



# 2/2 COMMANDO COURIER

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— Category "A"

Address all Association correspondence to: Box T1646, G.P.O. Perth 6001

Vol. 30

OCTOBER, 1980

Price 1c

## COMING EVENTS

19th OCTOBER, 1980

BARBECUE LUNCHEON

AT THE HOME OF CHARLES & MARY KING,  
489 ALBANY HIGHWAY, BEDFORDALE.

Entrance to the house is on the left, and first house past the Nursery. There will be a Double Red Diamond placed at the entrance. Make it a day and as the one last year was tremendous, let this one be the same.

Meat will be supplied, but bring your own salads.

## ANNUAL DINNER

The Annual Dinner will be held at the Anzac Club, Sherwood Court, Perth, on Saturday 8th November, 1980, at 6.00 p.m.

It would be greatly appreciated if all members make a special effort to attend and meet up with your old army mates.

**Mark your calendar and make sure you get there.**

## COMMEMORATION SERVICE

The Commemoration Service will be held on Sunday 9th November at Lovekin Drive, Kings Park at 3.00 p.m. Everyone try and make this service and let us remember our departed mates.

## MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING ,HELD AT ANZAC CLUB ON TUESDAY 5th AUGUST 1980

The President declared the meeting open at 8.00 p.m. and asked all present to stand and face the Honour Roll in respect to fallen comrades.

PRESENT: G. Mackenzie, G. Maley, H. Sproxton, C. Varian, R. MacDonald, D. Turton, L. Bagley, D. Darrington, G. Fletcher, J. Carey, A. Wares.

APOLOGIES: J. Fowler, D. Fullerton.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed on motion of G. Maley, seconded R. MacDonald Carried.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Maley submitted state of finances as at 5/8/80. L. Bagley moved and G. Fletcher seconded that the report be accepted and accounts as stated passed for payment. Carried.

### CORRESPONDENCE

INWARDS: Minister Foreign Affairs; Queensland Safari; South Australia Branch; H. Botterill, A.D. Stevenson; R. Dook; Sir B. Callinan. Moved C. Varian and seconded L. Bagley that correspondence be received. Carried.

### GENERAL BUSINESS

#### TIMOR REPORT:

J. Carey moved and D. Turton seconded that a letter of thanks be sent to the Foreign Affairs Minister thanking him for a copy of Mr. Critchely's report and asking him if it would be at all possible for any of our

members and the Australian public to now visit East Timor. Carried.

#### KINGS PARK:

Mr. Fletcher reported that Mr. Dhu and himself were now watering the area again. Mr. Fletcher said that there were pegs placed down the centre of our area and would it be possible to find out what they were for as in the near future we would have to replace the piping for reticulation,

A/Secretary said he would contact the Kings Park Superintendent and find out.

Mr. Bagley reported on a query from Mrs. Chatfield re a contribution towards the Courier and also could an address book be sent to her. Mr. Maely checked his books and apologies for the omission in the Courier list. It would be rectified in the next Courier,

The President reported that nothing further had been done re the printing of the Courier and asked Mr. Carey and Mr. Maley to meet him at the close of this meeting for discussion.

#### SAFARI RAFFLE

It was moved C. Varian, seconded L. Bagley that the Queensland Branch send 50 books of tickets for the raffle and that every endeavour be made to sell them. Carried.

There being no further business the President declared the meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.

## MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT ANZAC CLUB TUESDAY 2nd SEPTEMBER 1980

The President declared the meeting open at 8.00 p.m. and asked all present to stand and face the Honour Roll in remembrance of departed comrades and also the late Bill Bennett.

PRESENT: G. MacKenzie, G. Maley, A. Wares, A. Blundy, J. Carey, H. Sproxton, J. Fowler, D. Turton, L. Bagley, G. Fletcher.

APOLOGIES: C. Varian, R. MacDonald.

Minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed on motion of J. Fowler, seconded J. Carey. Carried.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Maley submitted the state of the finances as at 2/9/80. D. Turton moved and J. Carey seconded that the report be received. Carried.

### CORRESPONDENCE

INWARDS: Minister Foreign Affairs, G. Vandeleur, Vic. Commando Association, Minister Defence, H. Poynton, Bill Sharp, Leith Cooper. Moved H. Sproxton seconded J. Fowler that correspondence be received. Carried.

### GENERAL BUSINESS

The Annual Dinner date was dis-

cussed and on the motion of J. Fowler, seconded J. Carey the date set was 8 November 1980. Carried.

