



2/2 COMMANDO COURIER

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Address all Association Correspondence to: Box T 1646, G.P.O. Perth 6001

President R. Finkelstein. Secretary J. Carey. Treasurer T. Monk.

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Price 1c

COMING EVENTS

Visit to Fremantle Army Museum

Burt Street, Fremantle

Tuesday, October 7 at 11am

Cost – \$10 per head includes barbecue lunch

COMMEMORATION SERVICE

Lovekin Drive, Kings Park

Sunday, November 16 at 3.00pm

LEST WE FORGET

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Mandurah RSL Hall

22 Third Avenue Mandurah

Friday, December 5

Refreshments from 11am, Luncheon 12.30pm

1998 SAFARI – CANBERRA

March 10 - 18 inclusive

Vale: JACK PENGLASE

Jack was born on the sixteenth of February, 1916 here in Ravensthorpe, Western Australia to Nellie and Cyril Penglase. He received a very reasonable education for a country boy of that time leaving school at the age of sixteen to start work at the mine in Norseman. Jack was twenty four years of age when the second world war erupted, a superbly fit young man, he volunteered to join the Army, he was accepted and posted to the 2/2 Commando Unit. Jack or Penny as he was known then, was a popular person in the services, not only was he a good reliable soldier, he had a fine singing voice and could play the harmonica. Skills that were appreciated by his mates. There are many stories of the 2/2 Commando exploits, one that comes to mind is the time the unit was trapped behind the lines for nine months in the mountains of Timor. When Jack and the others finally made their way back to friendly forces, they were quite worried as to how they would approach their own lines and identify themselves without a password. Jack solved the problem by boldly marching forward singing *Waltzing Matilda* in a strong Australian accent.

Back from Timor and before going to New Guinea he found time to court and marry Elsie, a girl he had known from the early Ravensthorpe days. I have been told Jack was a reserved person, he might have been reserved, he certainly wasn't slow at coming forward. The war ended and Jack and Elsie went into the fish business at Hopetoun on the South coast, then one of the most isolated towns in the world. After a few years they sold the business and moved to Kenwick, it's hard for youngsters of today to appreciate those times, the house at Bentley took two years to build. Jack then had a variety of jobs, a stint in Coolgardie, just after John was born, then with uncle Jack at British Metal in Subiaco, he worked at Chamberlains Machinery shop in Welshpool and finally at the Swan Brewery from where he retired. Jack's marriage with Elsie was a marriage between two loving, caring people, a marriage that has stood the test of time, their lifetimes. Jack and Elsie were good parents, giving their children the advantages in life that they missed, and probably more importantly teaching them by example the values and virtues of life that are so important to mould the characters of young people.

A story comes to mind of the Easter family trip to Kookynie in the V8 Ford Pilot, a post war English designed car, using an American engine. It was an extremely powerful vehicle, however, it was also an extremely low geared slow vehicle with a prodigious thirst for fuel; it did have another slight imperfection, being designed for a cold climate. It also had a

tendency to overheat in Australian conditions. Notwithstanding the whole family bundled in, mattresses in the back for the kids and off to Kookynie, day and night they travelled at 60 miles per hour, that is when the radiator was not boiling. Everyone was sick of "*I spy with my little eye*" and all the mile posts had been counted, however, their destination was finally reached and the family spent a few very happy days, in which the delicacies of roasted goanna and goat were tasted. It was then time for the return trip, which was not a journey to look forward to. In all, it was a great experience and a great character builder.

It has been said to some that the greatest gift a man can give his children, is to love their mother, Elsie received that gift. The children Marlene, Raymond and John, have in turn with their spouses Tony, Carol and Kerry produced six grandchildren, Michelle, Sean, Melanie, Corey, Travis and Shay. What a fine legacy Jack and Elsie have bequeathed to Australia.

Jack was a keen fisherman, freshwater or salt, he was skilled at catching fish and used those skills when he travelled around Australia with Elsie. They also found many gemstones, had great times and enjoyed the twilight of their lives.

Jack will be remembered as a devoted husband, a proud, loving father and grandfather. He will be sadly missed, not only by his family but by all who knew him. Jack left this world a better place than when he found it, and for any man there can be no greater epitaph.

Present at Jack's funeral were: Ray Aitken, John Burrridge, Jack Carey, Dick Darrington, Laurie and Cheryl Harrington (representing Reg.), Keith Hayes, Mick and Jean Holland, Bill and Elvie Howell, Gerry Maley, Ted Monk, Jim McLaughlin, Stan Barbara Payne, Bob Smyth, Dusty Studdy, Don Turton, Doc Wheatley and Bob Burns (Joan's son).

Jack was a top soldier and a fine family man. He served in No. 6 Section in Timor and New Guinea. Jack had a good voice and could always be relied upon to sing a song or two at our early reunions. Two of his old Section mates, Reg. Harrington who is in Broome and Tom Martin who is not well regrettably could not make his funeral.

We extend our sincere condolences to Elsie, Marlene, Kay, John and their families on their sad loss.

Vale Jack – Lest We Forget

Mrs M. Stanley
17 Dagmar Way
Swanview 6056

Dear Jack,

On behalf of my mother and family I would like

to thank members of the 2/2 Commando Association who were present at the cremation of my father, Jack Penglase. What a wonderful tribute from his lifelong mates, their wives and children. I believe there were 17 representatives.

After my parents moved down south 8 years ago, dad made numerous trips back to Hollywood Hospital for treatment. Always, someone from the 2/2 Association would know of his whereabouts and visit him. This brought him so much joy. Colin Doig was one of those people who (although ill himself) would organise others to visit the sick. Reg Harrington was one of the visitors.

In my father's final year his dementia worsened, and for this reason I was unable to tell him of the passing of Colin Doig, in case he relived the sadness in his fragile state.

My father was a proud soldier and his final march took place in Esperance, Anzac Day 1996. After becoming ill in September he came to live with me. I accompanied him to the 50th Anniversary Dinner where he remembered your faces but not your names and silently shed a tear when the Ode was recited.

For Christmas we gave him Archie Campbell's book "*The Double Reds of Timor*." Dad had always loved to read but by now his poor mind could no longer concentrate. I started to read it to him but found he became too emotional. After another bout in hospital in January I found I could no longer care for dad so he was placed in Guildford Village Hostel where he received 24 hour care. Guildford was only 10 minutes drive from Swanview so I could visit him and take him out regularly.

On February 16th we had a special 81st birthday party for dad with all the members of the family. My brother Ray came down from Darwin. Even though dad was not well he laughed easily.

By May we knew dad had cancer of the kidney and did not have long to go. My mother travelled to Perth to spend some time with dad but had to return to Esperance.

