



2/2 COMMANDO COURIER

Registered for transmission by post as a periodical No. WAS 0270 Category "A"

Address all Association correspondence to:

Box T1646, G.P.O. Perth 6001.

Vol. 38

JUNE 1982

PRICE 1c

COMING EVENTS

SANDGROPER SAFARI 1983— 3rd to 16th October. STATE OF EXCITEMENT W.A.

Below current APEX air fares which will be subject to increase prior to travel being undertaken. They are return per person.

Adelaide	\$277.20	Hobart	\$392.90
Brisbane	\$456.60	Launceston	\$378.30
Canberra	\$377.70	Melbourne	\$329.40
Darwin		Sydney	\$380.00
(via Alice Springs)	\$356.10	Townsville	
		(via Alice Springs)	\$412.20

For easy assistance on your bookings, T.A.A.'s convention travel consultants in each state are nominated. They are fully aware of your SAFARI and will give you all the assistance possible.

ADELAIDE	BILL HEHMY	216 1911
BRISBANE	CLIFF GREEN	33 2011
CANBERRA	DI. MOSLEY	46 1811
DARWIN	JOHN BRADFORD	82 3311
HOBART	CONRAD MACK	38 3511
LAUNCESTON	MIKE BUTLER	32 9911
MELBOURNE	REG BREWER	345 1333
SYDNEY	SUZZIE BLAIN	669 9555
TOWNSVILLE	BILL PELLOW	81 6211

**YOU ARE FREE?
THEN BE HERE IN '83.**

ANZAC DAY— THE UNIT

The Editor

This name never fails to make the pulse rate quicken considerably. It was coined in the realms of adversity, it was perpetuated by deeds of valour on the field of battle, it lasted over all the years, for that name gave Australia its right to nationhood by virtue of the young men who gave their lives on the shores and slopes of Gallipoli.

These men of Anzac have handed down this name for future generations to honour, and we hope, never to use it in battle again. But today, this name covers every man and woman in the Anzac Day march, they wear this name Anzac with a deep and reverent dignity, fuel in the knowledge that the men of the 1914-1918 Great War still rank supreme on this day of National mourning. The loss of so many men who were too young to die, makes Anzac a very sacred area to us all.

We men of the 1939-1945 war were of another generation, yes and women, but in our heart of hearts we knew we had to perform well so that the "Invisible Host" would say to all who served and those who laid down their lives, "It is not in vain, you upheld the mighty tradition of Anzac and we salute you".

As I marched with the 2/2 Commando Squadron for the first time in many years, I fully realised what a magnificent unit it was. Today, heads held high, a perfect rhythm of march behind a standard bearer, who, like his predecessor, drew the focus of all. I saw this Independent Company as the epitome of what Anzacs should be. A unit who served longer than any other in the A.I.F. on an overseas basis, one that prompted our great leader of the war years, Winston Churchill to say this, "They alone of all the troops in the Pacific, did not surrender". Anzac was born on Gallipoli, upheld by this magnificent unit in Timor, New Guinea and New Britain, today they marched light of step, with great pride, knowing full well they marched in the shadows of the Anzacs.

One could see the pride, the discipline, the training, still retained by everyone despite the passing of the years. One was proud to march in the ranks of a team of men who served their country so faithfully and so well, who were self sufficient enough in all aspects to remain independent right through the years of war, yet used, because of their special training, to give support to others so that success in battle could be achieved.

The 2/2nd had many great soldiers, many who did not return, many who have since died, today we mourn them, for they gave us the opportunity to continue living life to its full and retaining a magnificent pride of unit, bringing from the field of battle the camaraderie, good fellowship and mateship, binding it all together in the 2/2nd Commando Association, so keeping a wonderful spirit very much alive. I feel so humble, yet so honoured, that I was one of these men of the 2/2nd who have kept the spirit of Anzac burning brightly in war, now, in the realms of peace.

In the words of an old unit song comes an answer to cover everything:—

"Sons of Anzacs are we."

ANZAC DAY— THE REUNION

This was held at the Knutsford Arms Hotel and it was extremely well attended, the names of those who were at the service and subsequent get-together are listed with apologies to any we have missed.

The Reunion was a wonderful affair and the passing of the years has only increased the camaraderie of all our members. All topics under the sun were discussed, reminiscences galore brought forth gales of laughter, others a verbal tribute to those whom we toast in silence at all our functions.

It was a pleasant, friendly, interesting occasion, one of the best we have had.

Jack Carey deserves special mention for his tremendous contribution in providing a superb lunch which contained is seemed, everything edible. Once again Jack and Delys our grateful thanks for supplying the wherewithal to keep us nearer to the straight and narrow than .008. Jack, it seem you have been the provider since the Association's inception, words cannot adequately convey our gratitude for your continued and unswerving interest.

It was a magnificent day from the Dawn Service to our Lights Out time of 6.30p.m., may we all be spared to meet again on the Anzac Day of 1983.

THE ROLL CALL

Surnames only:—

Messrs Burrige, Bowers, Darrington, Dhu, Hudson, Harrington, Sparkman, Poynton, McKinley, McLaughlin, Wares, Dook, Doig, Payne, Watson, Haire, Carey, Morgan,

Fowler, Swann-Smyth, Thornander, Penglase, King, Parry, McKenzie, Turton, Griffiths, Holland, Gorton, Smith A., Varian, Campbell, Strickland, Richards (Tex), Sproxtton, Foster, Stud- dy, Finklestein, Bagley (and son Gavin), Fletcher, Hopkins, Kirkwood, Hancock, other units, John Lillie, Jim Menzies.

