

2/2 COMMANDO COURIER

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

Vol. 89

JUNE 1991

Price 1c

COMING EVENTS

50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION NSW, QUEENSLAND, CAPITAL TERRITORY JUBILEE DINNER

Thursday, 11th July, 1991 at 7.00pm

Port Macquarie RSL Club—Nissen Hut Functions Room

50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION WESTERN AUSTRALIA

MID-YEAR SOCIAL

Thursday, 11th July, 1991 at 11.00am

ANZAC CLUB PERTH

JUBILEE LUNCHEON

THURSDAY, 10th OCTOBER

**JOAN WATTERS COMMUNITY CENTRE
Jersey Street, Wembley**

Pre-luncheon drinks from 11.00am

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, 14th May, 1991

Twenty five members attended and apologies were received from Ray Aitken, Don Hudson, Jim Smalles, Jack Fowler, Ernie Bingham, Harry Sproxtton and Keith Hayes.

Life Membership: Colin Criddle, Bernie Langridge and Terry Paul were the recipients for their contribution to the Association over a long period. Congratulations on an honour thoroughly deserved.

Election of Officers

President:	Bernie Langridge
Vice President:	Ted Monk
Secretary:	Jack Carey
Treasurer:	John Poynton
Asst. Treasurer:	Les Halse
Editor:	Archie Campbell
Warden:	Geroge Fletcher
Auditor:	John Burriddge

Courier Committee: Len Bagley, Gavin Bagley and Betty Illsley.

Committee: Don Turton, Colin Doig, John Fowler, Jim Smalles, Dick Darrington, Wilf March, George Bayliss, plus any member who wishes to attend. There is no meeting in January.

Country Vice Presidents

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 1990-91

Members of the 2/2 Commando Association

Today the 14th May, 1991 has notched up yet another most successful year of activities and as your Past President, I am most grateful for the interest and help you and your wives have shown at all times. It would be natural to expect after forty five years that many would have fallen by the wayside but on the contrary State Associations around Australia are busier then ever with new ideas and activities, unfortunately, it's just the flesh that's beginning to rebel.

We all know the amount of effort that our senior office bearers exert in their respective jobs; our secretary Jack, our Treasurer John, Arch and his Courier helpers are tireless workers but it was not till my term of office took me much closer to them did I really

realise the amount they do. I thank you Jack, John and Arch and Courier helpers Len, Betty and Gavin most sincerely for the well oiled administrative machine you run. It would be most inexcusable of me if I failed to thank Jack's unpaid secretary, Delys, and our Country Vice Presidents and committee members, our untiring Kings Park liaison officer, George Fletcher all of whom are there without fail to pitch in when necessary.

I am saddened to have to report of the growing numbers of our good mates we are losing with greater rapidity. During the last twelve months fifteen of our valued members have left our ranks for greener pastures.

They were:

Ronald Host, Jerry Haire, Ernest Wilcox, Dern Anning 2/40, Gordon Holmes, Col Knight, Bill Hoy, Ivor Goodall, Jack Barrett, Merv Jones, Tom Fitzgerald, Nick Cunningham, Charlie Dodge, Clarrie Varian and Percy Hancock.

The attendance of members and wives at their funerals has been excellent and shows the great respect and feelings we all have for our old friends and to their loved ones they have left behind.

Within this report I would like to make mention of the years activities commencing with our **Midyear July social** which proved again a wonderful success and is predicted to be even bigger and better this coming July when some of our Jubilee Celebration funds will boost it further.

The Fremantle Convention in September over four days was voted a well attended success and as these functions have been thoroughly covered in the various Couriers I won't bore you with repetition apart from mentioning the excellent roll up and enthusiasm of our country members.

On 19th October by popular request the **Annual Men's Dinner** was held at the Lions Club Hall in Mandurah. The ladies, with Helen at the helm, did a wonderful job with the catering as usual and Bill Howell and Tiger attended to all the thirsts.

The **Annual Commemoration Service** on the 18th November as reported so well by our editor in the December issue, was attended by 120 members, widows, children and friends. It was a beautiful sunny day with the S.A.S joining us to make this service a very memorable tribute to those who paid the supreme sacrifice.

The **Xmas Social** at the Anzac Club was attended by 67 members, wives and friends and it was most rewarding seeing so many old friends returning to the fold. Food and service was well up to the usual high standard of the Anzac Club.

On **Anzac Day** we had 48 on Parade and about 60 at the get together. As a group we are beginning to feel the Parade process on the Esplanade is proving too long and drawn out and that there is an immediate need to reduce the pressure on ageing participants. An approach to the R.S.L. we feel is now required.

Regarding Colin's War History, twenty copies are still available but we would like to see a greater push to clear more copies of Jim Smailes narrative poems.

Plans for our Jubilee Luncheon on 10th October are finalised. It will be held at the Joan Watters Community Centre at Wembley between 11am and 4pm. This will be a great event and your attendance is a must.

Before concluding I would like to express the committee's pleasure with the interest shown by Mandurah members and the formation of the 2/2's and their approach to the task of getting the maximum number to Association functions in comfort and safety with a minimum of expense.

I thank you for allowing me the privilege of serving as your President for the last twelve months and welcome the incoming President and wish him the very best of luck.

ANZAC DAY — W.A.

Dawn Service

The hallowed ground of the State War Memorial is a magnificent setting for the first service of the day. Quietness reigns and one can contemplate in peace the many things that account for the 2/2nd Commando Squadron being such a top class fighting unit in war and a closely knit Association in peace.

