



2/2 COMMANDO COURIER

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COMING EVENTS CANBERRA SAFARI APRIL 1986 PUT THIS IN YOUR DIARY

S.A.S. REGIMENT - 2/2ND AUST. COMMANDO ASSOCIATION ANZAC EVE GET-TOGETHER AT CAMPBELL BARRACKS, SWANBOURNE

Members of this Association and their ladies, plus some of our widow, had the unique distinction of being hosted by our modern counterparts, the S.A.S. Regiment, headed by Lt-Col. Chris Roberts. It was a wonderful day filled with spectacular displays, beautifully prepared food, bus transport to all venues, plus a visit to every Mess within the Barracks area, Officers, Sergeants and Other Ranks.

All groups sustained a tremendous hospitality standard, starting with a lovely morning tea in the Officers' Mess. The friendliness shown by all ranks was out of this world; we were treated like Royalty right throughout the day, so much so it was a sad time when we had to call it a day.

If only the speech of welcome by Lt-Col. Chris Roberts could have been captured in total, it was earnest, sincere and full of appreciation of what the 2/2nd achieved during its war period. It would seem that they can relate very closely to us in the way the role of their Regiment is based. Lt-Col.

Roberts had done his homework well on our history and our wartime operations. It was, he stated, something that the S.A.S. could hang their hat on and only wished it had happened 25 years ago - they could have, within their accoutrements, fitted in a double red diamond!

Now they wear, rightly so, a part of the English S.A.S. trappings, fitting when one sees the type of young man that goes to make up this crack Regiment. It is a feather in our cap that they look on us now as a kindred type unit and want to share with us our experiences and adopt us as a unit of men with whom they have quite an affinity.

We received from Major Gordon Hill and Major Don Higgins a full run down on their establishment, their various roles in this modern type of warfare, their training methods, plus other things that go to make up the specialist Regiment the S.A.S. is in today's Army.

We saw the boys in action, starting with an explanation on the Paratroop Division, the type of parachute equipment available, its operation and its import. Then, free falling from the very blue sky of a glorious day, six paratroopers jumped from two helicopters at 7,000 feet and landed right

at our feet on the oval. Spectacular, breathtaking, precision-like in its every aspect, done by men with nerves of steel who shared with us the secrets of folding and storing their parachutes after landing. To them, apparently an every day occurrence in their field of training for infiltration, troop landing etc.

This was followed by refreshments in the Sergeants' Mess and a lavish luncheon which was highly relished by us all. The ladies wanted to take the Army cooks home, and why not!!

After lunch we got into the nitty-gritty of the equipment they have to master in their quality training periods. Portable rubber rafts, two man canoes, underwater equipment, including the sophisticated area of chest packs which eliminate bubbles, so the enemy has difficulty in knowing they are there. Intercommunication of all descriptions, from personal to base sets, solar battery chargers, and a set which can maintain contact between Darwin and Perth. Not only do they have to be soldiers but they also have to cope with the areas of technology.

All this was set up in their huge gymnasium - if you could not keep fit with all the equipment available, then you never would. They can practise vertical climbing on the brick wall when the weather is inclement, and there is a rest area on the way up??

They too suffer from lack of class equipment in various areas. In our book it behoves the Government to give a crack Regiment such as this, top class material.

At the firing Range we viewed today's high powered weapons, many captured on the field of battle. We enjoyed the opportunity to fire some of these weapons, under close supervision. Quite a number of our boys showed that time had not dimmed their skill and the instructors were duly impressed.

They have, this S.A.S., a proud record of achievement in Borneo and Vietnam where they served over long periods with great distinction and earned the respect of all who took part, for their tremendous contribution. All this has rubbed off on the men and they are fiercely proud of the S.A.S. Regiment whether they served abroad or not - they bear the name, they share the glories. It has moulded them into a Unit in which pride of achievement is high; to maintain this in a peace time atmosphere makes them the disciplined Unit that they are. We know, because of our own commitment in war and peace, that here is a Unit of which we are proud to have been asked to associate with in future events.

So, what a day it was! During afternoon tea in the O.R.'s Mess our President, John

Fowler, cemented our relationship with the S.A.S. by presenting to their vary astute and thoroughly convincing C.O.Lt-Col. Chris Roberts, a plaque with the Double Red Diamond mounted on polished mallee root crafted by George Fletcher, as a token of our esteem and future comradeship. John thanked Lt-Col. Roberts and all those involved in the Day's activities, and said how much we appreciated the inaugural S.A.S. - 2/2nd day and trusted it was a forerunner of many yet to come. It was au revoir!

ANZAC DAY THE DAWN SERVICE

In the comparative warmth of an autumn morning Anzac Day was heralded with flashing and brilliant lighting covering the horizon. To the gallant Anzac Veterans it must have been a vivid reminder of that morning so long ago, 69 years in fact, as it silhouetted the line of ranges, almost making the Anzac landing live once more.

In the beauty of King's Park, the rising sun obscured by a bank of dark clouds, an excellent crowd present, peace reigned with a silence that such an occasion brings. Not the glorification of War but one where we all remember the sacrifice made in two World Wars so that we who remain can lead a full and useful life.

As if in tune with the whole situation nature held back its lightning flashes while the 'Last Post' sounded and, as 'Reveille' broke out there crept through the clouds a brilliant shade of orange as if to herald the dawn of a new era. It was a touching and impressive sight and on our behalf President John Fowler laid a wreath in memory of our 'Departed Comrades' whom we mourn on Anzac Day.

A wonderful thing to behold was the attendance of so many teenagers who treated the War Memorial area as hallowed ground, they were quiet and dignified. Then there was the family element, how grand to see the 'littlies' come along with Mum and Dad, for this will surely rub off on them in the years ahead. They, as teenagers, will copy the ones already mentioned and the name of 'Anzac' will survive into the future, because they will continue to pay homage to the men who have made their way of life possible, continuing to make these words live! 'Lest We Forget'.

THE MARCH

An excellent 'Roll Call' was received for the March and Service to be held on the Esplanade. It was a mild, pleasant day, made so by the cloud cover which made

walking easier for the infirm, elderly, and our own boys of the 2/2nd!