His final two weeks in Hollywood Hospital were pain free. He ate well, having always loved his food (especially sweets). We watched TV together and he laughed happily at Sumo wrestling on the Sunday. He seemed to be improving but was unable to return to Guildford Village and I was too begin looking for a suitable Nursing Home. On the Tuesday dad was moved from palliative care to Ward 1. For some reason I visited dad twice in the one day, being there at meal times to help with his feeding. I took him his favourite chocolate frog and told him as it was my birthday next day I wouldn't visit again until Thursday. That night dad had a major bleed and we were

summoned to the hospital Wednesday and told 2 hours or 2 days. All the family came to say goodbye. My husband Tony and brother John stayed with me at dad's bedside until finally on Friday morning at 6.45am he passed away. Fortunately he was not alone and knew that we all loved and cared for him. Enclosed is a donation from the family on behalf of my dad.

Would it be possible Jack to get a copy of the article you mentioned that was printed in your newsletter in 1990 concerning dad. I would also like to receive the 2/2 Commando Courier on a regular basis. Please let me know of any costs.

I was a member of the "Womens Royal Australian Army Corp," survey unit for 3 years. My husband Tony is a returned soldier of the Ordinance Corp. A member for 20 years, now a Ranger. If there is anything we can do to help any of the 2/2 Commando's please let us know. Thankyou again and God bless you all.

Sincerely

Marlene Stanley.

Mr R. Snowden
13/2 McKibbin Court
Wodonga 3690

Just a note to enclose an obituary for Denny Dennis who died on May 14th after battling cancer for a number of years. Our Unit was represented at his funeral by Norm Tillet and myself. There was a good attendance of Legatees and RSL members as he had been very active in both organisations over the years.

It is always sad to see another Association member passing on.

Best regards to all Association members.

Bob

A prominent identity in the RSL and Legacy in Albury for many years, Mr 'Denny' Dennis, died on May 14th, 1997.

Berwin Francis Dennis, 78, was a former manager of Dalgetys merchandise department in Albury, but was also well known as a sporting shooter.

During World War II he served with the 2/40th Infantry Battalion, which was raised in Tasmania. The battalion was over-run by Japanese troops in Timor but Mr Dennis was among those who managed to evade capture and live to fight another day. He later saw action in a commando unit.

After the war, Mr Dennis became involved in the RSL and Legacy.

He joined the Albury-Wodonga Rifle Club in

1950 and became its longest serving member, serving as treasurer, secretary and captain.

A close friend, Mr Jim Kennedy, said Mr Dennis had served on the RSL sub-branch committee and was a former Legacy President. He said 'Denny did a lot of good work for Legacy and earned a lot of respect.'

Mr Dennis' wife, June, died two years ago and two sons also predeceased him. He is survived by his daughter, Mrs Suzanne Maxwell, eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

A funeral service was held at the Albury Crematorium Chapel.

The "Border Mail" 19/5/97.

We regret to have to advise of the passing in July of **Edna Halse**, wife of Les, and **Jean Morgan**, wife of Mick.

CORRESPONDENCE CORNER

Mrs G. Tapper
51 Downey Drive
Manning 6152

Dear Len,

On behalf of myself and my family I would like you to pass on our sincere thanks to everyone from the 2/2nd Commandos who attended Laurie's funeral or sent messages of comfort. We know that the representation and use of the flag would have made him extremely proud as his many friends made during the war were very important to him.

Our thanks also to you for everything. It was very comforting to know we said 'goodbye' to him as he would have wished.

Sincerely,

Grace

M. R. Coles
2/29 High Street
Greta 2334

Am enclosing a cheque for the Courier. Hope you are all well. I limp a bit on the right foot but still hope to be better soon.

Love, xxxx

Cisco

Mrs R. Moar
58 St. David's Road
Haberfield 2045

Dear Mr Monk

The enclosed cheque for the Trust Fund is from my mother, Nancy Teague (widow of Babe Teague) and myself. I'm very pleased to

see such useful projects being carried out by the Fund and always enjoy reading my mother's Courier. I hope people continue to show support for the East Timorese. There was a little bit of joy in the courts recently.

Thank you for all your good work.

Yours faithfully,

Rosslyn

Syd Marsh
17 McGough Street
Glenorchy 7010

Enclosing a donation for the Courier.

Hope you all had a happy and safe Easter. We had a few rough days weatherwise but enjoyed a quiet holiday.

Regards to all.

Swampy

Mr N. Tillet
48 Wanstead Street
Corowa 2646

I am writing on behalf of Norman who, for several years, has had the 'shakes' from his medication for emphysema and is unable to write.

Norm noticed the Courier was \$50 down and his conscience pricked him for not having contributed for some time. Enclosed please find donation to cover deficiency.

Norman and I went to Griffith for Roy Martin's funeral and two weeks later Norman and Arch Claney attended Alf Hodge's funeral and last week Norman and Bob Snowden went to Denny Dennis' funeral in Albury. Denny was much respected for his activity as Legacy and RSL member and will be sadly missed.

Sorry to note the passing of many members, particularly Ernie Bingham whose fancy footwork on the dance floor and in the ring was such a pleasure to see.

Cheers for now. Best wishes and love from us both.

Fran and Norm

Mrs D. Latimer
39 King Street
Inverell 2360

My husband, Don, passed away on the 20th April and I won't be wanting newsletter, thank you. It was sudden and we all will miss him very much.

All the best to your Unit

Yours sincerely,

Dulcie and Family

Mrs M. McKenzie
5 Wendlebury Way
Eden Hill 6054

Please find enclosed a donation towards the Courier. Many thanks for the good work done by the Courier Team

Regards to all.

Mary

Mrs N. Grachan
15 Banksia Court
Mulgrave 3170

Dear Ted, all committee and 2/2 family.

Enclosed my donation to Courier. Blame Old Man Time for late contribution, he waits for no man or beast.

I read with sadness the passing of so many dear friends in May edition. My sincere sympathy and prayers reach out to each family and all those close to their heart.

With heavy heart I read all tributes to the great Col Doig. Our wonderful friend, not only our patriarch, a man of the pen, where words of expression, compassion and love flowed. Col Doig was A man for all seasons, and everyone!

Best wishes and good health to all.

Nina

Mrs S. King
76 Bennett Street
Lake Grace 6353

Please find enclosed a cheque towards my Courier account. I have been very remiss.

All the best to everyone.

Sincerely,

Sheila

Mrs P. Campbell
30 Castletown Quays
Esperance 6450

A note to enclose cheque for Courier etc. We are nearly ready to go on our three month holiday. Leave here for Fraser Range where Peter will give John a hand for three or four days then on our way to Broome. Will meet some friends at Murchison River and go out to the coast at a place called Gladstone to put the net in and get a few sea mullet. Then by stages to Broome where we will be joined by Reg. Harrington for a fortnight before going to Cape Levique for a few days, then working our way to Exmouth for the last month.

Hope all Unit members are going strong. We just had beautiful rain so everyone all smiles here.

Jeff Swann has been in hospital for a few days, is home now but being sent to a specialist in Fremantle shortly.

Regards to all.

Peter and Pat

R. Griffiths
2/36 Wandoo Street
Luton 2705

Dear Jack,

Please find enclosed cheque for the Courier. There is a bit extra this time as it is some time since I have paid up. My excuse is that I am growing old – 90 years old in three weeks time. The Couriers still come consistently and I read them with much interest. Like everyone else, it was quite a shock to read that we had lost Col Doig. I was with 'D' Platoon the whole of the Timor campaign so I saw quite a bit of Col.

