



2/2 COMMANDO COURIER

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President R. Parry, Secretary J. Carey, Editor D. Carey

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Sometimes one wonders how often Australian politicians ever give full and competent consideration before making decisions.

Take for instance Philip Ruddock, the Minister for Immigration and Multinational and Indigenous Affairs. Mr Ruddock must have one of the most onerous and worrying jobs in Australia. Not only is he the butt for criticism by the multitude of do-gooders in this country but also bears the illwill poured on Australia by so many "nothing to lose" foreign countries.

Where Mr Ruddock, or perhaps more rightly, the present Liberal Australian Government, has failed to give full consideration to a problem is the current question of 1600 East Timorese refugees in this country who collectively seek the right to remain here. This is a wonderful opportunity to right what is surely a very big wrong.

In answer to the question raised in the first paragraph above we can recall one occasion on which our politicians did give a problem the consideration it deserved. Remember Prime Minister Bob Hawke? After the Tiananmen Square massacre in China in June 1989, Bob Hawke's Labour Government gave special treatment to 20,000 Chinese students at that time studying in Australia. Without wishing to get into a discussion of the merits of the Hawke decision one cannot help but compare the two matters: -

- a) 20000 students - Chinese or with Chinese background are given immediate attention.
- b) 1600 East Timorese (men, women and children) who seek to remain here but face the usual stonewall of officialdom and complicated procedure.

Some five years ago these 1600 people were given the stern injunction that they must provide, individually, information on their claims for permanent residency. They were told that if they failed to provide such information they had the right of access to either the Refugee Review Tribunal or the Administrative Appeals Tribunal or, in exceptional circumstances might have grounds for review in the Federal Court, the Federal Magistrates Court or the High Court!

Words fail us! These 1600 family members from what is recognised as the poorest country in the world are given such unsympathetic suggestions of the different and bewildering avenues they could follow. Remember that in one of Australia's darkest hours in 1942 the people of East Timor gave unstintingly everything they could to help those Australian soldiers who if that help had not been forthcoming would probably not have survived.

The East Timorese shared their dwindling supplies of food with the Australian soldiers and they shared the danger from the Japanese Military. Many of them were killed by the Japanese. Is the current attitude of the Australian Government something of which to be proud? I think not.

John Burridge.

**Vale GEORGE ALBERT LIMB
COULSON VX74508****2/2/1923 - 12/3/2003.**

George passed away on Wednesday 12th March, after several difficult years of failing health. George had with his usual determination survived several heart attacks, but quietly slipped away at Redcliffe Hospital with Bettye and his family at his bedside.

George was born in Melbourne on 2nd February 1923. His mother died shortly after his birth and he would often reflect on his difficult early years as a child. Fortunately his grandparents and uncle took him under their wing which saw George attend Geelong Grammar School until late 1941.

He joined up straight from school for basic training. When the 2/2nd Independent Company returned from active service in Timor, the Unit was reformed and George joined as one of the replacement troops. The Unit was retrained at Canungra and George often spoke of this time as he made many lifelong friends during that time.

His earlier association with Geelong Grammar continued as David Dexter was also his old School Captain and Rolf Baldwin (Baldy) was one of his teachers. The Company then served sixteen months (1943-44) in New Guinea mainly in the Ramu Valley, northwest of Lae.

At school George was a fine athlete and could run like the wind, enjoyed rowing and was a strong swimmer. It was swimming a flooded river in New Guinea that George injured his back but it never detracted from his involvement. Unfortunately the injury contributed too many difficult times with his back and neck during the rest of his life.

On returning to Australia the Unit was stationed at Strathpine and once again reformed and retrained. The retraining

included a particular tough march (fully loaded) from the camp to Woody Point (Redcliffe) in a day and George's flat feet caused him considerable problems. He was consequently medically downgraded from "A" to "B" and left the Company before it departed on his final tour of duty in New Britain. George often had a chuckle that he got a service pension for flat feet and dandruff. Normally medical "B" class troops remained in Australia but not so George. He was sent back to New Guinea until the end of the war as General Robertson's (Red Robbie) driver of his staff car at Lae. He was finally discharged in 1946.

George met Bettye Corbett in 1942 and they married in 1946 while he was still in the army. After several years in Melbourne where daughters Susanne and Judi were born the family moved to Woombye on the Sunshine Coast in Queensland to take up pineapple farming. Their third daughter Robyn was born in Nambour.

We all have our special memories of George but his life was characterised by his willingness to have a go. We were often reminded of the many projects George the bus driver, the taxi driver, the furniture salesman, the fruit shop owner, the farmer, the shopkeeper, the vacuum cleaner salesman found himself and on most occasions Bettye involved. All adventures were undertaken with enthusiasm and characterised by success.

George always loved sport, however his love of sailing saw him competitively sail the smallest sailboat and the largest blue water yachts. His love of the ocean through his sailing, fishing and boating in the Sandy Straits were some of the many satisfying activities that he revelled in.

Apart from the love of his family, his love of the land as a farmer probably ranked

only slightly above his love of all things mechanical. Particularly motor cars. His practical approach to life was always evident by his knowledge and craftsmanship with timber and construction materials.

While George and Bettye always had a keen interest in the Association, their attendance at the 1981 Brisbane Safari provided the opportunity to renew old friendships and make new ones. George and Bettye were regular attendees at Association functions and get togethers in Brisbane and around Australia. He loved to travel and spent many months driving all over Australia but was frustrated at the constraints ill health placed on him over the last several years. In February, 80 of his family and friends celebrated George's 80th birthday at the Buderim Tavern. The 2/2 was well represented and George enjoyed being the centre of attention.

In March, George, Bettye and family travelled to Melbourne to keep a promise to Nellie his 105 year old mother-in-law, to place her ashes at rest beside her husbands. The 5 days in Melbourne while tiring, fulfilled George's fond wish to once again visit Melbourne and to once again to see his relatives and friends.

Although George was to be cremated at a private service, word got out and over 100 of his family and friends and 2/2nd mates said farewell to this "lovable larrikin" at Buderim.

George is survived by his wife Bettye, daughters Susanne, Judi and Robyn, 11 grandchildren and one great grandson. A thanksgiving service for the life of George was held at St. Mark's Anglican Church, Buderim on the 17th March. Gordon Stanley and Ron Archer represented the Association. Although it was a private service the small church

was full and a tribute to the friends George made over many years of living in the district. Edna Vandeleur also attended.

George and Bettye have at all times been loyal and helpful members of the Association. Their contribution to the Maroochydhore Safari was tremendous.

The Association extends its sincere sympathy to Bettye, Susanne, Judi and Robyn and families on their loss. Lest We Forget.

Ron Archer.

Vale GORDON (Blue)
PENDERGRAST. WX11920.

24/2/1922 - 4/4/2003.

Gordon was born in Palmyra on 24th February, 1922, the third son of Harold and Lucy Pendergrast. Gordon grew up living in South Perth. At 16 he joined the Militia and later when World War II broke out was one of many young men who lied about his age to enlist. Gordon, better known to his army mates as "Blue" was very proud to be a member of the 2/2nd Commando's. He served in a number of places including Timor and New Guinea. Last year, he took part in his first ANZAC Day Parade for many years and was astounded by the fact that the crowd was applauding. He later enjoyed a meal and a yarn with mates he had not seen for some time.

Whilst convalescing in New South Wales in 1944, he met Edith Rose Kelly. Five weeks later they were married in Orange, NSW with just three others attending the wedding. After the war ended, Gordon and Edie visited Edie's mother in Tasmania and then returned to Perth, where they lived for a time in South Perth with Gordon's mother. They had been married 57 years when Edie

passed away in 2001. They leave two sons Len & Norm, and two daughters Kaylene & Rayna, 5 grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Gordon was a great storyteller and was renowned for leading people "up the garden path". Even those who knew him well would sometimes still fall for his stories. He insisted he didn't tell lies or stories, he was merely not treating the truth very gently.

A plumber and sheetmetal worker by trade, Gordon moved around with his work, living in Perth then moving to the country at Miling for a while, then back to Perth again. He moved to Collie in about 1957 where he set up his own plumbing business for many years. Later when work dropped off he went away to work, starting at Alcoa Pinjarra when that was just starting up, then moving on to the Pilbara on construction work at places like Newman and Paraburdoo. In the early 70 s he took a permanent position with Goldsworthy Mining in the town of Goldsworthy, where Edie and their youngest daughter joined him.

They really enjoyed the Pilbara lifestyle, Gordon was working very long hours, but when he did have time off they would head for the coast and a spot of fishing. He was a founding member of the Goldsworthy Pistol Club, a sport he really enjoyed. There was a minor setback when their house, like many others in Goldsworthy was severely damaged by Cyclone Amy in 1980.

But the town was rebuilt and life went on.

Ill health forced Gordon into early retirement at the age of 60. Gordon and Edie settled on Dongara as a good place to retire to and as far south as they wanted to go. They built their first ever brand new home to s design that Gordon had had in mind all his married life. When

people asked why they had built such a big house when there was just two of them, their reply was to cater for a growing family and circle of friends who would come to visit. And visit they did with many games of pool and lots of time out in the boat fishing or pulling his craypots. Gordon and Edie loved Dongara; they had twenty years there, with great neighbours and many new friends. Gordon again got involved in the local pistol club and other community activities such as delivering their local paper "The Dongara Rag". Gordon had heart and lung problems for many years and when he retired was not expected to live for more than a few years. But modern medicine and a quadruple bypass surgery gave him a new lease on life.

Edie was diagnosed with bowel cancer in early 2001 and had surgery in March of that year but because she was so frail chemotherapy was not an option and she was told the cancer would probably re-occur at some stage in the future. It did, and Edie passed away on 31st October 2001. Gordon was devastated by her death.

Shortly after her death, Gordon suffered a minor stroke but recovered enough to enjoy his 80th birthday in Perth with about 80 family and friends in February last year. But another stroke left him too incapacitated to live alone.