AN APOLOGY

No, your eyes did not deceive you, our April issue of the Courier was dated February!! But like some of us in the Army, marking time, but, with two left feet!!

It got through the survey net but I am sure the printer will pick it up in future. Those who keep a record for the archives need simply to change the month to April 1982.

The Editor

VICTORIAN NEWS

On Sunday, April 4th, had a very pleasant barbeque at Alec and Beryl Boasts place—a very good day and a good roll up. Present were:— Ken and Margaret Monk, John and Shirley Southwell, Wilma Tobin, Fred and Mavis Broadhurst, Tom Nisbet, Norm and Shelia Parker, George and Dot Veitch, George and Dot Robinson, Pete Krause, Max and Grace Davies, John and Kath Roberts, George and Win Humphreys, Norm and Fran Tillett, Ban and Nancy Briggs, Jack-Fox, Bill and Eileen Sharp, Bill Taylor, Bert con- quest, Harry and Olive Botterill.

Our thanks to Alec and Beryl for put- ting on this show, they do a wonderful job and it is greatly appreciated. It was good to see Fred and Mavis Broadhurst again and they are both looking very well. It was decided to have a similar outing next October at the home of Norm & Fran Tillett at Rosebud.

Anzac Day has come again, but this year the weather turned cold and wet after the beautiful weather we had been enjoying up till the day before. Fortunately the rain held off while the march was on—and after the march we enjoyed a very good reunion with the combined Commando Association at Palm Lake Motel. Present were:—Bernie Callinan, Rolf (Baldy) Baldwin, Tom Nisbet, Norm Tillett, Pete Krause, Leith Cooper, Bluey Sargent, Tom Fields (NSW), Alf Harper, Ken Monk, George Humphreys, George Veitch, Johnny Southwell, Gordon Holmes (WA), Johnny Roberts, Harry Botterill, Alec Boast, Don Freyer, Bill Petersen, Bruce McLaren.

As can be seen a good roll up of

country and interstate boys, but a lot of locals were missing. Must be fair weather boys! Max Davies could not make it as he is suffering with arthritis. The heart willing but the legs could not make it. bad luck Max, we missed you and I think it is the first you have missed for along time, hope you soon get up and about. Good to see Alf Harper from Geelong and don Freyer from Wangaratta, Bill Petersen from Fish Creek who did the march but had to get back home to milk the cows, so missed the reunion. Ken Monk, as always down from Poowong, Ken and Margaret are off to Indonesia Sunday 2nd to visit their daughter Elva and her husband Rod and their two children Findlay and Catherine for a couple of weeks. Rod is on a two year teaching stint over there. Good to see Gordon Holmes again and he really enjoyed himself. My daughter Glenda had her third child on March 4th, Another daughter, Sharyn Kate. Thats our sixth grand daughter, 3 to Glenda and three to David.

Thats all the news for now, so until next time, Cheerio.

Harry Botterill.

Editor—Great to see the Victorian seg- ment back in the Courier and newsy at that. Harry, you should have been a plumbers apprentice, it may have rub- bed off on the children!!

QUEENSLAND REPORT

The "Bananabenders Barbeque" was held at Slaughter Falls on Sunday 2nd May on a delightful Autumn day, gathering at 11 a.m. and we broke up about 3 p.m. It was in the form of a "B.Y.O. Bar B. Q and Booze."

There was some great yarning ses- sions and it was good to see Ian McPhee much improved in health—he is walking two (2) miles twice a day!

Next years Safari in W.A. was enthusiastically discussed and we are looking forward to hearing more of ten- tative plans etc. There is quite a bit of interest in travelling by car in convoy.

Those present were:— Fred and Phillis Bryant, Peter Hearle and daughter Sally, Angus and Lois MacLachlan, George and Mel Mathieson, Ian and Peggy McPhee, George and Edna Vandeleur, Ron and Betty Host, Butch Barnier, Jim and Zona Smith, Tony and Iris Adams. Everyone sends best wishes to all wherever you may be.

Tony Adams

VALE H. J. (JOE) GARLAND

With deep regret we learnt of the passing of Joe Garland from Alan Luby. Joe was one of the original 2/2nd Independent Company members and was on the "Q" Staff under S/Sgt John Walker. After John was tragically killed in a Jap ambush, Joe took over the post of Q.M. and did a magnificent job in running the Timor Pony supply line to all parts of the island.

Joe suffered a fatal heart attack while at his sons place at Atherton, but was brought back to Muswellbrook for burial.

He was a real character and his handle bar moustache was to be seen to be believed. Joe named his property after a well known name to the unit boys, "Garoka Vale".

Our deepest sympathy goes out to his wife and family on their very sad and sudden loss.

FRANK PRESS

Yet another of the old originals has gone to meet his maker, Frank Press, who was Signals Sergeant to the late John Rose. Frank has been having a battle with his health for quite a period and with tremendous support from his wife Kath, managed to keep his spirit very much alive.

Frank gave years of service to the R.S.L. and for his grand efforts was awarded an M.B.E. He was a man of many parts and his contribution to the community at war and in peace was one of high order.

He will be sadly missed, and, to his wife Kath and the family in general, we all send our love and deepest sympathy.

ALEX (SCOTTY) WARES

It is with deep regret that we report the passing of our late esteemed life member, ex President, Secretary, and Courier Editor, Scotty.

