



2/2 COMMANDO COURIER

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

Vol. 77

JUNE 1989

Price 1c

COMING EVENTS

MID YEAR SOCIAL

**11am Friday, 7th July at Anzac Club
to entertain our ladies — BE THERE!**

1989 Country Convention at Geraldton 18th - 22nd September

ARRIVE: Monday 18th — CONVENTION: Tues 19th-Thurs 21st — DEPART: Friday 22nd

Recommended accommodation is available at the new Ocean Centre Hotel, corner of Cathedral Avenue and Foreshore Drive. Licensee is Bob Ramage.

There are 51 air conditioned units, all offering colour TV, Refrigerator, Tea/Coffee making facilities, Private Facilities and Direct Dial Telephones.

Daily rates are: Single \$50; Double \$56 and Triple \$66.

Balcony units are \$10 per day extra. Full breakfast \$8.50. Continental breakfast \$5.50.

For bookings, phone (099) 21 7777 or write to the above address. No deposit is required.

The Belair Caravan Park and Holiday Centre has caravan bays available at \$10 per day for two people, and 8 chalets at \$28 per day for two. Chalets can accommodate up to six — rate for over two people is \$3 per day per extra person. Bring your own linen or hire it at \$2.59 per set.

For bookings, phone (099) 21 1997 or write to the above at Wilcock Drive, Geraldton. A deposit is required.

Geraldton is 424 kms north of Perth and is a comfortable drive of 5-6 hours. A Westrail bus leaves Perth at 8.30am on the Monday, arriving Geraldton at 2.15pm. A return bus leaves Geraldton on the Friday at 8.30am, arriving Perth at 2.15pm. Return fare at the concessional rate, for pensioners and holders of the Seniors Card, is \$31.70. Pensioners may also use their annual free travel entitlement.

ITINERARY

MONDAY, SEPT. 18: Arrive Geraldton.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 19: Bus trip to Kalbarri, Red Bluff and river gorges.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 20: Mayoral tour of Civic Centre, Library and Queens Park Theatre, followed by Cathedral inspection and Batavia Discovery talk by Max Cramer.

1989 COUNTRY CONVENTION AT GERALDTON 18th-22nd SEPTEMBER

THURSDAY, SEPT. 21: Barbecue lunch at Tom Foster's farm at Allanooka
Dinner at Ocean Centre Hotel to wind up the Convention.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 22: Visitors depart.

BOOK EARLY — It will be a great week. Please let Jack Carey know if you will be attending so that numbers can be passed to local organisers.

BAROSSA SAFARI 1990 16th - 26th March

RE ACCOMMODATION: There are still six cabins available in the Caravan Park. The en-suite cabins have been all taken. There are still plenty of caravan sites available. The Vine Motel has three rooms available. The Top Of The Valley also has three rooms on offer plus an Executive Suite (for anyone who is in the money). Members who intend making the Safari and have not booked are advised to do so **RIGHT AWAY.**

Finalise your bookings now — It will be the event of the year
Re-read October '88 Courier for prices etc

For details please refer to December 1988 Courier

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Tuesday, 9th May, 1989

There was an attendance of 25 members, deemed a good roll up.

Life Members: Wilf March and Stan Payne were recipients of this badge. Both have been fine contributors to the association over the years.

Election of Officers 1989/90

President	Archie Campbell
Vice President	Jerry Haire
Secretary	Jack Carey
Treasurer	John Poynton
Editor	Archie Campbell
Warden	George Fletcher
Auditor	John Burridge

Courier Committee:

Mary McKenzie
Betty Illsley
Gerry McKenzie
Len Bagley

Committee:

Len Bagley
John Burridge
George Bayliss
Colin Dalg
Dick Darrington
Jack Fowler
Jack Hasson
Wilf March

Country Vice Presidents (2nd Term)

Goldfields-Esperance	Peter Campbell
Northern	Peter Barden
Midlands	Rex Harrington
South Coastal	Bill Rowan-Robinson
South West	Clarrie Turner
Mandurah	Joe Poynton

John Poynton, Treasurer, presented the Audited Balance Sheet, proving our finances are in a healthy condition. His meticulous detailing of its break up was very well received. John's contribution over the year was first class in every aspect.

It was a very good meeting with Gerry McKenzie outlining the work of the Courier Committee. Len Bagley gave a run down on the production of the new address book. Len's son Gavin is computerising the record of names, for which we are most grateful. The new book will be printed in the near future.

George Fletcher was unable to present his report because of illness. The President proposed a sincere vote of thanks to George for his diligent attention to the post of Warden over many years. This was received with prolonged applause.

Any member is welcome to sit in on the second Tuesday of each month.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 1988-89

Members of the 2/2nd Commando Association.

The last 12 months have literally flown by and I want to thank you for your loyal and sustained support.

Each year continues to be one of involvement in all sorts of areas relating to the Association. Most of us are now retired and all agree that the new idea of Association functions being held in the day time is most acceptable.

Esperance Country Convention was a real highlight, so efficiently organised by Peter and Pat Campbell, fully supported by their family and friends. It was a week of fun right out of the top drawer, further cementing our friendships. The country conventions do so much for all who attend — the spirit among us has to be seen to be believed. May they continue as long as we are all capable of supporting them.

Ladies Christmas Social has developed into a really first class function, a time when the boys and their ladies get together to celebrate the on-coming Festive Season. There is no need to dwell on it for one word sums it up — **Terrific!**

Anzac Day. The Dawn Service and the March are still very important facets of our activities. This year, to share Anzac Day among the members, Len Bagley laid the wreath at the Dawn Service, Joe Poynton led the March and they both did a grand job. Bob Smythe and John Burrridge represented the Association at the Dawn Service at the Memorial of the S.A.S.R., Campbell Barracks. Thanks to you both and to the S.A.S.R. for the invitation.

For our Reunion after the March we reverted to the old format of 2/2nd members only, with invited guests. It made us realise how much we had missed this old custom.

Mid-Year Social with our ladies was a huge success — we started early and finished late! The suggestion for this function came from the ladies and was the brain child of Norma Hasson. It is here to stay.

Annual Reunion Lunch continues to draw members of the Association for it is their day to reminisce, re-kindle old friendships and maintain the closeness that all the boys of our grand old Unit feel for each other. It is indeed a permanent fixture on our calendar.

Commemoration Service held in Honour Avenue, Lovekin Drive, Kings Park is our most important day of the year in which we honour our departed comrades. This well kept area is a tribute to the Kings Park Board and we thank them for their close co-operation. It is also synonymous with the work of George Fletcher who makes sure every detail is

attended to, and has done for a long time. George is the recipient of a heartfelt 'thank you' from us all for his dedication to the cause of the 2/2 Commando Association.