Gordon agreed to sell up and move to Perth to be closer to his family. He moved firstly to St. Lucy's Aged Care Facility in Vic. Park until new premises were completed in Joondalup and moved in there two days before Christmas last year.

Just over a week ago, he came down with another lung infection, which put him back in Joondalup Hospital. During the course of his final illness, Gordon expressed to his family that he had had

many years more than he or medical staff had ever expected. He said he has had a long and good life but he was tired and ready to go. He passed away peacefully on Friday evening 4th April, aged 81.

Blue was a highly respected member of the Association and though he spent much of his working life in the country always took a keen interest in Association affairs.

His contribution to the installation of the reticulation scheme in our King's Park Honour Avenue section was immense. The first working bee when the 2" pipes were cut and tapped to take the sprinkler uprights was held at Blue's home on Sunday 28th November 1953. Gerry Green was also a big helper on that day. The pipes and sprinklers were subsequently laid down with Blue, Gerry, Harry Sproxton and Curly Bowden providing their expertise. The scheme was officially opened by Colin Doig early in 1955. Blue was honoured with life membership in 1978. He and Edie were great hosts. Alan and Edith Luby have fond memories of being entertained by them when passing through Dongara.

Blue was a real character, a quiet yet very capable man with a great sense of humour. He took life as it came and was devoted to his family. Not long after he retired in 1982 his doctor gave him three years, such was his poor state of health. Blue beat the odds to last another 18 years, which says a lot for his courage and endurance.

Jess Epps, Don Turton, Jack & Delys Carey attended Blue's funeral service at the Pinnaroo Crematorium on 10th April.

The Association extends its deepest sympathy to Kaylene, Rayna, Len and Norm & families on Blue's passing.

Lest We Forget.

VALE THOMAS GRANGER NISBET WX11073

Tom was born in Glasgow on the 12th November 1919, the only son of James and Annie Nisbet and had a sister May. His father fought on the Western Front where he met Australian Diggers who influenced him to come to Australia, which they did arriving in Perth in 1922.

The family settled in at East Fremantle where Tom enjoyed his boyhood years. As a youth he adhered to the values his parents taught him. One of these was punctuality which according to his son Ian, Tom was always immutable, intractable, and later on in life down right cranky. On leaving school he obtained a job as an apprentice lithographer with the West Australian Newspaper, his family, having been in the printing business in Glasgow. He also took up baseball at which he excelled. He played for WA in the Claxton Shield competition in 1938/39 & 1947/48. In 1947 he was captain of WA and won an Australian cap. Later he became president of the Australian Baseball Council and a life member of the WA League. He joined the militia at 18; the forerunner of the Citizens Military Forces and so began a distinguished military career.

He enlisted in the AIF early in 1941, by June was an officer in the newly formed No. 2 Australian Independent Company, and placed in charge of No. 4 Section in "B" Platoon under Geoff Laidlaw (The Bull). Tom proved himself to be a top officer and a born leader. His initiative and courage in his Sections first test at Bazartete won him the respect of his men and when the Bull took over the Company later in the campaign, Tom was promoted to captain and assumed control of B Platoon.

He carried on in this role in New Guinea from June 1943 until May 1944 when he was promoted as temporary major and

placed in charge of the 2/7th Commando Squadron. In January 1945 he became CO of the 2/9th Commando Squadron with the rank of Major and saw the war out with his squadron in New Guinea. He received his discharge in January 1946 having been mentioned in dispatches and wounded in Timor. A fine record indeed.

Tom resumed with the WA Newspapers after the war and being a very active man took up his baseball again and rejoined the CMF becoming CO of the Cameron Highland Regiment. He was proud of his Scottish heritage, loved the bagpipes, kilts, sporrans, dirks, and other regalia, and was disappointed that none of the family took to playing the bagpipes. He had the honour of serving as the WA Aide de Camp to two Governors General in Dunrossil and Slim. For his contribution to the CMF over many years Tom was made a brigadier and received an Efficiency Decoration and so became "Brigadier" Nisbet to the end of his days.

Tom was a great family man. He married Beverley Scholefield, an Adelaide lass in Perth on the 28th November 1944. They had two sons Ian, Peter and a daughter Margaret. He led his family in many recreational activities and early morning swims and surfing, fishing, crabbing, and prawning in his boat on the Swan as well as bushwalks. Days of which his now grown up family will always have happy memories.

Tom became a member of Perth Legacy in 1953 going on to service Legacy in WA and other states for the next 41 years until 1994 when he was transferred to the reserve list. He was also a generous man especially to the RSPCA and Guide Dogs. The family had a long association with training guide dogs starting with Beverley and later Margaret her daughter. The Nisbet household in Victoria abounded with pets of all

description, cats, ducks, white mice, and guinea pigs to name a few. Tom's greatest love was dogs of which he had many. "Bones" who lived to 14 was his favourite and last dog and one that Tom missed greatly when Bones died. He followed Aussie Rules and was a great supporter of the Collingwood Club.

In 1955 Tom joined Ampol Petroleum in Perth, transferring to Victoria in 1966. He became State Manager in Queensland and Victoria/Tasmania until his retirement in 1981 at the age of 62. Tom was a loyal member of the Association, and was president of the Victorian Branch from 1986-1991 and played a major role in the organising of the Port Phillip Safari in 1988. He was also president and patron of the Commando Association of Victoria for many years. He made 3 trips back to Timor and never forgot his loyal creato Rupino whom he met up with and helped during difficult times there. He brought Rupino to Victoria for a holiday in the 90's. On learning of Tom's death in April, Rupino now 86 was grief stricken.

The death of his beloved Beverley in 1987 was a loss Tom never really recovered from. In the last few years of his life although he still enjoyed a whisky (Scotch of course), he began to lose his zest for life. He passed away peacefully on the 8th April.

A service for the celebration of his life was held in the John Allison/Monkhouse Chapel on Monday 14th April. Tributes were paid by his son Ian and the North Balwyn Sub Branch before a large attendance of family and friends.

A reading "**On a Friend**" was read by Bruce Ruxton.

An honest man here lies at rest
As e'er God with his image blest
The friend of man, the friend of truth
The friend of age, and guide of youth

Few hearts like his, with virtue warmed
Few heads with knowledge so informed
If there is another world, he lives in bliss
If there is none, he made the best of this.
Robert Burns.

One thing can be said for certain is that
Tom made the very best of his 83 years.
Rest in peace Tom.

Lest We Forget.

The Association extends its deepest
sympathy to Ian, Peter, Margaret and
families.

Vale NOEL BUCKMAN NX49207

7/6/1922 -20/4/2003

Noel Buckman was born in Laurieton, a beautiful coastal spot on the mid-north coast of N.S.W. Unspoilt, fishing and timber milling its only industries in those pre World War II years. It was a large family; Noel had six brothers and a sister. Like most families of that era, economic depression was the educational benchmark.

At the ripe old age of thirteen, Noel Buckman was in full time employment in a timber mill. He graduated from nipper (the person who boiled the lunchtime billies, and did all the easier jobs around the mill) to a full time millhand, sawyer, and tailor-out which was about as high as a man could go in the mill.

He joined the A.I.F. in October 1941. He then volunteered for the Independent Company being trained on Wilson's Promontory down in Victoria. Efforts being made to form the 2/4th Independent Company were constantly frustrated. It was denuded of men, as batches of untrained men were sent to the 2/1st & 2/3rd companies.

Noel Buckman and the 50 O.R. s with him had a similar fate. They departed Tidal River Camp on the 31st December 1941. Three or four days in Caulfield Camp, then the long journey to Darwin. Train, truck, train and on the 16th January aboard the Koolama bound for Timor. A days leave in Koepang then aboard the "Canopus" bound for Dili, Portuguese Timor.

"Buck" as he was known to all and sundry landed in Dili on the 20th January 1942. Next day he and the rest of the draft were on the road for Three Spurs where company HQ and "C" Platoon was situated. The originals cast an eye over the new arrivals and were not impressed. The new arrivals took a good look at the originals and were equally unimpressed. Time and the campaign in Timor brought respect and tolerance for each other and a bond of friendship that has lasted for over sixty years.

Buck went into No. 4 Section, and was still part of that Section when hostilities ceased in August 1945.

Buck was discharged from the army in January 1946, returned to Laurieton and the timber mill. In June 1947 he married Marie Southwell, a local girl he had known from childhood. They had three children, Robyn, Bill and Paul. Six grandchildren, and one great grandchild. I have never seen three generations so closely resemble each other.

In 1948 Buck joined the Public Works Department. He worked on the construction of the breakwaters at Laurieton, South West Rocks, and Port Macquarie in 1992. I'm sure those who attended the reunion in Port Macquarie would have seen and walked along that particular breakwater. He was promoted to foreman, moved to Newcastle, and worked there on sewerage construction projects at Bulahdelah, Hawkes Nest and Scone.

He retired in 1982, moved back to the mid north coast and settled at Stuart's Point, a tranquil spot where the Macleay River flows into the sea at Trial Bay. Noel Buckman is buried there at Stuart's Point another unspoilt coastal area and that's why he chose it. A beautiful river, mile upon mile of ocean beach, quiet, peaceful and good fishing.

His home was always open to all no matter how few or how many. In times of floods or prawn runs on the Macleay River, his small home was filled to capacity with those in need of shelter.

He built his first home in Jerseyville in 1955. Felled the timber, milled the logs and built the house himself. As mentioned he left school at thirteen, however Buck was a walking store of knowledge, bushcraft, sea lore, and construction. His nieces, nephews and their friends loved him as he piled them into an old 1936 truck and took them to the beach and the surf. His home was always open to visitors. He was a casual laconic man. The kind of bush Australian the times of that era bred. Dependable, resourceful and durable. His two particular mates in Four Section were Roy Martin and Alf Blundy. As I look back and remember them its understandable they came from the same mould.

Harry Handicott and I attended Buck's funeral at Stuart Points Kinki Cemetery. To Marie, Robyn, Bill and Paul, I extend my deepest sympathy. You had a great husband and father. May he rest in peace. He was a grand man to know.