In total they looked very fit and with John Fowler leading the parade, backed up by Tony Bowers carrying the Banner, our Unit was easily picked out by the crowd who responded to the commentator's description of our record.

Heads were held high as we marched to keep alive the memories of those boys who were killed in action and those who have since died, many of the latter because of service to their country. The discipline instilled so many years ago still exists and the even swing and tread was a joy to behold as the years rolled back to the days when we were of tender age, willing, eager, adventurous, with pride we were willing to defend our country in whatever sphere we were needed.

The crowd of onlookers was smaller than for a few years but that no doubt caused by our extremely long Easter break. Those who did attend were warm and spontaneous.

As we marched onto the Esplanade we were paid a magnificent tribute by the men of the S.A.S., headed by Lt-Col. Roberts, they dipped their flag in salute and all came to attention. It was a moving and emotional moment. As they went by in St. George's Terrace we applauded loudly - how closely they resembled the young eager men of the 2/2nd in the flower of their youth. It certainly gave us a deep pride to be classed by them as a Unit worthy of their alliance. All the discipline, training, pride of their S.A.S. Regiment showed in their bearing and their formation. They certainly looked what they are - a crack Unit to the nth degree.

To many it was disappointing that we did not sing 'God Save The Queen', something that has become synonymous with Australia in every field of endeavour, and which is so much a part of our heritage. We have no quarrel with 'Advance Australia Fair' as our own National Anthem to be sung wherever our involvement occurs, and which has its place at the Olympic Games, Commonwealth Games, sporting fixtures and the like.

Where men of war are concerned, where the 'Founding Gathers' of our country are honoured, then 'God Save the Queen' should take its rightful place, for with this Anthem the Australian Flag indicates the best of two worlds, Britain and Australia via the depiction of the Southern Cross as part of the whole. The move is radical and not in keeping with the feelings of the majority of Australians, young, old and newcomers. It has always been something on which to hang our hat and gave a deep feeling of security within the umbrella of the Commonwealth, with the King in past years, now the Queen, as the

parent figure. 'God Save the Queen' and 'Advance Australia Fair' could easily go hand in hand and be played at the appropriate functions in a dual presentation.

We were born under our Australian Flag as a Nation, which Gallipoli made us, then on every field where Australians have served since. We all look at the Flag with reverence, a token of what Australia has achieved under its colours, the right to call itself a Nation. No one turns their back on old friends and all look with gratitude on the men who created our 'Day of Remembrance' - 'ANZAC DAY'.

THE REUNION

We were back in familiar surroundings at the Knutsford Hotel and it gave scope for the catering talents of Jack and Delys Carey. It was a superb effort by the Careys to cater for, in the vicinity of, 60 people. The fare was ideal for such a function and Jack's discerning eye and keen brain saw that there was adequate, plus a little something, to last right through the afternoon. Sort of blotting paper for those who had a big thirst. Who didn't?? It was a day to remember and we thank you Jack for your fine organisation and you Delys for the presentation of the food. It was a class effort and all were loud in their praise of your culinary prowess. Thanks a million.

We were paid a surprise visit by some of the top brass of the S.A.S. Lt(Col. Chris Roberts brought the boys in for a couple of quick ones prior to going further a field. The gesture was very much appreciated by us all and John Fowler, our President, told them so. It would seem our adoption is nigh on complete. This gave the afternoon a great impetus.

There was a raffle with first prize a brilliant painting by Bob Smith. This is the subject of a special item in the Courier. A reprint of Sir Bernard Callinan's 'Independent Company' was second prize, won by John Burrridge. The luck of the 'Apple King'!!

We invited members of the 2/3rd, 2/4th and 2/8th to our function and it was great to have them, they fitted the occasion like a glove. It is a standing invitation to these boys who have no parent body such as ours. Welcome!

We were all one big happy family and as the day wore on reminiscences, nostalgia and emotion all had their moments. The boys in their maturity are quieter and late in the afternoon everyone was sitting down in groups animatedly talking about every subject imagineable while dear old Col. Doig regaled us with some of his best jokes. It was a case of coats off and feet up.

One never ceases to marvel at the camaraderie that exists in our Association, the depth of feeling each man has for the other, the sympathy that is available for those who need it, and always a helping hand when required. We are the envy of many Associations far bigger than ours for what we have achieved in mateship and togetherness. May it always be so.

Only one thing makes a Reunion - members of the Association - they turned up in good numbers to make the finale to Anzac Day one of joy and fun, of great feeling, of everything a Unit possesses. Thanks fellows for making it the day it was, it would certainly have the seal of approval of our mates 'beyond the vale'.

ANZAC DAY POST SCRIPT

The Unit was invited to lay a wreath on the S.A.S. Regiment Memorial within the Campbell Barracks at their Anzac Day Dawn Service.

Len Bagley laid the wreath on behalf of the Unit, a gesture very much appreciated by the members of the S.A.S.

Len and Betty were invited to breakfast at the Barracks starting with the traditional Rum in a tin pannikin!! Len made our march to the Esplanade and was in good form!.

A PAINTING BY BOB SMITH

Bob and Joyce Smith are extremely keen and sincere Unit members, always looking for a way to support our finances. Typical of Bob, who donated a painting to be raffled at the Queensland Safari, he sent one to W.A. via George and Colleen Strickland, so we could augment Association funds in whatever way we saw fit.

Anzac Day was a great opportunity to have the bulk of our boys in one group, so the Committee decided to organise a raffle and set a figure we thought was commensurate with Bob's beautiful production.

It was a real Australian Bush Scene and it went on display at the outset of our Reunion. Admiration came from all present and when we announced we were to commence selling tickets with this glorious painting as first prize, we were besieged, everyone wanted to be the winner so they could have it adorning the wall of their home.

The sweep was democratic, just straight numbers and it was drawn by one of our visitors amid eager anticipation. 'Number 23' was the call and the delighted winner was one of the 2/4th boys, Mick Townrow from the country, Hines Hill. He could not contain his joy at winning this lovely painting. Lucky Mick!