#### COMMEMORATION SERVICE

It was moved G. Fletcher and seconded J. Fowler that Sunday 9 November 1980 be the date for the service in Kings Park at 3.00 p.m. Mr. Fletcher to arrange the flag poles, Mr. Dhu to arrange chairs and the A/Secretary the flags. Carried.

The venue for a barbecue afterwards was left in abeyance.

#### CHRISTMAS FUNCTION

The Christmas party was arranged to be held on the regular meeting night on Tuesday 2nd December,

1980 in lieu of committee meeting. Carried.

#### TURTON PICNIC

The time for the picnic was set at 10.30 a.m. Mr. Turton will have a sign erected on the roadway and also at the entrance to his property.

#### HOSPITAL VISITING

In order that members can be visited whilst in hospital it would be greatly appreciated that the President or A/Secretary be advised by ringing 275 1021 or 276 4304.

There being no further business the President declared the meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.

## WEST AUSTRALIAN NEWS

### WONGAN HILLS

I am enclosing cheque towards the publication of the Courier. There is very little news from this part of the world. Stan and Blanche are on a tour of parts of America and Canada. It should be a good trip. I saw Fred Napier a couple of months ago, he looked pretty well but a bit unsteady on his feet.

This year we had about the same rainfall as last year and crops and feed are not too bad but will need more follow-up rain to finish things off.

Regards to everyone,  
Charlie Sadler.

(Hope that you are still improving after your recent hospitalisation — Editor)

### MANDURAH

We recently heard from Neil and Margaret Hooper and they are most disappointed as they have not received any Couriers since they were in the West in October 1979. Would you please arrange mailing to their new address.

I am in my usual haste but I promised Neil that I would get on to you about it. Looking forward to seeing you all at the Kings Park barbecue.

Regards to all,  
Helen Poynton.

(The last address Neil supplied was the hotel at Inglewood and no Couriers have been returned from there. Had I received the change of address I would certainly have altered the addressing machine — Editor)

### ALBANY

I originally bought this place as No. 16 but found on taking over that lot numbers had changed to street numbers and everyone had done a shuffle around and I was now No. 6.

WE have settled in now and have little time to look around. Most time has been spent in the garden, there was practically none, so I have been flat out digging out lawn to make way for three trailer loads of plants we brought down. The first thing had to be a shade house for more delicate plants.

Took time out to look up Keith McEachern, one of my original section, his present address is 34B Priess Street. I had to track him down from his old address half a mile away.

Played off a bowls final last weekend against a nephew of Rod Dhu, and my younger stepson found he had been playing with the son of Georgie Smith of Denmark.

Enclosed a bit towards the Courier Best of everything to all,

Alf Hillman

## NEW SOUTH WALES NEWS

The Annual General Meeting was held at the Arncliffe R.S.L. on Monday 1st September and the following Office Bearers were elected:

### ELECTION OF OFFICERS 1980/81

President  
Mr. A.K. Addison  
Senior Vice President  
Mr. L.E. Coker  
Vice President  
Mr. S.V. Mannix  
Junior Vice President  
Mr. A. Luby  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Mr. J.F. Hartley  
Assistant Secretary  
Mr. R. Hilliard  
General Committee  
Messrs. A. Devlin, S. Dowman,  
J.P. Kennealy.  
Auditor  
Mr. L.E. Coker  
Returning Officer ' to be elected  
December General Meeting.

Would all members take notice of the new Secretary/Treasurer and direct all mail to his home address:  
62 PALMERSTON ROAD,  
FAIRFIELD, N.S.W. 2165.

### NORTH SYDNEY

Many thanks for continuing to send me the Courier, and I have pleasure in enclosing a cheque towards its publication.

Next time you see Archie Campbell please congratulate him on the tremendous job he has done for the Crossing family.

Best wishes,  
A. Stevenson.

### SHORTLAND

Since I last wrote I have had a few more visits from Alan and Edith Luby. Their son is now living and working in Newcastle. We will most likely see quite a bit more of them now as their visits will be more regular. Alan keeps me abreast of all the 2/2nd news ans so I am now closer to the 2/2nd activities than I have ever been.

Jack and Marge Peattie called in on their way from Sydney to Tam-

worth and we spent some pleasant hours together. They returned to their holiday home in Nelsons Bay a few days later and Joyce and I went down and spent a day with them and had a barbecue lunch and a good old chat.