Col got in touch with me recently and said he intended to write a book on the help the 2/40 gave to the 2/2 and asked me to write an account of the time I had spent with the 2/2, which I did and sent it to him. Sadly, I don't suppose the book will be written. Some time ago when speaking to Col on the phone he told me there were less than 100 of the old Timor campaigners left. There would be less now. As I will be 90 years old in a few weeks I was wondering if any of the others have reached that age, if so we should talk together and swap notes. We might make the 100 mark.

The last Courier reported the death of Alf Hodge of Griffith which is only 50ks from Luton where I live. I used to see quite a bit of him at RSL meetings but they never let me know and I was unable to go to his funeral. Also, you will remember Lieutenant Rose of the 2/2 who was quite a legend. He grew up and lived in the town of Hillston which is about 120ks from where I live and I have met people from there who knew him. He passed on many years ago and is buried in the Hillston cemetery.

If you have any of the neck ties with the Double Red Diamond on could you send me one. I would like one very much.

I keep all the Couriers I often read them. When reading some old ones recently I read a poem written by your good wife. It went something like this. *'What you could do with Kitty she could do with Jack.'* Tell her it made my night.

Kind regards to all.

Reg and Hilda

Mr J. P. Kenneally
28 Wilkins St reet
Yagoona 2199

I write to apologise to Norm Tillett and Arch Clane. In reporting on the funeral of our late member, Alf Hodge, I omitted their names from the mourners who represented the 2/2 Commando Association. They were most certainly present and were part of the guard of honour with members of the Griffith RSL.

Congratulations to Bert Price ex 2/40th Bn., 2/2 Independent Coy, and ex 2/12th Bn., on receiving the Order of Australia. I look forward to catching up with him once more at the Canberra Safari next year. There is one thing certain if Bert is as well and fit as when I last saw him in Hobart about 18 months ago, it's going to be a long time before he is ex life. Good luck Bert.

Sorry to hear about Ernie Bingham's death. Bing was a great fighter no matter what sphere he was part of. If he meets up with Laurie Sykes in the land of the warriors I'm sure their battle in the ring at Strathpine in 1945 will be talked over. It was a great battle, waged by two fine young fellows, and I was fortunate in knowing both equally as well. May time ease the pain Verna and their children feel with his loss.

I was sorry to hear of the death of Denny Dennis. Denny, ex 2/40th ex 2/2nd, was a fund of information concerning the members of both units. May he rest in peace.

Anzac Day – well, it ain't what it used to be but then nothing ever is, and all round that's not a bad thing either. Nora nearly fainted when I walked in the door at 6.10 pm, sober as a judge. Went down to Millers Point and found two blokes I knew. The rest are under headstones. I can see longevity posing problems. I'll bear with them.

I can understand the Courier being reduced because of costs and shrinking membership, but not because of lack of material, seeing we have so much time at our disposal, one would think we would grab a pen and write just to relieve the boredom. It might just make life a little more interesting, and above all, let the people who do so much to compile and edit our Journal, feel that at least it is worth while. Down through the years I have enjoyed reading the Courier and my heartfelt thanks go out to the people who have put so much of their time into its production and despatch. Without it, and them, most of us would be sitting on our backsides not knowing how the men we knew long years ago were faring.

I'm off – I'm faring well. I hope its contagious.

Len, I had better than a drover's breakfast after the party, but I always keep it in mind. The bad

times might come again, God forbid.

Paddy

S. R. Marsh
17 McGough Street
Glenorchy 7010

I still look forward to the Courier – enclosing a donation to help keep it going.

Lost another of our 2/40th boys last week, Roy Briscoe, an ex police inspector. He had a big funeral in Hobart – a good bloke. Tassie had a great win over West Australia last weekend in the Aussie Rules game. I think the temperature must have slowed your blokes down (2° - 10°)!

Best wishes to all.

Syd (Swampy) and Joan Marsh.

Mrs B. Hopkins
14A Norman St
Bentley 6102

Enclosed is a cheque towards Courier expenses.

My regards to all. Hoping to catch up with everyone next month.

Sincerely,

Betty

Mrs M. Blomfield
12 Sirius Key
Forster 2428

Enclosed please find cheque for Courier expenses.

Yours sincerely,

Margaret

P. Barden
1/101 Francis St reet
Geraldton 6530

Since my last communication it was my privilege to be part of a tour of the Honour Avenues in Kings Park that followed an impressive RSL State Congress commemorative service at the State War Memorial on June 14. My hearty congratulations go out to those responsible for the creation of the most impressive section the reticulated lawn area of the Double Red Diamond Association.

I was at Anzac House the previous day to receive from the National President, Major

General 'Digger' James, the RSL's highest recognition for RSL and Community Service – the Meritorious Medal. I dedicated the acceptance of the award to the memory of the many dedicated members of the RSL and the Women's Auxiliary with whom I have been associated during my 51 years membership, including 41 years at Geraldton.

Referring to inspiration for service, I recalled a statement made many years ago by the late Eddie Carbury who said he received his inspiration for service from a question and answer at the formation of the Toc-H service organisation by Padre 'Tubby' Clayton in the trenches in Belgium in World War I. To the initiation question 'what is service?' came the lovely answer 'service is the rent we pay for our room on earth.'

Tom and Mary Foster send their best wishes to everyone and are expecting one of their best cropping years. Tom says Bluey and Edie Pendergrast of Dongara are now getting along pretty well. Eric Weller of Geraldton is kept busy helping Legacy and the Laurel Club ladies but will soon be off to visit members of his family in Perth and other places.

Geraldton City RSL Sub-Branch has been in the news for more than one reason as a result of State Congress. We received the Collett Cup for the 25th time as the outstanding country Sub-Branch. Our Anzac Day observances were described by Mayor Phil Cooper as magnificent and Joan and I were delighted to see the 2/2 Association banner being proudly displayed when we watched a video tape of the Perth Commemoration. I'm sure the 2/2nd members in Mandurah were delighted to see their old mate Wally Fletcher taking part in the Perth Anzac Day activities, including tossing the coin for the footy match between St. Kilda and the Dockers shortly before his 96th birthday on May 7.

God bless you all.

Peter

L. Cooper
8 Hilltop Cresc.
Rhyll 3923

Though not a good correspondent over recent years, several things stirred me into writing some news for possible inclusion in the Courier.

Firstly, our valued member Bill Tucker of Tocumwal, N.S.W., had a rather severe stroke some eight weeks ago. This has left him affected down his left side, with his speech affected but he can write with his right hand. After therapy at Shepparton Hospital he has improved somewhat, helped by his indomitable fighting spirit and is returning to Tocumwal for admission to the local nursing home.

My dear wife, Marjorie, had a complete new knee fitted last October and was progressing slowly but surely without undue pain, but had a fall off her exercise bike and gashed her knee on a fitting. This required some ten stitches and rest which delayed her recovery somewhat. Seven weeks ago she had a fall on the concrete path which cracked a vertebrae near her pelvis. This has left her in extreme pain and in hospital without any improvement so far. The specialist is hopeful however, and further extended treatment is planned.