The total for Unit funds, \$230 - a great result and done with a minimum of effort. Thanks Bob for a grand thought and your extreme generosity. We are sure you will be delighted, it was a great boost to our funds. It was typical of you and Joyce and your love for the Unit and its members. God bless you both always.

VICTORIAN NEWS.

We had a get-together at the Esplanade Hotel St. Kilda on Wednesday 18th April, to meet Jess Epps from W.A. and Bob and Joyce Smith from N.S.W. There was a very good roll up and present were:— Bill and Eileen Sharp, Bruce Poynton (Brother of Joe and Jack), Margaret and Ken Monk, Mavis Broadhurst, Sheila and Norm Parker, Olive and Harry Botterill, Mick Wellings, John and Cath Roberts, Bluey Bone, Max and Grace Davies and Peter McCracken, Mam Smith, Thais and David Brown, Wilma Tobin, John Southwell, Norm and Fran Tillett.

It was great to see Mick Wellings and looking so well, retired and enjoyed the company of Bruce Poynton, elder brother of Joe and Jack, he looked very fit - Bruce was in the Air Force during the war. It was so nice of him to come along.

Apologies were received from, Peter Krause, left for Hong Kong on the same day, Bernie Callinan, in Sydney, Baldy Baldwin, George and Win Humphries, Alec and Beryl Boast, Glad Curran, Jock and Faye Campbell, Bruce McLaren, away in Queensland, Peter Piper, Bill and Pat Peterson, George and Dot Robinson, George and Dot Veitch.

It was a great day, we had lunch at the hotel and a good yarn, all round everyone enjoyed the day and the venue. Bob and Joyce Smith had quite a lot of the 'T' shirts with them and did a roaring trade; the "Sloppy Joe's," with emblem, looked very good and if anyone who was not there is interested, please contact Bob Smith at his home address or myself.

Anzac Day once again was very successful, the weather behaved itself and the following were at the march or the Reunion;— Tom Nisbet, Baldy Baldwin, Harry Botterill, George Kennedy, Leith Cooper, Alf Harper, George Humphreys, Johnny Roberts, Don Freyer, Ray Splatt, Bill Sharp, Jack Fox, Alec Boast, Max Davies, Paul Costello, Johnny Southwell and Bernie Callinan. Apologies:— Bruce McLaren and Norm Tillett.

It was great to see George Kennedy at the march looking very well and he seemed to recognise us all. His brother drive him to the march and took him home afterwards. Ray Splatt was a sight for sore eyes, looking very well; he told me he was a

professional painter and now resides on Maui Island in the Hawaii's. Will be staying in Geelong until the end of the year. Paul Costello was another looking fit we have not seen him for a while as he has not been in the best of health. Bruce McLaren had to go to the Gold Coast to check up on his apartment, there had been a sudden storm and he had a water problem. Hope there is not much damage Bruce. You asked me to give you the amounts in our general account \$822.15 — Provident Fund \$1264.86. There it is. Bruce's leg is playing up again and he may have to go into hospital early in May. Trust all goes well Bruce.

What a pleasure it was having Jess Epps stay with us for a while, she had just had three weeks with Tex and Bridget Richards in Tassie. No doubt Jess will tell about that! She made our place H.Q. — spent a few days with Max and Grace Davies and Peter, also Bill and Pat Peterson, Ken and Margaret Monk. then Olive and I took Jess to Keith and Betty Craig's place where Olive and I stayed a few days then left Jess with them while we came home. We had a lovely time with the Craigs. Went onto Canberra for a couple of days and had dinner with Jim and Joan Fenwick at their home. A very enjoyable evening.

On our way up to Young we took Jess to see Don and Joan in Wangaratta then called in to see Denny and June Dennis in Albury. June was in but Denny was out fishing with his son Warren. On the way back Olive and I called in again to see them and had a very nice lunch with Denny and June. Saw their new caravan which is a nice piece of equipment. We also called to see Arch and Dawn Claney at Wangaratta, they wanted us to stay but unfortunately we had to be back home that night. Well folks that's all for now, so until next time cherrio and all the best.

Harry Botterill

QUEENSLAND NEWS

CAMP HILL,
QUEENSLAND
18/5/84

Greetings from the Sunshine State where, at present, it is raining miserable winter rain. This comes occasionally so we won't get too complacent about our fine winter weather.

Have been fortunate enough to have had a few out of state visitors over the last few months. Bob and Joyce Smith and George and Collenn Strickland graced our company at a B.B.Q. held at North Line dam. They also travelled up to Maroochydore to the White House where

they were entertained by George and Pat-Betty Coulsen! Had lunch with Eric and Twy Smyth when they arrived in Brisbane and sought out Tony Adams. Nice to see some of the boys not appearing to grow much older than they were years ago. Eric was travelling further North but hoped to join us at the White House where we had arranged a two day get-together to view the mad producers video machine. Unfortunately Eric was unable to make it.

Had a most enjoyable two days with Betty doing us very proud each time the dinner bell rang. George was a very busy boy with a two-track mind. At all times he was shoving either a beer or a video camera in your face. He couldn't do too much business with his home made stout. You would think a man with his build would be very good with stout!

Attending the two day get-together were mine hosts George and Betty Coulsen, Tony and Iris Adams, and friends, Fred and Phyllis Bryant, George and Edna Vandeleur, Neil and Margaret Hooper, Butch and Pat Barnier, yours truly and brother Alistair. Extras who were at North Line dam included Col Grebert, Gordon and Joan Stanley.

George and Mel Mathieson have been out of circulation for some time. George had an eye operation, plus complications, and is now having trouble with double vision. He gets very excited when Mel hands him a "tinny" because he thinks he is getting two! Mel has joined our large band of back sufferers, that is apart from George getting on her back.

Don't see too much of Ralph and Sheila Conley but have the occasional two hour yak to Sheila per telephone. Ralph appears to be a phantom retired person flitting in and out of Brisbane to all sorts of exotic places. I think he does more flying than our Premier Joh! When he is at home he spends some time trying to put his boat up on sandbanks in Moreton Bay. Sheila says he has not managed to do so yet but I think she is just being loyal. Must say when the Conley's are available we do see them at our barbeques.