A few weeks later I had another pleasant surprise when Norm and Sheila Parker called on us. I had not seen Norm since 1943 and it was great to continue our friendship. They were holidaying in Nelsons Bay and Joyce and I returned down and had another pleasant day's get together and lunch. Norm and Sheila's son is now also working in Newcastle and we hope that we will be seeing more of them on their visits. Ron Tregrove's son is now in Newcastle and Ron says that he will be calling on us when he visits him.

It is sad to learn of more of our members passing on; "Smash" Hodgson, Carol Bowers. Smash was a wonderful chap and I was privileged to be a member of his platoon, helping him "whooping the skull-duggerish" (one of his quaint sayings). Carol Bowers was a lady in all aspects and a beautiful person to boot, on the only few occasions that we ever met.

Iwell, I must finish now with best wishes,

Bob and Joyce Smith

(Very pleased to hear that you are still improving Bob and you must enjoy the times that the 2/2nd boys call on you - Editor).

### ORANGE

Receipt once more, of the Courier finally produced some action from our quarter. Its arrival and contents were as usual the highlight of our quiet day. So good to learn news of those we know per this medium.

Frank is having another spell in hospital at the moment but is doing alright - he responds well to professional care.

As reported earlier by Beth Craig (thanks Beth) we had the pleasure of the company of some of the more local 2/2nd family to a barbecue weekend in March (doesn't time fly?). All went off well and hope we can have another arranged some time.

We have had a reasonably mild winter — only one fall of snow and looking forward to the warmth of spring, although much good soaking rain is urgently needed.

Regards, best wishes to all,  
Frank and Kath Press

P.s. Donation for Courier enclosed  
(Sorry to hear you are sick again Frank — I will have to make another trip over to get you fit again — Editor).

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## VALE F.W. (Bill) Bennet

**It is with deep regret that I have to record the passing of Bill on August 1980.**

**Bill had gone to work as usual but apparently suffered a heart attack which proved fatal.**

**Bill was one of the original sappers who trained at Foster and left there on pre-embarkation leave prior to the unit leaving for the Northern Territory and Timor.**

After his discharge he was a very strong supporter of the 2/2nd Commando Association and held various positions on the committee. At the time of his passing he held the position of President.

The funeral service was held at the Northern Suburbs Crematorium on Friday 22nd August 1980.

In attendance were the following:

A. Littler (President Combined Commando Association), D. Latimer (secretary Combined Commando Association), Dulcie Latimer, Ron Hilliard, Mick Mannix, Snow Went, Ron and Marge Goodacre, Fred Bryant, Bill Hoy, Jack Keenahan, Bob and Joyce Smith, Jack Hartley, Merv and Marge Jones, Bill and Coral Coker and her son Mark, Paddy Kenneally, Marie and Pieta Luby representing Alan and Edith Luby, Joan Darge, Mick and Betty Devlin.

To his wife June and the family on behalf of all 2/2nd members I extend our deepest sympathy.

**MAY HE REST IN  
ETERNAL PEACE**

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## FEARLESS CAPTAIN WAS THEIR WARTIME HERO

(Reprinted from a newspaper article)

**The article about H.M.A.S. Kuru and Captain Grant (Star May 7) was of special interest to me in bringing back memories of those war days and of the reliance we placed on those men and others.**

I was a member of 2/2 Australian Commando Squadron serving on Timor from late 1941 to the end of 1942 and fighting the Japanese without support until the authorities in Australia learnt we were still operating as a fighting unit. The Army command that regulated our movements had feared (and thought) that the 2/2 A.C.S. had been overrun by the Japanese advance.

When eventually contact was made we received supplies of ammunition, medicine and food by planes and ships. The H.M.A.S. Kuru was one such ship. Towards late 1942, because of sickness and increasing pressure by Japanese forces it was

decided to reinforce the 280 men of the 2/2 Commandos with another Squadron, the 2/4 Commandos, but during the operation the loss took place of the destroyer H.M.A.S. Voyager. Fortunately no crew were lost and they sheltered in the hills with the commandos till they could be evacuated. Eventually all members of both No. 2 and No. 4 Commandos were withdrawn from Timor — some by ship and other by submarine. I came home on the Dutch destroyer "Tjerk Hiddes" in time to celebrate my 19th birthday (I had left for Timor just prior to my 18th) with my family who for many months feared we had all been lost.