Born in the depths of Wilsons Promontory in the shadows of Mt. Hunter and Mt. Oberon, this year of 1991 sees the 50th anniversary of our formation. We look back with pride on our achievements in Timor, New Guinea and New Britain as we honour our war dead and those who have since died.

The dawn was one of indescribable beauty, there would be no more wonderful place than this to hold such a service — even the escarpment is a vivid reminder to the 1914-18 Gallipoli heroes, of their historic landing.

There were in excess of 5000 present, and it was great to see many young children and teenagers for they are the ones who will carry the Anzac tradition into the years ahead.

Don Turton laid the double red diamond floral wreath on the Memorial. At the same time John Burrige and Bob Smyth were representing our Association at the Dawn Service held by the S.A.S. Regiment at their Memorial in Campbell Barracks, Swanbourne. We have a

great affinity with this young Unit, and paying our respects to their fallen brings us even closer together. May it long remain a feature of our Anzac Day activities.

The March

This colourful, spectacular march is the medium for all people to pay their respects to men and women of all wars, and they turned out in force. The route was lined with cheering, happy people, with the young children still predominant. Diggers seem to grow at least an inch taller as they pass through this atmosphere.

The 2/2nd, with Don Hudson as flag bearer was led by President, Don Turton, and drew loud applause. They marched with precision as they turned the clock back to days so long ago when they were young, fit men, full of vitality and daring. Today they performed well as they honoured their old mates.

Milton Evans, wearing the medals of his uncle, Charlie Stanton, one of the boys so tragically lost in Timor, marched with three of the five members left of the original 7 Section.

The Reunion

This was very well organised by John Poynton. Two late arrivals were Col Doig and 'Doc' Wheatley who had succumbed to the heat during the lengthy service on the Esplanade. They were revived and cared for by the competent St. John Ambulance people and then delivered safely, and in good spirits, to the Reunion by ambulance in the company of Ray Aitken.

Don Turton conveyed good wishes from Alan Luby and Tom Nisbet on behalf of New South Wales and Victoria and Bob Williamson and a group of friends enjoying a get-together on Anzac Eve phoned their best wishes to Don on behalf of South Australia. Don then welcomed a large number of guests. Of special interest was the news that the Maley family of nine were having a reunion and had not all been together for 50 years. Present were Gerry Maley 2/2nd, Terry Maley 11th Bn., Tony Maley 'Z' Force — lives in Sydney, Tony's son-in-law Doug Wendt, Vietnam, Dean Daru S.A.S., Gerry's cousin, John Milner, Gerry's brother-in-law, an American who was a Petty Officer with the Catalina flying boats based in Perth. Other visitors were Bob Palmer's son Alex.

Bruce McKenzie, son-in-law of Bob and nephew of Gerry McKenzie, Joe Barron, friend of Colin Criddle, George Robinson, 2/2nd from Victoria and his son Les from Roleystone, Fred Sparkman's son Alex.

Col Doig gave a run down on the Phillip Island 50th Anniversary celebrations.

A good time was had by all, including the men of the Mandurah 2-2s who came by chartered bus — what a good idea!

2/2 COMMANDO ASSOCIATION
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY, 1991

RECEIPTS	\$	\$	PAYMENTS	\$	\$
BALANCES FORWARD 1/2/1990					
Working Account	3,025.27		Govt Charges — FID and FDT		39.52
Imprest Account	100.00		ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES		
Savings Investment Account	1,534.26		Rent GPO Box	90.00	
Debentures Town & Country	<u>11,094.91</u>	15,754.44	Postage	<u>108.85</u>	198.85
INTEREST RECEIVED			SUNDRIES		
Working Account	9.86		Subs — RSL Listening Post	15.00	
Savings Investment Account	232.70		— Aust CDO Assoc.	20.00	
Debentures Town & Country	<u>1,885.79</u>	2,128.35	Kings Park Memorial	20.00	
COURIER			Wreaths Anzac Day	60.00	
Donations for Year	3,875.05		Commemorative Service	50.00	
Less Costs	<u>4,070.04</u>	(194.99)	Memorials	<u>107.67</u>	272.67
C. D. DOIG BOOK			JUBILEE YEAR CELEBRATIONS		7,000.00
Sale Receipts	789.45		Less Grant by Veterans' Affairs Dept		<u>1,000.00</u>
Less Costs	<u>571.70</u>	217.75			6,000.00
JIM SMAILES POEMS			SA SAFARI BUS TRIP		3,200.00
Sales Receipts	1,544.40		See previous year for equal surplus		
Less Costs	<u>1,650</u>	(105.60)	BALANCES AS AT 31 JANUARY, 1991		
SALE OF BADGES		166.00	* Working Account	(4,732.24)	
OTHER SALES			Savings Investment Account	9595.21	
Ties, Patches, etc.		127.50	Debentures Town & Country	<u>6,657.79</u>	11,510.76
ASSOCIATION EVENTS					
Loss for the Year		(871.65)	* Note: Funds will be transferred from Savings Investment A/C when cheques are issued.		
RON ARCHER					
Special Fund Account		1,000.00			
Repayment Loan SA Safari		<u>3,000.00</u>			
		<u>\$21,221.80</u>			<u>\$21,221.80</u>

The above statement represents, in my opinion, the true position of the Association on 31/1/91, **J. E. Burrldge, Hon. Auditor.**

N.S.W. NEWS

Anzac Day 1991

On a very pleasant Anzac Day, with just a hint of autumn in the air, it was a great pleasure to join with our colleagues from other squadrons, 'Z' Unit, Paratroopers and members of the present day Commando Regiment, along with our regular visitors, firstly for our own Commemoration Service at the Commando Memorial, secondly for the march through the city streets and then for our Reunion Cruise on the ferry 'Lady Woodward' around Sydney Harbour. How lucky we are!

