the issues since then. I will enclose some money for the publication of the Courier, and keep me on the mailing list. The address is c/o POSTE ESTRANTE, G.P.O. PERTH.

Basher Adams, you are so right it is really great to hear from or about other blokes and their wives and families, which makes us such a close-knit unit. I guess we all have personal problems to worry us in varying degrees. Two thoughts come to mind when I start to feel depressed. One I think comes straight from somewhere in the Bible — Lucky is the man who meets his problems, to accept and deal with them strengthens him to cope with others coming his way; and always remember — if you feel or think you're coasting — you may be going downhill. These sayings aren't trite if you apply them positively to yourself.

Cheers for now — Jim Ritchie (Jim, have sent back-copies to the G.P.O address. If at any time you feel depressed, give me a ring and I will meet you — Scotty)

WATERMAN

May I add a small contribution to any funds which you may be preparing to send for the relief of the courageous Timorese. As I remember Sid's glowing reports of their kindness and bravery, I am sure he would do the same for them.

Greetings to all and cheers for now — Clare West.

The President wishes to thank the following for their donations towards the publication of the Courier: D. Stevens, D. Boyland, J. Epps, J. Ritchie.

Now that the International Red Cross has been given permission to enter Portuguese Timor, a number of our members are starting to send donations through the Association and the President wishes to thank them: Clare West, J. Haire.

The December meeting was held on Tuesday 4th, and instead of the usual Committee meeting took the form of a mixed get-together and an opportunity of having Christmas drinks. Twenty in all gathered and the President in a short address wished everyone all the best for Christmas and also wished everyone a healthy and a prosperous New Year.

A delightful supper was supplied by the ladies who attended and a very enjoyable evening was had by all and gave everyone the opportunity of wandering around and having a good chat.

Those present were, Ivy Ritchie, Jess Epps, Dot Boyland, Dot and Gerry Maley, Delys and Jack Carey, Thelma and Harry Sproxtton, Mary and Charlie King, Elsie and Scotty Wares, Dot and Len Bagley, Percy Hancock, Alf Blundy and friend Jean Black, George Fletcher, Ron Kirkwood, Dick Darrington and Rod Dhu.

A SPECIAL REQUEST FROM THE EDITOR

Quite a number of our members who were on Timor are now suffering from Diabetes and to assist the widows of our late members who suffered with the ailment, it would be greatly appreciated if anyone knows of any member who now suffers. Please submit the names to the Editor.

The reason the Editor would like to have the information is that one of our late members suffered with it and Perth Legacy have taken up the case with the Veteran Affairs on behalf of the widow, and are trying to get a War Widows pension for her.

So this information is vital as the more names we can submit, and should the appeal be successful it would be of great benefit to others at a later date.

Now I again ask anyone who can supply names please do not hesitate to submit them. Treat the matter as urgent and do not delay. Send your replies to Box T1646, G.P.O. Perth.

NEW SOUTH WALES NEWS

DEE WHY

(These are extracts taken from a letter from Alan Luby)

We paid a visit to Beaky Smith on our trip North and he was much better than the last time we saw him. He is still concerned with the need for, and the effects of the Chemotherapy treatment. Bob and Joyce made us really welcome and were very pleased that we paid them a visit. We also called on Bunny Anderson and wife Jean and you never saw a more surprised bloke in your life. They both have been having a bad trot physically over the last few years.

Back to Dee Why to repack our bags for further travel and to attend a combined Commando meeting and Melbourne Cup sweep draw. The first name out was L. Bagley and the horse Dulcify. That was the only 2/2nd name to come out.

In anticipation of our planned weekend at Young we took off with Ede's mother, 89 years young, to stay a few days with elder brother Bill at Junee. From there we skipped across to Griffith to see the Martin and Hodge with their respective joys, and were briskly entertained at home, club and wineries — what a combination.

On the way to Young we tried to contact Skeeter Baguall but apparently he left the area years ago. The weekend with the Craigs was wonderful but I suppose Betty will write to you and give you the full story.

Whilst in Brisbane we made contact with Angus MacLachlan, Tony Adams and visited Eddie Rowe in hospital. We also saw Ralph Conley but missed seeing Fred Bryant. We also saw Gus Blanch and Col Knight.

We had discussion about the 1981 Safari and their tentative program. They make the point that it is only an early draft for consideration and expect to knock off some rough edges before reaching finality.

Regards and best wishes,
— Alan Luby.