The 2/2 Commando Squadron owe much to many including Captain Grant and his crew on the H.M.A.S. Kuru, for it was with the knowledge we were not forgotten that helped us to keep going in times of great hard-

ship. However, not one member of our unit will ever forget the debt we owe those wonderful Timorese people who, in our days of desperate need (and this was our full period of time in Timor under Japanese domination), fed, sheltered and helped us in every way possible even at the risk of great danger to themselves. They gave us life.

By a strange quirk of fate, in 1964 I was serving on Point Perpendicular

Lighthouse, Jervis Bay, when the second H.M.A.S. Voyager was sunk in collision with the aircraft carrier H.M.A.S. Melbourne just off the lighthouse. Unlike the loss of the Voyager in 1942, there was tragic loss of life in this later happening.

**BOB SMITH**  
King St. Shortland.

To the Australian and Dutch officers and Soldiers,  
The war is over. N.E.J. fell in our hand in succession. On March 9th all the allied forces surrendered to us with out any conditions. On Timor Island about 1,100 Australians and 100 Dutch solders under Lt. col Legath and Detiger did the same.

They are enjoying life and awaiting for you being supplied with bread meat and fresh vegetables. Your movement and present location are reported to us through Rajahs. If you continue fighting against us, there's not way but to conquer you. So come to us with this information and await for the return of peace with your friends.

Japanese Army

March 14'42

**(This is a copy of the original notice sent out to the 2/2nd Commandos in East Timor.)**

For over a year without b... beer we have roamed on this island of Timor. With great hunks of goat that stick in your throat  
And rice that sticks in your craw.  
And we've travelled for miles on this b... Isle over mountains, rivers and creeks

And slept with natives and all their relatives in grass huts that simply reek. To sleep in a bed or a taste of some bread is simply out of the question  
The B... back home got into their dome tha it may upset our digestion.  
It's an Isle of crows and b... big stones and Pontys that's all b... screwy, Like ABC views that comes over the news it's nothing but bulls... and hooley. They talk of the palms and tropical charms and beatiful moon, perhaps, But it loses its treat when there's nothing to eat and we're b...well surrounded by Japs.

The head of our force is the C.O., of course, whose never been sighted by Japs,

Once he was snappy, but now he's Jap happy

Thank God for our Navy, perhaps.

According to Pix we are quite in a fix

And we don't seem to be in the race,

For when we left Aussie the Yanks took our possie

And our using our pubs for their base.

But with Yanks on our side we are bloated with pride,

They are lonely and so far from home.

And to give them their dues, according to news

They are winning this war on their own.

One day this our Air Force came here

We greeted the plane with a smile,

But our hopes were soon gone for when it dropped its bomb it missed Timor by a mile.

Then that night on the news it gave us the blues,

And we looked at each other quite silly.

According to this, the bomb did not miss

But hit installations in Dilli.

We appreciate greatly what happened quite lately,

Some comforts arrived for the troops.

We thought perhaps beer, but when it got here

It was nuggut to put on our boots.

But you will all hear our cheers, in another ten years  
Or in less than that, perhaps.  
They will say "Pack your gear,  
You are not needed here,  
This island has run out of Japs."

## JONESY

# "WINNIE" THE WAR WINNER

(Reproduced from "Army" August 30 edition)

**In 1942, when the tide of Japanese success had engulfed the Pacific almost to Australia's shores, a tiny Aussie force was engaged in a ceaseless war against 15,000 Japanese troops on Portuguese Timor.**

Its communications with the mainland was severed in February and, for almost two months, the fate of the 400-strong group was unknown. Then on April 18, Darwin received a transmission from Timor, and all Australian stations were warned to keep off the air and listen for more signals the following night.

They did not know that they were listening for transmissions from a conglomeration of salvaged and stolen radio equipment — including a Dutch power-pack, a Japanese battery charger, pieces of bamboo, and part of a metal can.

When the Japanese landed at Dili, Portuguese Timor, on February 10, 1942, 20 men of 2/2nd Independent Company managed to blow up the airstrip and fight their way back into the hills.

There they joined the Australian garrison of 400 commandos, known as "Sparrowforce", who were fighting a bitter guerilla war against the enemy — in spite of the fact that contact with the mainland had been severed.

It was vital for them to re-establish communications with Australia.

Soldiers of Independent Company, the Fortress Signals Section, and men of Signals, 8 Aust. Div., therefore pooled their resources to build a wireless set — their target would be Darwin.