All is not gloom down here however. Recently I attended a 50th wedding anniversary of Ken Monk and his good wife Margaret at Poowong Hall. As well as a large attendance of relatives and locals, there were a lot of 2/2 friends. For a normally quiet man Ken delivered an entertaining and humorous speech. One Such episode was his description of how they got together (perhaps it was when he proposed). Margaret lived on the farm next to Ken so Ken said 'she climbed over the fence to my side where she has been ever since.' Many similar gems were sprinkled throughout his delivery.

Those who attended the reunion at Maroochydore will remember that I managed to gather information in regard to Bill Petersen who had a strange collapse on a patrol out from Faita. This collapse occurred again some years after the war, but was not recognised by D.V.A. The Commando Association has been pushing for recognition subsequent to Bill's death but so far no luck, but lately, with some extra help, we are more hopeful.

Regards to all W.A. 2/2 friends..

Leith

R. Snowdon
13/2 McKibbin Court
Wodonga 3690

Greetings to all W.A. members. I hope all are in good health, or as well as can be expected.

Please note my new address. We had begun to feel that our previous house and garden were becoming somewhat larger than we needed or could cope with, so have moved into a unit. Should be much easier to look after.

I am fortunate to be keeping pretty good health, although I had several trips to hospital last year and the year before for surgery, but all O.K. now.

Am including a cheque to go towards the Courier. It is much appreciated.

All the very best.

Regards.

Bob

ANZAC DAY PERTH 1997.

On a brisk but lovely autumn morning, a large crowd gathered at the Kings Park War Memorial for the Dawn Service. Our President, Ralph Finkelstein, laid a beautiful wreath on behalf of the Association. Bob Smyth and John Burridge represented the Association at the S.A.S. Regiment's dawn service at Campbell Barracks Swanbourne with Bob laying a wreath on our behalf. Bob said the new C.O. of the regiment, Mike Hindmarsh, gave a very fine address at the service.

Later in the morning 21 members plus 6 from other units including our old friend John Lillie of the 2/3rd Company, took part in the parade through Perth. Led by a proud Ralph Finkelstein and with John Chalwell doing a top job as flag bearer, the march went off without a hitch – no changing step on this occasion. We had the Perth Salvation Army Fortress Band leading our group and they put in a first class effort. After the ceremony on the Esplanade most of the members adjourned to the Terrace Hotel (formerly the Airways) for a get-together where we were joined by those who were unable to march. 21 members plus 3 visitors were present at this function which was most enjoyable. The luncheon was terrific and our thanks go to the hotel staff for their effort on our behalf. We appreciated Mike Hindmarsh, the new C.O., dropping in for half an hour early in the proceedings along with the R.S.M. W.O.1 Neil McNamara and another Sergeant. President Ralph extended a warm welcome to Mike who personally met all members. Their visit added a nice touch to what was another very good Anzac Day. Our numbers are lessening but the spirit and humour are still there.

Our grateful thanks go to the Bingham family for their kind donation of one of the wreaths with a special mention to Shirley (Verna's daughter) for making two most beautiful wreaths. You did us proud Shirley.

Apologies were received from Harry Sproxtton, Gerry and Tony Maley, Albie Friend, Tony Bowers, Arch Campbell, Ron Dook, Stan Payne and Happy Greenhalgh.

Jack Carey

Members of the Mandurah Branch of the Association would like to record their appreciation to Phil Bingham, son of Ernie, for driving the bus from Mandurah to Perth and back on Anzac Day.

N.S.W. NEWS

It has been sad news indeed over the past couple of months with so many of our old and faithful stalwarts of the 2/2 family doing the Last Patrol. We who are left shall not forget

them, and the contribution they have made to us and in their home areas over the years. In addition to our own, two others who have had long and significant service with the N.S.W. Association, Mick Sheehan 2/5 (A.C.T.) and Don Latimer 2/7, have passed on. We have extended our condolences to their loved ones.

Anzac Day 1997: Following overnight drizzle which kept on for most of the day, the enthusiasm of the marchers and the spectators was not dampened. The N.S.W. Commando Association service held at our own Memorial was well attended by members No. 1 Commando Regiment and Association and 'Z' Special Unit. In the main March we had the honour of being the head Unit and I believe we managed to uphold the best traditions of the 2/2nd. On parade were Alan Luby, Jack Hartley, Fred Janvrin, John 'Snow' Went, Ray Cole, Harry Handicott, Ron 'Speed' Andrews, Paddy Kenneally, and Ray Whitely, Ken Glover and my old mate Alan Cray, M.C. M.M. from Wollongong.

After the March we made our way to Circular Quay where we boarded our usual ferry for a Harbour Cruise Reunion.

Bill and Coral Coker made it to the Martin Place service but Bill was on a march handicap as he had dropped an 8lb. hammer on his foot a couple of days before.

For some unknown reason, none of our Timorese friends were in evidence.

Taken all round it was a good day.

Sick Parade:

Alan Addison still having problems but reports some relief from a new pain killer.

Vince Walsh pretty well housebound.

Sid Dubber wheelchair bound as a result of a stroke.

Jack Hartley on the improve after a down turn. **Maria** has also been on the list but reports are much better.

My **Edith** continues to have her ups and downs but maintains a great fighting spirit.

Marksmanship Trophy:

1997 competition between No. 1, No. 2 Commando Companies and 126 Signals Regiment has been completed and the Shield and Trophy won by Pte. Ernie Jimenez of No. 1 Company, Georges Heights. Presentation was made at a green beret parade on March 22.

The Green Beret, with the Commando Association Badge and Wearer's Colour Patch, has been adopted as appropriate for wear on formal occasions.

Parer Photo Exhibition:

An exhibition of Damien Parer's wartime photographs was held at the State Gallery,

Mitchell Library during May and June. We had an invitation to the Official Opening but could not attend for health reasons. I managed to get in to the State Library to see Damien's photos which were very well set out and showed much of Middle East and New Guinea where 2/3 and 2/5 Independent Companies featured. Also, the odd shot of R.A.N. and R.A.A.F. On enquiring why nothing of Timor was on display I was advised to contact the Curator from A.W.M., Neil McDonald, who has written a couple of books on Parer's life. This I did, and he assures me it had nothing to do with Indo 'Sanitisation' but I can't say I'm totally convinced with his reasoning.

Congratulations to Ralph Finkelstein on his appointment as President in W.A. I'm sure he will maintain the precedent set by those he has succeeded. We wish him well.

Out of the Past:

Many will remember Pte. Joe Morrissey who was one of the 2/12th Field Ambulance Section from Koepang who managed to make their way to East Timor and link up with us. Harry Fredericks was another. I doubt whether any of us have heard anything of Joe since about 1947, even though we both lived at Wollongong for a space in 46/47. I had a call from a man who, only in the last few months, had learned that he was Joe's son, and was seeking information about his father. It appears that Joe had been married twice. His wife remarried and kept the secret from her children. I've had a couple of talks with him but if anyone has any information on Joe, please let me know and I'll put you in touch. He informed me that Joe died about three years ago and was buried at the Gateshead Cemetery, approximately 15km south of Newcastle. He will give me exact details when he has them.