(Pleased to know that you spent some time with old mates on your travels and also took time to visit the sick. Members in hospital are always

pleased to see old mates call on them if only for a few minutes — Editor)

YOUNG

In June Keith and I again flew to Sydney for the weekend of 11th, and as a surprise to Keith, we had arranged for those we could get in touch with in a hurry from the 2/2nd to come for a meal with us at the Zebra. Phillip and Lorraine and the children came in and stayed, and Jannette flew down from Townsville just for three days. It was our 30th Wedding Anniversary and we all had a wonderful time together, and from the group trying to arrange where they were going for the progressive dinner which was to be held shortly after. Those there decided to come to Young for a weekend. We thought it a great idea.

In September we had Lorraine and the children for school holidays, and Lorraine's Mum and Dad came from Melbourne with their caravan and stayed here also, and then they all left for Sydney and had about 10 days with Lorraine. It was good for them all to be together, and we all had a great time as we were able to take in the Young Show, and although it was pretty damp, we enjoyed it all. We went early in the morning, and were home for a late lunch. Keith didn't feel like going, so he stayed home and kept the fire going and cooked us a nice hot lunch, which was greatly appreciated.

We have been holding dancing lessons, most Monday nights, and nearly every fortnight were going somewhere to dance. We travel about forty miles on an average, although we do have a few at Young. You certainly meet some nice people and although you can't always remember their names you always have someone to talk to.

One night we went to a little place called Caragabel, not too far from West Wyalong. It was a Friday night and we stayed at the little old pub. The hospitality was great and we enjoyed it all, but of course with little old pubs the toilets were down the back paddock, fifty yards to the left for the Gents and fifty yards to the right for the Ladies. The frost that night had to be seen to be believed, and of course nature called during

the night, and every board squeaked and the doors either squeaked or stuck fast and had to be given a good pull. We laugh about it now, but at the time it wasn't really funny.

We left next morning for Griffith and called on Alf Hodge and his wife and had a lovely afternoon with them and then went on to Yanco to stay with some dancing friends, and we went into Narranderra that night for an Old Time Social, and had another great night. I had Monday off, so we stayed until about 10.00 a.m. and then left and drove to Wagga to see and uncle of Keith's and home. It was a lovely weekend, and really relaxing, although we drove a good few miles, we had a good look around at places along the way and we have never been on those roads before.

One of the highlights of the year was the Young Mini-Safari. Held at the end of October. Booked the folks into the Cherry Blossom Motel, and they came to us for meals. The arrivals commenced about 4.00 p.m. on Friday (the day I started holidays) and we had dinner that evening in dribs and drabs, from about 6.30 to 10.00 p.m. when the last group for the evening arrived. Ron and Dorothy Trengrove and Margory and Merv Jones walked for miles to try and find our place, and finished up back at the Motel, and drove the car two blocks up the hill. However I am sure the walk was good for them after the travelling.

Saturday morning some of the folk had a look around Young, and found that it was much bigger and much prettier than they thought it would be. Then from about 11.00 a.m. we had the usual cuppa, and then a barbecue lunch. The talk that went on and the fun everyone had being together of course had to be seen to be appreciated. We had a few drives around the town in the afternoon, and then a rest before we all dressed in our best and went to the Services Club for dinner at 7.30 p.m. Then back to Craigs for another cuppa. Sunday followed the same pattern and most of the folk left after lunch Sunday for the trip home. Allan and Edie Luby didn't leave until about 4.30 as they were only going to Junee, and Joan Darge stayed an extra day and flew home Monday evening late.

It was a wonderful weekend and

something that I will remember for many a long day. I have sent a couple of snaps to the folk who were there, and hope they like it too. Present were: Bill and June Bennett, Allan and Ede Luby, Ron and Dorothy Trengrove, Mervyn and Margory Jones, Ron and Marjory Goodacre, Jim and Joan Fenwick, Frank and Kath Press, Bill and Coral Coker, Ted Cholerton, Jim Dent and Joan Darge. Joan did a sterling job in Sydney getting in touch with so many so that Keith and I could make arrangements for food etc. and of course bookings at the Motel. Snow Went, the Dixons and the Devlins were unable to come from Sydney and Alf and Joyce Holdge and Roy and Joyce Martin from Griffith. So although we couldn't contact everyone we did have a pretty good representation and I hope that they all enjoyed it as much as we did. As usual the food was good, and they all said that I had ruined their diets, and they would have to starve for a week or so to get over it, but it was certainly worth it all. The general idea is that in the autumn we hope to go to Orange for a get-together, so we are all looking forward to that. Over the last couple of weeks I have been sending cases of cherries here, there and everywhere, and I hope they have all enjoyed them too. I have stewed quite a few and put them in the deep freeze, and they keep very well.