We have heard it said, that Scotty was a late comer into Association affairs and those who know how well he tackled and performed the multifarious, sometimes difficult tasks he undertook for the Association, can surmise how unlucky we were, not to have had the benefit of his wisdom and administrative flair, in the early formative and planning times, immediately following World War 2,

Once having embarked along the executive trail, he soon showed that he was keen and able to play a leading, no nonsense role, in association affairs.

Scotty, rightfully advocated keeping as many of our members as possible, in touch throughout Australia, as a means of procuring longevity of our Association and he reasoned that the best medium we could use to do this was through the pages of 2/2nd Commando Courier. His editorship throughout his long term, we believe, aimed in that direction on being appointed Secretary, he saw the need for the positions of Secretary and Editor to be held and performed in a dual role and successfully moved to take over both positions. The splendid contribution he made to Association affairs in the dual role has always been appreciated by members. True to nature, as editor, he saw a need to visit as many members as possible and promptly, at his own expense, undertook a motored tour throughout Australia, calling on as many members as he could, doing what he called "a bit of PR work", but he agreed later in discussion, that he was also able to do a lot of very necessary address book updating, whilst en route.

Scotty and Elsie became willing joint Doyens in providing hospitality to interstate visiting members coming to W.A. Always interested and keen to meet, assist, entertain and make friends, their comfortable home in Dianella was the focal point for Association contact in this regard, throughout the long period of his editorship.

The contribution he made to our Association has been magnificent, generous and an example to all. He will be sadly missed. We owe Scotty and Elsie much for the leading role they have played.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to his beloved wife and his two sons and their families.

PERSONAL PARS

Some of our members continue to battle with their health and rest assured we are right behind you in your fight back to good health.

Ted Loud is undergoing treatment in the Hollywood Repat. Hospital for a bad back, something he has lived and worked with for years. We trust this time you find relief Ted from your sufferings and come out in tip top condition.

Fred Napier still has mobility problems, but makes light of it with his keen sense of humour. Glad too is hav-

ing her fair share of troubles and we all hope that good luck is just around the corner. Our love to you both.

Ray Aitken is in convalescence after his operation, a heart by-pass, according to Ray he is getting stronger each day, but still confined to light activity. He sends kind regards to all members of the Unit Association. Ray with Muriel's ministrations and your courage you will be up and about in no time. Regards from us all and our love to Muriel, we are all right behind you.

DONATIONS

G. Vandeleur, Warwick Tobin, Nancy Hiatt (nee Rose), F. Bryant, B. Cowie, C. Hodson, A. Luby, V. Walsh, D. Young, E. Herd, F. Sharp, W. Pierce, T. Snowdon, Jim Lyons, Dot Boyland, G. Strickland, A. Soper, C. Sadler, R. Burns, H. Botterill, Wilma Tobin, Bruce Poynton, P. Campbell, C. Knight, M. Davies, A. Stevenson, K. Carthew, R. Teague, R. Snowdon.

W.A. BRANCH ANNUAL DINNER

Interstate readers are entitled to ask, what news is there for us in mention of W.A. Branch Annual Dinner, and we agree that the answer would have to be—none!

However, we know you will appreciate the problem when we explain our need to contact as many W.A. members as possible and what better medium do we have other than Courier—same answer—none!

For some years now attendance at our annual dinner has not been satisfactory, 1982 numbers were calamitous and resulted in part of the cost for catering being paid out of General Funds.

The Committee has therefore decided to hold the usual dinner for 1982 and request **MEMBERS TO ATTEND, TO GIVE THIS FUNCTION THE SUPPORT IT DESERVES!!**

The decision has also been taken that the charge for the function must be sufficient to pay for the catering costs and therefore members attending may have to anticipate a rise in the price this year.

We are aware that bad timing played some part in the poor attendance last year because many members had only just arrived home from Gold Coast Safari 1981, whilst others were still

travelling, but, the crux of the matter, we believe, lies in knowing whether we still wish to hold an annual dinner. If we wish the function to continue, then surely we intend to patronise it. In future we welcome the view of members!!

OUT OF THE WOODWORK!

Our new **Address Book Information Sheet** in the February Courier was a winner in two directions. First we are getting the required information, with the possible exception of STD Code numbers and incidentally, if you have not filled it in, DO SO NOW!! Above all, **POST IT!!**

Secondly, names came to light we have not heard of for years, and with them snippets of information, plus letters, all of which are going into print now they have emerged, as the heading says—"Out of the Woodwork". Thanks for your tremendous co-operation—here are the news items:—Hope you got my note, I do not know if it was before or after I saw Arty Cullen. Saw him in January, first time since he pulled the bullet out of my a-e in 1944! Have been trying for years to run him down. sure was good to see him again. great to see so many at Surfers—Keep up the good work, cheers to all—"Shorty" Stevens.

What a wonderful thing the Courier is, I always look forward to it arriving, but alas this time it brought sad news in hearing of the passing of Dick Adams—it was great the way he could cheer us up with the accordion. I can well remember at Lete Foho when things were not going too good and Dick was ill with Malaria, somehow he got the accordion going and made us feel that much better. If anyone of the 2/2nd are ever this way be sure to look me up—hope to make it to the West one day. regards to all in the 2/2nd.

Bert Price

Good to see all the complimentary remarks about the Queensland Safari. In my book it was top rate and a real credit to all those involved in the organisation. You can put Marj and myself down for the Safari in 1983 for sure. We have just bought a 4 wheel drive and intend to leave here about May and come over via Queensland and the N.T. Spent 3 months in the N.T. a few years ago and can't wait to get back there and to W.A. for the Spring. All the best to the W.A. mob!