They began their task, working from scratch without spare parts or batteries.

Sets they possessed were too weak, so a system of scrounging and raiding was organised.

The scroungers recovered buried and damaged equipment, while raids were made by fighting sections into enemy camps.

Both played their part in the construction of a set which would be nick-named "Winnie the war-winner" by its creators.

First plan was to build an oscillator with a stage of amplification necessary to work on the frequency previously used in communication with Australia.

With no receiver or instruments, this was a tall order.

But Capt. George Parker, with four men, Cpl. John Sargent, L.cpl. Max Donovan, Sig. Max "Joe" Loveless, and Sig. K. Richards, tackled the job.

Sig. Loveless, in civilian life, was a technician with 7ZL, Hobart.

He began by building a transmitter with a crystal which, by luck, was close to the required frequency.

Power supply was a problem and the two available accumulators were nearly flat.

News was received that there was a charging plant in a nearby village, and the accumulators were carried there under escort to be charged.

The method of charging was quite novel.

A procedure which was adopted quite a few times eventually became known as the "boong charger".

A system of wheels, and a belt driving a car generator, was turned by natives.

As their enthusiasm for the job, fluctuated, so did the charging rate.

Later, a broken-down 109 set was discovered, and the transmitter was stripped for parts to provide another amplifier for the oscillator — giving more punch, stronger signals, and a better chance of being heard.

Sig. Loveless planned the circuit and asked the commandos to keep their eyes peeled for useful parts.

Cpl. Donovan went on a scrounging trip to Attambo, on the north coast, and returned with a power pack from a Dutch transmitter, two aerial tuning condensers, 20m of aerial wire, and a receiving set.

The task of building "Winnie" went ahead without delay.

Coils were wound on to bamboo formers, accumulators were recharged, points were soldered and valve sockets were made.

In the absence of precious tools and instruments, guesswork was a major ingredient.

A battery charger was recovered from the enemy when 14 commandos went through the Japanese lines to the old Australian HQ at Villa Maria.

The commandos, while only 100 m from

the Japanese, dug up a charger which was buried when the HQ was forced to move.

On April 13, it was all systems go.

The operator tried to raise Australia, but no reply was received.

As the dial of the receiver turned, sounds of music floated through the small radio shack.

Some troubadors were entertaining their audience with "The Last of the Hillbillies".

On April 18, after the transmitter was revised, another attempt was made to contact the mainland.

Again no reply was received, but the men's disappointment would have been allayed had they known that their signals were picked up and passed on to Darwin.

All Australian stations were warned to keep off the air, and to listen for Timor on the following night.

A few days before April 19, "Sparrow force" HQ had given the operators two coded messages "just in case".

"Joe" Loveless tuned up the rig, and a group of soldiers bunched around the set.

The "brass was pounded" and the call was given highest priority.

Although the operator was prepared to continue for a number of hours, a strong signal replied almost immediately.

With suppressed excitement he tapped out his answer.

A tin of tobacco, kept for such an occasion, was opened in celebration and a toast in coffee was drunk to "Winnie".

On the following night, contact was established again, but this time Darwin was suspicious and demanded proof of the guerillas' identity.

Messages flashed across the Timor Sea:

"Do you know Jack Sargent?"

"Yes, he is here."

"What rank? Answer immediately."

"Corporal."

"Bring him to the transmitter."

"What is your wife's name, Jack?"

"Joan."

"What is your street and house number?"

The correct answer was given, and the Australian mainland knew that Aussies were alive and fighting in Timor.

On April 27 an Allied plane flew over and dropped parachutes with precious food and stores.

Bush wireless received the news and men who had been bare-footed to save their boots for active work were issued with new pairs.

"Winnie" had done her job.

No time was wasted in asking for bombing targets—which were promptly supplied.

Allied bombers passed overhead on their way to giving the Japanese a taste of their own medicine.

On one occasion a convoy of three enemy ships was sighted, and a message despatched to the mainland.

The RAAF sank all three ships.

As a fitting climax to her career, "Winnie" guided the rescue party which eventually took the guerillas out of Timor.

"Winnie" now resides in the Australian War Memorial, Canberra—a symbol of Australian ingenuity in the face of great difficulty. ■

## SOUTH AUSTRALIAN NEWS

### SEATON

I am enclosing a financial report taken from the minutes of a meeting held concerning the money we are holding here, for publication in the Courier.