Greetings to all our dear friends of 2/2 family and hope to see you in Canberra on Safari 1998.

To those who attended the Norma Hasson Day on Friday, July 11th, we hope you had a wonderful happy day, graced by fond memories of some lovely 2/2 people.

Edith sends her love to all. God bless.

Alan

QUEENSLAND NEWS

It is some time since having anything of note to write about but thank the Lord things are brighter than they were. You will all be aware Neil Hooper had a rough patch for quite a while but is now looking more like his old self and giving cheek although taking life carefully for a while. Theo Adams has not been well and has

to slow down a bit because his ticker has been troublesome again. Butch Barrier instead of carrying the banner on Anzac Day enjoyed a ride in a Jeep but has recovered sufficiently to take some amber nourishment from time to time.

The Queensland Contingent met on May 19th, at North Pine Dam for a barbecue in magnificent weather and good spirits. Our departed were remembered in the usual manner and our members brought up to date with what news we had from contact with the West and New South Wales from Alan Luby and Ron Morris from Canberra in particular with planning progress for the 1998 Safari.

Those present were Col and Jeanette Andrew, Ron Archer and friend Lyn Love, Butch and Pat Barrier, George and Bettye Coulson, Neil and Margaret Hooper, Murvyn Murphy, Gordon and Joan Stanley, Jack and Beryl Steen, and their friends John and Margaret Evans, Edna Vandeleur, Alec and Esse Veovedin, and Ralph and Sheila Conley. Apologies were received from Tony and Iris Adams and Theo Adams. We missed their company.

Alan Luby keeps us well advised with happenings in Timor with Press Cuttings and Photos of almost current affairs and these are of great interest to us. The lack of appreciation and understanding exhibited by our politicians is disgraceful but only goes to show how gutless they are in going to any lengths to appease the Indonesians. Why they cannot approve Resident Status to the Timorese refugees in order not to upset Suharto and his ilk who would know, certainly not the Australian Veterans in the electorates!

We are expecting a visit from an adult Japanese student seeking a Doctorate. His thesis concerns the relationship between the Australian Commandos in Timor and their Timorese Creados. I gather he has already spoken to members in South Australia and the West.

Our next barbecue meeting will be at Golden Beach Caloundra on 21st. July. If any members are visiting the Sunshine State we would be delighted to see them.

Best regards to all.

Ralph Conley

VICTORIAN NEWS

Anzac Day was a beautiful day and we thoroughly enjoyed the march and afterwards our luncheon with the Combined Commando Squadrons at Eden on the Park. Present were Tom Nisbet, Jack Fox, Bruce McLaren, John Southwell, Alf Harper, George Veitch, Rolf

Baldwin, Harry Botterill, Leith Cooper, Fred Broadhurst, and Joan Freyer brought Don in to the reunion in a wheel chair and we were all delighted she did, and Don enjoyed it most of all. His eyes shone and as he cannot talk this showed us how happy he was to be among his mates. Thanks a lot Joan. Ken Monk sent his apologies. This was the first one he has missed for a long time.

Ken and Margaret Monk celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at Poowong on April 26th. Olive and Harry Botterill, Cath and John Roberts, Faye and Jock Campbell, Mary and Bluey Bone, Leith Cooper (Marg was on the sick list) and Pat Petersen were among 150 guests who helped them celebrate this wonderful occasion. A great day.

We send our congratulations to Ralph Finkelstein on becoming President for the coming year. and wish him every success.

Regards to all.

Harry Botterill

Mr R. Morris
53 Hilder Street
Weston ACT 2611
Telephone: 062 2882619

Herewith an update with reference to the Safari.

I had a meeting with the Manager of the Eastlakes Football Club and he is being very co-operative. He says if the stairs are too much for our lads and their spouses he will organise an area on the ground floor which will be our permanent home for the week.

I had coffee with Fred Bagley and he is only too willing to help us out.

We are having the Official Lunch at the Workers Club in the City. The caterer is a great friend of mine and he will excel himself, I am sure. He has offered to make us an ice carving in the shape of our Double Diamond.

I also had a meeting with Judy Watkins, the Canberra manager of QANTAS, and she gave me the following prices for senior flyer return fares to Canberra: Perth \$596, Brisbane \$370, Sydney \$186, Melbourne \$230, Adelaide \$326 or \$348, according to the route taken, Hobart \$398.

I had a meeting with the Editor of the Army Newspaper and he is going to give us a write up in the next issue. I am also in touch with our local Minister with reference to the veteran cars and the Festival Procession.

Sincerely,

Ron

CANBERRA 1998 SAFARI NEWS

Minutes of meeting of the Safari Committee.

Present: Ron and Hazel Morris, Fred and Erika Bagley, Danny and Sunny Daniels.

Letters were received from the Eastlake Football Club regarding arrangements they are making for us and from General Gower, Director of the War Memorial, sanctioning our wreath laying ceremony. Read and tabled.

Recommendations for each day were as follows:

Day 1. Tuesday, March 10. Transport will be organised to pick up at airport, train station, bus station, etc.

Day 2. Wednesday, March 11. Arrangements will be made for payments to be finalised. Souvenirs will be on sale.

Day 3. Thursday, March 12. Danny has heard that the 2/5th and probably the 2/4th will be joining us at the wreath laying. Arrangements have been made for the 2/5th to join us but to date Ron has not heard from the 2/4th. A list of V.I.Ps to be invited to the luncheon was compiled. Fred requested that the Governor General be invited. Ron will contact the Comptroller by letter.

Day 4. Friday, March 13. Fred suggested he organise a barbecue at the Oakford Apartments for those who would be interested.

Day 5. Saturday, March 14. Still waiting to get final word from Local Government regarding events for us to take part in. Arrangements will be notified later.

Day 6. Sunday, March 15. Regarding the Church service. Ron will contact Bishop Morgan

Day 7. Monday, March 16. Hazel will arrange a craft morning if ladies are interested. She has access to a professional craft teacher who would love to arrange a morning for the ladies. Remember, this is a public holiday when there will be a full programme of entertainment provided locally. Gentlemen have their meeting on this day.

Day 8 Tuesday and Day 9 Wednesday, March 17 and 18. As advised in the February Courier

We missed Joan Fenwick at our meeting, she was in Brisbane welcoming her new grandson. Thanks to Danny and Sunny for morning tea at their Senior Citizens Club.

We will forward an up-date on the programme each time there is something to report.

We bank with St. George for the Safari and they have said they will supply us with name tags, free.

I will contact winemakers with reference to having a souvenir port with 2/2nd label.

The up-date on the Veterans Affairs donation to our event is that they met on June 20, and will have a decision in three weeks. Will notify you when this comes through.

Fred and Erika will be away until the end of July when we hope to be able to have another meeting, including Joan,

Regards to you all.

