



COURIER

2/2 COMMANDO ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

<https://doublereds.org.au/>

President & Editor Ed Willis, Secretary Chantelle Cummins

APRIL 2022

ANZAC DAY 2022 MARCH ARRANGEMENTS

Committee Secretary Chantelle Cummins will lay a wreath on behalf of the Association at the Dawn Service in Kings Park.



Members of the Association, family and friends can participate in the Anzac Day Parade. The Parade starts at 9 am from the corner of Barrack Street and St Georges Terrace. Moving east along St Georges Terrace, the parade passes the Saluting Dais before turning right onto Victoria Avenue and dispersing on to Langley Park. A sausage sizzle will be provided by The Salvation Army.

Information about the Order of March, route map and parking, or other frequently asked questions are available on this RSL web page: <https://www.rslwa.org.au/commemoration/anzac-day/services>

Noel Strickland and Beth Gosper (granddaughter of Joe Poynton) will carry the unit banner on the day. Younger members of our 'great fraternity' are especially encouraged to participate.

AFTER MARCH LUNCH

Family and friends of the 2/2 are invited to join marchers associated with the 2/8 Commando Squadron for lunch (12:30 pm) at the Goodearth Hotel Restaurant, 195 Adelaide Terrace, Perth. The cost is \$25 for a two-course meal including coffee (drinks are extra).

To attend, please contact Graham Brooks <digger2148@outlook.com> by Tuesday 23 April.

CAN YOU HELP?

Former-President and current Association Committee member Peter Epps has requested help to locate a better copy of the photo shown below.

Peter asks:

"Attached is a very bad copy of a photo that I have been trying to find a better copy for some time.



It apparently was taken at Fatu Cauc [Fatu Cuac] 24 hrs prior to the men being taken off Timor, 18 Dec 1942.

On the reverse it lists the following men:

Lou Marchant, Jack Hasson, Delbridge, Harry Cole, Colin Criddle, Fred Growns, Kev Curran,

Slim Webster, Bruce Smith, Tom Mildren, Roy Watson, Jack Hartley, Jack Darge, Cyril Doyle, Joe Poynton and Tony Bower.

The only other known photo of the men at the end of the campaign is 'A' Company with all the beards so this very important".

If any member or supporter has a better copy of the photo that they can provide to Peter or any knowledge regarding its source, please contact us at

<https://doublereds.org.au/forums/forum/8-open-discussion/>

80 YEARS ON – WINNIE THE WAR WINNER

Dates from late 2021 through 2022 will mark the 80th anniversaries of significant events that occurred during the No. 2 Australian Independent Company's (2/2) campaign on Portuguese Timor during WWII.

After resistance by the main part of Sparrow Force had ceased in Dutch Timor on the 23rd of February 1942, the forces commander began to reorganise and redeploy his troops in the southern half of Portuguese Timor about the middle of March.

Fighting as guerrillas against overwhelming odds, deficient in supplies and out of touch with Australia, it was imperative for the small force to re-establish communications with the mainland. It was for this purpose that men of the 2nd Independent Company, the fortress signals section on the island, and members of Signals, 8th Division, pooled their resources to build a set capable of raising Darwin. The most expert and tireless of these was Signaller 'Joe' Loveless. His technical ingenuity and skill was assisted by the professional electrical engineering expertise of Captain G.E. Parker from Dutch Timor.

After many trials and much revision, Australia was contacted on the **April 20, 1942**, and Darwin was made aware that the Australians in Timor were alive and well.

The set was affectionately named "**Winnie the War Winner**".



Timor 1942 Commando Campaign Tour

The planned 10-day 2020 tour unfortunately had to be cancelled because of the travel restrictions imposed by the COVID crisis. 10 people with a 2/2 soldier family connection had booked to go on the tour. It was not possible to tour in 2021.

With travel restrictions easing it should be possible to safely travel to Timor later this year. Expressions of interest of sought from members and supporters who would be interested in touring in late August-September, including those who had booked for the 2020 tour.

For additional information and to express interest in touring please contact Ed Willis president@doublereds.org.au

SUPPORTING THE 2/2 COMMANDO ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

To ensure the future of the Association we would appreciate our supporters purchasing or renewing memberships, buying products from the store (pins and e-books) or donating. Younger members of our 'great fraternity' are especially encouraged to follow up this way to better ensure that the Association has a longer-term future even after the current generation of immediate descendants of the soldiers moves on.



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