Paddy Kenneally.

Vale ALLAN READ HOLLOW WX13013.

Allan was born the fifth child of Henry and Olive Hollow at Kalgoorlie on the

22nd December 1920. Sadly his mother died a week after his birth with an arm infection. His father, a Methodist lay preacher, died when Allan was nine years old and he was raised by his mother's parents, James and Martha Read. Allan had a great affection for his grandfather whom he called Pop. Despite all of the difficulties and hard times he experienced, Allan enjoyed his boyhood days and never forgot the day he fell into a copper of boiling water scalding his arm and shoulder. As a young man he worked in the mines in Kalgoorlie and admitted being a bit of a larrikin as a youth.

He enlisted in the AIF early in 1941 as a shy skinny lightweight (so he said) and went on to join the 2nd Australian Independent Company and was allocated to No. 4 Section "B" Platoon under Tom Nisbet. In a fierce encounter with a large force of Japs at Bazartete on 2nd March 1942 Allan was severely wounded having his lower jaw shot away. Fortunately he received treatment from Alan Luby two hours after he was shot. Alan sutured his bleeding blood vessels restricting the loss of blood which may well have saved Allan's life and then followed a tortuous three day trip back to Hatulia along with his other wounded mates Eddie Craghill, Mick Morgan and Tom Nisbet. At Hatulia Doc" Dunkley took over and for the next 12 weeks did a wonderful job caring for Allan until he was flown out to Darwin on a Catalina Flying Boat on 24th May 1942. Allan was forever grateful to Alan Luby, the Doc, and his staff for what they did for him during the most critical time in his life.

He was then flown to the Adelaide Repat Hospital where under the care of Major Rank, a plastic surgeon, he spent nearly 18 months having his jaw reconstructed. Throughout this period Allan retained his

good sense of humour, and keenness to help with the ward chores endeared him to the nurses and other patients, so much so he became known as "Happy" Hollow.

Years later, the now Sir Benjamin Rank, Allan's former surgeon said of him in a section of his book "Heads & Hands" under the heading of "Happy Hollow" quote:

"His story is one of fortitude and all that the human spirit can withstand especially if reinforced by the kindness of others be they friends or strangers." A fine tribute indeed!

Following his discharge after nearly 18 months in hospital, Allan had to face up to civvy life, no easy task. The first job he took on was bus driving, a position he chose so that he could learn to handle the public with his disfigured face. During this time he met Hazel Shaw whom he married in June 1944. They built a home at Findon and had six boys and one girl in a marriage lasting 59 years. Hazel's devotion and love for Allan helped him through his bad times. He continued to have plastic surgery on his face for many years each one being a painful experience. He also suffered from arthritis in his hips, which caused many a sleepless night.

Allan and Hazel were confronted with a major problem early in their marriage with their mentally and physically disabled son Jimmy. They decided to care for him at home which they did with great devotion for over fifty years.

Allan also worked as a storeman and a nurseryman both of which he did well. To relax Allan liked to have a punt and was a pretty good judge of the neddies. He also took an interest in the footy and followed Port Adelaide now Port Power.

Son Peter said his father was always generous in giving and helping others

and was a hard man to beat in a debate. He and Hazel were loyal supporters of the Association and Allan never forgot his old Four Section mates.

Allan passed away peacefully on the 3rd May aged 82 years. A service was held at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Chapel at Fulham Gardens on 7th May before a large number of family and friends.

Peter, his son, delivered a moving eulogy on his father's life. So passed a good man. During the sixty years on from that tragic day in March 1942, Allan showed great courage, which was an inspiration to us all. His good sense of humour in the face of great adversity and the loving support from Hazel and his family enabled Allan to live out a full and fruitful life. May he rest in peace.

The Association extends its deepest sympathy to Hazel and family.

Lest We Forget.

The Association extends its deepest sympathy to the Barden and Wheatley families on their recent bereavements.

Peter's wife Joan passed away in April after 61 years together and Doc's wife Olive in May after 59 years. May they rest in peace.

We also regret to advise of the death of Albie Friend on the 26th May.

A vale for Albie will appear in the September Courier.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Daphne and family.

A.G.M. W.A. Branch March 2003.

13 members attended our 57th AGM held at Anzac Club on Tuesday 11th March commencing at 10.30 am.

Present: Messrs R. Parry, R. Aitken, L. Bagley, T. Bowers, J. Burrridge, K. Hayes, C. Hodson, B. Langridge, J. Lines, D. Murray, D. Studdy, R. Smyth and J. Carey.

Apologies:

R. Darrington, H. Sproston, W. March, J. Poynton, C. Turner, W. Monk, D. Turton, L. Halse, J. Chalwell and M. Wheatley.

Reports: reports on the past years activities were presented by President, Ray Parry, editor Mrs D. Carey, financial Mr J. Burrridge and Trust Fund Chairman Mr R. Smyth. All were received with acclamation and appear in this issue of the Courier.

Election of Officers. The returning officer Mr R. Aitken declared the following office bearers elected for the coming year: -

President	Mr R. Parry
Vice President	Mr C. Hodson.
Sec./Treasurer.	Mr J. Carey.
Editor	Mrs D. Carey.
Auditor	Mr J. Burrridge.
Warden	Mr J. Chalwell

General Committee

Messrs R. Darrington, L. Bagley, B. Langridge and J. Burrridge.

Courier Committee Mr G. Bagley, Mrs S. Epps, J. Carey.

The Trust Fund Committee of Messrs R. Smyth, J. Burrridge and K. Hayes now in its 12th year carry on as usual.

President's Report at 57th A.G.M. Tuesday 11th March 2003.

Once again it gives me pleasure to present the President's Annual Report touching on events beginning February 2002 and ending January 2003.

The Unit History: Our Secretary, Jack Carey has covered the subject very well through our Courier beginning with an article on the front page of the March 2002 issue. We will carry on collating and gathering text, photos, maps etc. and look forward to the moment when we have it ready for the printer.

Jack Fowler's 90th birthday party was held at the lovely residence of a family member in South Perth. The host and hostess, family and friends did a wonderful job catering for the many guests. A photo of Jack appeared on the back page of the June issue of the Courier with 8 of his old friends of the 2/2nd - it took place some 4 days before Anzac Day 2002.

The Dawn Service at Gallipoli on 25th April last year was again attended by thousands of young people who were drawn to the hallowed ground of Anzac Cove.

The number in attendance was estimated to be 17,000. The pilgrimage to the service on the Gallipoli Peninsular appears to be growing in numbers and interest as the years pass by. That also appears to be the case in Australia - how heartening.

Last year the combined Commando Squadrons marched as one for the first time. President Ray led the march followed by the flag and banner bearers. John Chalwell carried the 2/2nd flag in line with the 2/5th and 2/6th bearers and 2/8th banner close behind.

This year we hope the 2/3rd will have a flag along with the 2/8th. The line of flags will then consist of the 2/2, 2/3, 2/5, 2/6; & 2/8 leaving only the 2/1, 2/4, and 2/7th to complete the units that did their training at Wilson's Promontory.

Our Commando Units received a warm welcome from the large crowd lining St. Georges Terrace and William Street, and so ended our 57th Anzac Day, and as secretary Jack Carey wrote in the Courier - what wonderful days they have been!

After the service we adjourned to "The Good Earth" at 195 Adelaide Terrace, Perth. Joining us for 1 hour was the C.O. of the S.A.S. regiment, Lieut.Col. Gus Gilmore, his 2 I.C., Major Grant Walsh, CSM W.O.II Dallas Wilson and Bart Mavrick, President of the S.A.S. Veterans Association.

The C.O. Gus Gilmore and his men had recently returned from a 5-month stint in Afghanistan. It was an honour to have them join us.

The Mildura Safari was a successful, enjoyable and well-attended occasion. On the outside back page of the June Courier the men who took part were featured. We had 18 smiling happy members. The reproduction of the 24 smiling ladies in the September issue was an indication of the enjoyment they too experienced. There is much work accomplished in the planning and organisation of a successful Safari and our thanks go to the organisers of this happy event

On Friday 5th July it was Norma Hasson Day held at "the Good Earth Hotel" formerly the Terrace Hotel. It was well attended. Members of Norma's family were present and the luncheon was enjoyed by all.

By invitation, Secretary Jack Carey and myself attended the S.A.S. 45th

Anniversary, Commemoration and dedication service held at St. George's Cathedral, Perth at 1100 hrs, Saturday 27th July 2002.

There were many distinguished guests present - to name a few: - The British and American Consul Generals and their respective wives.

Major General Michael Jeffrey (Former Hon. Col. of SAS)

The Hon. David Malcolm (Chief Justice of WA)

Sir Charles & Lady Court (Former Hon. Col. of SAS.)

Major General Jim Hughes (Former Officer Commanding 2 SAS Sqn. Borneo 1966)

Following the service the congregation moved out to the front of the Cathedral. It was while there I introduced our Secretary to Major General Jim Hughes former O.C. of 2nd SAS Sqn. Jim was a graduate of the Royal Duntroon Military Collage. In 1951 in Korea he was a young lieutenant in B Coy, 3rd Bn. R.A.R. - a fine young officer who had earned the respect of his men.

Following our chat we adjourned to Burt Hall (part of the Cathedral complex) for light refreshments.

On Friday 6th December 2002 our Xmas luncheon was held at "The Good Earth Hotel" - the delightful atmosphere and surrounds of the dining area was most pleasant. The service and catering was as good as ever and the ladies were beautifully groomed as always. It will be a very nice location for the Safari members when they join us later in 2003.

On Sunday 15th December I attended the 25th Anniversary of the Army Museum of Western Australia.

It was a warm morning; seating arrangements were located immediately in front of the museum. Proceedings

commenced with the arrival of His Excellency, the Governor General of Western Australia, John Sanderson. After the speeches the Governor unveiled a commemorative plaque. Morning tea followed and the museum was then open for inspection until 4.30pm.