Ron Morris

Safari Notes:

The organising committee comprising Ron and Hazel Morris, Danny and Sunny Daniels, Fred and Erika Bagley (Fred is Len's brother) and Joan Fenwick, is working hard to make the Canberra Safari a very successful one and I'm sure it will be.

After a slow start with nominations, the following have booked in. Wilf and Lorraine March (W.A.), Bluey and Noreen Miller (Tassie), Leith and Marg Cooper (Victoria), Alan and Edith Luby, Ken (Blue) and Edith Jones, Harry and Amyce Handicott, Keith and Nola Wilson (all from N.S.W.). So, do the right thing by the committee and make your bookings now. If you want a room on the ground floor you are advised to book early.

West Australian members who intend to fly to Canberra can avail themselves of the following offer: Per Qantas Flight 480 leaving Perth on Tuesday, March 10 at 6 a.m. and arriving Canberra 1.45 p.m. via Melbourne. Cost \$596 per head. The return flight on Wednesday, March 18 will be advised in due course. Some members may decide to spend more time in the east. A cover will be taken out for 12 seats once arrangements have been

finalised with Qantas. For more information on the flight,

please contact Secretary, Jack Carey on 9332 7050.

Jack Carey

News of Members:

Jess Epps, our Happy Wanderer, is off to bonny Scotland on the 15th July. We know that Jess, who exudes confidence, will have a wonderful time. Safe travelling Jess. Talking of Scotland reminds one of the old joke. What is the difference between a Scotsman and a coconut? Well, you can always get a drink out of a coconut!

Jack Fowler who is 85 has given away the metropolitan area and is now domiciled at Three Springs. Jack is in good health and,

apart from the old memory playing tricks at times, enjoys life. He would like to hear from any of his old mates so what about a phone call or two, you blokes. Sunday calls are very reasonable, so cost is no excuse.

Peter Mantle, a lively 81, and **Jack Hanson** (into his seventies) rang from Queensland in June, enquiring about a letter they received from Mr Shivaishi of Japan, who is visiting members around Australia gathering information on our Timor show. I told them he was harmless and to give him a hearing. It was nice to hear from Peter an old 9 Section mate and Jack who hailed from Fremantle. How about dropping a letter to the Editor telling us about yourselves.

Kel Carthew is President of the Commando Association of South Australia which is a singular honour. Kel has been a great supporter of our Association for many years and its nice to see him President of the A.C.A. in his home state.

Peter Barden, our Country Vice President for the northern area, was honoured recently by the Returned Services League. Peter was awarded the Meritorious Medal by the parent body in Perth for his outstanding service to the League over many years. Congratulations, Peter, for an award well deserved. The Medal was presented by 'Digger' James, the National President of the League.

We were pleased to hear from Bettye Coulson that her mother, Nellie, who many of us have met, celebrated her 100th birthday this year with a wonderful party which was enjoyed by many of her friends and especially by Nellie who is now looking forward to next year's party.

Best wishes Nellie. from all your 2/2nd friends.

Irish eyes are smiling for the Kenneally gang

The four Kenneally kids remember their anxious father taking charge of the gangplank that famous St Patrick's Day, pushing it up against the good ship Oronsay after it berthed at Woolloomooloo and dashing up the plank to sweep his beloved wife and their four children into his arms.

That was March 17, 1927. Yesterday, 70 years later, the Kenneally kids gathered to celebrate the occasion. "Oh Holy Mother of God," John "Paddy" Kenneally said. "what a day it was!"

Michael Kenneally packed his Mary and their Julia, Paddy, Joe and Mary into a taxi and complained for the rest of his life that the driver took the long way to their rooms in Millers Point, adding ninepence to the fare.

While the girls made friends with the father they scarcely knew and helped their mother bring order to the family's new home, the boys went out to play.

The Sydney kids seemed much bigger. One hit Joe, then nine, across the mouth. Joe picked up a bottle – the pubs closed at 6pm then and drinkers finished with bottles in the parks – hurled it and scored a direct hit on his assailant's head.

"Holy St Patrick's Day!"

Michael Kenneally was a seaman from the fishing village of Youghal in County Cork who sailed from Ireland in 1919 in the barque Cardena. He broke the English mate's jaw in a fight over Irish politics and was before the courts in Newcastle on an assault charge when his ship left Australia.

Mick Kenneally joined the Australian Seamen's Union. He sent his pay home while Mary coped with life in Ireland.

Mary Kenneally, now Mary Cobcroft, who hosted yesterday's party at Punchbowl, said her mother loved it here from the day their ship sailed through the Heads. "The sun was out, the sky was blue and everyone was happy. I wouldn't have known my father from a bar of soap but he was a good provider and my mother was a strong, remarkable woman."

The Kenneallys survived the Depression and watched the Harbour Bridge being built, from their homes in Millers Point and then Milsons Point.

Michael lived to be 86 and Mary 83. Paddy fought as a commando in Timor during World War 11 and Joe served in the RAAF. The four have nine children between them and 20 grandchildren.

"Mum told us to stay together," said Julia. They have – Julia, now 85, Paddy, 81, Joe, 79, and Mary, 75. Glory be, St Patrick!

Norma Hasson Day 1997 was a splendid affair held at the Terrace Hotel, Perth, which is the re-furnished Airways Motel, the pride and joy of our late esteemed member, John Poynton – we missed him and we know he would have enjoyed the day.

The attendance was excellent on a sunny, but cold day – 47, including 15 Mandurah members and wives who arrived by coach, and Stan and Barbara Payne who came all the way from Merredin.

The special guests who endeared themselves to all present were Jack Bernsden and his wife Mary. Jack was a crewman on the "Tjerk Hiddes," a Dutch destroyer which evacuated 2/2nd members from Timor on December 15, 1942. He recently met someone who suggested he contact John Burridge who referred him to Jack Carey, who invited him to come to our luncheon. Jack and Mary were very welcome visitors.

The Hasson family was represented by Ken and Rhonda who presented all the ladies with a lovely corsage.

A most enjoyable day.

Sick Parade

George Timms spent two weeks in Charlie Gairdner Hospital in June with a heart complaint. He is back home at Collie and providing he takes things easy and follows the doctor's orders, he should get by O.K. Among his many visitors was Percy McPhee (the invisible man's brother). Percy and George had a happy hour together talking about old times. Percy, who has turned 80, is still working and enjoys a beer or two. Sigs please take note.

Jack Wicks is not a well man. He has lost weight and has been told to lay off the smokes, something Jack will find hard to do. You have our support Jack, not that this will help much when temptation arises. Jack follows the footy closely and is a good judge of the game.

Bill Tucker is making slow progress following a stroke which he suffered a couple of months ago. Our thoughts are with you Bill – keep the old chin up.

Dulcie Ryan missed the Norma Hasson Day, being in Hollywood getting her knee fixed up. Good luck Dulcie.

Dusty Studdy still has his shingles, as does Mark Jordan. Now, there's a good double! Get well soon, chaps.

Butch Barnier is having a spell in hospital for observation.

Jack Wicks has now had his operation and is home.