Jack Peattie

Following on the death of my husband R.C.P. field (Bob), you kindly arranged for me to receive regular issues of the Courier. I very much appreciate this.

Madge Field

Regards to all—keep up the good work.

Jack Wicks

Very much regret missing the A.G.M. but was in Hollywood Hospital with vascular trouble in my legs. Am home now and feeling OK, Regards to all.

Arthur Linith

We have been living and working at Cockatoo Island, Yampie, via Derby. 6731 for the past 16 months. Thank you very much for our most welcome Courier, every part of it is well read and looked forward to receiving. Our very best wishes to all. We look forward to meeting old friends at Sandgroper Safari 1983.

Allan and Joy Chatfield

All the best to one and all, looking forward to the Safari next year.

Tony Adams

Greetings! Do hope all who attended the Queensland Safari and then had Xmas have settled down to a steady lifestyle again. Bob Smith tells me he is heading West soon. We hope to make '83 and be "excited", so till a later date, good health to all.

Harry Handicott.

Congrats on the Feb. Courier. "A DIAKSURAT." Best wishes—Kind regards.

Jerry Haire

Have been travelling with Caravan around Australi, gemstone hunting off and on these last five years and spending part time in Hopetoun fishing. May see you Anzac Day.

John Penglase

Many thanks for forwarding the Courier, it is very gratifying to receive the latest info regarding health and events connected with the old unit. Hope to be able to make next Safari.

Vic Pacey

You are doing a fine job. Nice to have all the "newsy" info about the mob.

Rod Dhu

Did you hear about the archaeologist? He spent three weeks piecing the fragments together . . . and found he had a windscreen!

Peter Mantle

We are looking forward to coming to the W.A. Safari. The Gold Coast will be hard to beat, it was splendid. Guess W.A. will beat it??

George Coulson

On behalf of Ross, enclosed is donation. I think he lost his right arm while serving with the 2/2nd!!!

Beth Shenn

At last I can attend a Safari, see you all in '83—am returning this year.

David Brown

Have finished our home now living at new address. God willing we intend to come to the Safari '83 in W.A. We now have two sons living here.

Fred Stevens

there is a lot to be said for the old team spirit, what with Joe and Helen Poynton's Picnic and the Timorese evening, I really enjoyed myself.

Doc Wheatley

Bad news about Bob Palmer. Joe Poynton, Doc Wheatley and myself made the trip to Busselton to pay our respects. Safari in Queensland was great and relaxing for me, stayed on with my daughter Linda for a few weeks then up to Townsville. Changed a great deal since wartime, did not expect such a change on the Tablelands, hardly remember any of it. Had a few good days with 'Bulla' Tait—sugar cane came up on Xmas Day, now five feet tall but a bit too cold this summer for good growing. Must away now to the "Pub" for a beer with Joe. see you on Anzac day.

Tony Bowers

Clarice still in hospital, will be there for some time yet. Best wishes to all. *Editor.* Our best wishes and a speedy recovery for Clarice and our love to her.

Bob Williamson

Not being a good correspondent I wish all in the unit a very happy future. With a bit of luck I should be an "old fellow" of leisure in eight months. All the best to everyone.

Don Hudson

Mel and I are looking forward to our visit to the West next year. Kindest regards to yourself and all members from Mel and George.

George Mathleson

Have just received Courier and it prompted me to write a few lines. On May 5th I will be coming West so hope to see as many of the boys as possible. Will be in touch when I arrive. Regards to all.

Mark Jordan

Had the honour of attaining 70 years on 3.3.82 Can now join Sir Phillip Lynch's "millionaire" aged person participants!!

Colin Dolg

Please accept donation for Courier fund. The best of luck to all who print it.

George Veitch

Would like to know the date as Daph and I will be attending the '83 Safari—will be driving over and am bringing my brother and his wife from Newcastle.

Wilbur Wallis

Retired 31st December '81 enjoying it. Regards to all—special cheerio to "section no. 4".

Tom Nisbet

Keep the good work up—all goodwishes.

Bernard Callinan

Happily retired since 1979. Took up teaching after the war and found it very satisfying. Taught deaf children most of the time. Blessed with four daughters and 8½ grandchildren!

Alan Dixon

Endorsed cheque to be used for whatever you think best. My regards to everyone and all the best for the future to the committee and producers of the Courier.

George Lewis

At this stage of the game we look like heading West for the '83 do, but you have not indicated when it is to take place. All things being equal, we will have a van to drag. I'm at that awkward age, too old to work for a living and too young to draw the pension. They won't up the endowment so we look like going hungry. If it doesn't rain here soon we'll be jolly thirsty!

Bill Peterson

Please find enclosed cheque for whoever keeps the Courier going, its a top newsletter. Have we anything one can wear (brooch, pin or clip) depicting the 2/2nd Colour Patch. If so how do I obtain same? Kind regards to all. *Editor* Ron Kentwood will fix your request.

Bill Cowle

Enclosed cheque for any purpose you choose. We, had a really wonderful holiday in the States, due mostly to the generosity of our son over there. He took time off from his work to take us places in his car in warmth and comfort to Montreal, Quebec, Niagara, and then later to Philadelphia and Washington, where we soaked up all the history we could.

Fred Bryant

In the process of selling my farm (beef cattle) so will be soon listing my occupation as "home duties". Hope to travel about a bit although this may be restricted as my wife Bernice doesn't enjoy the best of health. regards to all.

Bob Snowdon

Two years to retirement!!

Colin Hodson

Add both our names to 1983 Safari. We will be travelling across by car and caravan. Have been away from home for two months hence late reply.