The museum volunteer staff are to be congratulated for the time and effort they have devoted to the task of making the army Museum a place where the young and their families can view hundreds of items they have never laid eyes on before. Uniformed models of men and women, photographs, maps, personal effects, flags, weapons and Weary Dunlop's exhibition.

Although the museum was crowded with people, they were speaking in hushed tones. At Weary's exhibition they spoke in whispers. One could be forgiven for thinking that we were on Holy ground. Also on display were the crude medical instruments that were manufactured in the POW camps. The exhibition attracted a tremendous amount of interest - a touch of realism that evoked huts, sick men on bamboo beds - that was the hospital.

On behalf of all our members I once again convey our heartfelt thanks to, firstly, - Delys Carey, our editor, for the time and effort she has devoted to producing a Courier each quarter with assistance from our Secretary, Jack.

To Bob Smyth, Keith Hayes and John BurrIDGE Junior for the ever demanding role of arranging shipments to East Timor. For many years they have worked tirelessly to help the children with school requisites and sporting equipment and the host of items to make life more bearable for the young men and women and those that are not so young - they are be commended for what they have accomplished.

I also wish to thank Ray Aitken who has two manuscripts, which will be an

invaluable asset to the success of the Unit History prior to and during the campaign in Portuguese Timor. He speaks the Tetum language fluently and I have learned much from him since the decision to go ahead with the story of the 2/2nd Commando.

At our last monthly meeting I congratulated Bob Smyth on being awarded an OAM - on that occasion I did not include the committee - so now I shall make amends for that omission. Bob, on behalf of the Committee and those members of our Association who are present, I congratulate you on your well-deserved award of the "Order of Australia" medal - well done.

On Australia Day the S.A.S. Veterans Assoc. invited the 2/2nd Commando Assoc. to join them at "The House" at Swanbourne to celebrate Australia Day with them, their families and friends. The number of people present would have been close to 200.

It was a wonderful way to celebrate Australia Day. Our Secretary gave me a plaque adorned with our red Double Diamond to present to Rube Shaw, the current president of the SAS Veteran's Assoc. When he had finished addressing the assembled company, I presented him with the plaque on behalf of the members of the 2/2nd Commando Assoc. in appreciation of their Associations friendship over the period of years.

Our 53rd Commemorative Service was held in our Honour Avenue, Lovekin Drive, Kings Park on Sunday 17th November 2002 was the equal of the attendance of 2001. Once again it was a proud occasion for me as president of such a fine Association, my thanks to the people who attended the service, to the members of the SAS Regiment and the Kings Park Board for their help and co-operation on the day.

On a sadder note we have lost 14 members of our Association since the last AGM.

In conclusion I thank our secretary for the assistance he has given me throughout 2002-2003.

Ray Parry,
President.

Editor's Report.

Four Couriers, each of thirty-two pages were published in the past year at a cost of approximately \$954 each issue. A sharp increase in the cost is expected in the coming year. The generous contributions by members and friends more than offset the printing and postage costs. We are very grateful so thank you all for your continued support.

Every effort is made to ensure each issue is interesting and newsy. More feedback, either critical or complimentary is welcome and more importantly items of news from long silent members would be appreciated. Some names keep bobbing up regularly and others seldom. We can't report on those that we don't hear from, much as we would like. Many thanks to those members who have provided articles of interest for the Courier during the past year.

Now in its 56th year, this little newsletter is the lifeblood of the Association, more so now than ever, now that numbers are declining. Just for how long it will keep going is a matter of conjecture.

In conclusion I would like to thank Gavin Bagley who updates the addresses and prints them out (usually at fairly short notice,) and backstop Sue Epps. My friend Maureen Baker who at a moments notice, labels, bags and seals with us ready for posting, and lastly Jack, who

phones around and scribbles incessantly to keep the news up to date.

Delys Carey.
Editor.

An Association of Which We are Very Proud.

Our Association is quite incredible from many aspects. One of these is our sound, well-handled financial position. It is hard to believe that some 58 years after our formation, we should have almost \$6,500 cash reserve in our general account, and over \$8,000 in the Independent Trust Fund. This is all the more extraordinary when you consider how quickly but inevitably, our numbers are falling every year.

To a very large extent this diminution in numbers is offset by the strong interest and support by the "honorary members" of the Association. Every year our funds are boosted by donations from the widows, relatives and friends of those who are no longer with us.

All good things must of course come to an end but hopefully we will have a few more years yet. We must therefore plan for a continuation of our cash outgoings for the next few years and the need to fund approximately \$4500 each year to keep the Courier going in its present form. Also between \$1000 and \$1500 for annual incidentals and small losses on Association events.

The Una May Thompson Estate bequest now stands at nearly \$23,000. This must be kept well away from General and trust Fund monies. It may be required for temporary use in the formation and printing of our Unit History.

It is not my position to offer congratulations to any individual but there are a few members who, to a large or lesser extent, contribute every year

to the welfare of our great little Association. We all know who they are and we are immensely grateful to them. Best wishes to all,

John Burrridge

Hon. Auditor.

Independent Trust Fund Report to 28/2/2003.

The monitoring of our shipments from Kwinana to Dili has been a problem.

When Lions Kwinana rotate their 8 x 20' containers they send a container only when the shipping service has available space. A serious delay occurred at Dili following rigorous application of entry procedure by Dili customs Border Control.

Landing fees and/or duty delaying clearance of papers compounded into unacceptable demurrage charges. Two Lions containers have been locked in Dili wharf yards for many months and we believe contain 36 2/2 cartons delivered to Kwinana in August 2002. (likely including the missing Masport Rotary Hoe.)

The problems arose:

1. Following a Rotary shipment of 32 post office motor cycles for which it was claimed papers were not adequately prepared.
2. Rejection of a load of Lions used hospital equipment in the same container as the 2/2nd cartons.
3. The Government of East Timor ("the poorest country in the world") has negligible income and struggles to adequately cover costs of Border staff (assumed previously experienced in Indonesian standards and methods?)

We are advised the Dili containers will eventually be released for distribution.

LIONS DISTRICT 201W2 - phasing out of Dili project.

A letter from the assistant project coordinator, in thanking us for our support of their East Timor project, advises that "as some items being forwarded to East Timor are not now required" they will phase out the service in the near future. The 86 cartons delivered by Keith Hayes will be shipped to addressee Sister Guilhermina. We will investigate an alternative.

All goods shipped via Lions International have been sourced from donors. One carton of pads and pencils purchased by Keith Hayes for \$50.00 is a joint contribution by Keith and Doc Wheatley.

YATES VEGETABLE SEEDS.

The No. 3 1,950 packets of vegetable seeds originally delivered to Dili in March 2002 were transferred intact to the grateful Canossian Sisters via Mike Gallagher and distributed according to our directions.

The No.4 1,955 packets carton was withdrawn from Kwinana and by arrangement with Mike Gallagher was sent to him by registered Post 18/2/2003 for delivery to Sister Guilhermina of Canossian Sisters.

FINANCIAL REPORT.

The financial report reflects our endeavours to conserve and confine expenditure of the Trust Funds to vegetable seed distribution.

Thanks to all donors whose details show in the Courier.

Also to Keith Hayes for his daily sourcing of goods, preparation and delivery and to John Burrridge for his frequent administrative support.

Bob Smyth.

Chairman Independent Trust Fund.

2/2nd COMMANDO ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA.
General Account.

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure Year Ending 31/1/03

Receipts**Expenditure**

Balance as at 1/02/02	\$6302.88		
Bank interest	7.64	Govt. Taxes	24.00
Courier donations	5780.00	Courier printing	
Sale Jim Smailes Poems	45.00	& postage	3813.81
Sale of badges	60.00	Box rental	144.00
Sale of plaques.	40.00	Capitation fee ACA	45.00
Sale of book.	40.00	Admin. charges.	150.00
Assoc. events.	<u>2173.00</u>	Funeral notices.	196.35
	8145.64		
		Assoc. events.	2780.60
		Anzac Day wreath	50.00
		Commemoration	
		Service.	144.60
		Donation Mildura	
		Safari.	500.00
		Stationery	<u>104.50</u>
			7952.86
Total	<u>\$14,448.52</u>	Balance as at 31/1/03	<u>6495.66</u>
<u>J.Carey</u>			<u>\$14,448.52</u>

Independent Trust Fund.

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure Year Ending 31/1/03

Balance as 1/2/02	4396.07		
<u>Receipts.</u>		<u>Expenditure.</u>	
Bank Interest	3.22	Govt. Taxes	1.00
Donations	<u>3800.00</u>	Admin. Costs	<u>171.80</u>
	<u>3803.22</u>	Balance as at	
		31/1/03	<u>8026.49</u>
Total	<u>\$8199.29</u>		<u>\$8199.29</u>

Thompson Family Bequest Account.

\$22,824.84 invested in Term Deposit @ 4.8% maturing 13/5/03

J. Burridge, Auditor.

Anzac Day W.A. 2003.

A crowd estimated to be around the 30,000 mark attended the Anzac service at the State Memorial in King's Park. Peter Epps laid a wreath on behalf of the Association and we thank him for that. Bob Smyth and John Burrridge attended the S.A.S. Regiments Dawn Service at Campbell Barracks, Swanbourne and laid a wreath on our behalf. With many members of the regiment overseas on active service the attendance of over 1000 was most encouraging.

For the second successive year the Commando Squadrons marched as one. Led by our President Ray Parry, followed by the 2/2nd, 2/5th, 2/6th flags and the 2/8th banner carried by John Chalwell, Jim Dobbyn, Dick Reddell and Tom Hungerford respectively and then the main body comprising members, sons, daughters and grandchildren the march went off smoothly. The lovely autumn weather resulted in a bigger crowd than usual lining the Terrace and giving all those on parade an enthusiastic reception. It was a heart warming experience and made one feel proud to be an Aussie. Among those who marched were Ray Aitken and son Craig, Happy Greenhalgh, John Burrridge, Bob Smyth, Ted Monk, Keith Hayes and grandson Hilton, Tom Foster and Jack Carey from the 2/2nd, John Lillie, Bob Silva, Oliver Jones of 2/3rd, H. Durant, Jim Lines, Les Clayton, Arthur Shearer and Vic Marshall 2/5th and Bernie Baron, Cale Mathews, Hamish McInnis, Pat Connolly, Greg Sells and Graham Brookes 2/8th and Jack Sweet, Arthur Heyhoe, Paul Jamieson and Richard Byrne 2/11th.