News from South Australia. Not very startling at all.

First and foremost, Shorty Stevens has had a stint in hospital, fell off a horse. For a while he didn't look too good, but once back on his feet is as cranky as ever and just as talkative. I have written him a letter, but as yet no reply, still he could never tell the difference between a pen and a black snake, he always was cautious.

I have had a letter from Ron Gurr (The Old Gent) down in the wet country, he was telling me in the winter the wells overflow, just as well he isn't living on a hill. He is retired and enjoying every minute of it.

Lofty Timcke, Bert Basche, Bob Williamson, Mark Jordan all look fit and well, do not see that much of them so am not sure whether they are putting on an act, but like I said, they look disgustingly fit.

Dud Tapper and Allen Hollow, now that's a different story. I see quite a bit of them and can vouch for their health, even though they won't admit to it, they are both fit and well.

I have been to the far West Coast fishing, far west for S.A. but not for W.A. The brother and myself in our van, Betty could not make it, on the eve of our departure Marilyn came down with glandular fever, so not to disappoint the fish, the brother and I left on our own.

We went from Adelaide straight to Fowlers Bay, then worked our way back along the coast fishing at all known spots, finishing our fishing at



Pt. Lincoln. Had a mighty time, three weeks in all, lived on fish and brought plenty home.

We have already started to plan and talk about a return bout with the fish, this time Betty will certainly be with us.

Will have to end this now and would like to be remembered to all 4 section chaps, and of course to anyone else who had the misfortune to have known me.

K. Dignum

P.s. find enclosed donation for the Courier.

#### SOUTH AUSTRALIAN FINANCIAL REPORT

A meeting was held on 17/7/80 to discuss the way the money, which is being held by South Australia, an amount of \$1,385.74, should be disposed of.

Those present were: D. Tapper, B. Williamson, A. Hollow, B. Basche T. Timcke, M. Jordan, K. Dignum.

D. Tapper opened the meeting with two points to discuss.

1. The amount of money to be sent to Queensland.
2. The suggestion of sending some money to the West, to assist in the publication of the Courier.

The two points were discussed at length, each man having his say.

A motion was proposed by B. Williamson that an amount of \$1000 be sent to Queensland to assist the Safari, and that an amount of \$350 be sent to the West, to be used for the publication of the Courier, that the balance of \$35.74 to be held in S.A. for future use, whatever that may be.

Seconded by M. Jordan, and unanimously carried.

K. Dignum, on behalf of the S.A. Magnificent Seven.

#### MT.GAMBIER

I am directing the letter to you, Scotty, as the wife and I have been on the road for about two months, so have not learned who is now secretary.

Leaving Mt. Gambier in June we proceeded through Bendigo, Narandera and on to Gilgandra, first called at the home of Keith and Nola Wilson of Glen Lee, Collie Road. They were the first ones we found at home. Although they were in the

process of shearing they made us welcome and we had a cuppa. Their son David has recently purchased the noted Entire Rivoli Ray. I think one could say that this horse is possibly the most decorated horse in Australia.

We then proceeded on through Toowoomba but somehow missed calling in on the ones at Inglewood and Allora. I hope I do on the return trip. At Toowoomba we called on Mrs. Laurenson who has been very kind to M.Z. Force. Next we called on Noel Palm, we chatted for a couple of hours at the hotel where we partook of liquid refreshments. After this we proceeded to Ayr where we looked up Bulla Tait who has a really good sugar farm.

When we arrived at Cairns we were welcomed at their club where the President spent an hour with us. From Cairns we proceeded north again and passed Mossman and Upper Daintree, until we could proceed no further without a 4 wheel drive. Turning south again we visited the areas of Tablelands and bay areas and explored area of the Barrier Reef. When we got to Townsville we found Alan Soper at home who gave us a right royal welcome and took us on a sight-seeing tour. They took us to lunch - a treat that will be long remembered.

The following day we called on Jack Goodhew who was just preparing to go to the doctor for a check up. We stayed there for a couple of hours. His address is Garbutt, nor Carbutt. We again called on Bulla Tait who escorted us to the sugar mill on a tour of inspection. Leaving there we called at Bowen and met George Shiels. George took us on a tour of the farm. Before departing we were treated to a delicious lunch and again a few hours of chatting.

Our next port of call, where we are still at, is the area of Shute Harbour (prosperine) where we called on Jim Foot. When I told him who I was his words were "Well, last time I saw you, you were a skinny little fellow." The last time we were together we were on Timor.