Eric Herd

We thoroughly enjoyed our trip to America to visit David and Elizabeth and our three grand daughters. Spent a "White Xmas" with them and travelled over 5,000 miles on the east side of America. Also spent a week in Florida at Orlando and saw Disney World and Sea World. NASA Space Centre was really terrific.

Harry Botterill

Many thanks for the Courier over the past years. See all you "Sandgroppers" at the Safari in 1983.

Alan Soper

I did intend taking part in the Anzac Parade this year but spent a few days in Royal Perth with a bleeding ulcer, however am feeling much better now. During the summer my main interest has been bowls and of course I spend five or six hours a day out at the farm. Have seen Ted Monk and Reg Harrington several times at bowls and they both seem to be enjoying life. Regards to all.

Charlie Sadler

Sorry to be late returning the information sheet it was apparently overlooked as at the time we were in the throes of getting our young daughter married. However that is in the past, we are Darby and Joan once again. George is returning in September then we hope to take part in more Association activities.

Colleen Strickland

Just moved from Muswellbrook to the coast, East Ballina, to be closer to the fish (What fish?)

Bob Teague

After a ding dong battle with Veteran Affairs on numerous occasions, am now on receipt of the T.P.I. With various other disabilities it would seem the deciding factor was accepting the heart condition. Looking forward to seeing all gathered in the West next year. regards, best wishes to everyone.

Bill Sharp

Had a great day in Sydney on Anzac Day. Met a few of the boys but did not march on account of my arthritis. Hope to see you all again next year at "Safari".

Colin Knight

CORRESPONDENCE CORNER

Len,

Many thanks for your card and letter regarding Phyllis, she has her ups and downs but is not really well and I only hope that everything turns our all right for her. I also wish to advise you that we will be returning next year for the "Safari" if Phyllis is well enough to attend. Please keep our address as the same in your new address book when it is printed.

I have set a date for my retirement and will be finishing up on the 13th of August and hope to be leaving for America on the 27th to take our grandchildren to Disney Land during the September school holidays.

Frank Jackson has sold his property and is also going into retirement he is going to settle down in Tamworth and has bought a nice home there.

I will be home in Dubbo for Anzac Day this year as it is my weekend to go home and also a long weekend with Monday also being a public holiday.

We have had several phone calls from Bob Smith and I guess he is over enjoying himself with you fellows now and has promised to call in and have a night with us on the way back from W.A.

Give our regards to everyone and thanks again for their good friendship and happy days during the Queensland "Safari" even though we lost 2 women at Tweed Heads on that Saturday night.

We stayed at a Motel in Armidale on the way home from the "Safari" and you would not guess in the net room was Paddy and Norah Kenneally, so we celebrated again that night and went to dinner together at the Armidale R.S.L. Club. The boys are well, Peter making the most of life without hurting himself he is now 22 and nearly as big as myself, he may come to W.A. with us next year.

We do hope that Dot is OK and that Gavin had a nice wedding and is now settled down to married life.

My work has been pretty hectic this year a very big wheat season and new forms of traction being introduced including the new XPT passenger trains 160kmh trains for the country services, well overdue.

Well old mate I will close now wishing you all the very best and hoping to be with you all again in 1983.

Kindest Regards

Frank Sharp

Thank you

I would like to thank all my good friends of the 2/2nd Australian Commando Association in all states for their letters and cards to me during my recent illness.

Your kind thoughts will long be remembered by me.

Phyllis Sharp

Edith and I will be joining the lucky people touring the fleshpots of Europe and the U.K. This is something we have had in mind and basically planning for

over about 3 years, and finally it comes to fruition.

Our trip works out this way—we fly Sydney-London on the big Kangaroo on 14/15; on 18th we depart for a 32 day tour of Scandinavia, Europe, Italy, Spain, France and back to London for 5 days, thence our 8 day tour of Europe, Wales, Scotland, return to London for 2 days—thence home. On each occasion in London we are booked at the Grosvenor Hotel, Victoria Station.

Looking forward to it of course as a great new experience. I've despatched a surat to Ian Ronald and also have Mike Calvert's address, so will hope to see both of them.

Edith has been quite ill for some 8 or 9 weeks suffering the effects of a virus that got into her lungs, and nothing would shift it. She lost her Mother on 21 February at the age of 91 and of course the shock of that at her worst time really set her back. At last she has come good and should be up to at least 95% by departure time.

Sad news over the weekend about Joe Garland who passed away last Friday up at his eldest sons place at Atherton. Apparently he suffered a fatal heart attack, and was brought back to Muswellbrook for burial today. Unfortunately, as far as we know, there would be no representation from the 2/2nd or the NSW Commando Association. Sorry about that but it was just not possible. John Lett, from Cessnock, who we haven't seen for many years, was a patient a RGH Concord recently, receiving Cobalt treatment for a cancer of the throat. A few of us managed to see him and apart from this he has worn well.

According to your reports, all 2/2nd functions over the past six months have been highly successful, especially those involving the Timorese. My contact here, Pat de Luz tells me that those who come to Sydney are well integrated into employment and the community but they are so widespread that they do not have many reunion type functions.

Gough Whitlam received a mention on the news recently when he returned from his visit from the island, but barely caused a ripple. I've been trying to see my local member Jim Carlton for months but he's hard to pin down.

Another fellow from the "long time no see" department who we have heard of is Harry Petrie of 3 Weir St., MacKay. 4740. As far as we can recall, Harry was a Sig. who served in New Guinea.