VISIT TO FREMANTLE ARMY MUSEUM

A visit to the Army Museum in Fremantle has been arranged for Thursday, October 7th. A guided tour of the museum will be followed by a barbecue lunch. Cost of the lunch, which includes the admission charge, is \$10 per head. Drinks will be available at very reasonable prices.

Ample parking room is available within the museum grounds in Burt Street, Fremantle.

Mark the date on your calendar and make sure you are there at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, October 7th. It will be an interesting and enjoyable day.

**“NOTHING IS FOR EVER”
THE STORY OF 2/3 AUSTRALIAN
COMMANDOS**

by Ron Garland – Tel (02) 9661 5291

The true story of this very courageous Commando unit, in three tours in the South West Pacific region in WW2, is told in graphic and readable form. 2/3 Commandos first served in New Caledonia, to hold it against possible Japanese invasion until relieved by large American Forces. They then went to New Guinea for operations.

When the Japanese attacked towards Wau, 2/3 flew in to Wau and launched the first successful counter attack against the Japanese. They defeated them at Woody Island. They then pursued the Japs on all three tracks leading to Mubo destroying a great number of their army.

After this successful pursuit, they were withdrawn and sent over the notorious 10,000 foot Double Mountain to wage guerrilla warfare against the Japanese from Salamua to Komiatum. The Japanese supply line to their defences at Mubo, facing 17 Brigade, was targeted and hit many times by 2/3 in various ways.

In May 1943, 2/3 captured the defended Bobdubi Ridge, deep behind Japanese lines, with only one Platoon and no air or artillery support. They held it for 14 days, threatening Salamua and the Japanese supply line to Mubo. The enemy was forced to deploy massive air and ground forces to recapture it.

Again, behind enemy lines, without any such supporting fire or flanking units, in July 1943, two platoons attacked and captured the heavily defended Ambush Knoll. This position was vital to both sides as it commanded important routes to Salamua. The Japanese reacted by surrounding them. 2/3 then successfully defended Ambush Knoll against 20 bitter Japanese attacks over four days with only the guns in their hands. The Japanese attackers outnumbered the defenders by over eight to one and the enemy had mountain gun and mortar support. 2/6 Battalion broke through on the fourth day to raise the siege and the Japs were compelled to withdraw. In eight months of bloody constant fighting, 2/3 lost over 60 % battle casualties. After time on the Atherton Tablelands, 2/3 served in the capture of Balikpapan.

ORDER NOW WITH PAYMENT—

Cost – \$50 including postage and packaging. Ron Garland, 109 Bilga Crescent, Malabar Heights, 2036. All books will be published by 1 October, 1997.

TIMOR FIGHT AN EPIC STRUGGLE

By Hal Colebatch

There are some splendid accounts of the Australian (largely West Australian) commandos of the 2/2nd Independent Company who operated in Timor in World War 11, including those by Sir Bernard Callinan and Colin Doig.

A new book? 'The Double Reds of Timor' by Archie Campbell, (published by John Burrige Military Antiques, Swanbourne, \$35.00), is a more than distinguished addition to the literature.

The story is heroic and epic in scale. Written off as lost by Australia after the Japanese overran Timor early in 1942 – and knowing they were written off and without help, knowing all in Australia believed them dead or captured – this single Company, with a few stragglers from other units, carried on a sustained offensive for months.

They did this without support, killing an estimated 1,500 enemy for the loss of 40 of their own men. At the most desperate part of the Pacific War, they tied up two Japanese Divisions which might otherwise have turned the balance in New Guinea.

Japanese invitations to surrender were declined. They were then classified as “bandits” to be beheaded if captured. “And what else is new?” as Campbell remarked of this ultimatum.

He continues: “And so they strengthen their forces, and renew their determination to destroy us ... they call in a specialist. He is a Jap major, a ruthless professional with a well established track record as Nippon's No. 1 jungle fighter. They call him the 'Singapore Tiger.'”

“Supremely confident ... he goes straight into an ambush laid by a Western Australian school teacher ... The 'Singapore Tiger' and about 25 of his men are speedily shot.”

The 2/2 Commandos had no radio but, after desperate months as their ammunition and supplies were expended, they captured enough parts to build one. After two failures the third radio, nicknamed “Winnie the War Winner,” carried to the top of a mountain, reached Darwin.

Initially, the Army was disbelieving. But it finally accepted they were still alive and fighting. They were resupplied and eventually evacuated.

The medical story is as heroic and dramatic as the military one. One man, Alan Hollow, had is lower jaw shot off in the Japanese landings. The medical officer, Captain Roger Dunkley, fed him for months through a tube. He also went behind enemy lines to carry out the wounded.

Dunkley ran a hospital and performed major surgery, not merely with primitive equipment or non-existent drugs, but actually in battle – and the commandos were too thin on the ground to give the hospital luxuries such as defence cover. This was in addition to coping with tropical diseases including dysentery, malaria and ulcers in a country where unboiled water is generally undrinkable.

Campbell, well known in WA business and sporting circles, was a section commander. It was his section that raided the Japanese to carry off radio parts. He is a fine writer, with a gripping and vivid style and a mastery of detail. The book is well illustrated and handsomely produced and a great tribute to this small publisher.

Winston Churchill was to declare: "Little known but great in significance are the men of the 2/2 Independent Company in Timor. They alone of all the troops in the Pacific did not surrender."

Although Campbell does not mention it, there is another point to be made. The men of the 2/2nd, possibly saviours of their country, were treated miserably with regard to honour and recognition when they returned to Australia.

Dr. Dunkley, for example, reckoned a hero by their standards (different to those of ordinary men) only received a Mentioned in Despatches. Indeed, few got more than MIDs and the official awards given out at the time were so strikingly paltry as to suggest political considerations were at work. They had no victory parade.

However, in the largest sense this does not matter. As long as the tale of these men is told it will remain the pinnacle of heroism and glory.

This is a great and stirring book about great men and deeds, one everyone should read, both to honour the men of Timor and to refresh our own spirits.

** One of the heroes of the 2/2nd Independent Company was Two Rocks resident Alf Blundy who passed away in late 1996. He was a fine man and a friend of this paper. This article is respectfully dedicated to his memory. – Editor.*

A TRIBUTE TO ARCHIE CAMPBELL

On Tuesday, 20th May the President of Perth Legacy, John Russell, presented Archie with his certificate of 50 years of continuous service to Legacy.

Arch joined Legacy in Sydney in 1947, moved to Melbourne and then back to Perth. His service to Legacy has been exceptional. He has never refused a job of any description; he is a Legatee who was devoted to him many "families" and helped widows and children with all those attendant problems that the lack of a father occasions. He is a Legatee who has been involved in the whole broad spectrum of Legacy. He was Honorary Secretary for many years and became Perth president in 1966.

Not only is Legacy proud of Archie's unstinted service but we also in the 2/2nd are equally proud.

Dear Bob,

Yesterday was an arrival day. First was the arrival of your Ambassador to Dili. He went straight to our place after the airport. He was impressed when told him about the 2/2nd. Just by coincidence, the boy scouts and girl guides were also camping in our grounds. So the Ambassador and his secretaries were able to see the tents you sent and greeted some of the scouts.