For now will sign off. Hoping this finds its way into the Courier in the finish. Enclosed please find cheque for Courier.

God bless you all,

Fred Stevens

## VICTORIAN NEWS

### ST. KILDA

Greetings to everyone we know in the west and hope everyone is in good health. Our anticipated trip over to your part of the world has now advanced to the stage where we can say "next month", as God willing no strikes or similar, we have our train tickets bought and leave Melbourne on 29th September. We leave Perth on the Indian Pacific on the 29th October, and are looking forward to the trip.

Some time ago Bill received a letter, re deceased members and diabetes but unfortunately mislaid the letter — but contacted three widows but to their knowledge it had not been detected amidst the fatal illnesses.

Wish we could afford a larger donation. Best wishes,

Bill and Eileen Sharp

(Waiting to see you both in W.A. — Scotty)

### HIGHETT

Many thanks for your retirement card and I am sure I will enjoy my years ahead as I am in pretty good health. Olive and I are starting on 22nd July for approximately 3 months. We are heading for Queensland and on the return will go to Broken Hill to visit Elsie and Lionel Newton. Our daughter and her husband will be staying at our home while we are away so there is no hurry for our return.

Ken Monk has been in hospital for surgery and comes out today and is feeling a lot better. Margaret has had to look after the farm and do all the milking although the calves are starting to arrive — has four at present

Well Scotty, thanks for your card and our kindest regards to you and Elsie and hope to see you in the near future.

Kindest regards,

Harry and Olive Botterill

(Hope you are now starting to unwind after a working lifetime — Scotty)

### KEW

The Editor, I know I should know your address but somehow I can't find it. However thanks for a worthwhile job well done — and being done — so very well indeed. I am not sure whether I sent a donation to the Courier or not, in either case here's one now.

A friend in Sydney has sent me the enclosed write up of "Winnie the War Winner" which may be of some interest to you.

Also I had a phone call from Ron Scott to say that he had come across a Ted Fuller whom he thinks belonged to the 2/2nd. Ted has been a quadraplegic for ten years as the result of an accident. His present address is Yarra-Me Quadraplegic Centre, 295 Maroondah Highway, North Croydon.

I had a few happy hours with Rolf Baldwin a few weeks ago and heard a lot of pleasant news from the West.

With all good wishes and again, thank you for all your good work.

Bernie Callinan.

(Thanks for the Winnie write up which is published in this Courier. Victorian members please contact Ted Fuller in hospital and give him the Association's best wishes — Editor)

### KNOWSLEY

Please note change of address from Reservoir to Knowsley. Enclosed please find cheque towards the cost of the publication of your excellent paper.

I live now some 3 kms from Harry Sargent (Bluey) who is in charge of the Eppalong Reservoir some 26 kms from Bendigo. We sometimes manage to shoot down a few enemies helped until recently by the late Kev. Curran.

Please give my regards to the W.A. boys, in particular Gerry Mackenzie, Gerry Maley, Dutchie Holland and the Sadlers.

If any of the unit are over this way, contact either Bluey or myself and we shall do our best to entertain you.

Regards,

Leith Cooper

## QUEENSLAND NEWS

### TAIGUM

I wish to thank the following members for cheques received for deposits on accommodation and raffle tickets for the 1981 Safari: A. MacLachlan, F. Otway, K. Craig, W. Krause, J. Dent, P. Mantle, G. Stanley, H. Morgan, D. Latimer, C. Turner, L. Bagley, C. Doig, F. Bryant, H. Sproston, J. Fowler, R. Smith, T. Adams, A. Luby, T. Snowden and R. Conley.

I have recently contacted Ron Host and he would like to have the Courier to be sent.

Yours,

George Vandeleur

### SAFARI '81

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

Accommodation on the Gold Coast is at a premium. We have already lost the Broadbeach which is now booked two years in advance. A few adverse comments have been received regarding the tariff and as all hotel accommodation - of a comparable standard with the Broadbeach ... is in the same price bracket, we have reconsidered the idea of booking a hotel.

Alternative accommodation, consisting of one and two bedroom units both with similar facilities has been booked at Silverton Apartments - a 14 storey block on the Nerang River seven minutes walk from the heart of Surfer's and five minutes from the surf.