On parade were Alan Luby, Bill Coker, Ron Goodacre, Paddy Kenneally, Mick Manix, Curly O'Neill, Bill Tomasetti, Snow Went, Col Holley, Harry Handicott, Ray Cole, Pat de Luz, Alan Addison and son John, Fred Bryant with son Peter and grandson Mark (I think this would be the first time we have had three generations present on the ferry), also our regular friends Ken Glover and Alan Gray from Wollongong.

Joan Darge, Betty Devlin with daughter Gail and granddaughter came to the Commando service before joining the huge crowd lining the march route.

Apologies were received from Jack Hartley, Ron Trengove, Ray Whitely. Sorry they missed out and hope they will all have a rapid return to better health.

Jubilee Dinner Port Macquarie, 11th July 1991.

Bookings continue to come in for this most important event, and now exceed 90. With some slow starters still to come we will certainly pass the 100 mark by July 11. We are waiting to hear from many others who have stated their intention to be present. **Please** get a move on or you'll finish up in the park with a pie and a pea!!

Alan Luby

PORT MACQUARIE SAFARI 1992 ACCOMMODATION GUIDE

Sundowner Breakwall Tourist Park

On the banks of the Hastings River. Accommodation ranges from van sites to deluxe cabins and mobile homes from \$32 to \$58 per double per night, extra persons \$4 per night. In each case 7 nights for the price of 6. Everything supplied except linen which may be hired if so desired.

River Motel, 5 Clarence Street

Doubles from \$45 to \$50 to \$55 deluxe per night. Extra persons \$5 per night. Tea, coffee, jugs, toaster. Meals available. Pool and barbecue. Motel minibus.

Post Office, main street, RSL Club are all within 20 yards of the Tourist Park and the River Motel.

Port Macquarie Hotel/Motel, Horton and Clarence Streets

Facing Hastings River entrance, opposite Post Office.

Everything about five minutes walk.

Hotel rooms (25) \$25 single, \$35 double, 5 of these self contained. Royal Hotel section, close to the river from \$35.

Motel section \$45 double, extra persons \$5. Some rooms sleep 5. Fridge, tea, coffee. Bistro opens 0700 to 2300 hours every day. Two hotel restaurants open for lunch and dinner.

There are other motels within easy distance, but prices are from \$65 to \$145 per double per night.

IMPORTANT — The operators of the above accommodation are reserving their units for us from 13 to 23 March, 1991 at the above prices. To keep faith with them we should begin to make our bookings as soon as possible.

Please, if you intend being present, send your deposit with relevant details to **ALAN LUBY** —**SOON!**

TENTATIVE ITINERARY

- Fri. 13th: Arrival, book in. Evening Barbecue.
- Sat. 14th: Free day. Meet and greet, settle in. Evening buffet.
- Sun. 15th: Free day
- Mon. 16th: Wreath laying, March and Ceremony at War Memorial, followed by Official Dinner at midday.
- Tues. 17th: Free day. Bowls, golf, fishing.
- Wed. 18th: Cruise on the Hastings River, barbecue lunch.
- Thurs. 19th: Free day. Optional trip to Kempsey and/or winery, approx 10 kms.
- Fri. 20th: Coach tour along coastline. Lunch at Laurieton RSL Club. Visit Kew, Kendall and Timbertown.

- Sat. 21st: Free day. Evening buffet and dance. Race meeting possible on this or Day 2.
- Sun. 22nd: Free day, evening barbecue. Drawing of Raffle. Farewell to old and good friends.
- Mon. 23rd: Check out. Departure. God speed and safe return home.

VALE IVOR GOODALL

Ivor Goodall passed away on 23rd March, 1991 at Albany.

Ivor joined the Unit and trained on Wilsons Promontory but developed meningitis while on the train travelling back to W.A. for pre-embarkation leave and was carried off at Kalgoorlie. He did not rejoin the Unit.

Post war Ivor joined the W.A. Police Force and later became the Traffic Inspector at Albany and he and his family resided there until his death.

Unfortunately we had very little contact with him after the war, so know little of his circumstances.

We pass our sincere sympathy to his widow and family.

Col Doig

Mrs R. Goodall
21 Nesbitt Rd
Albany 6330

Dear Mr Carey and Members,

In answer to your very welcome letter, thank you for condolences on the death of Ivan which was very sad.

I will endeavour to fill in a few years after Ivan left the 2/2nd. He joined the W.A. Police Force in 1946. From there he went home to the farm to help his father who was ill, and then came to Albany in 1953 where he was a Traffic Patrolman until 1966. He then joined the Transport Commission and worked as a Patrol Officer until he retired at the age of 65 in August 1986 and became ill two years later, so as you can see he had very little enjoyment after retiring.

Once again, I thank you for your kind letter and thoughts.

Yours faithfully,
Rose Goodall

VALE SYDNEY JARVIS

Syd Jarvis passed away on 16th April, 1991 after a long period of incapacity. He was 86 years of age.

Syd was a battler all his long life, having left England from a poor home and a big family, at the age of 18, arriving in Adelaide and working where he could until coming to W.A. in 1927. From then on it was a battle, carrying the swag and working where he could, including gold prospecting. He joined the Army in 1940, joined the 2nd Independent Coy on formation and served in Timor in 'C' Platoon H.Q. Because of his age he left the Unit after Timor and served in other units.