Keith and I didn't do too much when I was on holidays. We went to Goulburn to see my sister for a few days, and had a nice rest. We drove to Mittagong for one day to see some friends, and then we went to Wagga where I had to see a foot specialist, as I have had a very bad foot for about three months. The outcome is that I will enter hospital at Wagga first weekend in February, to have an operation on my feet, and although the left one is not too bad at the moment, they will do both of them together. I will be there for a fortnight and at home for a fortnight, and will be hobbling for a while, but I do hope that it will give me relief from the continual pain in the right foot. The only way I can describe it is the way the specialist told me, as it is like a cobble. The bones have sort of joined together in the ball of the foot, causing them to go stiff, and he will cut the base of the toes and pull them back somehow. I don't know much

about it, but I have seen a few folks who have had more or less the same thing done, and they have been very pleased, so I can't see why I won't be too. From there we came home for a few days, and then went up to see Keith's uncle and aunt, who had just celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary, and then went down to spend a couple of nights with Ted and Di Cholerton, and Julie and Pat. We had a lovely few days there and then came home and stayed at home, which was really good.

This year we will have a quiet Christmas, as Jannette and Stan will be staying in Townsville, and Phillip in Sydney as Lorraine's brother and his wife and two children are coming down to stay, so that will be good for them. My sister was going to come up and stay but she is now going to Adelaide to our sister there, as they are going overseas in May next year and they want to get all the bits

sorted out. We hope that we will have a nice quiet rest. This weekend we are going to an Old Time Dance at Yass. Going with friends and we will stay for the weekend, which makes it easier. It is only 56 miles, but far enough to drive home. It will be good to be with them all for a few days and a Christmas get-together.

We do hope that everyone is well, as we all are, and best of all so are all the family. Healthwise it has been a pretty good year, and Keith has improved so much in health since he retired in May that it is good to see. He is really enjoying his retirement and finds plenty to keep him busy, with the garden and bits and pieces. He is planning to paint the house inside and out, but has been advised to leave it until autumn when the paint sets better. Hope the advice is good. All best wishes from us both,
—Keith and Betty Craig

VICTORIAN NEWS

HIGHETT

The Annual get-together and meeting was held at the National Science Centre, Parkville on the 8th November, 1979. Mainly billed as the Christmas get-together in the hope of enticing more members along. Unknown to me I was the recipient of a Life Membership.

We had a very good roll up and the following were present: John and Shirley Southwell, Harry and Olive Botterhill, David and Thais Brown, John and Kath Roberts, George and Dot Robinson, George and Wyn Humphreys, Jack and Julie Fox, Alec and Beryl Boast, Norm and Fran Tillet, Ken and Margaret Monk Bruce and Lorraine McLaren, George and Dot Veitch, Wilma Tobin Jack Renehan, Ma Smith, Leith Cooper, Paul Costello. Apologies were received from Peter Piper, Gladys Curran, Bill and Eileen Sharp Bernie and Naomi Callinan, Sep and Monica Wilson, Arch Claney, Max Davies and Stan Whitford.

We sat down to a lovely dinner organised by Kath Roberts, in one of the rooms of the centre. I was during the dinner that John Southwell presented me with a Life Membership Tie Pin. As mentioned I had no idea at all and it came as a pleasant surprise and I am very proud to

receive this honour. I have always enjoyed my association with the unit and the Victoria Branch and it has been a pleasure to work with the other members over the years. Olive was also presented with a sheaf of flowers which was a lovely gesture and very much appreciated by her.

Then John Southwell sprung the Annual General Meeting on them and called for nominations for office bearers, in the hope that we might get some new blood - but the sitting office bearers were nominated as there were no others they were elected.

President — John Southwell
Secretary — Harry Botterill
Treasurer — Bruce McLaren.

John Southwell spoke of a proposed Safari to Queensland in 1981 and recommended to all present to give this a great deal of thought and to try and make it.

Kath Roberts was thanked for organising the dinner we had and everyone heartily agreed. We had a discussion on what our next function would be and Margaret and Ken Monk suggested a barbecue at their farm at Poo Wong, and it was decided to hold it on March 9th 1980.