His son Terry was for a time 21/c of the No. 1 Commando Regiment based at Randwick, a career soldier and a credit to all concerned. If I can find it I

will enclose a photo of him doing a local presentation. Also, speaking of photos, will enclose some of our locals that you may not receive otherwise.

We have been trying for months to get up to Orange to see Frank and Kath Press—Frank is a cronic Emphysema case and apart from Kath his most constant companion is a large size oxygen cylinder. Kath phoned 2 nights ago to say that Frank is back in hospital but hoped to be home for Easter.

Sincerely

Alan Luby

We have just returned to Young after a three weeks holiday in New Zealand, and a few days a Sydney on our way home, where we stayed with our daughter Janette and her husband Stan.

Our trip to New Zealand was really wonderful, and we enjoyed the wonderful scenery they had to offer. There is certainly nothing like it in Australia. Our country is so vast, as we discovered when we toured the Centre beginning at Darwin, the Ord River, Alice Springs, Port Augusta, and back to Sydney. Both countries have something different to offer, and we were very pleased that we could make both of the trips, when the opportunity presented itself. Our trip through New Zealand was from the tip of the North Island to the tip of the South Island, and we still feel there is more to see, so one day we may make the effort and travel again, doing some of the places we did not see this time.

Next week I am off to Sydney to stay with Janette for a time, and Keith will come down for a few days and we will come home then together. Janette is due to go to hospital to have their baby, so Mum is going down to be back stop for a week or so.

Phillip, Lorraine and the 3 girls are now settled in at Frankston, and the girls are all enjoying their new schools, and doing very well. We are hoping to get down to see them in the next month or so. We did hope to be in Melbourne for Anzac Day, but we will be unable to do that now.

Early May we are expecting Marj and Ron Goodacre for a few days to a week, and while they are here we are going over to spend a few days with Jim and Joan Fenwick, who are in Canberra. Marj and Ron have never been to Canberra, so we will all have fun showing them around. Every time we go over Canberra seems to have grown a little more, but it should be very pretty in early May, with all the Autumn colours. We will be in Sydney

again for about a week, as Keith will be going down for the Assembly, which will be very interesting, from about the 10th May.

Next week when I go down, I am to collect the Painting from Bob Smith. He very kindly sent it down for us but of course the letter advising us of this arrived the day after we left for holidays. Never mind it will be all the better for us having to wait for it. We are so pleased Bob is doing so well with his painting, and he is to be congratulated on his efforts, and his generosity in donating one of his paintings to the Safari expenses.

In between times I have been doing a bit of P.R. work with one of the Doctors at Young on Cancer and its effects not only on the patient but the family of the patient. It has turned out to be very interesting, and we had a full page in the local paper, which apparently has been quite a success in the area, and now they want to do a follow up on questions and answers.

This week I have begun training the Debs for the Guide Ball, which this year is very early in the season, and we don't have too much time to work with them. Our numbers have grown too this year, which is good for the Committee, but it makes it a bit more difficult for me, as we have to teach 24 people to do the right thing this year. They are all very enthusiastic about it all, and that makes it so much easier.

So far this year we have not been able to fit in many of our Old Time Dances, but I guess as the winter comes closer, we will really get going again, and enjoy them just as much.

Well not much more I can write about at this time as it isn't very long since I dropped you a line.

We do hope that you are well, and getting a good response for items for the Courier. It will certainly make it easier for you.

Our very best wishes to all our friends everywhere, and hope this finds you all well, as it leaves us here at present.

Sincerely
Keith & Betty Craig

Well, as far as Yours Truly is concerned, I have been re-elected Public Relations Officer for the Geraldton Sb-Branch of the RSL and have just completed compiling the annual submission for the Collett Cup competition which we won for the 18th time last year as the country Sub-Branch with the most meritorious service during the previous year.

As Geraldton now has a Branch of the WA Museum, we have arranged for its special monthly display in April to consist of medals and war souvenirs from our RSL display at Birdwood House and also other items made available by members.

Now, something about other double-red-diamond-ites in this area. Tom and Mary Foster have moved into a lovely new home on their farm at Mount Horner in the Allanooka area from where Geraldton draws its water supply. They are being helped on the farm by their youngest son, Peter, while another son, Chris, runs the stockfood business at Geraldton.

Eric and Twy Smyth had their first full family reunion in nine years at Christmas. Daughter Jan and husband Reg Conroy and three children were over from Gympie in Queensland; daughter Erica, a geologist with BHP, made the trip from Kalgoorlie; and son Phillip had returned from yachting championships in Brazil. Phillip, who sails a Hobie-14 with the Nedlands Sailing Club, who has won the Australian championships a couple of times, finished 9th in the world championships in Brazil and 5th in the American championship in the New York area. Phillip is following in his father's footsteps in this regard as Eric was a prominent yachtsman and is still a lover of the sea.

Eric has been keeping himself occupied with a variety of jobs including running a radio-schedule for ESSO while his wife Twy is being kept busy as Regional Health Education Officer for the Geraldton Regional Health Centre which covers a big area stretching northwards to Carnarvon and southwards to Perenjori and Leeman.

Getting back to my own family, my wife Joan and I have been enjoying our bowls and our two sons, Ross and Rex, are working long hours at Geraldton on construction of the accommodation modules for the North-West Shelf Gas Project. Ross is in charge of the Geraldton Building Company's workforce engaged on the joint contract while Rex is working for the American Chicago Bridge and Iron Construction Company.

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

Peter Barden.

About time I wrote again and this is a good opportunity.