On demobilisation he married and had a small property at Gosnells raising poultry, mostly ducks — this was a precarious living. He then had a small property at Muchea. Unfortunately he lost his wife and was left with four young children, including an 18 months old daughter. He battled his best to bring them up but was forced to put the younger children in the care of the Child Welfare Department. From then on it was just battle, battle, battle. Life was not very good to dear old Syd but he did try his best to be cheerful. He was an excellent father and I think a good citizen in his own way.

We extend our sympathy to his family and wish them well.

The following attended his funeral service: Don Turton, Jack Carey, Keith Hayes, Ted Monk, Jim Smailes, Lew and Una Thompson, George and Joan Fletcher, Fred Sparkman, 'Doc' Wheatley, Jess Epps, John Fowler and Col Doig. Our thanks to Jess for afternoon tea afterwards.

Col Doig

VALE PERCY HANCOCK

Once again it is my unfortunante task to record the death of one of our stalwart members in the person of Percy Hancock who suffered a severe heart attack on 13th April, 1991. He was 77 years of age.

Percy joined our Unit as an original signaller and trained with the Company on Wilsons Promontory in the initial stages. He had quite a hectic time during the Japanese landing at Dili, having been a signaller attached to No. 2 Section on the Drome when the Japs first attacked. He was among those who got away and found their way to Atambova where Brigadier Veale dispersed the assembled troops with the words 'everybody for themselves.' Percy was with the small band who tried to reach Australia in a makeshift

vessel — a plan which was rapidly aborted. Later he served as a signaller with 'C' Platoon right through the Timor campaign.

Percy did not rejoin the Unit after Timor but did join the RAAF where he served out the War.

After demobilisation Percy returned to work for John R. Saunders in Kalgoorlie and while there managed to get together a band of the lads who had returned to the Goldfields and for a short time had a branch of the Association going quite strongly. When he came to Perth he worked for a number of years with Boans and later with Bairds and then transferred to the State Public Service and saw out his working career with that body.

Percy took a very active interest in the Unit Association while in Perth, and served in many positions. He first joined the committee in 1959 and was Vice President in 1960 and served as a committee man for quite a few years, was Treasurer from 1975 to 1979 and was made a life member of the Association in 1975.

Percy leaves a widow, Val and three daughters, Robyn, Maxine and Cheryl and nine grandchildren.

The Association has lost a true stalwart who was also a good husband, good citizen, father and gentleman.

Col Doig

EDITOR: *The funeral service for Percy Hancock took place at the Fremantle Crematorium on Wednesday, 17th April.*

On behalf of the Association Archie Campbell presented a eulogy on Percy in which he tracked him back to the days of his youth in the late 1920s and early 30s when they both attended St. James Church in Aberdeen Street, Perth, now long gone.

Archie made a pertinent observation re the special tribute each member makes as he pays his last respects to those who pass to the vale beyond. We all maintain this attitude that would seem right for a unit as closely knit as the 2/2nd — 'All things aside, he was one of us, God bless him.'

All members send their deepest sympathy to Val and the Hancock family in their sad loss.

The following members and wives attended the funeral: Tom Bateman, Ernie Bingham, Tony Bowers, Arch Campbell, Jack Carey, Colin and Bonnie Criddle, Col Doig, Ron Dook, George and Joan Fletcher, John Fowler, Charlie Gorton, Reg and Dot Harrington, Jack and Norma Hasson, Keith Hayes, Mick and Jean Holland, Bill Howell, Don Hudson, Bernie Langridge, Wilf and

Lorraine March, Gerry Maley, Bob McDonald, Ted Monk, Mick Morgan, Don Murray, Terry and Ivy Paull, Stan and Barbara Payne, Joe and Helen Poynton, Gordon Rowley, Stan and Blanche Sadler, Jim Smailes, Bob Smyth, Fred Sparkman, Laurie Tapper, Don Turton, Roy Watson, 'Doc' Wheatley and Jack Wicks.

A truly remarkable attendance.

VALE THOMAS A. FIELD

We were saddened to hear of the passing of Tom Field on the 16th May, 1991. He was better known as Enrie by members of 7 Section, 'C' Platoon. He joined the 2/2nd in Portuguese Timor. He was one of the group who escaped the Jap clutches when they invaded Koepang. He was a member of the 2/40th Battalion and its ancillary troops who were taken P.O.W. but with a small contingent of escapees made his way to the east end where he joined 7 Section 'C' Platoon. As the Section needed bolstering after the tragic loss of many members, Ernie was a welcome addition. He had all the attributes of a good soldier — rough, tough, loyal and hard working. He gave the Section a big boost and displayed a high degree of courage, in the Dare raid in particular. This resulted in the saving of 'Skeeta' Bagnall who was badly injured with a terrible leg wound. At great personal risk, he and Mick Calcutt dragged 'Skeeta' to safe ground.

Tom left the Unit on our return to Australia and we lost contact with him. We caught up with him at the Phillip Island Safari in March 1988 where he put his video camera to good use and ultimately produced a fine record of our activities.

Our deepest sympathy goes to his wife Milly and family in their sad loss.

This is a tribute from all in the 2/2nd, particularly his mates of 7 Section and 'C' Platoon, as we say, well down Ernie.

Lest We Forget.

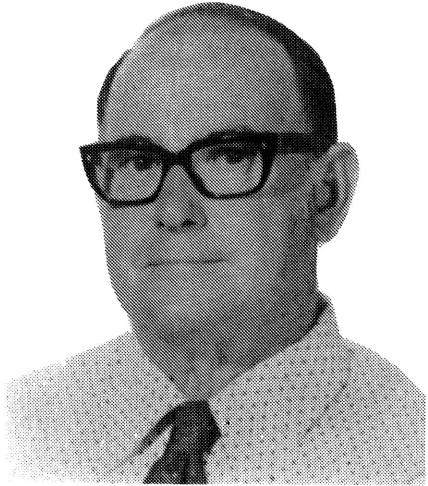
Archie Campbell

VALE

A few years ago Dorothy Trengove's sister Marjorie Jesse and her husband Mervyn joined with us on several of our Safari Reunions.