George Vandeleur spends a fair time fishing, when he is not playing bowls. George entertains us with his accounts of the number and size of the fish he catches but we have not yet managed to have a fish barbeque. George goes into Greenslopes in June for an operation just, as George says, when the winter whiting are running.

Tony Adams also joined the clan of bad backs. I think he had been working too hard in his backyard jungle trying to catch scrub turkeys. Poor soul had to miss a few games of golf before Iris nursed him back to fair health. Iris also had a bad time with injured ankles but has now thrown away

the walking sticks. I think she missed the back landing when parachuting down from a shopping trip.

Believe it or not, Neil Hooper is very domesticated, though I cannot imagine him with a fifty two apron around his waist. I think he spent quite some time throwing paint around the house and Margaret! Margaret is keeping good health, or so she tells us.

Gordon Stanley is now Squire of Deception Bay (in Moreton Bay) and when he is down there he makes sure he does not catch any fish by the simple procedure of not throwing in a line. TO make sure Gordon fronts up to our gatherings we have to make sure Joan is informed so she can post routine orders for the days. He misbehaves that lad!!

Fred and Phyllis Bryant are firing on all four cylinders. Phyllis has just returned from a short stay in Sydney - Fred reckons it was a long stay.

I have two Papuan lads staying with me for a few weeks, one a friend of Theo Adams. Called on Fred for aid and he has been kept busy these last couple of weeks making beaut New Guinea Ki which keeps the two lads full and happy. The lads are here on a Commonwealth grant working with State Government departments.

This just about brings this episode to myself. Bought myself a new near Sigma a couple of months ago. Four weeks ago we had a very bad stormy week-end which caused lashings of vehicle accidents, including yours truly. Had my car rammed up the back side by another car of the same ilk. Much damage to my car plus a smack on the back of the head aggravating an existing condition caused by winning the war single handed. Been having traction treatment for the past three weeks, plus probably, a couple more weeks. Me thinks we are a mob of crocks. Brother Alistair is in good health and joins in our outings and enjoys himself. Just as well he cannot drive his car, I have been turning the motor over for him ever since my own car was pranged. Very quiet on the home front. Manage to get in a few games of bowls when not hanging around the physiotherapists.

Had a phone call today from Theo Adams. Not sure whether he rings to let me know how he is keeping or checking up on me. Theo says he is in good health and sounds it. Also had a call from Tom Snowden and hope to see him when he is on his way back from Tin Can Bay (North Coast).

The boys asked me to send this letter as they are all suffering from writers cramp. Needless to say, they have to put up with what I say about them. Regards from Queensland to all States.

Angus Maclachlan

EDITOR.

Thanks Angus, a breezy and informative letter which will be enjoyed by all members. Am sure all States heartily reciprocate the good wishes from yourself and all the "Banana Benders!!"

THE ARCHIVES. CUSTODIAN PETER EPPS. 'C'

This young man, along with his mother Jess, has created a Archives/Museum situation with the Unit history. A lot of work has gone into its creation and now Peter needs help in really establishing the finer details so as posterity will have on record, a near full history of the 2/2nd Independent Company, later the 2/2nd Commando Squadron.

His accompanying letter, which appears below, and, a loose leaf insert in your Courier, shows just how keen and enthusiastic Peter is about our beloved Unit.

Whatever you can do to assist him will be greatly appreciated by the committee, in fact it behoves us all to help in anyway possible.

We are deeply indebted to Peter and Jess for their tremendous gesture of establishing it within the family home, at 12 Hackett Street, Greenmount. Much work has already gone into getting it under way. The letter from Peter, plus the loose leaf inset, speak for themselves, all that is needed is YOUR HELP.

PETER EPPS,
BOX 39,
HILARY'S
W.A. 6025

Dear Mr. Campbell,

Enclosed are 500 pamphlets I would like distributed to the members of the 2/2nd Commando Association, per the Courier if possible, as I badly require the information fro the Unit archives.

I feel that if the Unit is keeping a record of its comings and goings then it is essential that it includes the names of every member who passed through its ranks, even those attached from other units as in Timor. It is a great Unit, one that every member has a right to be proud of and therefore should have their rightful place on the nominal roll.

Could you please arrange for my name to be included on the mailing list of the Courier as this has been, and still is the lifeline of the 2/2nd Commando's, and I wish to compile a complete set for the Archives.

I can be contacted on 401 7584 after hours if needs be.
Hoping you can be of assistance.

Best regards,
Peter Epps.

JOHN FOWLER — LIFE MEMBER

Our Association President, John Fowler was made a Life Member at the Anzac Day Reunion. The committee resolved that this should happen at a well attended function. Likewise it was a bonus that it could be presented by none other than our 'Unit Father'; Colin Doig.

Colin eulogised Jack's service to the Association extending over a long period of years during which time he served faithfully and well. The honour bestowed on him by your committee on your behalf, was thoroughly deserved and he was delighted to be able to make the presentation to mark the affection in which Jack was held by all members.

He was heartily congratulated by Colin and given a rousing cheer by all present. Jack suitably responded.

The following will give a pen picture of Jack's Service to the Association:—

He was a Country Vice President for the years — 1959, 1962, 1966, 1968, 1969. A vice President 1979-80-81, and has been our President for the past three years 1982-83-84, which included the 1983 Safari.

That in itself is a really sterling performance but the unsung areas are where Jack Fowler has shone. He has gone out of his way to entertain our many visitors from the East, and his home in Perth, particularly in recent years.

John Fowler will be the recipient of congratulations from right across Australia and has earned them all. One would be remiss if the grand contribution by Jean Fowler in support of Jack over all the years was not highly, "mention-in-despatches". Thank you Jean from us all.
God bless you both.

2/2 COMMANDO ASSOCIATION. "T" SHIRT AND WINDCHEATER"

These have really taken right across Australia and I am sure many in all states who would love to have either one of these. The "Windcheater" did not get a full coverage in the last Courier but it is, for our age group, a fine piece of clothing.