Neil Barnett (Bob's son) and his daughter Narine, Christine (Hazel Wick's daughter) and Rosemary Collins and a

few others whose names escape me made up for a total participating of about 40 which was an excellent roll up. Those who were not up to the march in Tony Bowers, Vince Swann, Doc Wheatley, Don Murray, Bernie Langridge and Don Turton were well looked after by Peter Epps who provided a mini bus (at his own expense suitably decorated with the Double Red insignia), and had a box seat in the parade which I'm sure they all appreciated.

After the service on the Esplanade members adjourned to the Good Earth Hotel for lunch. Twenty-nine were present at the luncheon including Major Terry O'Farrell, acting C.O. of the S.A.S. regiment, the Adjutant Capt. Greg Daly, Acting R.S.M. Russell Sullivan, Dusty Studdy, Terry Paull and Brad Smyth also joined us for the luncheon. President Ray welcomed our guests and the regiment was toasted in the customary way. The S.A.S.R. are always welcome at our Anzac Day function.

In conclusion our thanks to all those who helped to make our 58th Anzac Day another good one, not forgetting of course our ladies in Hazel Wicks, Mary Foster, Val Hayes and Jess Epps, Babs Langridge, Olive Chalwell and Delys Carey who gave us a hearty cheer as we participated in the march. God bless them.

A notable absentee from this year's march was Joe Poynton who is not well. We missed you Joe.

Jack Carey.

Mandurah 2/2s Anzac Day.

The 2/2s had the honour of leading the parade at Mandurah on Anzac Day before a large crowd. Len Bagley proudly led the march. Our Double Red

Diamond banner was carried by Ross Howell and Victor King. Terry Paull was among the small but select group which also included Elvie Howell with sons Ray and Lee and 4 grandchildren, Paddy, Shane and David King and Jock an old regular.

Shane, Mary's grandson, laid a nice wreath during the service after which all adjourned to the RSL Hall for refreshments. Well done Mandurah 2/2s.

ANZAC Day East Timor.

Two services were held in Dili on Anzac day conducted by the Australian National Command Element - East Timor (ASNCE).

The first, a dawn service was held at 0600 hours on the open courtyard immediately behind the "Jesus Statue" east of Dili. Rupino Corriera, the last known creado alive in East Timor was a special guest at the dawn service. Rupino laid a wreath during the service and met quite a few of our soldiers who were present. Rupino was Tom Nisbet's creado during 1942.

The second service lasting half an hour was held at our memorial at Dare above Dili. The memorial is dedicated to the peoples of East Timor for the help given to the 2/2nd & 2/4th Commandos in 1942.

An address was given by Colonel Mark Webb after which a wreath was laid and the Ode said with the service closing with the Last Post, a minute's silence, and the Rouse.

It was a nice gesture by the Australian National Commando Element in East Timor.

Northern N.S.W. News.

We're all pretty well up here in God's on Country. We've had good rains and everything is looking emerald green.

It was a bit too much rain for Russ Blanch who only got half a dozen Ranunculi bulbs up out of a hundred. The wet rotted the others. A few months ago we were all on water restrictions.

Ted Cholerton is still as cheerful as ever and Eric Herd at 84 reckons that with a bit more practice will win another golf trophy.

Ken and Edith Jones are back from a trip up north where Ken copped a bout of pneumonia and is still recovering from it. Better stay in bed till the sun comes up mate!

Bill Walsh getting better every day from his stroke and is beginning to stand again.

Jack and Beryl Steen had a week at Iluka but no fish. It was too wet but Jack said he had a good rest. He is recovering well from having a tumour off the old skull but goes in on the 19th for a cataract job.

Tom and Jean Yates still okay as is Beryl Cullen who is very happy with the recent rains.

I had a lovely three weeks in the West. Keith Hayes took me over to see Jack Fowler on his 91st birthday on the 24th April. "Chook" looking very well as was his daughter Lyn.

Sprocko and I had a couple of days down south. Stayed overnight at Augusta and I recommend it. Lovely place.

Don't forget the piggy bank for November!

Regards, Happy Greenhalgh.

Victorian News.

It is with regret we advise the passing of Thomas Granger Nisbet on 8th April 2003 aged 83. Tom had been declining in health over a period but thankfully died peacefully. His funeral was on April 14th at John Allison/ Monkhouse Pioneer Chapel in Springvale. It was well attended, as Tom had been Patron of the Combined Commando Association of Victoria for many years. There was a good attendance from the Association and the ex President of the Victorian RSL, Bruce Ruxton also attended.

The 2/2nd were represented by Leith Cooper, Ed Bourke, Nina Grachan, Olive & Harry Botterill, Fred & Mavis Broadhurst with apologies from John & Shirley Southwell. A copy of Tom's service is enclosed. Tom had been a great supporter of the Victorian branch, was president for many years, and was a great worker for Legacy. He will be sadly missed by all. We extend our deepest sympathy to his family.

Anzac Day was a lovely day, bright sunshine but unfortunately I was the only 2/2nd member who marched but I had the company of Kevin Broadhurst, son of Fred and Mavis who was very pleased to be with me. There was a very good attendance of relatives of service members who were allowed to march this year and there was a very good crowd to cheer the diggers on.

We had our reunion at Eden on Park and this year family and relatives were allowed to the dinner, and there was a very good response. 2/2nd members present at dinner were Olive & Harry Botterill, Don Thompson & Margaret Monk, Cath Roberts, Fred & Mavis Broadhurst, Louise Prior widow of Jack Prior, her son Rod & wife Betty.

Apologies from John & Shirley Southwell.

Regards to all,
Harry Botterill.

South Australian News.

Another Anzac Day gone by, only two 2/2nd marched this year, Bob Williamson and I. It was a perfect day for the march in Adelaide. One of the largest crowds I have seen for quite a while lined the streets. The Commando group was led by Reg Lipman. He was a member of the 2/4th Sqn. in Timor, he later became adjutant to one of the regiments. One of our marchers was Bruce Rope. He was the young soldier of the 2/7th who was badly wounded. He was rescued and brought back through the 2nd Company lines then into hospital. I think Jack Steen and Happy Greenhalgh were the first two to help him.

Allan Hollow's funeral was held on the 7th May. The church was full, a fitting tribute to a brave man and a fine citizen. Peter, the fifth of Allan's sons, delivered a moving eulogy, which was followed by the Last Post and the Ode.

I saw Allan on the Anzac Day afternoon in the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. He had deteriorated in health since the last time I had seen him.

I was given a photo of a group of 2/2nd in New Guinea by our secretary, which he had received, from Jack Felstead. The sender of this photo would like to know the names of these men. His father was Jack Hartley, who is sitting in the front. I must have the photo back so I can send it back to the owner. Do you know them?

Football shocks last week, Crows and Power both defeated, extremely hard to

pick winners to this date. West Aust. teams did well last week.

All the best to all,
Kel Carthew.

"TASSIE" NEWS.

Thanks to Jack Carey for his phone call to wake us up a bit. Made some phone calls to see how us few in Tassie are going. Spoke to Sandra Slade, Nancy's daughter who said her Mother was going reasonably well but still very much handicapped in getting around, and of course she misses Gerry dearly.

Geoff Wood is going along fairly well on his small farm out from Ulverston. Said he must write to Courier soon. You will know by now that Tex Richards had a fall and blackout going to the Anzac Dawn Service at Latrobe, a broken arm and many bruises. Tex had a Double Diamond wreath to lay at the morning service and someone kindly laid it in his absence. Bridget is in reasonable health. Have not heard from Peter (EM) Cannon for some years. Ron Cassidy, 2/40th Battalion, was to check on him in Launceston but have had no news.

Peter came to East Timor with Jack Rice, Basil Keefe and myself and think he was with Don's Platoon.

Billie and myself are going fairly well, have a few health problems, but we still do our own gardens, and get our firewood.

We were invited and attended the preview of the film "Love Letters of a War" at the Army Barracks in Hobart. Met up with several 2/12th Battalion veterans whom I was with in New Guinea and Borneo.

Gave the Dawn Service address at Dover on Anzac morning, the 23rd in succession and was proud to have my

daughter June lead the gathering in prayers.

We had a nice surprise at Anzac morning service. Came across Don Woolley who was with a 2/2nd soldier Charlie Dodd in a boat heading for Australia, when a Jap sub picked them up and they spent next 3 years as P.O.W.s and I saw them both in Army Hospital in Balikpapan Borneo a few days after they were free. Don and I joined the A.I.F. the same day 1/7/1940. When we went back to work Don was a sawmiller, and a forest ranger. We saw each other often until we retired.

It is great to read Paddy Kenneally's stories in the "Courier". At times one feels to be with him as he mentions the villages and the Timorese.

Sadly the 2/40th Battalion lost our popular Southern Tas. Secretary in George Bell. He with wife Wanda, almost lived and worked for the 2/40th Old Comrades Association. George and Wanda attended our official dinner in Hobart 2000.

Our regards to all the 2/2nd.

Bert and Billie Price.

Thanks Bert for the news on our Tassie members. Editor.

Tuesday 1st July marks the 61st anniversary of one of the most tragic events involving Australians in World War II. On that day in 1942, 1050 people comprising 133 men of the First Independent Company and 717 men of the 2/22nd Battalion and ancillary troops and 200 civilians, lost their lives when the "Montevideo Maru" was sunk by a US submarine "The Sturgeon" off Luzon in the South China Sea.

The vessel had left Rabaul on 22nd June 1942 en route to Japan. Please spare a thought for them.

W.A. Safari 2003.Where:

Perth.

