

CIRCULAR

# 458 SQUADRON NEWS



The Editor

G.P.O.Box 5289, Sydney.

Vol.6, No.23;

May, 1955.

SINCE OUR LAST ISSUE.....

## OPERATION MELBOURNE 55.

The All-States Anzac Reunion was held in Melbourne from April 22nd-25th. It was a spectacularly successful series of 458 functions, well organised by a hard-working team from the Victorian Committee, headed by Squadron and Victorian President Gordon Orchard and Victorian Secretary Bill Carr. Over seventy Squadron members, with several active Associate members from Victoria and South Australia, took part in the week-end's various Get-togethers.

Eight Squadron members came from various parts of New South Wales, five came from South Australia (including two very keen Associate members whose company we appreciated); and Bert (Judy) Garland made the long trip down from Brisbane to represent Q-Flight.

### April 22nd-Friday:

Interstate members arrived during the evening from Sydney, Brisbane, and from various parts of N.S.W. They were met, in most cases, by Arthur Green at the airport. (Arthur went to considerable trouble to make interstate and country members welcome over the weekend.) The travellers were, mostly, accommodated at the Hotel Cecil in Lonsdale Street. Victorian members came in to welcome them during the evening and before long there must have been about 30 members there, drinking beer and eating chicken sent up with the Chef's compliments. This evening saw the beginning of the exchange of wartime reminiscences and the exchange of post-war news of the progress of old friends which probably constitutes the happiest part of these weekends at Anzactime. Conversations beginning..... "Do you remember what Slappy said that night at Holme-on-Spalding Moor when we had to shovel the snow off the runway?" or "What is Buster doing these days?".....

### April 23rd-Saturday:

The South Australian party arrived in the morning. They joined in at a gathering of members at the London Hotel in Elizabeth Street. After lunch the Squadron Conference, composed of delegates representing all the mainland States together with the Squadron President (Gordon Orchard), Squadron Vice President/Secretary (Peter Alexander) and Squadron Treasurer (Sam Barlow), met to review 458's progress in the past and coming years and to elect Squadron officers for the coming year. Conference proceedings are reported elsewhere in this Issue.

From Conference, the Victorian delegates (Bill Carr and John Jenkins) hurried away to get things ready for the Squadron Reunion.

The Reunion was held in a large Drill Hall in West Melbourne and provided plenty of room for us to foregather, which we did in large numbers. Don Johnston and Shorty Wilson saw to it that no one went short of a drink. The Squadron Photographic Albums were on display and provided a constant focus of interest.

Here, as at each of the functions, we saw again fellow-458 members we hadn't seen for years (ten years now since 458 disbanded as an operational R.A.A.F. unit). Among those there who we hadn't seen for some time, and were delighted to see again, were Nick Bertram, Jim McKay and Bill Flentje. The Reunion kept well on into the next morning. We finished our own kegs and then were pleased to assist another, near-ly



Operation Melbourne 55 (cont.) R.A.A.F. Reunion to dispose of its last keg.

April 24th-Sunday.

This was the Day of the Golf Competition for the 458 Anzac Cup. Dizzy Dean was the organiser and an excellent job he did. The Cup is competed for each Anzac Weekend and without argument, we feel, has never been played off in a more beautiful place than this year's links, at Emerald in the Dandenong Hills. After the golfers had played their round, Squadron members and their families had a barbecue lunch near the Club House. We understand that, without reckoning the substantial numbers of children 458 had accumulated and brought with it, there were over 80 adults there. Stan Tarczynski was a very popular winner of the Cup for 1955. Kev. Guiney was runner-up, winning the N.S.W. Cup, presented by the N.S.W. Committee. Congratulations to them both. Good luck to them in next year's competition! Squadron President Gordon Orchard presented the Cup to the winner with a short speech which was well received. On behalf of interstate members, the N.S.W. President expressed appreciation of Victoria's organisation of the Anzac Weekend. On the way home from Emerald we looked in at the Clematis Hotel for a few beers and so back to Melbourne.

April 25th-Monday.

458 marched along Swanston Street, over Princes Bridge to the Shrine, behind the new Victorian Banner and led by Gordon Orchard. Jimmy Munday carried the Banner; the S.A. and N.S.W. Presidents marched beside the Squadron President. Ernie Laning marching with the boys, kept us in step and order. After the March we made our way out to Griff's woodyard for a Mediterranean Air Force Reunion. Here too, we continued to see new 458 faces.

The contingent from Sydney flew back that evening and other interstate and country members returned home soon afterwards with a memory of a splendid week end of return to 458. One of the things they will recall is the unsleeping attention given to their comfort and entertainment by Victorian President---- "Orch." Thank you and your Committee very much, Orch. Specially we mention--Yank Martin.