You can have the bold motif as for the "T" shirt, or, the more conservative, 'double red diamond' with dagger, on the left breast. They have the added advantage of being able to wear them with a shirt and they come in a fine range of colours, grey, fawn, light blue, white, cream, light yellow. The price including postage is:— \$18.00

Get your orders in and send them direct to Bob Smith at his home address, 6 King Street, Shortland, N.S.W. 2307. You will not regret the expenditure and it will help Bob's son-in-law- who, as previously mentioned, is in the ranks of the unemployed and sends his heartfelt thanks for the way our Association members have seen fit to help him. Bob and Joyce likewise send their sincere thanks.

Keep the "Helping Hand" situation mobile. You may have friends who need a "T" Shirt or a Windcheater, the young man will oblige with a class article. Thanks members for your strong support to a most worthy cause.

THE EDITOR.

MAX LOVELESS PIONEER MEMORIAL COLLECTION

Tasmania has seen fit to honour one of our original Unit members, Max (Joe) Loveless, a signaller, (Whose expertise helped construct "Winnie the War Winner" a lifesave on Timor) for his contribution to the communities of that State.

Hereunder are extracts from the brochure put out in search of equipment to help form a permanent Museum environment. If anyone can help in any way the undermentioned information will direct it to the right channels. It is intended that a collection of valve-era equipment will be gradually assembled, restored to working order and made available for public display.

Max Loveless (VK7ML), a former state councillor of the Tasmanian Division WIA, died in April 1971. Max, as well as being an active amateur, spent a lifetime in 'real' wireless communications. He played with the new-fangled gadgetry of the early '30s, worked for the ABC in Hobart prior to World War Two and spent time in the AIF on Timor during the early dark days of that conflict. It was there that he built 'Winnie the War Winner', the radio transmitter constructed on kerosene tins and built up of recovered domestic radio equipment, captured Japanese apparatus and the remains of a low-power Australian wireless set. Until the successful contact with Darwin on this apparatus, using a morse

key made from bamboo, the 200-odd Australian Army personnel who were left on Timor were thought to be either killed or POW. They had lived off the land for a number of months and kept 15,000 Japanese troops occupied who could otherwise have been moving into north West Australia. 'Winnie the War Winner' is now preserved in the Australian War Museum in Canberra.

Max epitomized the craft of technician. His work with the old Pmg's Department earned him the respect of all those who knew him. He had the ability to create equipment items which were both first-class from a functional, practical point of view as well as being faithfully constructed works of art. He set high technical and craftsmanship standards for both himself and those who worked with him.

Obviously, if the collection is to successfully get underway, apparatus is required. In particular, the following items are eagerly sought:

—old ex-service gear, in particular we would like to get hold of an R101 or an R109 set (these were actually in use on Timor and would be fundamental to the collection), no. 22, no. 19, HRO, AR8, AT5, AR88, B28, B40 and similar apparatus.

—Some limited funds are available for the purchase of such equipment.

—Home brew apparatus of all types which may have been discarded in intervening years.

MOST IMPORTANT PLEASE- Before you toss out your old junk, valves, components, books, magazines, etc. give the Max Loveless Pioneer Memorial people an opportunity to cart it off for you. Your assistance will help ensure that at least part of our communications heritage is preserved for posterity.

Should you feel able to assist us in this most worthwhile venture please contact me by telephone in Hobart 002 28 6351 or perhaps write to GPO Box 251c Hobart.

Barry Risely,
Branch Secretary,
A.T.E.A.

PERSONAL PARS

JEAN FOWLER— Has had quite a big operation but is out of hospital and holding very well indeed. Everyone sends their love Jean, best wishes, with tons of good luck and good health in the months ahead. God bless.

RON DOOK— Underwent a knee cap removal and that which goes with it, including a replacement part. It was quite a big operation and even though Ron is out of Hospital he must go daily to the Shenton Park Annexe to undergo physiotherapy treatment etc. He looks tip top. Good luck from us all ROn for a first class recovery.

CLARRIE VARIAN— Had a period of intensive care with a heart problem but is out and home again. Well done Clarrie. Best wishes from all for a quick and complete recovery.

NEIL SCOTT— Another who required intensive care at Royal Perth Hospital with a heart condition. Keep plugging Neil you will come out on top. Best of luck from all members.

CLARRIE TURNER— Been hospitalised but is out and about and back to his normal cheerful self. Regards from all Clarrie.

ARTHUR SMITH— Poor old "Smithy" is back in Hollywood Repat. Hospital still in trouble with the "old pins". You sure have had more than your fair share Arthur! Trust the six weeks you spend in Ward 1 will see a much more successful result. Good luck from us all.

FRED NAPIER— Could not make our Anzac Day Reunion but even though having to use two sticks for mobility is full of beans. You are a tough old blighter Fred. Kindest Regards from everyone.

MERV RYAN— Has been in hospital with pneumonia and a few other ailments. At first the dreaded scourge was the worry but everything in that direction turned out O.K. Even though he is home he is still only 75%. Here's hoping the other 25% appears in the very near future. Dulcie is a first class nurse we are told Merv so all will be well. Good luck and God bless.

COLIN DOIG— This will have to be classed SPECIAL BULLETIN So many are asking after his health he must get the Royal treatment. To quote the inimitable C.D. when I asked about his health, "fair to muddling!!" Col is a survivor and good for a long innings yet. We all want to see you in Canberra Doigie. With Joy's ministrations that will be a soda. God Bless and good luck from us all.

VALE.
JOHN REGINALD SMITH

Jackie (Bluey) Smith was an original member of the 2/2 Independent Company and of 6 Section. A good little bloke who saw it out in Timor despite many troubles. He, with Paddy Wilby, ran the pony trains transporting various gear to and from the sections and also from the beach.

After leaving the 2/2nd Jack joined the company looking after P.O.W.'s at Harvey. After demobilisation he went back to the P.M.G. and was a postman stationed at Leederville for over 25 years, he became known to nearly everyone in the Leeder-ville — Mt. Hawthorn area.

Jack was an extremely generous bloke and was a soft touch for anybody who put the teeth in, amateur or professional!!

A good crowd of 2/2nd boys turned up for his cremation and it was good to see this happen.

(NOTE: This was written by Colin Doig whose fertile memory seems to have a tab on every member of the 2/2. Thanks Col.)