When:Wednesday **12th** until Tuesday **18th** November.
(7 nights and 6 days.)Accommodation:

"The Good Earth Hotel".

195 Adelaide Terrace.

Phone No. (08) 9492 7777

Fax No. (08) 9492 7749

E-mail stay@goodearthhotel.com.au

Room rates:Twin-Double \$85 per night per room including
breakfast.

Executive Suite for 2 \$95

2 bedroom apartment sleeping 4 (1 only)

\$135 per night.

('These are discounted rates.)

A deposit of \$100 per room is required, payment by cheque or credit card.
There are only four executive suites on offer so it is a case of getting in early.
If you wish to make a reservation ring and supply your requirements and
provide a credit card number.

You are welcome to call 1800 098 863 toll free, if you require further
information.

Mention you are a member of the 2/2nd Commando Group.

Some rooms have a river view; all have a fully equipped kitchenette.

The Good Earth is about 1 km from the city centre but free buses pass the
entrance at regular intervals.

The safari is now 5 months away.

Hotel bookings for the Safari as at 31/5/03.**N.S.W.**

George Greenhalgh, Betty Devlin, Pat Sullivan, Paddy & Nora Kenneally, Harry & Amyce
Handicott, Kath Press, Ken & Edith Jones, Keith Wilson, Russ & John Blanch, Bill & Coral
Coker, Marie, Frank & Chris Hartley. (18)

Victoria. Ed & Dorothy Bourke, Fred & Mavis Broadhurst, Margaret Monk, Don Thomson.
(6)

Queensland. Lucky & Doreen Goodhew, Mr & Mrs Chris Thomson, Margaret Hooper, Margo
O'Brien, Ron Archer, Lyn Love, Bettye Coulson, Ralph & Sheila Conley, Jack & Beryl Steen,
Gordon & Joan Stanley. (15)

South Aus. Hazel Hollow, Mark Hollow and Anne Gooley. (3)

Tassie. Bert Price, Tex & Bridget Richards. (3)

U.K. Ian & Margaret Ronald. (2)

W.A. Bernie & Babs Langridge, Peter & Pat Campbell, Joy Chatfield, Elvie Howell, Tony
Bowers, Ray Aitken, Tom & Mary Foster, Eric & Twy Smyth, Joan & Olive Chalwell, Dick
Darrington, Jim Lines, Paddy & Mary King, Terry & Ivy Paull, Mavis & Blanche Sadler. (22)
Total number booked in 69.

A number of W.A. members who are not staying at the Hotel will also be attending Safari
functions. The itinerary will be in the September Courier.

Remember this is our last Safari - so be in it!

The Hon. Phillip Ruddock MP
2/4/03
Minister for Immigration
Parliament House
Canberra. 2600

Dear Mr Ruddock,

Re Timor Refugees.

We, the surviving members of that small group of commando soldiers who were cut off on Timor in 1942 during World War II, wish to make a plea for those refugee Timorese who wish to remain in Australia.

We owe our lives to the Timorese and without them we could not have earned an accolade from Winston Churchill when he said, "They alone, did not surrender." Our continued resistance would not have been possible without sustenance - food shelter and continuous intelligence regarding enemy movements had not all these been supplied by the Timorese.

Australia has never honoured the debt owed to these people for their unwavering support of the 2/2nd and 2/4th Commando Squadrons.

The Timorese are a splendid, intelligent people and our country would be the better for more of them becoming Australians.

On another level we would like to point out the Australian will of necessity have close ties with Timor in the years ahead. Contact with the people will only be stronger if our representatives include Australians with Timorese blood and understanding.

We therefore make a formal plea that you Sir, grant your approval to those refugees who want to remain in Australia and become Australians. If you are liberal in your treatment of these people we know that they, and we will be the better for it.

Yours faithfully,

R. Parry.
President.

Australian Commando Association.

The AGM of the above was held in Canberra on Tuesday 11th March .

Principal office bearers for the coming year are: -

President	Mr Andy Pirie
Vice President	Mr Evan MacGregor
Sec./Treas	Mr Russel Pirie
Executive member Mr Howard Tankey.	

Under Mr Pirie last year the Association was very active. In early April of this year Mr Pirie wrote an excellent letter to the Prime Minister setting out a strong case for the 1600 East Timorese people threatened with repatriation to East Timor to remain in Australia and requested they be granted Australian citizenship. The outcome of the request is pending.

Congratulations to Tom Bateman, Jack Carey and Bob Smyth who were each awarded a Centenary medal for Service to the Community in various sectors.

There may have been awards made to other members in other states, if there are I would appreciate it if you would let me know.

Editor.

"A Tribute to Tom".

Tom Nisbet commenced his active service career in the 2/2nd Independent Company as the Lieutenant in charge of No. 4 Section of "B" Platoon. When Geoff Laidlaw O.C. "B" Platoon was raised to command of the Company, Tom was promoted to the rank of Captain and O.C. of "B" Platoon.

He was one of the outstanding officers in our Unit and to Mick Morgan and Ray Aitken, his NCO, he was a friend as well as being their immediate superior.

He always had a military bearing and his marching style was unswerving. It

slowed only when in the dark of night one of his sentries put a 45 slug through his thigh. His march in front remained regular and purposeful but the pace had slackened.

Tom was a gifted man with an unusual sense of humour and his remarks could sometimes be acidic but since he laughed at himself as well as others he was always forgiven. Any austerity was generally for good reasons.

Tom was the unfailing military man. He was an officer in the Cameron Highlands when war broke out and soon transferred to the AIF.

He remained in the Army Reserve after the war and eventually attained the rank of Brigadier. Those of us who knew him thought it should have been sooner.

I suppose nothing showed Tom in a better light than his contact in Timor with his creado Rupino whom he treated as a younger brother.

Tom was unfortunate in that he lost Beverley at a comparatively early age and to say that he was devastated is an understatement.

No one who met Tom, served with him or under his orders, or knew him as a friend could ever regret the association.

Our deepest sympathy to members of his family.

Ray Aitken.

CANBERRA BUSH FIRES.

Ron & Hazel Morris, Weston, Canberra, ACT.

Dear Friends,

It is now almost 4 months since the devastating fires in our area. Saturday the 18th January 2003, will live in our hearts and minds forever.

We had been troubled by smoke haze for days before, but we tried to put it in

the back of our minds because we had very dear friends arriving from the U.K. that evening. I had a very busy few days prior to the 18th because it was to be my youngest grand-daughters 21st birthday party, which they were having in my daughter's garden and for which I had done all the cooking.

We could see the fire in the Brindabella Mountains, which surround us, and each time I went out to the back or the front of our house it seemed to be getting nearer. It was so hot that I had to keep popping in for a drink in between hosing down the roof and garden. You will no doubt realise that we had not had any rain for weeks and the grass was just like brown straw. I could see burned leaves flying through the air and the birds were going mad, some of them obviously already affected by the intense heat. The wind became stronger and stronger, with the huge gum trees almost touching the ground with the force of the gale. Ron was in the house listening to the 15 minute reports on the A.B.C. radio, which were announced to the accompaniment of a loud siren to gain attention immediately. They had warned us that we might have to evacuate as the fire was getting nearer and nearer. I must tell you here that we live in an area almost covered in pine forests and when pine catches alight it goes up like a tinderbox. Ron was busy packing up a few of our irreplaceable treasures, photos, his medals and most precious of all a copy of the plaque awarded to our deceased son last year for his work that he did for the Broker's Association of Australia. All this time it began to get darker and darker and the roar of the helicopters overhead was deafening. In a short time it became so dark and the smoke so thick that the helicopters could not take off. The only one they could send was a Black Hawk to drop water

on to the ammunition building at the police college next to us otherwise the whole area would have gone up. We heard from the police that were running up and down the road that some houses had already gone at the bottom of our road just a few metres away. The next thing we knew the police were sounding the klaxon on their cars telling us that we had to evacuate. By this time we had no power, no water and no telephone. We live on a tee junction and we were told that this was the only way out of our area as up the hill and to the left the electricity sub-station had gone and to the right the horticultural laboratories were alight.

We were told to make our way to Philip College, which was the evacuation area. I have never seen Ron shake as he did driving to Philip, he could not see anything even with the car lights on, and this was only four o'clock in the afternoon. The roads were packed with cars and the pedestrians were everywhere. We eventually got to Philip College where we were told that they were full and we were to make our way to Narrabundah College. We duly arrived there, the journey being a little better because the smoke was thinner. I volunteered to help with the registration of incoming families. It was very sad as some had already lost their homes and the poor souls from the retirement homes and nursing homes just did not know what was happening to them.

After a few hours I saw the dear face of my daughter who had been frantically looking everywhere for us. She lives in a suburb which escaped the fires. You can guess what she and a friend had with them, all the food which was meant for Freya's 21st birthday party - she kept the cake! We left with her and for the next six days Ron and I made our home with them not knowing what we would

find when we went back home. We have had to replace almost all of our electrical appliances etc. But that is only minute compared with the poor souls who have lost everything.

Our garden suffered but I am now able to plant pansies etc which give a little colour although the ground is like concrete from the heat.

Our area is coming to life again although the pine forests are being cleared of burnt trees which has to be seen to be believed.

I forgot to tell you that we had to cancel our friends stay with us. They stayed in a hotel in the city overnight and then reversed their itinerary for the next three weeks.

Now day to day news. We meet every few weeks with Fred, Erica and Joan Fenwick. We take it in turns to have afternoon tea, so we do get first hand news of you all. We take Joan to the Duntroon Band Concert every six weeks. She is fairly well although she has had some trouble with her diabetes.

We have had a wonderful wedding in our family. Our grandson married his dear fiancée on the 12th April. Our lovely grand-daughter flew home from the U.K. for two months and her boyfriend joined her for four weeks. It seems we could have another wedding soon. She goes back to the U.K. on the 22nd May.

Please remember us to all our friends of the 2/2nd. I still represent both W.A. and S.A. at the A.G.M. of the Commandos. It is held at the Duntroon Sgts. Mess each year. I still honour the Life Membership of your Association.