Unfortunately both of them contracted a form of cancer in recent years, and sadly, Marje passed away on the 8th February, 1991.

BOB SMYTH'S ROGUES GALLERY — SEQUENCE 17



Alby Friend



Alan Luby



*Late Geoff Laidlaw
'The Bull'
Our Boss*



Tom Yates



Alan Addison

**Need clear photographs urgently to
continue this segment, interstate
members particularly. Send to:
2/2nd Commando Association
Box T1646
G.P.O. Perth 6001**

As Edith and I had booked to travel to Port Macquarie on the day of her funeral we could not attend; however, Ron and Marjorie Goodacre kindly stood in and represented our NSW 2/2nd family on this sad occasion.

Our sympathy has been expressed to Dorothy, Ron and Mervyn.

Alan Luby

46 Hillcrest Ave
Mona Vale 2103

Dear Alan,

On behalf of my family and myself I would like to thank you for your thoughtful enquiries during the illness of my dear sister Marjorie Jesse and I would particularly like to thank Marj and Ron Goodacre who stood in for you and Edith, representing the 2/2nd at the funeral service.

My sister and her husband Mervyn thoroughly enjoyed the safaries they attended with us and the family deeply appreciates that the Unit was represented at her funeral.

Thank you all very much.

Sincerely,
Dorothy Trengove

CORRESPONDENCE CORNER

10 Lobelia Drive
Greenmount 6056

I am writing to say thank you to the members and their wives who so kindly gave of their time to say a last farewell to my father Sid Jarvis on Wednesday, 20th March.

After much suffering Dad died at Hollywood Repat Hospital in the Palliative Care Unit on Saturday, 16th March. Although he may not have kept in touch, he remembered and always spoke of members of the Unit. He enjoyed reading the Courier which was a vital link to you all. The Courier always aroused topics of conversation, more recently Paddy Kenneally and Tom Nisbet's trips to Timor last year. Also Marshall's emu farm at Harvey.

I feel sorry I had not filled one of his requests. He gave me Lew and Una Thompson's new address back in February, 1990 and asked me to call and see them as I live so close. Sorry Lew, I haven't made it yet. I do remember visiting years ago at Wanamal Post Office.

Thanks again gentlemen, you did him proud.

Donation enclosed.

Denise Caldwell

R. Griffiths
2/36 Wandoo St
Leeton 2705

Enclosed is a cheque in payment for Col Doig's book to be sent to my niece in Darwin. Her late husband was a prisoner of war in Malaya and she also knows some of the Timor people in Darwin. The surplus from the cheque can go to the Courier which I am still very pleased to receive.

Sorry to say my wife Hilda is very ill in hospital which is causing me very much concern.

Kind regards to all.

Reg

Mrs I. Beavis
23 Rosebery St
Heathcote 2233

Many thanks for the continued supply of the Courier which I look forward to reading — much appreciated. Enclosed is a small contribution towards running costs.

My very best wishes to all associated with the 2/2nd for a happy, healthy 1991.

Regards,

Ivy Beavis

G. Stanley
30 Francisea St
Everton Hills 4053

Enclosed is cheque to help Courier. We look forward to receiving it and appreciate the effort to produce it.

Best wishes to all.

Joan and Gordon

R. N. Splatt
2/88 Sussex St
North Adelaide 5006

Dear Jack,

Moved into my new address after a frantic week of packing and sorting and now trying to get some work completed. Have settled in with reasonable efficiency. Quite a comfortable spot — quietness prevails, along with several parks adjacent and open spaces to go for a walk. Close to amenities and transport and a reasonable distance from the city. Ideal for my work, being able to concentrate on my design commissions and painting in quiet surroundings.

Have been kept fairly busy over the last few months, chasing the elusive dollar — sometimes catching it! There is a reasonable amount of competition but seniority usually comes through — in short, experience in the field, so I guess being over 21 compensates!

Jack, if you happen to run into Tom Foster would you jolt his memory for me. I wrote to him a while back but never received a reply. Tom and I were good cobbers in the army days and would like to hear from him. Thanks for this favour, in advance.

All the very best Jack and every good wish to the fellows in the Association and to the Courier. I always look forward to receiving it — a fine effort by all responsible.

Will look forward to hearing from you if and when you have a moment to spare.

Raymond

Mrs E. Hickman
45 Wellwood St
Lenah Valley 7008

Please accept this donation towards the Courier. I have already sent one to Peter to help towards his book.

This week I got my second Courier. A kind friend, Lance Bomford, sent you my name. He and my husband were together on Timor.

I see Nancy and Gerry Slade quite often — Nancy has joined our Pennant Indoor Bowls at Lenah Valley RSL.

All the best to you in your good work.

Sincerely,
Edna

J. Hanson
P.O. Box 279
Pialba 4655

Thank you for the Courier. I am sending a picture of myself for the Rogues Gallery.

Jack

F. C. Broadhurst
140 Christmas St
Fairfield 3078

Dear Archie'

A line to let you know we here in Victoria wish you all well in general and in health and congratulate you on everything you have done for the 2/2nd family and are still doing. We appreciate the time, effort and labour involved.