Colin Doig's **Unit History** continues to be asked for and glowing tributes still flow in. Our finances are duly augmented via Colin's most generous gesture.

The Courier is definitely our life line and the team work hard to make sure it remains so. Thank you to all those who help with news throughout the year and special thanks to Gerry and Mary McKenzie, Len Bagley, Betty Illsley, our typist, and the Editor, who make up a fine team of helpers.

Without a competent, hard working, clear thinking Secretary, no organisation can function efficiently and we have just that person in Jack Carey, with great support from Delys who is the silent partner! Thanks Jack for your long and devoted service to the Association, it is in a class of its own.

John Poynton, the caretaker of our funds, is the ideal person for this job. Full of innovative ideas and diligence to his task, John has brought to this post an unusual flair and the Association has prospered accordingly. Thank you John.

Allied to the above officers is the Committee who ensure that the organisation stays on an even keel. They do this with enthusiasm, forthrightness and the ability to sort out the things that will be of advantage to the Association.

We look on the Association as an Australia wide issue and take the welfare of all states into account in our deliberations. We thank them for their ever ready co-operation and action when required.

Our thanks go to the R.S.L. Headquarters for making the venue for our monthly meetings available to us on the second Tuesday. Likewise, their function rooms for all our social activities, and their catering is first class.

Our links with the S.A.S.R. continue on a very firm basis. We are mindful and appreciative of all they do to make our lot easier when planning events in which they so readily take part and which makes the presentation so much better. Thank you to the C.O., Lt-Col. Jim Wallace, his officers and men for accepting us so readily into their midst.

To all members, wives and families, wherever you may be, to our widows who are so much a part of us, God bless you all, for you are the Association, one big happy family.

Thank you sincerely for having me as your President for the year 1988-89. I deeply appreciate the honour and thank you all for your grand support.

Archie Campbell,
President.

2/2 COMMANDO ASSOCIATION

Statement of Receipts and Payments for Year Ended 31 January, 1989

BALANCES FORWARD AS AT 1/2/89

Working Account	385.21	
Savings Investment Account	6450.03	
Debentures T & C Building Society	9683.87	
Imprest Account	100.10	16,619.11
	1733.28	

INTEREST RECEIVED

Working Account	18.35	
Savings Investment Account	513.09	
Debentures T & C Building Society	1201.84	
	1733.28	
Less Alloc to States	1715.00	

COURIER

Donations	3273.00	18.28
Less Costs Printing, Postage, etc.	3397.72	(124.72)

C. D. DOIG BOOK

Sales	1047.50	
Less Costs	728.00	319.50

LAPEL BADGES

		85.00
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TIES

		190.00
		17,107.17
		17,107.17

GOVERNMENT CHARGES

F.I.D. & F.D.T.		15.63
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ASSOCIATION EVENTS

Losses Incurred		234.30
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ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES

Rent GPO Box T1646	66.00	
Sub to Aust Commando Assoc.	20.00	
Stationary Post etc	170.00	256.00

SUNDRIES

Donations — R.S.L.	15.00	
— Legacy	50.00	
Blackboy Hill Comm. Site	100.00	
Funeral Notices	104.60	
Anzac Day Wreath	53.50	
Commemorative Service	30.00	353.10

Advance to S.A. Safari

Advance to S.A. Safari	3000.00	
Less return from Vic	2000.00	1000.00

BALANCES AS AT 31 JANUARY, 1989

Working Account	(700.08)	
Imprest A/C	100.00	
Savings Investment Account	4962.51	
Debentures T & C Building Society	10,885.71	15,248.14
		17,170.17
		17,170.17

I have partially audited the books and vouchers and consider the above statement reflects the true position of the Association. The records have been meticulously kept by the Treasurer. The Bank Statement for the Savings Account for the final period was not available at the time of audit. **J. BURRIDGE, Auditor.**

ANZAC DAY

DAWN SERVICE

It was a beautiful calm, still morning, enhanced by the light of a fading moon. The attendance was the biggest in years, with a preponderance of young people and small children, all excellently behaved. It did one's heart good to see the silent service adhered to by this large crowd — the Anzacs have not been forgotten, their sacrifices have not been in vain.

Len Bagley, who has done so much for the Association, laid the wreath on our behalf. Our wreath is of medium size but it looks outstanding with its vivid double red diamond on a background of silver grey leaves. In the light of day it becomes the cynosure of all eyes. Truly a lovely expression of the deep affection and respect we have for our departed comrades.

To watch the wreaths being laid, to see the dawn approaching off the heights of Mount Eliza, the waters of the Swan river shimmering a hundred feet below, is as close as one can get to envisaging the escarpment at Gallipoli. As the wreaths were being laid the lights beyond seemed to extinguish themselves with each wave of men and women who solemnly laid their tributes. As the last group returned to their place, most lights had disappeared. A flight of birds flew over the memorial as if to pay their silent tribute to the cause of peace. The Last Post, two minutes silence and out of the stillness the single volley from the artillery reverberating down the river valley towards the foothills of the Darling Range as if summoning the sun to appear, which it did, a glorious golden ball. Reveille was sounded, flags were raised to the masthead, then to half mast where they remained until midday. The Dawn Service for 1989 was over.

The younger generation had shown that they will carry the Torch of Remembrance.

*See that you hold fast the heritage that we
leave you
Yea, and teach your children its value
That never in the coming centuries their
hearts may fail them
Nor their hands grow weak.*

SPECIAL AIR SERVICES REGIMENT DAWN SERVICE

Bob Smyth and John Burrige represented the Association by laying a wreath, the same beautiful design as used at the Kings Park service.

The S.A.S.R. are very close to us and we appreciate the co-operation we have shared over the years. We thank them for the invitation, may it continue over the years ahead.

THE MARCH

At the commencement of the march to the Esplanade at 10 a.m. the weather was still, calm and a little cloudy which made it perfect for the veterans. Not too hot for them to enjoy the march and the plaudits of the very large crowd.

Joe Poynton led the boys of the 2/2nd, deservedly so, as his support and that of Helen, has been a big factor in our Association remaining a compact and tightly knit group. The Mandurah contingent hired a bus and came to Perth for the march and stayed for the festivities. Joe led us well. He got into gear, set a pace acceptable to the whole outfit and the boys have never marched better. We were the subject of some vociferous applause, particularly after the March Past when Joe's grand children ran on to the road, clasped his hand and marched along with us. Joe didn't miss a beat and it drew special applause from the enthusiastic crowd.