Sincere wishes to you all,

Ron & Hazel Morris.

P.S. Freya did have her 21st party on the 15th February. We thought it would have to be cancelled again as we had our first downpour of rain since the fires, but it eased off by 6 p.m. We just had time to turn on the lighting and take out the food and drink before the guests arrived!

Hazel.

CORRESPONDENCE.

M. McKenzie, Eden Hill, W.A.

Thank you for the Courier I receive. I appreciate all the effort and time you have to contribute to its success.

Please find enclosed cheque, it could be halved between the Courier and Trust Fund or as you wish.

Regards, Mary McKenzie.

P. Sullivan-Weller, Umina, N.S.W.

Marjorie and I have been intending to send you this cheque since the last Courier was delivered, still better late than never. I'll leave it to you for you to use it where needed.

I am hoping to come over in November. Marjorie is not sure yet so I will ring the hotel at a later date. I will ring Kath Press to see if she sharing with anyone.

Hope you and Delys are well.

Yours sincerely, Patricia Sullivan - Weller.

R. Darrington, Letchworth Garden City, England.

I am in England at long last staying with my sister Jean, so happy to be together again and meeting my relations. We have had quite a few parties up to date.

The weather is mild and warm, no snow, just lovely spring weather. Everybody is surprised just how warm it really is

saying I brought hot Aussie weather over with me!

I received the Courier and appreciate it very much. All the people here have read it and think it mighty good. One special event so far is being invited along as guests - Jean, Barbara and myself and the family was to the opening ceremony of North Hertfordshire College and the 20 million pounds The New Stevenage Centre by the **Queen and Duke of Edinburgh**. Jean's son, Dr. Roger Godrin, principal of three colleges around here. She is proud of her two sons, the eldest Rodney Gochin is Assistant Director and Senior lecturer in Process Engineering Royal School of Mines, Imperial College, London. So Rodney and Roger are both doing well in the education field.

Well as far as the opening ceremony, it's been a great day to remember. Roger, the principal met the Queen and escorted her on an inspection of the Centre. Dining with the Queen for lunch and unveiling the plaque. The Duke busied himself bringing up the rear party. There was 2000 computers, all new ones inside the main entrance. I was allotted one computer to work. I had a beautiful staff member showing me how to operate it while waiting for the Royal Party.

There were 1000 guests. All went through a strict security check by the police. All ID or passports and invitation cards to be shown before admittance to the Stevenage centre.

The best was an excellent buffet menu cooked by the staff chefs of the college - plenty of wines. Everybody heaped his or her plate with goodies. The tables were soon cleared of food. I had my sister Jean looking after me with refreshments. I was seated by the drink table and an attentive staff member was always pouring whisky or Irish Cream

into my glass. Okay I had my share and more!

I have come to like the soccer football. I got to support my cousin Roger's team Stevenage. They had not won a game until I started barracking for them. They won seven straight. The luck was accredited to me so I was allowed into the director's boardroom to have free refreshments during the match and a big lunch served up after the game. One of the legend old footballers took a shine to me, said I brought the Aussie warm weather over. There was a chance Stevenage could drop to a lower division next season but all is saved.

I had Easter break in North Harrow, London at cousins Colin and Audrey who did a wonderful job looking after me. Every morning I went swimming at Harrow Hot Baths Centre. I really enjoy good exercise for my hips and legs. I did have a trip to Portsmouth on Easter Monday to see the D - Day Museum and Overlord Embroidery, a moving tribute and sacrifices made by Allies in World War II. Worth going for the experience of museums displays.

Regards, Dick Darrington.

K. Wilson, Booker Bay, N.S.W.

Just a line to let you know that I have booked in for the Safari. It's hard to realise that half the time has passed since Mildura. By the way, The Good Earth told me that bookings for people on their own was still \$85 a day. I think I heard the girl say this was a concession because of being a member of the 2/2nd Commando party.

I see by the newspapers and TV that your state has been suffering just as much with drought and bushfires as the eastern States. It is to be hoped the rains come this winter. As you know, I had a

knee replacement last July, and am now quite happy with the result.

I had a thoroughly good time during the Mildura Safari, and am looking forward to renewing old acquaintances once more. Greetings to the members of the 2/2nd Commando Association and their wives - also widows who make us realise how many of our mates have passed on over the years. Cheers to all. I am enclosing a donation.

Yours sincerely, Keith Wilson.

J. P. Kenneally, Yagoona, N.S.W.

Best wishes to all. I trust Anzac day was enjoyed by all who participated in person or in spirit as they viewed on TV.

Here in Sydney there were only four 2/2nd men in the march. Ron Archer down from Brisbane, Lionel Newton, all the way from Broken Hill, Harry Handicott down from Newcastle and myself local. Alan Luby's legs precluded him marching. He was however aboard the ferry for the Harbour cruise re-union. I think it's the last year for the ferry. Michael and Gerald were aboard with me, for pleasure, or unappointed minders "I dinnaken". They enjoyed the company, the cruise, the beer and the prawns. Bill Coker was at the service and the Commando Memorial at the top of Martin Place, he returned home after that. I didn't see Bill as that particular service is over before I get into the city. My memorial service for the remembrance of our fallen comrades is attendance at Mass at St. Felix Parish Church Bankstown. Everyone to their own choice.

I had a good Anzac Day. Following the ferry, Michael, Gerald and I went up to the Rocks and then down to Miller's Point. We found a quieter pub there. Met up with the niece of a bloke I had worked

with on the wharves. Knew him when we were kids really, on the Point. She filled me in on all the local news. There's one bloke still alive that I knew there pre war, and always would meet on Anzac night. He was ex Libya, Greece and Crete. He is 92 now and beyond going to the pub.

I'm getting cautious for the first time ever. I travelled home by taxi (Michael paid!)

My navigational skills have diminished. It's a case of safety first.

Mostly it's all sad news. Tom Nisbet, Noel Buckman, and now Allan Hollow, all Four section men. The ranks are certainly being depleted. I did a bit of rough and ready reckoning. No. 4 Section from its formation on Wilson's Promontory in 1941 to the disbandment of the 2/2nd in Rabaul in 1946, had fifty-seven men pass through its ranks. Ten are still alive. The other sections of the Unit would, I believe, be in a similar position.

It reminds me of a German song I learned years ago, somewhere along the line of whichever school I was attending at that time "and then I saw in the dim night light, the men who were mustering side by side"

I won't bore you with the rest. But that's us and every other Unit as well.

Another war behind us and it may not be the last, as the Lord of creation casts his eyes about to find who displeases him next and be got rid of without too much trouble. The end of the twentieth century and the first couple of decades of the 21st will make interesting study for historians of a future era. I'd love to have a vision of it, as I won't be around to read it.

The drought has broken for Sydney and Coastal N.S.W. Unfortunately it is not so for the Western areas. The Western Plains are still dust bowls.

All our family is well. The pins have been removed from Christopher's leg. He still uses the crutches but not continuously. Sean could do with some rain. Gerald pondering deeply on a change of profession, no easy exercise. Gerald has been his own boss since he was about twenty. Whatever he takes on had better be along the same lines. He is used to doing "his way".

Michael is in no hurry to be gainfully employed. I reckon he will be off for a trip around Europe and America. He has only himself to answer for.

Nora is well, very busy, very mobile, knows plenty and says little or rather nothing about many of the things she does know. Tact and silence are two virtues Nora acquired very early in life, her big disappointment as a pupil was me. I'm off!

I will enclose the obituary I have written on Noel Buckman. To Tom Nisbet's and Allan Hollow's family I extend my deepest sympathy in the loss they have suffered, may time heal the pain and sense of loss.

I am sure Ray Aitken can more appropriately pay a last tribute to these men.

Good luck and best wishes to you, Delys and John. Nora sends her love and is looking forward to meeting all of you in Perth in November. God willing and the body capable.

Paddy Kenneally.

**Australian Army Headquarters,
Canberra,ACT**

The Secretary, 2/2nd Commando Assoc.

Please accept my most sincere thanks for your letter of congratulations on my award of the Distinguished Service Cross. I must also apologise for such a belated reply, but your letter took some

weeks to be redirected from Perth to my new address in Canberra. Unfortunately for me, I completed my tour of duty as CO SASR in December and handed over to Lieutenant Colonel Rick Burr, MVO. I know that he will serve the Regiment well.

I must say that I was deeply honoured to be awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for my service in Afghanistan and am acutely aware that it is a reflection of the dedication and quality of those who I was privileged to command. They are a truly outstanding bunch of soldiers and I was very sad to have to move on at the end of last year. I agree that the men of the Regiment have served Australia well since inception in 1957 and I will watch with interest as they tackle the challenges that the future inevitably holds.

Although I have been posted to Canberra, the 2/2nd Commando Association will never be too far from my mind. I relished the opportunities to share a drink on ANZAC Day in particular, and you can be sure that I will recall with fondness those occasions every year on the 25th of April. As I said last year, the origins of the SAS Regiment stem back to the character and deeds of the members of your Association, and I was privileged to have had the opportunity to meet just a few of those original members during my time in Perth.

Thank you again for your letter and I will ensure that your congratulations are passed onto the other members of the Regiment who received awards. Please accept my very best wishes for the future to you and all members of the 2/2nd Commando Association.

Yours sincerely,
P.W. Gilmore, **DSC**.

Col. Director of Strategy & International Engagement.

C. Hartley, Fairfield West, NSW.

This is my first letter to the 2/2nd Commando Courier on behalf of the Hartley family, and I'd like to extend my best wishes to all the 2/2nd people, and also share some news with you.

As the 2/2nd family well knows, John Hartley passed away on the Queen's Birthday public holiday, 12th June 2000. The funeral and Requiem Mass was held on 19th June 2000 at the Sacred heart Catholic Church in Cabramatta, and dad was then laid to rest at the Pinegrove Cemetery, Great Western Highway, Eastern Creek. We were privileged to hear a moving tribute given by Paddy Kenneally, and there were many Z Special and Commando people attending in support.