JOHN LETT

Jack Harley notified us that John passed away in January, 1984, taken by the scourge of cancer.

We have not heard a great deal of John over recent years but no doubt he suffered a great deal prior to his passing.

We salute him as a member of our Unit and convey to his close family and relatives our deepest sympathy.

DONATIONS

Mrs Jess Epps	Watson
Mrs Elsie Wares	Campbell (Peter)
MESSRS.	Weller
	Turner
Sproxton (2)	Holder
Webb	Smailes
Coulson	McKinley
Chatfield	Hartley
Chaplain	Iles
Stanley	Pat Da Luz
Dixon	Conroy
Showdon	Burridge
Wheatley	Swann
Sparkman	Payne
Smith (Arthur)	Darrington
Fowler (2)	Dook
Poynton (Joe) (2)	Doig
Hudson	Parry
Bagley (2)	Penglease
NSW BRANCH	Murray
Bingham	Thornander
Studdy	McDonald
Gorton	Lillie
Brown (Alan)	Thomson (Alec)

Criddle
Beveridge
Callinan
Clancy

Thorpe
Maclachlan
Poynton (Bruce)

CORRESPONDENCE CORNER

C/O BOTTERILL'S,
HIGHETT. VIC
13TH APRIL

As I don't look like ever getting home the way I am going I thought I had better drop a line or two to you and enclose a cheque from "Uncle Mark Conroy".

I left home Feb 25 by bus and had four great days in Adelaide staying with the Hollow family.

Met up with the Williamson's, Bache's, Ron Mackay, Timcke's and Mark Jordan, at a most enjoyable and relaxed evening at Betty and Keith Dignum's home. All send their regards.

Betty took Hazel and I for a drive round the burnt up area which is all sprouting green shoots, covering up the tragedy of the earth.

The property loss can be replaced, maybe never forgotten, but the life loss must linger in the minds and hearts of near and dear ones forever.

Before going on I must tell of the bus over the Nullabor, three months old and the air conditioning broke down! There we were having to stop at every water hole as the temperature was 46c. Bit had to take!

Must say the bus driver did his best to make us comfortable and thanked us for being a very understanding group.

Hated leaving Adelaide, but Keith was making sure I did and kindly drove me to the bus depot!

Straight to Melbourne airport; met in Tassie by Bridget and Tex Richards. Start of three wonderful weeks. Tex looked well and had recovered from his op. and stay in hospital in January.

After having settled down for a day they both made sure I saw as much of the state as possible. If I was not fit at the start I sure was when I left. Bridget loves to walk and we did our share believe me.

Everyone seems to have goats in Latrobe and I sure as hell felt I should have been tethered beside them, after walking up and down the hills there. Bless her heart I miss my Irish companion and her brogue.

We travelled hundreds of miles, right along the NorthWest coast to historic Stanely and Smithson, with its beautiful countryside and coastline. Three great days with their son and his family at St. Helen's, which is a lovely holiday resort; only Bridget and I. Tex, Bridget and I went to Hobart and surrounding districts which was really worth seeing.

The weather was in the 20's, lovely and sunny with a little bite in the air that made one feel great to be alive and in such good company.

Came down through the centre and home up the Eastern Coast through holiday places like Sarell, Swansea, St. Mary's, Deloraine— one of the prettiest places there, quiet and peaceful.

St Columbus Falls, flowing quite well considering the country badly needed rain. Lunch in an hotel called, "Pub In The Pad-dock" which it is.

Countryside there reminded me a lot of the trip up to the Snowy Mountains in 1968 Safari. Beautiful I found, you really had to drive. It was great.

The only rain we had was the weekend 25-26 March, and I was leaving for Melbourne next day, so caught up on filling my map. With this wonderful time an my six days tour 4 or 5 years ago, I have been right round Tassie, plus more.

Never be able to thank all of these good and generous folk, including their families' and friends, all who treated and accepted me as part of the family and treated me better than royalty.

Visit to Launceston where I cought up with Lola and Mark Conroy. Talk was the order of the day, couple of beers and arvo tea. So another lovely day passed.

Very sorry we could not spend more time with them as it was a very enjoyable afternoon. Mark looks well but has his good and bad days like most of us.

When I left Tassie poor old Tex had the flu and had been in bed three days and feeling very miserable.

Terrific flight up the coast to Wynyard before heading to Victoria, wher I was met by Olive and Harry Botterill. From there I will write of later and say cheers and regards.

Love from Olice, Harry
and Jess. God Bless.

COODANUP,
W.A.
9.4.84

Regret to say I willnot be attending the Anzac Day march or Reunion this year. As I did last year at this time I'm of on a prospecting trip with some fellow enthusiasts in the quest for that lovely stuff — GOLD!! Just hope I do better than last year. Am heading for the Cue area and will be away about a month, leaving April 10th

Please pass on my best wishes to all at Anzac time — maybe I'll find enough gold this trip to ensure my attendance at next years turn-out!

Enclosed cheque for donation to Courier or whatever.

Best regards to you Arch and strength to the Association and everyone in it.

Syd McKinley

FAIRFIELD WEST,
N.S.W. 24/3/84

I know this letter is long over due but the last year has not been the best I can remember. After the stroke last year in March I had trouble speaking properly and the specialist says I still have one vocal cord paralysed, but am O.K. except when I get tired. Also couldn't write for some months and have trouble remembering things, but apart form that I've recovered very well.

Jim Dent has been in Prince of Wales Hospital at Randwick for some weeks and has had his larynx removed because of cancer. Jim is now making a good recovery and uses a throat microphone to dispense his usual brand of bright humour.

We have just heard that John Lett of Cessnock, passed away on the 27th January this year, also of cancer.

On a brighter note I can report that the mini-Safari at Keith and Betty Craig's home at Young on the 10th-11th March was a wonderfull success and all those who attended are hoping for a repeat next year. present were, Alan & Edith Luby, Bill & Coral Coker, Paddy & Nora Kenneally, Alf & Joyce Hodge, Jim & Joan Fenwick, Col & Val Hodge, June Bennett, Ron & Marge Goodacre, Ted Cholerton, Danny Daniels, John Went, Mick Mannix, and Jack Hartley,

We all stayed at the Colonial Motel, just a short walk from the Craig home and were well looked after. On Saturday we had a mid-day barbeque at Craig's and then Snow, Mick and myself had a game of bowls at the Young Bowling Club. At night we enjoyed a beautiful dinner at a very nice restaurant and Snowy Went was the life of the party. Sunday morning we played bowls again and met Happy Greenhalgh's nephew, Bill McGregor, who was one of the local bowlers and also another chap who was a close friend of our late mate, Angus Evans at Narrabri.