Another first, at least as far as most of us could remember, an attractive young lady marched in our midst. Rosemary Pace, the daughter of our late esteemed member, Bill Drage, was excited and thrilled to be a part of her dad's loved Unit. Thank you Rosemary for the compliment.

During the Address we had a misfortune in our ranks. Jack Wicks collapsed with what appeared a heart attack. St John Ambulance members were on the job immediately and applied the necessary resuscitation. A doctor appeared and a young lady with sophisticated equipment to lend vital support, then the ambulance gently transported Jack to the First Aid tent. He was later taken to Royal Perth Hospital and was discharged during the afternoon. In the evening the writer talked to Jack and his wife Hazel, who must have been a worried girl. All is well that ends well, Jack had been subject to severe heart pains, not a heart attack as such, but the efficiency and speed of the St. John Ambulance group saved the situation from being a drastic one. The co-operation of this group was greatly appreciated by the 2/2nd Commando Association.

THE GET-TOGETHER

We were back to our original format for this reunion. In recent years we have been guests of the S.A.S.R. and we appreciated being with them each Anzac Day. However, getting together again as an Association of old and closely knit mates drew a big attendance, for the Airways Hotel is close to the Esplanade, easy of access and ideal in every way. John Poynton organised an excellent show which was thoroughly enjoyed by members and our very welcome visitors. The catering was superb and we thank John for arranging the same venue for Anzac Day 1990.

It was a pleasure to welcome John Roberts who is over from Victoria with Cath to visit family. We were delighted with messages from Tom Nisbet, Alan Luby, Colin Doig in St John of God Hospital and Jim Smailes who is not too well. Thanks old timers, your messages were much appreciated.

Anzac Day finished on a high note, cementing further the great affinity we have with each other and the way we share it with our friends of other Commando Units. It was a day to remember.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN NEWS

Enclosed is a further list of starters in the Barossa Handicap. We are more than pleased with the numbers — it will be a grand event and the weather should be good at that time of the year.

We are running a raffle for the Safari and giving fair warning to those blokes who have deep pockets and short arms. The prizes are in keeping with the location of the Safari.

1st Prize: A 2-gallon keg suitably inscribed.

2nd Prize: 12 bottles of assorted wines.

3rd Prize: A crystal decanter and two matching glasses.

4th Prize: A wine rack which will hold 12 bottles.

I have taken photos of the prizes, except the 12 bottles as most bottles are the same. We will send the photos to each state so they can see what they are in for.

I can vouch for the quality of the keg. I have been elected custodian of the keg (by me) which I filled with a good port, laced with a wee drop of the good stuff, a recipe handed down by my grandmother.

On the more serious side:

Bert Bache had a heart attack last Tuesday, May 16th, fairly bad, he is in the intensive care ward. **STOP PRESS:** Back home and making steady progress.

Ron Mackey is waiting to go into hospital to have a triple by-pass. I will keep you posted.

Betty and I went down to Coonawarra in the south east and stayed a few days with Ron Gurr. He looks as fit as a "mallee bull." We did go into Mount Gambier but failed to look up Babe Webber, we ran out of time.

Enclosed is a bit for the Courier.

All the best,
Dig.

Barossa Safari Roll Call additions as at 16/5/89

VICTORIA:

John and Cath Roberts, Harry and Olive Botterill, Wilma Tobin, Ken and Margaret Monk, Arch and Dawn Claney, Bruce and Erica Poynton, Norm and Fran Tillett, David and Thais Brown, M.A.M. Smith and Jack Carmody, Jack and Julie Fox, Blue and Aynsley Sargent, Nina Grachan.

NEW SOUTH WALES:

Phyllis Sharp (left off last list), Bill and Coral Coker, Ron and Marge Goodacre, Ron and Dorothy Trengove, Roy and Joyce Martin, M.R. (Cisco) Cole, Jack and Marj Peattie, George and Gloria Smith.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA:

Don and Vida Turton, Col Doig, Joy Loudon, John and Gloria Poynton, John Fowler, Don Hudson, Jack and Delys Carey, Stan and Blanche Sadler, Eric and Margaret Weller, Rupert and Ede Hewett, Stan and Barbara Payne, Charlie and Mavis Sadler, Charlie Pearce, Jess Epps, Fred Sparkman.

TASMANIA:

Max and Noreen Miller.

QUEENSLAND:

Fred and Phyllis Bryant, Neil and Margaret Hooper, Ralph and Sheila Conley, George and Edna Vandeleur, Spud and Doris Murphy, George and Bettye Coulson, Bulla and Jean Tait.

NEW GUINEA:

Theo and Mrs Adams.

N.S.W. NEWS

Our friend and Secretary, Jack Hartley, will be writing officially to express our thanks for the cheque recently received from the W.A. Committee by way of disbursement of funds, and which we appreciate very much. There's no doubt that through Col Doig's generosity and intelligent planning over the years, our Associaiton is in better condition financially than many of us are physically, and as age wearies us, it's good to know that we have resources for helping anyone who requires assistance.

We were pleased that Len Bagley and Betty made the trip over for our Bi-Centenary Reunion last November and made an excellent report on it for the Courier. It was a successful event as such, but we, in our own 2/2 way, have a much happier family atmosphere with our Safaris.

This was evident more recently when we had a gathering of more than 40 at Young, mainly for

a pleasant weekend. No doubt Jess Epps and Jack Fowler will have given you a report on their attendance, and what a great pleasure it was to see them. There were a number of others who intended going but couldn't make it for various reasons — list attached.

Col. Holley was due for by-pass heart surgery last month but he's been deferred for a while.

You've probably had a report from Paddy K. on his trip to Goroka and subsequent bout of malaria.

Am having some problems with the old back and the resultant sciatica. Edith couldn't make Young but our daughter Peta stayed with her so I could get away.

Thanks for the list of post war casualties. I've added Angus Evans ex Narrabri ? 1970, and Norm Thornton 11/1/84 as the only two I can see missing.

Have shown Peter Epps lists around and discussed them with a few people but have not been able to help much — memories have grown dim! He would obtain a lot of answers re Sections in Col's book more readily than from any one person. Probably it will be remedied in the next book, but of seven present at our last meeting, five of our names were not listed and I would have been one of the first to respond.

Our marksmanship trophy — for competition between No. 1 and No. 2 Commando Companies and attached troops, has again been won by a Sig. from 126 Sig. Regt., Victoria, one John Constantinitos. We were disappointed that the presentation was made without any of our Victorian members even being advised.



Jack Hartley with 2/2nd Commando Marksmanship Trophy.

The Jim Hocking funeral saga has at long last been finalised, the costs having mainly been met by Repat. Dept., A.P.M. (his former employers), some local Service donations and we made up the balance of \$60 from Association funds.