Like so many others in the 2/2nd Commando Association who have experienced the loss of a loved one, we still miss Dad very much. We wish the clock could be turned back to times when Dad was with us every day, doing ordinary things such as working in the beautiful gardens that he created. Sadly we all know that our time in this world is limited, but it doesn't ease the sadness of losing someone as special as Dad.

Mum (Maria) has had her ups and downs in health, and really misses Dad terribly, but she is battling on and doing her best. She has finally plucked up the courage to make arrangements for her first trip back to Austria and Slovenia since she came to Australia after the War as a Displaced Person in November 1950. Mum will be reunited with surviving family and old friends whom she has not seen for over 50 years, so she is very excited by the coming adventure. She will fly out of Sydney on Friday 2nd May and return in early July.

On 30th April, I will finally graduate from the University of Western Sydney with a

Graduate Diploma in Workplace Relations. In the meantime I am doing further postgraduate studies in Dispute Resolution and also TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages).

My brothers David and Andrew are still in Kempsey on their 25 acres, while brother Philip runs his own café called "Fed Up" in St. Kilda, Melbourne.

Dad's three grandchildren are also doing well.

Finally, and most importantly, I have made bookings for Mum, myself and Dad's brother Frank to attend the WA Safari in November. We will stay at the Good Earth Hotel as suggested and look forward to meeting everyone. Uncle Frank jumped at my suggestion that he might like to come along, saying that he always enjoyed his contacts with the 2/2nd boys. This will be my first trip to the West, so I am also excited by the prospect of meeting as many of Dad's mates as possible. Frank and I intend to join you all for the commemorative services, and I will proudly wear Dad's medals on his behalf.

When ANZAC Day comes around, I will once again march with the Commando Companies in Sydney for Dad, and I will treasure the opportunity of sharing the day with a unique bunch of Australian heroes.

Once again, my very best wishes to all the 2/2nd fraternity. Take care, stay well, and I look forward to seeing you all in November.

Yours sincerely, Chris Hartley.

R. Moar, Haberfield, NSW.

As promised I'm enclosing a cheque from Mum for the Independent trust fund and Courier plus giving a little update

on Mum as you thought others would like to hear how she is getting along.

Nancy (wife of "Babe" Teague) is living in the hostel of the Cardinal Freeman Village in Ashfield just a stones throw from where she and dad were born and brought up. Fortunately her very close friend (and bridesmaid) Betty also lives in the village and their wonderful friendship endures.

As you know Mum got encephalitis 12 years ago after Dad died, which left her with epilepsy but she manages to keep in good spirits and enjoys visiting family, little outings, especially if they are beside the seaside resort of Kiama.

For her 80th birthday, the family built her a little garden at the back door; complete with birdbath and stepping-stones so her little unit is quite homey.

Our children love having nanna at family gatherings and we all feel lucky to still have her as she is so supportive and such a sympathetic listener (not to mention the practical help she gives us with sewing and mending). She thoroughly enjoyed Archie Campbell's "Double Reds of Timor" and I was wondering if anyone had a spare copy of Christopher Wray's book on the Unit in Timor for sale?

She can't stand crowds any more, but we watched the Anzac March together on TV and I know she loves to keep up with everybody's news through the Courier. Thanks for the fantastic job you do in keeping it going.

Kind regards, Rosslyn Moar.

A. Beveridge, Toronto, SA.

The enclosed cheque is a donation for use by the Association.

Yours faithfully,
Andy Beveridge.

R. Gregg, Beresfield, NSW.

Please find enclosed cheque for \$300 to be used as the Association decides.

Robert Gregg.

Pars On People.

Congratulations to Joe and Helen who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on the 30th May. Joe is not enjoying the best of health and has lost a lot of weight, which is making it very hard for Helen. They are two great people and we can only hope things will improve for them.

It was nice to see Ted Monk at the march and luncheon on Anzac Day. Ted said it was the best he has felt for a long time. A mystery illness made life tough for Ted over the past five years. Peg can relax a bit now.

Good to see Terry Paull drop in for the Anzac day lunch after marching at Mandurah. Terry looks great and says he hasn't had a beer for four years. That's will power for you!

Fred Humfrey turned 90 on the 10th June. Well done Fred. Colin Hodson and Keith Hayes keep in touch with Fred who looks forward to the Courier and enjoys pretty good health for a 90 year old.

Jess Epps turned 87 on Anzac Day and had a beaut birthday. Jess is on the go all the time, which is to her credit.

Bernie and Babs Langridge are now settled into their new unit in Collier Park Village, Como. They now have Val & Keith Hayes and Edna Fullarton as near neighbours, which is handy for them. Bernie's health is not the best but he is still active in Association affairs.

Stan Payne 's health has improved slightly and he can now drive around Merredin in his new scooter with a small double diamond flag flying above. Barbara of course keeps a close eye on him. Stan, a

well-known identity in the district, still maintains a keen interest in the family farm.

Betty Hopkins (Irish's widow and Peter Barden's sister) will be 85 in August. Betty reports she is keeping well and maintains a fairly active lifestyle finding enough to do in the home to keep her busy. Both Betty and Peter are good supporters of the Association and look forward to the Courier. God bless.

Alan Luby tells me that Edith is having a driving test in mid June to get her license renewed. You show 'em Edith!

Sick Parade.

Joy Chatfield has been laid up with a golden staph infection. Joy spent 7 weeks in hospital and is now receiving treatment 4 times a day at 6 hourly intervals to overcome the problem. She is making steady progress and is being well supported by her family and 2/2nd friends.

Tony Bowers who has an angina problem is finding life a bit tough. Living on his own is a handicap but Tony, a great supporter of the Association, still made it on Anzac Day - a day he has seldom missed.

Wilf March and Harry Sproxtton who have been on the seriously ill list for a number of years are not looking forward to the winter months - though the footy, especially with the WA teams doing so well helps a bit.

I take it that all our members and their good ladies have had their flu needles - it is a must.

OFF THE RECORD

Joe Coffee went to join the RSL. They asked him if he had a war record.

He replied, "As a matter of a fact I have - I've got Vera Lynn's "White Cliffs of Dover!"

Birthday Boys.

Peter Alexander	April	2	85
Joe Poynton		4	81
John BurrIDGE		6	85
Colin Hodson		6	79
Vince Swann		9	87
Harry Botterill		12	83
Eric Smyth		15	83
Arthur Marshall		21	81
Jack Fowler		24	91
Ray Parry	May	5	80
Keith Wilson		16	82
Don Murray		18	82
Gerry Green		31	87
Jim Lines	June	4	81
Fred Humfrey		10	90
Mark Jordan		15	83
Jack Carey		19	81
Mal Lindsay		21	82.

Change of Address.

Bernie & Babs Langridge
Unit 7/2 Bruce St.,
Como. WA 6152
Tel. 08 9313 0307

Don & Ida Murray
44 Forrest St
Mandurah WA 6210
Tel. 08 9535 7525

Joan Hampton-Smith
Unit 2/4 Evelyn St
Gosnells. WA 6110

Jack Fox
Le Grand
349 North Road
Caulfield South
Victoria 3162.

Mrs H. Hollow
16A Balcombe Ave
Findon SA 5023
Tel. 08 8445 7548

Courier Donations.

Don Murray, Dusty Studdy (2), Jack & Jean Keenahan, Pat Sullivan, Marj Goodacre, Keith Wilson, Fred Humfrey, Robert Gregg, Maria & Chris Hartley, John BurrIDGE, Bob Smyth, Vince Swann, Doc Wheatley, Tony Bowers, Don Turton, Andy Beveridge, Nancy Teague, Rosslyn Moar, Joan Hamilton-Smith, Joyce Smith & Mary McKenzie.

Add.

Mr R.G. Chiswell
31 Glenburnie Ave
Torrens Park.
SA 5062,

Delete.

Mrs P. Anning, Tasmania Deceased.
Tom Nisbet Vic. “
Blue Pendergrast WA “
Mrs D. Chiswell. SA Stopped delivery.

Trust Fund Donations.

Mary McKenzie	50.00
Robert Gregg	150.00
Alan & Edith Luby	100.00
Doc Wheatley	50.00
Andy Beveridge	100.00
Nancy Teague	
& Rosslyn Moar	50.00

*Thank you for your generous donations.
Editor.*

Notices.

ATTENTION W.A. MEMBERS!

NORMA HASSON DAY.

Good Earth Hotel

195 Adelaide Terrace, Perth.

Friday 4th July.

From 11 am - Luncheon at 12.30

This is always an enjoyable occasion

So put on your winter woollies

And come along!

Don't forget now!

Queensland Members Please Note!

A Xmas in July Luncheon will be held at

Geebung R. & S. League Club

Brisbane

On

Monday 7th July

At 11.30 am for Noon Luncheon.

This will be our last official function

So don't miss it.

Ron Archer 3870 8177.

WHAT IS LIFE?

Life is an opportunity, benefit from it.

Life is beauty, admire it.

Life is bliss, taste it.

Life is a challenge, meet it.

Life is a duty, complete it.

Life is a game, play it.

Life is costly, care for it.

Life is wealth, keep it.

Life is love, enjoy it.

Life is mystery, know it.

Life is a promise, fulfil it.

Life is sorrow, overcome it.

Life is a song, sing it.

Life is a struggle, accept it.

Life is a tragedy, confront it.

Life is an adventure, dare it.

Life is luck, make it.

Life is too precious, do not destroy it.

Life is life, fight for it.

Mother Teresa.



*Top photo: 2/2nd members who went in the bus as part of the WA Anzac Day march.
L. to R. Peter Epps (driver) Don Murray, Doc. Wheatley, Don Turton, Tony Bowers,
Bernie Langridge and Vince Swann.*

Bottom photo: This photo of some members of "A" troop was taken in New Guinea in July 1943. Henry Sproxton who is selecting photos for our book has identified about 20 of them. If you think you can help ring Henry on 08 9387 6889.