I have photo copied Bob Smyth's Rogues Gallery and compiled them into an instant Roll Call in the form of an album.

Have had a letter from Keith and Betty Craig. Although Young is off the beaten track, any of the 2/2nd going near that area should call in to see them. Betty was saying there is a regular stream of people keeping in touch by mail and phone and coming to see them. They are held in very high esteem in the Unit.

I won't say anything about our Phillip Island Safari except it was great. I feel you will get enough mail to fill two Couriers and Col Doig's page was excellent. It was great to see Col looking so well (almost dangerous). You can take it from me and all of those at the Safari, he was a most welcome sight.

Regards to everyone.

Fred

T. Richards
12 Bradshaw St
Latrobe 7307

Have been away in Launceston. Had a big day Anzac Day. It was cold but the rum gave me a better outlook on life.

Health could be better, want reconstructing in a few parts. Still get around and have my game of bowls — play in 4th Division. Won the State Championship this year and was promoted to 3rd Division.

Couldn't make the Victorian 50th but all being well Bridget and I will make the NSW 50th.

We wish you all good living, trust we will meet again.

Cheers.

Tex

L. Cooper
8 Hilltop Crescent
Rhyll 3923

Having almost recovered from the 50 year celebrations, I am now in a position to give an account of our reunion on Phillip Island in March. I will not repeat the excellent description of events given by Col Doig in the April Courier but will add a few extra events that occurred over the next few days.

Several members with their wives, in some cases, stayed on in this area and the conviviality continued though thankfully at a somewhat reduced tempo.

Bill Tucker, who stayed with us until the Sunday, helped to keep the spirit of the 2/2 going by winning a trophy at Cowes Golf Club (Legacy Day) on the Friday. As the trophy

consisted of a fresh cooked cray and two bottles of wine our evening meal was assured. To keep up the spirit of the occasion I was lucky enough to do likewise, so Bill, Marjorie and I had a small 50th commemoration for our evening meal.

On the Friday of the following week, John and Cath Roberts of Nerrim South ran a BBQ get-together to farewell Col Doig and to enable at least Arnold Webb to meet our valued guest. Col stayed several days with the Roberts and saw much of South and West Gippsland during that time.

On the Sunday Bert King and his brother came out to our home for the midday meal and further battles were fought.

Several others who stayed on managed to dodge me rather effectively, including Sep. Wilson and his good wife, whom I managed to contact about the middle of the week after the safari, but just as they were heading for home.

Our best wishes go to several who had to cancel their attendance at the safari due to illness, in particular the Dennises and the Richards. We wish them a speedy recovery from their ailments.

We have received a number of personal letters of thanks from various members who attended. It is very gratifying to know that those who made the effort to attend did really enjoy themselves. From our point of view it was those who attended that made the occasion successful.

Enclosed is a donation to be put to whatever or wherever it will do the most good for the Association.

Yours sincerely,
Leith

K. Monk
Poowong 3988

Went down to the Anzac Day March and stayed with Harry and Olive for several nights. We had about 12 turn up. Bernie Callinan was in hospital with heart problems — haven't heard the outcome. Olive Botterill has just had an operation on her nose.

Going to Warragul today to do our weekly shopping and will post this on the way.

Hope this finds you all well and fit.

Ken and Margaret Monk

W. Tucker
6 Randell St
Parkdale 3195

The last few months have been eventful and most enjoyable with regards to the Association activities over here.

Col Doig's report in the April Courier splendidly covered most of the celebrations during the 50th Anniversary and Col's most welcome visit more than helped to put the icing on the cake.

Leith and Marj Cooper invited me to bed down at their delightful Phillip Island home which was very much appreciated, particularly as I had just gone through a rather rough period and theirs and other members' heart warming support was really helpful.

The 25th, the 'day of days' was once again a time to remember, as we do quite often, the friends who have gone before us and our get-together after the march down St Kilda Road to the Shrine was a moving and enjoyable event, together with the Combined Victorian Commando Association.

Please note my new address — I am currently staying with my daughter while looking for a suitable shack to settle down.

Enclosed is a donation.

Regards to all.

Bill

R. N. Splatt
2/88 Sussex St
North Adelaide 5006

Very pleased to receive the Courier this morning — a stirring effort by all those responsible for its presentation. I always find it very interesting to read of the whereabouts of some of the fellows I trained with at Jungle Warfare Training Camp at Canungra. It does not seem so long ago, yet 50 years have elapsed and what a great deal has happened since, the time being punctuated with several wars and climaxed with the Gulf War. What a lot to look back on, but still the ties forged through all those years with all the 2/2nd and brother companies are still as strong as ever and I have no doubt will continue to be so until there are none of us left.

Pleased to see my effort in print, so also was Nick Pincombe, my friend who was most impressed.

I have enclosed a few dollars to put to what ever cause you wish and a request if it would be possible to send me an extra copy of the April Courier to give to Nick Pincombe for his effort. Thanking you in advance for this favour and wishing everyone all the very best.

Raymond

W. J. Elmore
19 Cadorna St
Launceston 7248

Dear Arch,

Just a few lines to let you know Isabel and I are still in the land of the living and jolly thankful to be as fit as we are. Apart from a few aches and pains we are both well, although slowing down a little. Trust this finds you well Arch, and that you have recovered from the slight stroke you had. Also Ron Dook, you two are the ones I shall always remember, also Teddy (Chang) Monk and Col Doig — remember me to everyone.

When we go to Hobart we always call in to see Lance Bomford and its worth the trip to see his face light up when we enter his room. After seeing him and him not complaining one leaves feeling all the better for visiting him.