Things are pretty quiet now and everything is still looking fairly good after the floods of January. Elsie and I

were staying out at the farm during that completely house bound for several days as roads were washed out. Considerable damage to fire breaks washed out into large gutters and one dam bank breached.

Had a surprise visit a few days ago from Colin and Bonnie Criddle down here for a couple of days visiting relations and see Geordie Smith every now and again on the Bowling green, otherwise no contact with old mates for some time.

Have sprang a few surprises on the locals on the greens lately. Won the Championship pairs a month or so ago and this afternoon have to give thirty years to my opponent in the singles semi-final.

Alf Hillman

Just a short note to keep in touch, I am still enjoying good health and enjoying retirement and all being well we will be attending the '83 Safari. I will make our own arrangements re board and lodgings when the time comes. I havent seen any of the boys lately, but were OK at the last sighting. South Australia has had a long hot summer, may be the reason they won the Sheffield Shield, I can't think of any other reason.

Regards to all

Dud Tapper

I was pleased to hear of the progress of the Crossing children. It is a great credit to you and others involved that they have had such a good chance in life, after being tragically orphaned when they were so young. It must be a source of great satisfaction to you.

Blanche and I are both reasonably fit and keep busy for semi retired golk. I go our to the farm every day and pretend to work and Blanche keeps very occupied with various interests, golf, bowls, CWA meals on wheels and other committees.

Chas is very well again, after having heart surgery last year. He also goes out to their farm frequently and pretends to work.

Ron Sadler, a younger brother who was in the 2/2nd for a short period in New Britain, also had heart surgery about a fortnight agter Chas. He had a few problems after but if fairly well now.

Best wishes to all
Stan Sadler

Apart from a few phone calls to Scotty a number of years back, this is my first communication with that evergreen of journals, the 2/2nd Courier. It has pursued me through a great range of addresses through the kindness of neighbours and colleagues till finally I have—I think—at last come to permanent residential rest!

Afraid that I havent kept in touch over the years but have always avidly read the Courier, it is probably a little strange, for to me all the people that I knew on Timor are still young, virile twenty or just over, types—admittedly rather unshaven and with purple ex-ulcer patches on their shins.

I would like to add my applause to that which must have come the way of the dedicated people who, over the years, have kept the journal going.

Have recently retired from a Commonwealth cum academic career but find that Legacy, Rotary and trying to improve my bowls keeps me probably more busy!

Its a mess of years since I spent time with Don (Bushy Beard) Turton in the hills near Atsabe or hopefully manned the anti-aircraft device—a Bren mounted on a bamboo pole—with Chook Fowler at Same.

My sincerest good wishes to anyone who remembers me!

Vince Walsh

Fellows

This will be a surprise to you. I have been going to write for a long time but never got around to it. We have moved to the city for good. I have been on the army pensions now for twelve months. I hope to see a lot more of my old mates now, I have my own car here but don't drive in the city because my eyes are not the best, I drive around Claremont. So if any of you are around here don't forget to drop in. It is nice to get the Courier. Cheers for now and regards to you all.

Don Claude Young

Arch

I'm writing to you as Editor of the 2/2nd Courier in the hope that you may be instrumental in getting my name and correct address back into the address book.

Having enjoyed to the full the companionship of old comrades at "The Coast" Safari I was a little surprised I did not receive the Courier, nor the one since issued. Perhaps you could organise.

J. R. Smith

I received the February issue of Courier and would like to thank you for the lovely tribute you paid to my late husband (Dick). Dick was a good and loving husband and father and a staunch member of the Yarra Glen RSL. But I felt very proud that he was held in high esteem by all he served with in Timor. We miss his very much, but had 35 years of happy marriage and lots of good memories of him. He still had his accordion and played at local functions and entertained the elderly citizens. I thank you most sincerely for your sympathy to me and my family.

Neil Adams & Family

Have just received October issue of Courier and note the request for phone numbers for insertion in an updated address book and any constructive suggestions to improve format would be welcome.

The size of Courier appears OK but suggest nick name and wives name in brackets. The reason I suggest this is, at the Queensland Safari, I was introduced, as were others, to the better half of members only to forget very soon afterwards, was that Marj and Jesse, is that Paddy or Trish? You would know what I mean.

Recently I saw Tom Mildren and will give his address and particulars just in case he does not respond to the request.

We did enjoy the Queensland Safari and no doubt there will be many reports sent into the Courier. The Queensland boys have been congratulated on a job well done, but just in case they now feel a bit flat, I can assure them their efforts will remain a memory for many years to come. I still remember Ralph Conleys Army No. NX38656, without cheating.

Denny Dennis

A hot dry day, so a letter will take my mind off the uncomfortable weather conditions. I spent a few days at Cowra, everybody agrees its very dry. The farmers however insist that next month is the month they want the rain, so the rest of the population can put up with the prevailing conditions. I'll sure feel sorry for the good Lord if Jupiter Pluvius does not turn up next month. The squeaks from the ungreased axels will deafen paradise.

Went over to Orange to see Frank Press. I was agreeably surprised. Franks health has not been the best over the last few years, however he looks well, is cheerful, and accommodated his life to suit his present cir-

cumstances. His wife Kath, has been a help, mate and a half in these changed circumstances. They both send their best wishes to all members of the 2/2nd.

Had an interesting browse through Franks scrap book relating to the war years. With the help of kind sight, and all the reading I've done on events from 1939 to 1945, I've certainly been left with a book full of question marks, which no one from any side has given even semi-satisfying answers to—anyway I'm getting too old to be greatly interested now. The young'uns will have to find their own answers.