We have also booked an extra two bedroom unit as a 'Hospitality Suite' for all members, including those accommodated elsewhere, to use for get-togethrs and drinks. A steward will be on duty for your requirements

### BOOKING

It is important to know what configuration of units to book. Please notify as soon as possible whether you desire a one bedroom unit or are willing to share a two bedroom unit with another couple. If willing to share you will have to make your own arrangements re sharing or take pot luck with whom you share. Those requiring accommodation for three would have to be allocated a two bed-

room unit whilst single booking males could share a single or three to a double. Couples staying for less than the two weeks may be obliged to book single units unless they are willing to pay the full fortnight sharing. Please state if you have a preference for accommodation at the top, middle or lower floors.

### DEPOSITS

We have to place a deposit on each unit booked. The deposit is \$25 per couple sharing and \$50 per couple in a one bedroom unit.

Cheques should be made out to: "SAFARI '81.

### TARIFF

Two bedroom unit: \$217 per week  
\$7.75 per day each with 4 sharing.

One bedroom unit: \$168 per week  
\$12.00 per day each with 2 sharing.

This is a firm price for October '81.

### FACILITIES

All bedrooms have ensembles with bath, separate shower, toilet, vanity basin and walk-in wardrobe. Two bedroom units have double and twin beds and one bedroom unit double or twin.

Kitchens have electric stove, fridge, dishwasher and garbage disposal. Laundries have auto washer, dryer and iron.

Large lounge with lounge and dining suite, colour T.V. Balconies to all external walls. Larger units cater for four people with sittings for eight; smaller units two people with sittings for four.

The apartments are almost new and generous in size. The two bedroom layout is such as to afford the utmost privacy to two couples sharing as each bedroom has its own ensuite. The price quoted is self-service with a change of linen weekly. All you have to bring is yourself and a spare towel. Servicing of units can be arranged, if required, at extra cost.

IT IS MOST IMPORTANT THAT  
PROVISIONAL BOOKINGS AND  
DEPOSITS BE PLACED AS SOON  
AS POSSIBLE.

## RAFFLE

In order to reduce the cost of various functions we propose to run a major raffle. We have been fortunate to obtain a prize consisting of one week's accommodation for two, including full board and lodgings, at TAA Great Keppel Island plus return airfare to the winner's home state. Value of the prize is \$800 plus airfare.

Great Keppel Island is on the Great Barrier Reef — off the coast from Rockhampton. We have had some delay obtaining a permit to run a raffle but we now are in the clear.

Tickets will be in books of 10 and sell at \$2 per ticket. Altogether there will be 250 books. It would be appreciated if each and everyone of us do our utmost to make this raffle a success. At \$2 per ticket we feel it would be no hardship to sell these to friends and relatives. All proceeds will be directed to providing the entertainment which will be listed in our itinerary.

With your return re accommodation would you please fill in and return the attached form.

### 2.2nd COMMANDO SAFARI GOLD COAST 1981

**PLEASE SEND ME ..... BOOKS OF TICKETS OF WHICH I WILL ENDEAVOUR TO DISPOSE AND I WILL REMIT THE PROCEEDS ON COMPLETION OF SALES.**

Name .....

Address .....

Signature .....

OR

**PLEASE SEND ME ..... TICKETS AT \$2 PER TICKET FOR WHICH I REMIT \$ .....**

**CHEQUES TO BE MADE OUT TO 'SAFARI 81'.**

**SHOULD YOU REQUIRE SINGLE TICKETS PLEASE ATTACH NAME AND ADDRESS OF TICKET HOLDER.**

#### DONATIONS

The President wishes to thank the following for donations towards the Courier: A. Stevenson, B. Callinan, R. Smith, K. Dignum, W. Sharp, C. Sadler, A. Chatfield, L. Cooper, F. Stevens, F. Press, D. Dexter and A. Hillman.

#### NEW ADDRESSES:

DOOK, R.  
34 Flamingo Run  
Burranda 6155.

DEXTER, D.  
48 Froggatt Street  
Turner 2601.

DOWMAN, S.  
60 Smiths Avenue  
Hirstville 2220

HOOPER, N.

Great Northern Hotel  
South Grafton 2461.

HILLMAN A.

6 Regent Street  
Albany 6330.

DE-LUZ, P.T.

56 Lamonarie Street  
Toongabbie 2146.

COOPER, L.

C/o Post Office  
Knowsley 3551.

HOST, R.

72 Walkers Way  
Toombul 4012.

#### RETURNED COURIERS

N.S.W.: W. Roberts, J. Stafford.