He also went to see our work shops (I mentioned Viv's work in the carpentry and some tools that you had sent before) and the tailoring. In the sewing section I told them about Verna (the ambassador and staff will also see the agricultural school in Fuloro tomorrow) and the sewing machines you had sent. The double diamond of the 2/2nd was prominent on each of the machines!! The sewing teacher, Irene, presented him with a kind of *thank you* gift (she must have thought the ambassador was representing you ... well that is true too!).

I think the Ambassador did not want to be outdone by the 2/2nd, for he offered to assist us in any way the Australian Embassy could. So he promised, there and then, to help us complete the installation on the welding workshop for an amount of \$Aus15,000. I just have to make a short proposal and he would sign the cheque as soon as he gets back to Jakarta. (Be sure I will be typing that document as soon as possible!) I think the gift of Irene (an embroidery thing, which she is good at making) must have made him quite generous! I am quite relieved because this welding project had stalled. We really need this amount to keep us moving.

The next arrival were the four boxes of Seeders/planters. So they have finally landed!!! I took a picture of these boxes with some of the little scouts who were just playing around. I'll send you the pictures soon.

I was thinking if later you could write to your ambassador in Jakarta and commend him for his attention to our school. We had sent two proposals to the Australian embassy last year and both were turned down because they had helped already the other Don Bosco schools in Fuiloro and in Fatumaka. The other reason was that the former ambassador was being replaced. It is good that the new ambassador has started off his term by providing us some help.

I will still send some details about the burglar alarms to guard the expensive tools in our workshops, tailoring and the computer sections.

Greetings to the rest of the 2/2nd.

Ephrem.

INDEPENDENT TRUST

HAND WHEELED GARDEN SEEDERS:

These 4 seeders were finally received by Les Cranfield. They are the shipment that replaced the original which was signed for by a clerk in Jakarta and apparently vanished.

Our total cost was \$860.10c compared to the \$800 quoted ex Perth store plus freight and landing charges, Customs etc. We did not pay twice.

ELECTRIC FENCE ENERGISER \$ 259.00

Taken to Dili via Kupang Customs in passenger's hand luggage but a month later Les has not received it. (We are waiting information. We hope the Army have not grabbed it for interrogation persuasions).

\$222.60 of irrigation fittings accompanied the energiser. It is hoped they survived the Bull Run through customs at Kupang (Shades of Viv Paust's experience with his last year).

A problem is the apparent reluctance of the addresses to complain when "consideration" is demanded.

Les and Verna Cranfield remain extremely active. Their footprints in East Timor will last for many years.

They have to do the 6 hour trip to Dili each month to renew their visas.

We asked if they could return a week early to receive an award from A.E.S.O.P. at a

ceremony in Perth 18th August. They declined because of pressure of work up to the date of their departure 23rd August.

Don't forget to send them a post card – Les and Verna Cranfield C/- Don Bosco Agricultural School – FUILORO – TIMOR TIMUR – INDONESIA.

The Trustees appreciate and thank all contributions to 30th June. The balance (to be confirmed by Hon. Treasurer Ted Monk) is \$6036.49c.

Best wishes

Bob Smyth

TO:

**Janice Mulleneux
D.A.P. Committee
Australian Embassy Jakarta
re Welding Workshop Don Bosco**

Bro. Ephrem Santos of Don Bosco Training School Dili, advises that the Ambassador Mr. John McCarthy, has promised to fund the installation of the welding workshop budgeted A\$15,000.

Our Association appreciates your support and commends your decision.

Les and Verna Cranfield, Agricultural and Clothing manufacturing specialists from Perth, complete their most successful A.E.S.O.P. six months project in August.

We will endeavour to locate a suitable retired welder to do a project also via A.E.S.O.P. Our funds are becoming anorexic.

FUILORO FENCING PROBLEM:

We recently provided an electric fence unit, but the ultimate requirement, to protect the schools 200/400 hectares of vegetables and grain crops, is a cattle/goat/pig fence, as manufactured in W.A.

We have made advances to a prominent Company to donate 5 kilometres. Given all the circumstances we are optimistic, although we will possibly have more work to do on it.

Since its inception 5 years ago, this Trust has been discreet in all negotiations with Dili. Following their surveillance of some hundreds of FAX's over the period and of 5 shipments of goods, the Indonesian Administration likely accepts that we are not going to send in a container of missiles or AK47s. That could also be a re assurance to your Office.

We appreciate your interest in our endeavours.

Yours Sincerely,

Robert N. Smyth

Latest news from the Cranfields:

Dear Bob,

The electric fence energiser has arrived. It came in a cardboard box which had tins of sardines written on it. Fr. Jose put it aside and said 'Who's sending me sardines?' At the moment it's in use around the poultry sheds trying to stop someone stealing our chickens. I know it works because Fr. Jose accidentally touched it. There were arms and legs going in all directions.

The hand seeders have been already used and we have just finished preparing more land for vegetable gardens.

The trickle irrigation fittings will be getting used soon on new vegetable gardens.

We spent an evening here with the new Ambassador and on Sunday we went swimming with him. He's an Australian with an American accent. He's a really nice guy to talk to and he also said if we need any help with anything he's willing to help.

Best wishes to all.

Les and Verna

**Special Air Service
Regiment Historical Collection
Campbell Barracks,
Swanbourne 6010**

Dear Sir,

1997 marks the 40th Anniversary of the Special Air Service Regiment. The Committee of the Special Air Service Regiment Historical Collection, earnestly seek your support as they diligently strive in pursuit of commemorating with integrity, the role of the SAS and the soldiers who gave service.

Yours sincerely,

**K. A. Danes
W02
President
SASRHC**

The Association has donated \$500 to the above and members may care to donate privately to this worthy cause, to the above address.

Donations to Trust Fund:

Rosslyn Moar and Nancy Teague	\$200.00
Jess Epps	\$250.00

Courier Donations:

Swampy Marsh, Eric Thornander, Bob Smyth, Ray Parry, Joe Burridge, Vince Swann, Joe Poynton, Dick Darrington, Doc Wheatley, Ray Aitken, Dusty Studdy, John Chalwell, Bob Snowdon, Mary McKenzie, Norm and Fran Tillet, Sheilah King, Isobel Servante McCaul, Peter and Pat Campbell, Ralph and Eve Finkelstein, Cisco Coles, Reg. Griffiths, Nina Grachan, Betty Hopkins, Margaret Blomfield, Penglase Family, Tony Bowers, Stan Payne, Don Murray, Mark Jordan, Bernie Langridge, Jess Epps, Val Hayes.

Address Book Changes:

Mr T. Adams, Theo
40 Mylne Street
Chermside 4032
(07) 3359 6246

Mr R. G. Snowdon
Bob and Bernice
13/2 McKibbin Court
Wodonga 3690

Mr J. McLaughlin
Jim
Unit 7, The Masons
55 Alexander Drive
Mt. Lawley 6050

Mr J. Fowler
John
C/- Mrs L. Hunt
P0 Box 80
Three Springs 6519

Additions

Mr. J. Jones (2/4th)
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