We had a good reunion again this year, but our numbers are dwindling each year which is to be expected as we are all getting older.

Would you please forward a copy of Jim Smailes poems and the rest is a donation to the Double Red.

Regards to all.

Wal and Isabel

C. and M. King
26 Crusader St
Falcon 6210

Dear Jack,

We trust you and your family are all in the best of health.

Enclosed is a donation for the Courier.

We are enjoying the lovely get-togethers with all the Two-Twos of Manduarh.

Regards to all the boys in Perth. Take care of yourself.

God bless,
Charles and Mary

S. R. Marsh
17 McGough St
Glenorchy 7010

Our Reunion (2/40th Battalion) at Ulverstone on the north-west coast was another great weekend, meeting up with old mates.

The 2/12th Battalion are about to launch the second edition of 'Storms and Rainbows' by Alex Graeme-Evans, an unofficial history of the Battalion on their second visit to New Guinea and Borneo. I'm looking forward to reading this.

Enclosed is a donation to the Courier.

Best wishes to all.

Syd (Swampy) Marsh

The following Thank You letters are from Nip Cunningham's daughter and her in-laws, Margaret and Harold Johnson:

P.O. Box 45
Northampton 6335

A few lines to thank you sincerely for sending us the Commando Courier which we enjoyed reading immensely. I have sent the other copy to Francine and I know Mum and Dad Johnson really appreciated the copy you sent them.

It was very touching to read dad's obituary, also the article written by Reg Harrington, a paragraph of which claimed dad was up skipping at 2.30am each morning for half an hour at Betano, even though he had malaria — I thought a real classic, however, I can vouch for this as dad had been an avid fighter all his life.

Just one instance was last year prior to Anzac Day dad had a large piece taken out of his leg just above the ankle. He was adamant nothing would prevent him from marching in the parade. He was unable to skip or ride his bike (or straight eight as he called it) for that period of time, however, he started walking short distances increasing gradually and by the 25th April he managed to walk in the parade and afterwards catch up with some of his mates.

I'll take this opportunity to thank all who attended dad's funeral especially those who travelled distances to be present. It was great meeting many of you.

May God richly bless you all.

Kind regards,

Alan and Jan Johnson

13 Batavia Place
Geraldton 6530

Many thanks for the copy of the Courier which we were so pleased to receive. Harold is really enjoying reading it. It was a lovely thought, as its lovely reading all about Nip.

I did write to Mr Carey and ordered six copies of The Independents which I have now received. I will give one each to Nip's four grandsons who carried the coffin and one each to Jan and Fran.

If ever you are up this way, do call in.

We were very pleased to have met you all and I know how pleased Nip would have been. He had been around home a few times for meals.

Hope you are all keeping well. God bless, very sincerely,

Margaret and Harold Johnson

15 Fitzgerald Rd
Morley 6062

Just a small donation for the Courier.

Regards to all.

Nellie Mullins

P.O. Quorn 5433

Am back home for a few weeks after a fabulous four weeks in the east and Tasmania and found a heap of good wishes waiting for me. Thank you all, separate replies are on the way.

You will have heard of the great success it was at Cowes and the Prom — it could have lasted forever for mine! If all states do so well then 1991 will go down in history. It was great to meet old friends (and new ones too), most are looking fit and well. You will hear and read better accounts than this one anyway.

Perhaps you might use these lines to the widows who were present:

AT THE PROM. MARCH'91

*In '41 we stood and prayed, that we would
pass this test*

*To stay down here amongst these hills to
become the Army's best.*

*In '91 we stood again and saw you watching
on*

*And as we did you seemed to fade, then
each acquired a shade*

*You'd hastened back and fetched along
Your men who'd 'Missed Parade.'*

*There on that day, in that hallowed place
You too, were young and each a bride
With happy hearts and smiling face
As your men-folk glowed with pride.*

*The scene then changed, you became so
few*

*For your men had again "marched on"
But for a time they'd stood with you
And for you they will linger on.*

*You stood that day, and looked at us
As we stood too — and looked at you!*

Bert King

Museums and Art Galleries of the N.T.
GPO Box 4646
Darwin 5794

Dear Mr Carey,

Thank you very much for your letters which I read with great interest, together with the copies of the Courier.

I came back from Dili at the end of October and went into hospital for an eye operation and no sooner was I out of hospital and walking to work when I had a heart attack and finished up in hospital in Adelaide for a couple of months with my second by-pass operation. It took time to recover, but now I am back in Darwin and am mobile again.

With regard to the honorarium you wish to give to Mr Ernesto Martines, I would be happy to take the money with me to Dili, Dare and pass it across to him and make any enquiries you would like. I suggest that I ask him such details as to whether he receives a wage from the Government and how much, which would help you determine how much you might like to give him as a 'hadiah' or gift of appreciation for his work. For sure he would not get much from the Government, maybe Rps 50,000 a month, or about \$35. I doubt very much whether he would have a bank account even if he could read and write, but I could help him open an account in Dili and deposit the money you would like me to take over for you. That might be the better plan. I would try and find out if his 'boss' takes the money or what the situation is and ensure that he gets it personally and he signs for it. Also to determine on what basis he is employed by Government.

If you care to send the money I will see that Mr Martines gets it and will report back to you at the end of June.

Yours sincerely,
Peter Spillett

COLIN DOIG'S HISTORY: There are only 20 books left. Now it will be a case of first in first served. Don't miss out.

JIM SMAILES POEMS: Are going quite steadily and proving an attraction as a collector's item. Youngsters in particular are attracted to this unusual book. Purchase a small stock — you will be delighted with the reaction of young and old alike. All proceeds go to Unit funds.