Our Anzac Day arrangements are much the same as usual, wreath laying at 0800, proceed to March, break off, then made our way to our ferry at Circular Quay, cruise the Harbour while we enjoy lunch and good reunion fellowship. One departure this year, we won't be assembling at Hasting Deerings for a drink, after 44 years we have decided that the extra distance is too much and we've found a new water hole in the basement of the T & G Tower.

We hope you have your usual very successful Anzac Day and send our warm regards to everyone.

We were recently advised by Pat de Luz of the death of one of the expatriate Timorese, Moises Amaral.

Moises was one of the delegates to the United Nations to present the case for the Timorese opposing the invasion of their country by Indonesia.

A Requiem Mass was held for the repose of his soul at the Timorese Church, Villawood on Saturday, 24th February.

Alan Luby.

ROLL CALL YOUNG 11-12 MARCH, 1989

Keith and Betty Craig, Ron and Dorothy Trengove, Denny and June Dennis and sister Shirley, Leith and Marg. Cooper, Harry and Olive Botterill, Bill and Coral Coker, Arch and Dawn Claney, Jack and Marje Peattie, Fred and Phyllis Bryant, Frank and Phyllis Sharp, Jack and Maria Hartley, Ray 'Blue' and Betty Westerweller, Ken and Margaret Monk, Angus MacLachlan and Wyn, Jim and Joan Fenwick, Ron and Marje Goodacre, Jess Epps, Wilma Tobin, Alma McGregor (Hap Greenhalgh's sister), Jack Fowler, Alan Luby, Snow Went, Fred Broadhurst, Norm Demmery, Ted Cholerton.

Apologies — Paddy and Nora Kenneally, Joan Darge and John, Edith Luby, Dianne Cholerton, Pat and Julie, Col and Val Holley, Betty Devlin, June Bennett, Ron and Pat Hilliard, Mick and Elva Mannix, Kath Press, Lionel and Elsie Newton.

Goodwill phone calls from — Allan and Hazel Hollow, Theo Adams.

BOB SMYTH'S ROGUES GALLERY — SEQUENCE 6



Wilf March



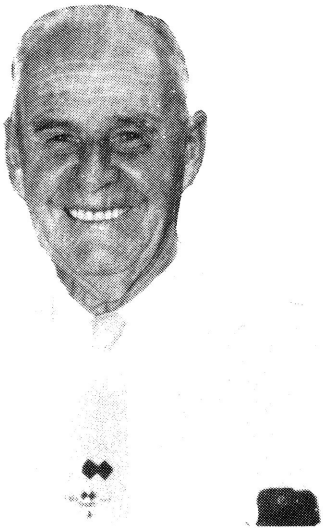
Colin Criddle



Harry Sproxton



Fred Sparkman



Jack Hasson



John Chalwell



Jim Smailes



Bob Burns

VICTORIAN NEWS

Victorians who attended the Young Mini Safari were Olive and Harry Botterill, Wilma Tobin, Ken and Margaret Monk, Alma McGregor (Happy Greenhalgh's sister), Arch and Dawn Claney, Leith and Marg Cooper and Fred Broadhurst, as usual, it was a very good weekend. The weather was reasonably good with a little rain but mainly at night. Betty had done her usual masterly job of organising and a very enjoyable time was had by all. Keith was allowed to come home for the weekend and it was good to see him enjoying himself.

There has not been much happening here lately, Cath Roberts has been in hospital and missed the Young Safari but is now out and getting along quite well.

Olive and I had an enjoyable week in Bright over Easter.

All the best.

Harry Botterill.

RANDOM HARVEST

B. Callinan,
111 Sackville St,
Kew 3101

We had a beautiful bright sunny day for a record Anzac Day march. There was a good roll up for our reunion after the march, with the Commando Association.

I did not march but watched from the vice-regal box and for the first time I **saw** a march. I was deeply impressed.

Am coming on, having graduated from crutches to two sticks, to one stick and now none. Stairs I can deal with following 'the drill' slowly.

Enclosed is a cutting from the 'Double Diamond' I cannot remember Connell; he may have joined after Timor.

Bernard.

EDITOR: *Bill Connell served with the 2/2nd in New Guinea and New Britain and was in 1 Section 'A' Platoon.*

Bill's address is shown in our address book as Victoria Point, 4163 which should read 4165. The postcode for Cleveland is 4163.

Angus MacLachlan, could you please obtain Bill Connell's correct address for Courier mailing.

"Bill Conell (2/2) Cleveland: The weather is very hot here today with a temperature of 32 and 90% humidity. You folk down south don't know what you are missing.

I have ordered two stickers for my car, would you believe I have only seen one other car with

our stickers on it and I could scarcely wait to see who the owner was?

We are still losing mates at an alarming rate, the way I feel at times my turn won't be long coming. Once we have passed 60 I suppose every day is a bonus.

I wish that more 2/2 members would contact me.

I was intrigued to see the name Irma Doe (2/2) in the financial list in December 1988 as my wife's name happens to be Irma also. Any information? Best wishes to all."

Nice to know **Beryl Smith** has left Bethesda Hospital after a long and painful spell. Wilf and Lorraine March took her back to the Mandurah home she loves so well. Good luck, may your recuperation period be very short. God bless from us all Beryl.

EDITOR: *Jerry Haire has procured this story of our old war time mate. Am sure many will be interested as to how Jack is faring. He was a fine soldier and top exponent of the art of boxing in his younger days. Read on. Best wishes Jack, from all your old mates.*

JACKIE SPENCER

The old timer is going great guns. From his two shafts, just off the Bulung Road some 20 kms from Kalgoorlie he is doing quite well. As a matter of fact he reckons he is on a promising vein which may yield significantly. However, he modestly asserts he is not keen to become a millionaire though he would be very pleased to "do well" out of this recent development.

As mentioned by Reg Harrington some time back, Jack's licence having run out, he was threatened by a claim jumper who rushed in and was for taking over the property. There was an outcry. Had there been a Paddy Knight or Boy Hewitt in Kalgoorlie I guess the claim jumper would have been hustled out of the town. Ultimately Jack paid him \$500 and is now in happy possession of the mines he has been working for so long.

I am indebted to Mrs June Pow, a niece of Jack's who spent a few days with the old prospector, for this report. She says he is very happy in his little empire. There were daily visits from lovely birds whose friendship he cultivated. Further, he has become a local celebrity as school parties visit him from time to time to see what a real prospector does. He guides his visitors down the 12ft ladder to inspect the workings, and shows them how to dolly a few specs which he has carefully placed in the "dish." I can just imagine how pleased he is to be able to pass on his mining

knowledge to the young people. Their visits of course break the loneliness of his existence, thought he'd be the last to admit being dissatisfied with his solo style of life.