After bowls, another barbeque at Craig's and here we took the opportunity of presenting Keith with a Life Membership tie bar and Betty with one of the new lapel badges.

Keith and Betty have attended all but a couple of the early Safari's and over the years have been most generous hosts to many of our members. Betty has been a regular contributor to the Courier for many years and I congratulate both and thank them for their efforts on our behalf.

Jim Fenwick and Danny Daniels gave us a report on arrangements they have been making for the Canberra Safari in 1986 and they appear to have the situation well in hand. Monday morning saw the last of us heading for home, but Snowy, Mick and I decided to detour through Carcoar and spend a few hours with the Cholerton's. We were two hours late getting there and Dianna thought we had got lost, but it was only because I couldn't drag my two mates out every pub along the way.

Anyway, we eventually made it and were treated by Ted, Di, Julie and Pat to a very nice lunch, after which Ted took us for a drive around his property. Ted's future plans are to sell a major proportion of his land and retain the homestead, some timbered country and enough cleared land to keep him out of mischief. We left there at sundown and arrived home about 11pm. Altogether a lovely week-end, particularly so for the pleasure of seeing Alf & Joy Hodge and Col & Val Holly after so many years. No doubt some of the other scribes will give their version of the doings, so I will leave it at that.

This coming weekend the Nol Commando Regiment have invited us to attend their annual camp and exercises to be held in the Jervis Bay area, and we will be presenting the Combined Commando Trophy for the best rifleman to the winner of the 1983 competition. This is a magnificent trophy and was instigated and paid for by the N.S.W. Branch of the 2/2, designed by Bob Smith and given with the idea of encouraging our younger counterparts in the basic skills of soldiering more on this weekend later.

I am enclosing two cheques Jack, one from myself as a donation to the Courier and the other also for the Courier, being \$250 from the N.S.W. branch.

Well Jack all the news for now, hope this is in time for the Courier. Regards to all the boys.

Cheers, Jack Hartley.

EDITOR.

Thankyou the N.S.W. Branch for such a grand contribution to the Courier. It only further serves to indicate the tremendous "togetherness" within the Unit.

QUEENSLAND
MERMAID BEACH
10TH APRIL 1984

Dear Arch,

I'm sorry I have not written before this to thank all the boys who knew Wilbur, and sent me such kind supporting messages, flowers, and attended Wilbur's funeral, and for the kind words that were written about him in the December Courier, to all of you my personal thanks, it has not been easy for me these last five months as I have lost a wonderful husband and a great mate. Our children have been absolutely wonderful to me and have asked me to say thank you from them. Denise our daughter flew down from Brisbane to Wagga the day Bill died to bring me back to her place in Brisbane, our twin sons Donald and Robert were there with their wives Jacqui and Judy at the airport also Denise's husband Roy and our dear Grandchildren Tammy and Ben, who all miss Bill very much.

I have to tell you that the Perth re-union meant a great deal to Bill and the meeting up with so many of his old mates was something he had been looking forward to for a long time, I thank God we made it. For Bill to see Arthur and Beryl Smith again and also Ted and Peg Mon, Gordon and Eve Rowley and Jim Smalles (we missed Marion this time as Bill was not well enough to travel up to see her) was just something he was so thrilled about. To the boys who visited him in hospital at Hollywood I say thank you he did enjoy your chats so much.

To the Brisbane boys a big thank you for attending Wilbur's funeral, also thank you for the lovely flowers (in red and white) you sent me after, thanks to Tony and Iris Adams, Shelia and Ralph Conley and Edna and George Vandeleur, Angus MacLachlan, Fred and Phil Bryant, your support was very much appreciated. Thais Brown I thank you for your support in Perth when things got a bit much for me.

I have not received a War widows pension but I have applied so heres hoping.

The courier is great thankyou for sending it to me, I still want to keep up with the doings of the people from the unit, I find it very interesting.

Yours sincerely,
Daph Wallis

GOOSEBERRY HILL
6076 W.A.

Dear Arch,

This is mainly to inform you of my change of address as from 1st April. Marion and I have moved into a smaller home within a retirement village complex here in Gooseberry Hill and find it more suitable and less work and maintenance. The garden and big house were getting too much for us especially with the family all settled into their own homes. It leaves us free travel further without involving others to look after things while away.

We are both having health problems but nothing to bad providing we take things quietly. Of course most of the trouble is none of us are getting any younger, and so must expect to shorten our activities. Have not seen many of the boys lately, but am very glad of the Courier and the news of various members all over the country. A cousin of mine, a Jack Smailes of Surfers Paradise, had known Wilbur Wallis over there in a Bowling Club for some years, & was able to attend the funeral service last October. He remarked what a nice little family Wilbur had, and how well he was respected in the community over there. But that is life.

Enclosed is a few dollars to help keep the wheel of communication turning where ever it is needed most. Regards to all and hope to see you on Anzac Day.

Yours sincerely,
Jim Smailes

BUSSELTON
W.A. 6280

Just a note with \$20 for two T shirts, the 2/2 Commando ones done by Bob Smith's son-in-law. Also enclosed a donation to use for whatever. We look forward to the Courier and all the news, which keeps us up to date on most members.

Sorry we did not make it to more of the Safari, but enjoyed Don Turton's B.B.Q., it was a lovely day and Alex enjoyed meeting everybody.

Betty and Keith Craig with Jess Epps called in at Ludlow and it was lovely seeing them. I had been laid up with a broken foot for eight months but am now back on my own two feet again. things take a bit longer to knit at my age.

Hope this finds all members well. Kind regards to all.

Yours sincerely,
Wyn and Alex Thomson.