The Safari to Surfers Paradise was first class. The handful of members in Brisbane organising the Safari did a magnificent job, ably supported by their spouses, as for Fred Bryant, just as well our rations in army days were in such short supply. Had the Victuals available to him at Surfers, been available during our army days, we would have most certainly been the Rotund unit. Great job Fred. Plus Gar, our genial barman, who banished all our morning after woes with a cold can and a good tale. I felt a little sorry for "Basher" Adams, and Angus MacLachlan, they seemed to be continually working, while we played. They certainly made sure our stay was pleasant

Had a good night with "Bulla" Jait, Arthur Birch, Joe Poynton and Tony Bowers at the surfers pub. Joe and myself were a little late getting there, our perambulating efforts were not first class that night. I'll bet Charlie Mills is still laughing. Hope he never tells the truth.

Met Cyril Chapman for the first time since 1945, and were we glad to meet him. Thanks to Cyril, most of us left the Surfers race course in front, and believe me most of us came from a long way back. I was lucky to get 5 to 1 about it. Cyril looks well, had his share of bad luck too, through a riding accident, reckon he'll be about for a long time yet though.

All well at our place, all at home at present except Helen, she's still stationed up on the mid North coast, reckon Leon will be getting itchy feet shortly, and I'll be lucky if Nora does not develop them as well. The Commando memorial was handed over to the city council 30.1.82 V.I.P.'s everywhere, plus the rest of us, a really good turn our marred some what by the weather. I expect Alan will have sent a copy of the programme. Good health and happiness to all.

Paddy Kenneally

Please find small donation to be distributed equally between your Courier and the East Timor Association of W.A. which my late husband, John, would have desired.

My husband, Sid, who is a member of the 2/7th Commando Association also wishes to contribute, in a small way, to the East Timor Association in W.A. and his cheque is also enclosed.

Between us we now have six grown up children and 12 grand-children, based in Adelaide and Sydney so we commute regularly between Adelaide and Sydney. As you can imagine our time is well spent "baby sitting" and travelling, but it makes for a full life and we love them all.

We both enjoy reading the Courier, so keep up the good work and best of luck in the future. Regards to all.

**Nancy & Sid Hiatt
(nee Rose)**

Just prior to Xmas I travelled to Sydney to spend some three weeks with my daughter, we saw so many beautiful places in and our of Sydney, I can now understand how she loves the place so much. Deborah is an assistant Art Director with her company there, and it appears that Sydney will be her home for some time to come.

We were invited to afternoon tea with Alan Luby and Edity at their charming home in Deewhy, spent several delightful hours chatting with them both.

Alan organised a dinner at the Paddington R.S.L. (on very short notice I may add). I thanked him for the trouble he had gone too and must say that I was very happy indeed to have spent an evening with such a wonderful group of people.

Making up our party, were Alan and Edith, Paddy Kenneally and Nora, June Bennett, Mick Devlin and Betty, Arthur Littler and his wife, for those who have not had the pleasure of meeting Arthur, he is the President of the combined Commando Squadrons.

Ron Trengrove and his wife sent their apologies, also Jack Hartley, Ron's daughter had been admitted to hospital—do hope your daughter is now enjoying good health Ron.

Could not contact Jack Keenahan or Roy Martin, Jack was some 200 kilometres South of Sydney at his holiday home, sorry to have missed them both.

Ray Parry

Congratulations Arch on keeping up the high standard of the Courier. It sure is the main avenue of news and information to us all.

Father time is catching up with some of us and, I for one, "Don't get around much anymore" (Old song probably before your time).

Congratulations to Mick and Charlie on their Life Memberships. Both well deserved. Not forgetting Jean and Mary.

I was sorry to see such a long sick list. Hope all well on the way back by this.

We were all very sorry to hear of the pass of our old mate Bob Palmer. Glad some were able to attend his funeral.

I had to miss Anzac Day this year because of a bout of arthritis but hope to head North to a warmer spot soon and get rid of it plus meet a few of the boys.

Hoping to see you all at the Safari.

Max

I realise that I am well overdue for news to the Courier, but life hasn't been easy for me to settle down for this sort of thing. I am sorry to say that Grace is still a long way from well, so that I am able to write to you all in the vein that I should and I would ask all members for a prayer for her health and happiness once again.

Have had my two sons home recently for a brief visit. Terry from Sydney for four days and Noel and his family from Karratha for a few days. I am pleased to say that they and all the grandchildren are well. Our daughter Bethel is still up in Darwin.

No news of members as I haven't managed to see any for some time. Regards and bestwishes to all.

Clarrie

Have just received the latest Courier and have noticed I have been appointed Country Vice President for the Esperance Goldfields area. Will endeavour from time to time to give you news from this area.

As we have retired into Esperance our new address as above our Phone No. STD 090 71 2836.

If all is well, we will be definately going to the '83 Perth Safari, so please book us in.

Enclosed cheque to help along the way.

We are looking forward to a nice visit from Tony Bowers and Millie Bowden on Monday, otherwise all well and enjoying our new house and Esperance.

Pat & Peter Campbell

STOP PRESS

ADDRESS BOOK—INFORMATION SHEET

We have had a quick response from some members—BUT—412 sheets were sent out and only 101 so far returned, only a quarter of the sheets issued. It was to be published in June '82 but that is out of the question. We may ultimately have to put it out incomplete, but that defeats the exercise.

Come on members give us a quick response to a very vital communications system within our Association—the new Address Book will be our lifeline.

Most important please prefix your telephone number with your **Area Code**. More important still—GET YOUR INFORMATION SHEET FILLED IN AND **RETURNED**.