Jerry Haire.

Message from Secretary N.S.W. BRANCH

Dear Jack,

Will you please convey to your Committee the appreciation of our branch for your generous and unexpected cheque which I have deposited in our Building Society account. This was a great boost to our funds as we have not collected fees from our members for many years and have relied on donations from those regulars who attend meetings.

Have not been in the best of health myself for a few years Jack because of sugar which causes problems with my legs, psoriasis, circulation and general debility etc., but I'm sure this is a common thing with many of us so I'm not complaining. My heart goes out to that wonderful old warrior "The Doig" in his long battle with his ailments. Please give him my regards.

Am enclosing my cheque for the Courier. Hope to see you in the Barossa next March, should be a good show if previous safaris are any indication.

Kindest regards to you and Delys.

Jack Hartley.

GERALDTON NEWS

We had a memorable Anzac day with two highly successful parades that were witnessed by big crowds and which included ex-service personnel from all theatres of war as well as Army Reserve personnel.

It was a delight to see school leaders among the marchers and wreath layers, despite the school holidays, which clearly showed that the significance of Anzac Day is not forgotten by the young.

The marchers included three proud wearers of Double Red Diamond insignia — Nip Cunningham, Eric Weller and Yours Truly. I had marched with Nip on many previous parades but it was the first time I had had the pleasure of marching with Eric.

I feel sure that Bruss Fagg would have figured prominently as usual in the Anzac Day arrangements at Northampton. One of Nip's friends, Tom Olsen, was among Geraldton RSL members who attended the Northampton Reunion and reported that despite his leg

trouble Bruss was still enjoying a noggin or two.

Although Nip has had a recurrence of ulcer trouble to both legs, the complaint is not as bad as previously and I believe he may have recently created some kind of a skipping record for a 72 year old. Wearing a new pair of gym shoes, Nip drew sustained applause at the Mercantile Club with a 140 skip effort.

I asked Nip what was his most memorable bout during his boxing career and he replied that it was against W.A. middleweight champion Danny Ryan at the age of 20. He said he had the fight won when, for some inexplicable reason his towel ended up in the middle of the ring.

We are all looking forward to renewing acquaintances at the 1989 Country Convention at Geraldton on September 18th-22nd and I have written to thank our Mayor Faye Simpson, agreeing to show members and their wives over the Civic Centre, Library and Queen's Park Theatre. This will be done on our so-called "free" day, Wednesday, September 20th, the day that my brother, Monsignor John Barden, has agreed to show us over the adjacent St Francis Xavier Catholic Cathedral and the Anglican Holy Cross Cathedral. These visits will precede a talk at our Museum by Max Cramer who was the first person to dive on the 1629 wreck of the Dutch ship Batavia at the Abrolhos Islands in 1963. You will be able to see relics from this and other wrecks.

I loaned Mayor Faye Simpson my copy of Col Doig's excellent book so that she will be in a better position to appreciate the great work carried out by the 2/2nd.

Nip Cunningham would like to reciprocate the best wishes extended by Frank Sharp of Dubbo per medium of one of my bowling acquaintances, Jim Turner.

At present I am reading Bernard Callinan's excellent book "Independent Company" loaned to me by a neighbour, Jessie Curley, sister of "Gunner" Brown who, after serving with distinction in the 2/2nd, died while serving in the army in the eastern states in 1963.

The phone number of the Ocean Centre Hotel was incorrectly shown in the April Courier. It should have been (099) 21 7777. I'm sure Licensee Bob Ramage will look after you in fine style.

Best wishes to you all.

Peter Barden.

MINI SAFARI YOUNG

Hello folks, I hope you are all well and making the most of life.

Am writing to report on the mini safari at Young, N.S.W. in March, our wonderful hosts being Betty and Keith Craig who again threw their home open for our enjoyment for the three days.

Every state was well represented, with a total of approximately 60. It was so nice to see Jess Epps and Jack Fowler from W.A. We were given all the news from the west and also their trip and Jack's video photos across the Nullabor.

Phyllis and I had the great pleasure of having my old mate of 6 Section, Fred Broadhurst, up from Melbourne for a fortnight's holiday with us, and what a fortnight! He planned his holiday to coincide with the Young safari so that he could attend and meet the boys and their wives after missing out on the Phillip Island safari. We all know what a great worker he was for that reunion but poor fellow didn't get out of hospital until it was over.

On Friday morning, 10th March, after coaxing Phyllis to come with us, we left Dubbo at 11.30 and headed for Young about 3½ hours drive. We had a picnic lunch in a park at Forbes and then off again, arriving at the Colonial Inn Motel, Young, at 3.30pm where we were met by Angus MacLachlan, Fred Bryant and their ladies, plus our first sign of rain. Fred asked me where in Dubbo we live as they had stayed at a motel in Dubbo the previous night. They were so surprised when I told them had they climbed the back fence of the motel they would have been in my back yard.

After a clean up, cuppa and a good yarn we all set off for the Craigs. What a gathering and what a host, with all the beautiful food that had been prepared for us. Broadhurst took the floor immediately with his stories and yarns —poor old Keith and many of the ladies almost choked during the meal from laughing at his wit. He certainly stole the show for the weekend and his entertainment was much appreciated. After our meal the rain pelted down so we adjourned indoors with the piano, Fred's songs, yarns and community singing we carried on until midnight.

Saturday was another great day with a barbecue lunch cooked by Fred Bryant and myself whilst the ladies had prepared very nice salads and sweets. A little ale and wine were all part of the lunch, with many stories of old times and old mates. I would personally like to thank our good ladies for their assistance to Betty throughout the safari to make our weekend the success it was. In the evening we attended a reunion dinner at the Young Ex Services Club where we were again hosted to a

beautiful dinner, old time dancing for the dancers and pokie machines for the non-dancers. Some of our ladies made a profit from the pokies. Another late night but a wonderful day was had by all, even though the old bones and joints were aching and the tongues were getting tired from talking all day.

Sunday was another great day at the Craig residence. Fred and I got the barbecue going and prepared nice steaks and sausages for hungry guests who must have appreciated our cooking as there was nothing left for the magpies and stray cats. Salads, sweets and drinks were the go again, with plenty of entertainment from Broady. In the evening the ladies prepared a nice meal and then we said farewell to each other before departure on Monday morning. We all sang and said many goodbyes and everyone claimed it to be a top weekend.

Thanks again to Betty, Keith and their lady helpers for making our weekend such a memorable one.

Fred Broadhurst left us the following weekend, thanks Fred for a great fortnight and your entertainment at the Safari.

Bye for now, looking forward to seeing you all at our safari in South Australia.