GRETA N.S.W.
APRIL 1984

Sorry it has taken me so long to write but pen and paper are like a black snake to me.

I had a wonderful week with the boys and I am very sorry I did not complete the safari, my son was the fly in the jam as he wanted me to spend the last week with him. I couldn't very well refuse seeing I travelled so far to see him and as many of the boys as I could.

Peter and Pat Campbell were not at home when I called in and Ted Timcke was in the U.K. on his way home from Canada. I called into Temora seeking information on Jack Pryor without success. No one seemed to know him except his parents were both dead and he was an only son.

He had three sisters living in Temora but they are not there now. He did have an Uncle who moved to Canberra, maybe we can find something out when we are on the next safari?

I'm not a great hand at this letter writing Archie so please remember me to all the 2/2 boys. I am enclosing a donation for the Address Book, it's a beauty, also the Courier which I am receiving and enjoying reading it very much.

Sorry to hear that Roy Watson has been ill, hope he's soon his old self again. Knowing Roy he will fight on.

Well Archie all the best to you and the boys, hope to see you all in Canberra. Your old 2/2 mate—

Frank (Slim) Thorpe.

CAPEL W.A.
20TH MAY

Sorry to have neglected forwarding a cheque for "T" shirts before this. As you have probably heard I have had a few problems with health of late, but very pleased to say I am finding improvement each day.

Also am glad to say I have seen some improvement in Grace's health of late. So much so that we are hoping to do a trip over East and right up to Brisbane later on this year. Round November-December probably. Our daughter has moved over from Darwin to there now. So we will be hoping to catch up with some of our Eastern mates then.

Enclosing a cheque to cover the "T" shirts that Len ordered for me, also a few dollars to help out in some little way.

Regards to all,
Grace and Clarrie

BROOME
W.A. MAY 1984

Dear Everybody,

Eric said write so I will and hope you can read my scrawl.

We are in the North and have been for six years. We go South for Xmas to Geraldton. Our son and his wife have taken over the house there. He is teaching at Geraldton High and seems quite happy with his lot; they have two children.

Patricia and her family are at Newman, they have four children. We manage to see them every couple of years if the road is open. We spent last Xmas in Newman.

Ann Marie is in Perth and has five children which keeps her moving. Josephine is also in Perth now, they have one so we have the round dozen grandchildren. Jo's husband is a teacher so they will be moving around.

We think of retirement, probably in time for the next Safari. We were hoping to make it to the last one but pressure of work made it impossible.

I have taken up bowls now I haven't any family left. I try to interest Eric in it but he says he is too young yet and it might interfere with his fishing and armchair football. We saw Eric Smyth and his wife up here last year. We live in Pryor Drive if

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

W.A.

J.P. Smailes Villa 11 — 106 William Street,
Gooseberry Hill. 6076

H. Brooker (Dcs'd) now
Mrs F. Brooker 284 Erindale Road,
Balcatta 6021

B.C. Langridge. Lot 34 Pleasant Grove,
Mandurah 6210. Phone (095) 34 3136

F. Humfrey Unit 61 — 55 Alexander Drive,
Mt. Lawley 6050 Phone (09) 271 5909

C. London 3/22 Shepherd Street,
Hilton 6163

C. Criddle P.O. Box 125 Wembley 6014.

NO LONGER AT THIS ADDRESS

N.S.W.

J. Barrett "Evendale" Maitland Street,
Cessnock. 2325

Mrs M. Field Delete Castle Hill 2154,
should read Killara. 2017

J. Lett (Dcs'd Delete 23 View Street,
Cessnock. 2325)

anyone strays this far up; but don't come between October and May it is too hot and humid.

I am enclosing a cheque with this letter and we hope to be nearer everyone in a couple of years time. The "Mossies" are very bad this year, you can't go out even in the middle of the day unless you have repellent on.

It is a pretty town and I like it as it is kind to my Asthma and hayfever, I seldom get either here. We are both reasonably healthy, Eric gets some Arthritis but otherwise gets an AI from the Doctor on all counts. So we can be very thankful.

Our poor old dog Spot is going blind he was hit by a car two years ago and apparently suffered damage to his optic nerve which is catching up with him now. But he will still hop into any fight going even though he comes off second best most times.

We read the Courier avidly and it is sad to see the number dropping off, it is especially sad to hear of Norm Thornton passing away. We visited them about six or seven years ago when we toured the South West. it could be even longer.

Well I must close and go and pick up the papers and get lunch ready.

Love to all,
Margaret and Eric Weller

ESPERANCE,
W.A. 6450
7.5.84

Just to enclose a cheque for whatever you want.

We are caravanning again with Reg and Dot Harrington and Reg's brother and wife. Going to Alice Springs through Riverton, Giles etc. All looking forward to it as we thoroughly enjoyed our last trip together.

Things starting to look a little brighter down this way as have had a few showers to start things off, one of the worst seasons we have had down this way.

We are proud Grandparents of a lovely little boy, "Alexander Mark". Brings the total to eight!

Peter has had a bad few months with gout, first in his hand and then in two feet; is still hobbling a bit, just hope everything goes alright while we are away.

Regards to everyone and yourself Arch.
Pat and Peter Campbell.

INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR UNIT ARCHIVE

PLEASE COMPLETE WITH AS MUCH INFORMATION AS POSSIBLE
RETURN TO MR P. EPPS. P.O. BOX 39, HILLARY'S W.A. 6025

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY.

1. REGIMENTAL NO:-
2. NAME
3. RANK ON JOINING UNIT
4. RANK ON LEAVING UNIT
5. DATE AND PLACE OF JOINING UNIT

6. WAS MEMBER WOUNDED ?
If yes was it (a) Timor
(b) New Guinea
(c) New Britain

7. AWARDS AND DECORATIONS INCLUDING M.I.D.'s
while with unit

8. AWARDS AND DECORATIONS WITH OTHER UNITS

9. DETAILS OF OTHER MILITARY SERVICE

WE BADLY NEED ITEMS FOR THE MUSEUM. DO YOU
HAVE ANYTHING THAT IS RELEVANT TO THE UNIT
THAT COULD BE USED IN THE MUSEUM/ARCHIVE.