TIMOR DOCUMENTARY: Colin South advises that "Independent Company" is to be repeated on SBS Television on Saturday, 15th June at 2pm E.S.T. Perth members check your T.V. Guide for our time schedule.

MANDURAH TWO-TWOs UPDATE

In July 1990, with 13 members of the 2/2nd Commando Association retired in Mandurah, it was decided to form a sub-branch or, as Keith Dignum would say "a twig." We had a barbecue at Bill Howell's home agreed to meet each month at a different venue for a barbecue and to run a raffle on each occasion as a means of building up a bank to pay for the hire of a bus to take us all to Perth to attend the various Association functions. Before long we had a healthy bank account and our bus trips, which everyone enjoys, have been:

November 1990 to Perth for Commemoration Service.

December 1990 to Perth for Christmas Social.
April 1991 to Arthur Marshall's Emu Farm at Harvey.

April 1991 to Perth for Anzac Day.

These trips have proved very popular as we can all enjoy our social occasions without worrying about driving and parking.

As we approach our first anniversary we're happy to report that the scheme has been a resounding success. We have had good attendances at all our gatherings, including our Christmas luncheon at the Peninsula Hotel which attracted quite a few visitors from the metropolitan area.

We have a few visitors from Perth each month and in February we welcomed our first interstate visitor, Mick Mannix from Sydney.

We look forward to many more happy gatherings and take this opportunity to invite any member from near or far who happens to be able to make it on the THIRD MONDAY of any month. Just phone any Mandurah member who will be happy to tell you the venue for that month, and you will be made very welcome.

W.W.C.P.

ANGUS MacLACHLAN goes into hospital for a back operation on the 5th June. Declares he will be out and about to attend the 50th Anniversary celebrations at Port Macquarie. Good luck for a speedy recovery Angus.

WILF MARCH has run into a few problems but is facing up to them and being really positive. Good to see you at the AGM Wilf. Best wishes for a quick return to full health.

HARRY HOLDER continues to put up a brave fight against considerable odds. Maisie has had a decline in health because of the added strain. Our prayers go out to you both for a big improvement.

JIM SMAILES has had a spell in Hollywood Hospital with heart trouble and is to have further tests shortly. Jim was set to go into the President's chair but had to withdraw. Good luck and best wishes for a positive result Jim.

JACK HARTLEY is in Liverpool Hospital undergoing tests. Snow Went reported that Jack is in good spirits.

BERNARD CALLINAN is home after a by-pass operation. Colin South spoke with Bernie and said he sounded remarkably fit. Best wishes for a quick recovery Bernie.

COLIN DOIG is home from hospital, fit and well, after a series of tests.

TERRY PAULL is having problems with his back and is confined to bed at his home. We hope he will be up and about again very soon.

BILL HOWELL is home from hospital after a leg operation and is his usual bright and happy self although having to take things easy for a while.

DONATIONS

Mick Mannix, Wilf March, John Fowler, Keith Blomeley, Jess Epps, Steve Stevenson, Isobel McCaul, Merv. Wheatley, Alan Dixon, Ivy Beavis, C. L. Caldwell, Charles King, Snow Elmore, Daphne Gibbling, May Mansfield, Syd Marsh, Nellie Mullins, Col Criddle, Bert King, W. Kerr, Bernie Callinan, Bill Tucker, Gordon Stanley, Reg. Griffiths, Leith Cooper, Ted Richards, George Robinson, Ray Splatt, Frank Sharp, Bernie Langridge, Ted Monk, Jim McLaughlin, Tony Bowers, Gordon

Rowley, Dusty Studdy, George Bayliss, Jack and Doug Hasson, Dick Darrington, Bob Smythe, Mick Morgan, Doug Fullarton, Stan Payne, George Fletcher, John Burrridge, Vince Swann, Tom Foster, Don Turton, Ray Aitken, Bob McDonald, Joe Poynton, Peter Campbell, Alex Sparkman, Col. Doig, Ron Dook, Arch Campbell, John Palmer, John Lilley, Don Hudson, Ken Monk, Tony Adams, Edna Hickman, Dorothy Chiswell and Isabel MacDonald.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

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18 Comlaroi St
Urunga 2455

SPENCER, J.
Jack
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Kalgoorlie 6430

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Neil and Iris
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BRAMICH, Mr. R. A.
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Vince
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Dee Why 2099

ROBINSON, Mr. L.
Les
10 Trestrail Ave
Roleystone 6111

2/2 Commando Association of Australia NSW Branch

SAFARI 1992 PORT MACQUARIE

**Make a note of the dates:
13th - 23rd March, 1992**

I/We will be attending. Names:.....

.....

Please book accommodation for.....
(Please state for full period or what portion)

1. **Port Macquarie Hotel/Motel**
(Please state self contained, twin or double).
2. **River Motel.** Standard or de-luxe.
3. **Breakwall Tourist Park.** De-luxe cabin.
Mobile home with annexe.
Mobile home.
Ensuite van.
Conventional cabin 10'.
Caravan site.

All accommodation is within easy walking distance of shops, Post Office, pubs, clubs, restaurants, bowls, or any other activity that turns you on.

Most venues overlook the beautiful mouth of the Hastings River and there are numerous places of interest within easy reach.

Details of facilities at the various venues appear in this Courier.

Please decide as soon as possible and forward DEPOSIT for ACCOMMODATION to:

**ALAN LUBY,
6/35 RICHMOND AVENUE,
DEE WHY, NSW 2099
PHONE: (02) 981 3287**

IT'S ONLY 10 MONTHS AWAY — DO IT NOW!!