Kind regards to all.

Frank Sharp.

FRONT LINE SERVICE MEDAL

This is something new to the W.A. Branch and has raised its head by virtue of a letter from Denny Dennis which is produced hereunder so members can become au fait with some of the details:

"I have been expecting to read of the Front Line service Medal in recent Couriers but to date no news.

Enclosed is a list of explanations issued by the Queensland Association of the 2/12 Bn, which the Executive may wish to discuss and decide on.

The 2/40 Bn Association sent me my medal last October. The cost is not mentioned in the screed but believe \$8 a fair price, which Nth Tas charged. Sth Tas Association of 2/40, I believe, gave free from their funds.

Don't get me wrong, I am not selling anything, I only wish to draw attention to the medal that some would like."

EDITOR: *Denny, the W.A. Executive discussed the explanations put forward by the*

2/12th Bn Association of Brisbane and were unanimous that we would not make this an Association issue. The war has long gone and it was felt that any decision should be in the province of the individual and left to him to pursue the course of his choice.

It has not appeared in the Courier because we have never heard of such a medal being available. Thank you for your information.

Any interested member can obtain further information from:

Secretary, 2/12th Bn Association
Wally Osborne,
8 Janette St, Camp Hill,
4152, Queensland
National Co-ordinator,
Ray Beasley,
14 Seventh Avenue Sth Townsville,
4810, Queensland

VALE JIM VEAL

Jim Veal died at home 24/3/89, after a long illness.

Jim and I were mates as boys, joined the A.I.F. together with consecutive numbers, were best man at each other's marriage, and have been best mates ever since. I visited Jim in Port Pirie, 17/2/89 on his birthday and we had a beaut day.

Jim served his apprenticeship as an electrical fitter with Broken Hill Associated Smelters at Port Pirie prior to his enlistment in the A.I.F. After the war he returned to B.H.A.S. where he worked until 1977 when he retired sick with emphysema.

Jim was at all times interested in the affairs of the Electrical Trades Union and was a long serving officer in the Union.

He was also a keen member and official in a local football club and very interested in protection of the environment.

Jim and Audrey had a family of two boys, Max and Ray and it was a very well adjusted and happy family.

Audrey died in 1985 and this was a great blow to Jim who nursed her at home in her final days.

Max, who is a bachelor, still lives at home and was always a tower of strength to Jim and a great help to the end of Jim's days. Jim was a keen fisherman and, with help from Max, managed to still land a few until recently.

And so, farewell to my best mate, a good soldier, good citizen and a real MAN.

Bob Williamson.

A Tribute to DUDLEY LAURENCE TAPPER

It is with great regret that the S.A. Member of the Association says, Farewell to Dud and it is at this time we can recap on his life in S.A.

Dud was one of the contact points the Interstaters used when passing through, or passing on news good or bad. He was a good family man and a devoted father to Brenton, and a devoted husband to Audrey.

Besides being a Life Member of the 2/2 Assoc. he was a past President of the Commando Assoc of S.A. and a member of the Henley and Grange R.S.L.

After being demobbed, Dud spent the rest of his working life in the building trade as a bricklayer and worked on numerous buildings in and around Adelaide and in the country areas. The same desire to do a job as close to perfection as possible as his attitude to all things.

Dud was a regular visitor to Bert Bache's office at the Associated Co-Operative Wholesalers, (often over a cup of coffee). At that time Dud was working on some big extensions to the huge warehouse. Dud's fine brickwork on the main entrance is a perpetual testimony to his endeavours to always do a good job.

Dud's leisure life was in two phases, early post war years was sailing around the Gulf waters and Kangaroo Island in a boat called the "Reverie," and in later years camping on the Anna Branch for relaxation, with Brenton and Audrey in the quiet serenity of the back waters.

If there is such a place as Valhalla, and I hope there is, I could think of quite a mob who would be there, to welcome Dud, and the yarns that would flow.

From the S.A. Members.

W.W.C.P.

BOB BURNS is putting up a very spirited battle against great odds but is made of the right stuff to succeed. We are all behind you old timer every inch of the way. God bless and good luck from us all.

JACK WICKS is out and about, not 100%, but knowing his courage he will be soon. Stay in there punching Jack, for we know, with the help of Hazel, you will be back to good health in the not too distant future. Good luck from us all.

'DUTCHY' HOLLAND has had a spell in hospital but is back on his feet. With Jean's ministrations he will be well on the road to recovery. Good luck from us all.

ALBY MARTIN'S health is fluctuating a little but he is such a bright person you would not know he has some problems. Get better quickly Alby, it is always nice to see you. This is a message of good cheer from all of us.

GEORGE FLETCHER has been subjected to some tough 'ray' treatment and has certainly been through the mill. George has a big heart and a great nurse in Joan. We are looking forward to that team putting paid to the current problems very soon. God bless from us all.

GEORGE FLETCHER ASSOCIATION STALWART



George Fletcher — Anzac Day 1989

This photograph depicts the wreath laid each year at the Kings Park Memorial Dawn Service and now at the Special Air Services Regiment Dawn Service in Campbell Barracks.

The man responsible for organising this exercise is George Fletcher, shown holding one of the wreaths. He works tirelessly as our Steward in charge of the Lovekin Drive, 2/2nd Commando Squadron Memorial area, and in close liaison with the Kings Park Board. He is the Keeper of the Unit Flag and produces it whenever it is required without fail. George is an active committeeman and a tower of strength in every direction.

Thank you George from us all for your great contributions to the Association, despite in

recent months being beset by a physical problem which we know you will beat. Good luck and good health be yours.

CORRESPONDENCE CORNER

B. F. Dennis
614 Sackville Street
Albury 2640

Have just returned home from the Mini Safari at Young, N.S.W. I don't intend to report on the Safari, no doubt Betty Craig will put pen to paper and tell you all just how well it went.

Fred Broadhurst took first prize as the entertainer of continuous jokes. Keith Craig was brought home from the nursing home and Fred had tears of laughter on Keith's face.

My comments — a damn good show.

All the best and all being well, see you in South Australia.

Regards,
B. F. Denny D.

D. H. Stevens
Pte Bag 123
Port Lincoln 5607

Enclosed is the information on the "Timor Documentary." I would like to get another copy for Anne. She is off in a few weeks to work on a ranch somewhere in the U.S.A. Wants to see how they handle nags over there. Wish I was a bit younger, I'd keep her company.

Looking forward to the next safari. Just a thought for the one after the Valley, I think it would be good to go into the details and costs of having it in Alice Springs and let the Tourist Bureau do the organising and worrying. If fit enough I would not mind going up a few weeks early to see that things were ship shape.