Ken Monk gave a talk on his and Margaret's overseas trip early in the year and it was very interesting and

he did a very good job with Margaret's help now and again.

This ended a very enjoyable evening especially for yours truly Harry Botterill.

I take this opportunity of wishing everybody and very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. Regards
—Harry Botterill.

KEW

A few days ago I had a phone call from the Assistant Secretary of the Red Cross, to say that the International Red Cross had at last got permission to take supplies into Timor. Only the Red Cross had been authorised by the Indonesian Government and they were now

wanting as much support as they can get.

The Red Cross were anxious not to confuse the Kampuchea and the Timor appeals, so if there were any contributions that should be earmarked for Timor this should be clearly stated.

You might like to raise the matter with the W.A. Red Cross.

The national headquarters are:
Red Cross Society,
206 Clarendon Street,
East Melbourne,
Victoria 3002.

You have been looking after Baldy Well indeed. With all good wishes,
—Bernard Callinan.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN NEWS

PT. LINCOLN

About time I made the effort to get a few lines off the the Courier, as I get older the ability to do things on time seems to diminish.

Can report a good season for the farmer this year in this area, would have been better except for over six inches of rain in September which really made things wet, and nearly three inches in one day just as we were going to start carting the hay.

Took a week off and had a trip up to Litch's in the mustering camp, have been promising my youngest one the trip for ages and have finally got around to it. Had a good trip but found that I could not take it like I used to. It was good to sit down and have a yarn with Litch again, although the work seemed to interrupt a bit now and then. He has his lads on the place and it was a treat to see how they can handle cattle. It is a good year for him and the prices are good also, quite a change from the droughts and low prices.

Keith Dignum called a little while ago and he needs to learn the meaning of patience. Milton was only a few hundred yards away in the paddock and was heading for the house, but Dig drove off and we (Marg and I) arrived home thirty seconds after Dig drove out. Sorry I missed you Dig, better luck next time.

At this stage we are planning to go to the Reunion in 1981 and are looking forward to it. To all those

members who have not yet experienced the atmosphere and fellowship of our Unit Diners I urge you to try and make the effort to be in it. It is regrettable but inevitable that our numbers are dwindling and each reunion sees more names on the list of deceased members.

Unfortunately Marg has had a run of ill health since June and has not been at all well, but I am pleased to report she is now much better and the household is getting on an even keel again.

Have just completed reading "Independant Company", loaned to me by Phil Wynne, I did not get a copy myself. I wonder if there would be enough interest to get another print run off?

I see Phill a bit, he was 2/4th and was in the rear party that eventually came off in the submarine. He later joined Z force and was dropped back on Timor with Blossom Lawrence, so he knows a bit about the campaign. He would like to be on the Courier mailing list. His address is:
P.W. Wynne, Flinders Highway,
Pt. Lincoln 5607.

He is the editor of the local paper.

Congratulations and thank you to all the members who keep the Courier going. Find enclosed a cheque to help cover costs. Keep up the good work.

Christmas and New Year Greetings to all members from the Stevens home. Regards to all — Shorty Stevens.

QUEENSLAND NEWS

RAINWORTH

We had a discussion about your letter of 9th August and can clear up the points raised under your numbered paras:

1. Quote \$18.50 is for 1 person only. We can arrange for bed and breakfast only and will negotiate for a package deal when we can get an indication of likely numbers.
2. We can negotiate for concessions with T.A.A. but again we will need to know likely numbers attending and from where.
3. We have written to Dud Tapper to find out the amount they used to subsidise functions, dinners, outings, etc. in Adelaide.

We have also written to Mick Devlin. We have in mind running a raffle to raise the required amount and will let you know more about it in due course.

4. We were not quite sure about your comment: "for those who like scenery". Was it generally thought that we were planning too many bus tours?

These were just suggestions and we will prune and alter them nearer the time but it gives us an idea of the scope available. For instance the Canungra trip would probably be organised by the Army as the C.O. is a personal friend. It would be a day filled with memories for most.

It is emphasised we need members to indicate their intentions as to whether they are to attend the Safari. This would of course be without commitment on their part. Without this indication we cannot approach people re costs of accomodations, functions, bus hiring etc.

Would it be possible to enclsoe a separate slip in the Courier asking members to indicate their intentions by simply answering:
I will be attending with
I will not be attending.
I hope to attend with

Trust all is well with you, regards to all — Tony Adams.