Cheers,
Shorty.

D. Laing
29 Harris Street
Hackett 2602

Dear Arch,

Please forgive the familiarity of calling you Arch, but I do feel I've known you all my life through my brother, the late Mervyn Ryan, and through meeting you again when Canberra hosted the 1986 Safari. My sister-in-law, Dulcie used to send the Courier to me

quite frequently before then and was kind enough to organise for it to be sent directly to me after Mervyn died. So many names are familiar to me and it's inspiring to read of the mateship which is still so evident.

My parents, Bill and Jean Ryan, passed away at the beginning of 1988, just three weeks apart. They were known to many of the 2/2 fellows. I very much enjoy keeping up to date with them through the Courier. Enclosed is a donation towards the Courier.

Yours sincerely,

Dawn Laing.

EDITOR: *Thank you Dawn for a very thoughtful letter. It is nice of you to keep in touch with your 2/2 friends, you are well known to many of us. Sorry to hear that your parents passed away. Deepest sympathy from all members of the 2/2nd. God bless, good luck.*

F. Sharp
22 Quinn Street
Dubbo 2830

Dear Archie,

A short note to give you some news of the mini safari at Young in March.

I hope you are keeping well and we will see you next March in the Barossa Valley.

I was very disappointed to hear of Dud Tapper's passing, he was a great little fellow. This cancer is a terrible thing, I am having my share with poor Phyllis. She is now hobbling along on two walking sticks and is in a lot of pain, is very brave and is fighting it right to the end.

Our best wishes to all the boys at your Anzac Day reunion, it is a pity we are so far apart and only see each other at the safaris.

Enclosed is a cheque towards the Courier which keeps us so well informed of Unit affairs.

Kindest regards,
Frank Sharp.

J. Chapman
5 Francis Street
Swansea 2281

Please find enclosed a small cheque towards Courier expenses. Thank you for keeping me on the mailing list.

I had the pleasure of being at the Armistice Day service at the Commando Squadron Memorial last November. Thank you to the boys who made me welcome. How proud Eric would have been to see that memorial, but that wasn't to be.

I hope the 2/2 Association continues to function as it has for many years.

Good luck and best wishes to you all and good health, wealth and happiness in 1989.

Regards,
Joyce Chapman.

R. Williamson
2 Goldworthy Crescent
Glenelg 5045

Attached is a valedictory for the June edition. It would be a nice gesture to send a Courier to Jim's old address for Max. -

I am enjoying good health but Clarice is still very sick. However, the Royal Adelaide Hospital gives her wonderful care. I don't get around much as I must be with Clarice who must not be left on her own.

Keith and Betty Dignum drop in at times and we have a few drinks and eats. Keith is always busy and is doing a wonderful job as safari organiser.

Enclosed is a cheque. Please send me two car stickers and give the rest to the Courier.

Sorry to hear Col Doig is back in hospital — wish him all the best. He deserves it.

Regards to all.
Bob Williamson.

G. E. Parker
P.O. Box 66
Broadwater 2472

Enclosed is a postal note for my copy of Col Doig's book. What a marvellous story and what a marvellous unit. I am proud that I was associated with you even for a short time.

Whilst in New Guinea (Ramu Valley) my G.O.C. General Geo. Vasey, asked me if I would like to visit you and his Piper Cub was standing on the airstrip. It was a pleasure I assure you. You were up Faita way.

Recently the ex C.O. of Timor Barracks in Sydney told my sister about another book "Timor 1942" which she promptly bought and sent it on to me. I will be a further pleasure to read this.

I will be in Brisbane for Anzac Day this year and should I see any Double Red Diamond badges I will certainly say "Hullo."

Regards,
George Parker.

N. Mullins
15 Fitzgerald Road
Morley

Hope everyone is well. I say Hi to you all and enclose a donation for the Courier.

Nellie Mullins.

Ross Shenn
130 West Coast Terrace
Trigg 6029

Enclosed cheque for Courier. Kind regards and best wishes to all of the 2/2nd.

Regards,
Ross.

R. Trengove
46 Hillcrest Avenue
Mona Vale 2103

We have a glorious weekend at the Young Mini Safari and if V.C.'s or the equivalent were given for making people feel better and forgetting for a while their problems, aches and pains, Fred Broadhurst would have a row across his chest. Betty Craig organised a mini safari which was a massive job for one person and I'm sure she would agree that without our Fred to keep a smile on our dials and in our hearts, it would not have been the success it was. We are sure he lifted Keith's spirit which did him more good than any medicines prescribed by the doctor.

I would like to thank Betty for everything she did to make it such a great mini safari. We did not need anything more than the venue she provided for us to reminisce about the past, talk of the present and express our hopes for the future and just to be near friends we've known for so long, but most of all, to be in Young again. To have one or two turn up after nearly forty years should make Betty and Keith believe what a wonderful job they do. I must mention two intrepid travellers from so far away — John Fowler was driving to South Australia and invited Jess Epps along for company and they came on to Craigs.

A good thing happened to me when I was sitting under a shady tree in the caravan park, surrounded by beautiful women. The manageress of the park appeared and told me there was a phone call for me from New Guinea. Theo had called to wish us all his best and I told him about John Kenneally's malaria and his stay in hospital on returning to Australia from New Guinea. Theo, you made my day and I gave the message as requested at dinner that night and I hope they all felt as I did. Theo likes to keep track of us generally. He speaks to Angus during the year and it

makes one wonder, if someone from so far away can think of us, why those so near have been so long winded getting in touch.

Angus went to great length to bring Queensland's Barbecue King who was ably assisted by Frank Sharp.

Keith and Betty had many willing helpers but I am going to mention two at least who dived in and gave tremendous help — Jack Peattie to Keith and Dawn Claney to Betty. I must mention two of our much missed people, Nora and John Patrick Kenneally, and someone we have not seen in a long time, Maria Hartley, who was like a breath of fresh air on a high humidity day. Another absentee was Merv Jones who is battling it out the hard way with those kidneys. Our thoughts are with him and Marjorie who, no doubt, is wondering about those diets she told us about on the Indian Pacific so long ago.

Thanks to the Young Safari — may it never get old.

Ron and Dorothy Trengove.

THANK YOU

In memory of Dudley Laurence Tapper, died February 17, 1989, aged 69 years.

We thank you all for your thoughts in our great loss.

Audrey and Brenton Tapper.

Betty Hopkins
14a Norman Street
Bentley 6102

Dear Jack,

Thank you for sending me the Courier. John (Irish) was always delighted when it arrived and shared the news and current doings of his mates with me.

I have come across photos of John's that you and the boys might like to have Jack. I will phone and you can advise me.

Enclosed a small donation, my regards to one and all.

Yours sincerely,
Betty Hopkins.

Peter Alexander
170 Forrest Street
Palmyra 6157

Dear Arch,

Have just returned from a trip to Kalgoorlie and Esperance, was away eight weeks.

While in Kalgoorlie I met up with Jack Sheehan, he was asking after a few of the members, Jack looks OK, said his feet are still giving him trouble.

When in Esperance I drove around to see Peter Campbell but there was no one at home, except a 'blue heeler dog,' who did not look too friendly. Knew I had the right house, there was a big "Red Double Diamond" stenciled on the window!

Was having a yarn with one of the local publicans, he told me he ran the pub at "Gibsons Soak" a few years back. One of his regular customers was a 'Charlie McCaffery,' had a feeling this could be our old unit mate, lives on a farm near Gibson. Will look him up next time I go to Esperance, last time I saw Charlie was on Timor.

Best to Ron Dook.

Regards,
Peter Alexander.

EDITOR: *Thanks for the news Peter on Jack Sheehan, all the old crowd would send their kind regards and wish him well. Remember Charlie very well indeed, have not akin to you, seen him since Timor. How did he get through the net! Peter Campbell would certainly have run up against him, let's know how you get on when you visit Esperance next, many boys would be interested.*

L. Tait
Box 520
Ayr 4807

Don't faint, but its raining again so will catch up on some letter writing. Am enclosing a couple of pieces which may fill a page in the Courier.

Thanks to all the boys who rang to enquire about our well being after Cyclone 'Aurie.' Was very comfortable myself, in the Townsville hospital recovering from an eye implant. Jean was home on her own and didn't seem to enjoy it too much — says she was too busy mopping up water to be frightened. We are still clearing up after it. The crop for this year is flattened but machine harvesters will handle it, a bit slower, would hate to have to do it manually.

Spent a day with Soapie recently, he has the retirement business sewn up — gardener, water borer, child minder, and would leave Freddy Bryant and Snow Weir behind in the cooking business now. Have not seen George Shields or Lucky Goodhew since Bing and Hody were over last September.

Could you send me another of those Legacy forms as the Secretary here is very interested in the idea. To date Queensland does not

seem to have adopted this idea.

Am enclosing a cheque for the Courier or any other appeal you may have on the go.

Trust this finds you in the best of health.

Regards,
Bulla.

DONATIONS TO COURIER

Joe Poynton, Arch Campbell, Len Bagley, John Roberts, Jack and Doug Hasson, John Burrridge, Ray Aitken, George Fletcher, Don Murray, Bob McDonald, Fred Sparkman, Dusty Studdy, Terry Paull, Ron Dook, Doug Fullarton, Bernie Langridge, Vince Swann, Mick Morgan, Tom Foster, Don Hudson, Eric Freeman, Harry Holder, Dick Darrington, Bob Smyth, Stan Payne, Charlie Dodge, W. Elmore, Bert King (Tasmania), Mrs Nance Teague, Vic Pacey, A. W. & D. I. Laing (nee Ryan), Mrs Dorothy Lewis, Allan Hollow, Alan Chatfield, Frank Sharp, Bob Williamson, Dick Fitzgerald, Lew Thompson, Clarrie Turner, Gordon Rowley, Colin Criddle, Colin Doig, Ross Shenn, Nellie Mullins, Jack Hartley, Gwenda Kirkwood, Keith Dignum, Phyllis Brown, Bulla Tait.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

HANSON, J. T.
Jack
PO Box 654
Maryborough 4650

McLAUGHLIN, J.
Jim
12 Pink Lake Rd
Esperance 6450

F. C. Broadhurst
140 Christmas Street
Fairfield 3078

Just a line to let you know I have eventually made it to Dubbo to see my very good friends Frank and Phyllis Sharp and son Geoffrey. I say eventually because I have been trying for 2½ years to see them but something has always happened to defer my trip — my big mistake was to see my doctor a fortnight before for a check up. I'm convinced the doctors are a health hazard.

Had three days with the Sharps, then over to Young with them to the mini safari via Forbes and Glenfell, and what a fantastic safari it was, meeting a lot of old acquaintances and a few new ones.

As soon as I saw Fred Bryant with the tongs in his hand, rolling over a banger or two I knew I wasn't lost and was in the right place. Phyllis Bryant was enjoying herself at the singalong, as were many others. It's funny how the words of the songs come back after all those years, but you can't remember where you left your glass of beer five minutes ago.

It was sad to see Keith confined to his wheelchair, but great to see his ready smile and enjoyment of life in general, with Betty's help. These two have enough courage for an army.

We returned to Dubbo via Bowra and Wellington for seven days, then home to Melbourne and I would like to thank everybody for a wonderful time. I am now looking forward to the 1990 Barossa Safari. Hope to see you all there.

The best to all, especially the sick and wounded.

Wouldn't it be great if all our widows turned up at Barossa Safari and got to know each other a lot better, probably they could form a correspondence club and keep in touch with one another.

Mavis and sister Phyllis send regards and best wishes to all.

Yours sincerely,
Fred Broadhurst.

D. Lewis
106 South West Highway
Armadale 6112

It is time to say hello once again and send a donation to the Courier which I always look forward to receiving. It certainly is a credit to you and I am sure everyone appreciates your good work.

I was sorry to read that Dud Tapper had passed away. I met Dud and Audrey once when we were living in South Australia, thirty years ago, but I still remember them well. Recently I found that a cousin of mine over here is married to Dud's uncle — it's a small world, as they say.

Sad, too, to read about Keith Craig being so ill — he and Betty called in to see us when they were over here a few years ago — they are nice people too.

I seem to be coping all right on my own — I have a girl twice a week to help with watering the garden and a young couple who come every two or three weeks to weed and cut back shrubs and clean up. Also Silver Chain help with the house every fortnight. They are all caring people and well worth the money they are paid. Since George went I have found there are many good people in the world who want to help others.

Christmas came and went — for the first time in my 82 years I spent Christmas Day on my own!!! I had five invitations to Christmas dinner with others but just wanted to be on my own. A very good friend who lives nearby sent my dinner up to me — lovely of her to think of doing that and I really appreciated her kindness.

My health has not been as good as I would like — have had a couple of black outs but seem much better at present. Hopefully, now that the cooler weather is here I will be better. One has to expect problems when getting older. I am fortunate that I can still do as much as I do, fortunate, too, that I have so many caring people around me.

My good wishes to all, may they keep well. God bless.

Sincerely,
Dorothy Lewis.

EDITOR: *Thank you Dorothy for your kind letter to us all. Nice to know you are active and caring — 82 years young. Love from us all.*