From memory, with apologies if anyone is omitted, the Squadron members who were at the various functions were:

G. Abraham	B. Dennis	Ian Beer	H. Ashworth	Bill Bailey	J. Bilney	L. Boyer	K. Brown
T. Burgess	W. Carr	S. Cartledge	K. Clymo	G. Cowan	N. Cugley	K. Cupper	B. Dean
G. Cuthbertson	D. Firth	B. Flentje	I. Giles	A. Green	K. Guiney	Bill Henry	F. Stron
R. Zenger	W. Hurford	H. Jenkins	J. Jenkins	S. Barlow	D. Johnston	T. Kennedy	L. Wurr
E. Laning	E. Littlehales	J. McKay	P. McDonald	A. McGregor	R. McKinna	Neil McPhee	G. Wise
H. Martin	K. Merkhams	J. Morris	J. Munday	P. Alexander	I. Showell	N. Bertram	G. Nash
Ace O'Leary	G. Orchard	R. Osborne	C. Irwin	A. J. Walker	R. Rodwell	R. Rabone	R. Sherrah
Tich Ramsay	R. Redpath	G. Riddoch	R. Schoppe	B. Garland	I. Higlett	S. Tarczynski	M. Singe
B. Taylor	S. Varcoe	F. Wilson	T. Wishart	R. Yates	A. Dombkins	D. Millard	H. Young
C. Harding	B. Farrer						

CROWEATERS' COLUMN.

458 in South Australia.

BY BRIAN WOODHEAD.

I hear from Bill Taylor that a very successful Reunion was held in Melbourne this year. Our congratulations to them on their organising. When I spoke to Bill the pressure of the weekend was beginning to tell, I think.

Our own Reunion was about the usual in numbers and enjoyment. Some old members we haven't seen for some time were present but then a lot of members we have seen quite often were absent. But next year with the All-States Reunion here we want a full muster.

Amongst those present were Johnny Bax, Ron Badger, Arnold Scholar, Jack Parkin, Lefty Trewartha, Horrie Plant, Jack Fisher, Mel Priest, Snow Dickson, Reg. Priest, Robbie Robertson, Col. Hutchinson, Ned. Kelly, Tom Phillis, R. W. McRae.

Two story-tellers were present to give us a running commentary of stories for just on two hours, and I'm sure many of those present were still chuckling next day. There's only one trouble with this type of entertainment, and that is--one laughs so much that by the time one finishes you can't remember the joke for there's already another being told.

We were very sorry to hear of John Payne's death and send our sympathies to his family.

On other Pages

You will find--- Reunion in England, Page 3 --- Squadron Conference---Page 3  
--- Personalities, Page 5 --- Return of the Dazed Delegate, Page 6 --- Letters to the Editor, P. 7  
Cricket Commentary by "Run-to-Cover", Page 8 --- Squadron History Title Competition, Page 8.



SQUADRON CONFERENCE MEETS.

458 Squadron's central organisation, which speaks for 458 as a whole, met in Melbourne during the Anzac Weekend, under the chairmanship of the Squadron President (Gordon Orchard). State delegations were

Queensland--Bert Garland  
Fred Strom (proxy)  
N.S.W.-----Allan Walker  
Cyril Irwin  
S.Aus.-----Bill Taylor  
Ian Showell

Victoria---Bill Carr  
John Jenkins  
W.Aus.-----Jim Munday (proxy)  
Norm. Cugley (proxy)

Other Conference members were the Squadron Vice President/Secretary (Peter Alexander) and the Squadron Treasurer (Sam Barlow). Conference met at Jim Munday's office in Lonsdale Street by invitation of Jim.

Reports from the States. Each of the States gave Conference a report on events during the past year. The Squadron Secretary reported on the dramatic progress of events with the U.K. Flight which had held a successful Reunion in London and of which the Past Squadron President (L.L. Johnston) was now President.

Squadron History. The Squadron Secretary told Conference that the History was now approaching finality, as far as the first draft went. Various members had read parts of it and made various suggestions. He emphasized that the History would be a History not Historical fiction. Conference discussed finances and decided the proportions in which the Flights would bear costs of publication if necessary. It decided to hold a competition among members to choose the Title and to design the Dust cover of the History. Prizes---Free copies of the History.

Guessing Competition. Any Competition this year will be organised by the Flight Committees instead of by Squadron Council

Next All-States Reunion. Will be in Adelaide during the weekend preceding Anzac Day,

Interstate delegates. Conference decided to recommend to the W.A. and Queensland Flight Committees that they study the possibility of subsidizing the fares of a delegate to All-States Reunions.

Elections. The three retiring Squadron officers were re-elected for the coming year.

Other matters. Conference received, with thanks, from Bernie McLoughlin, a draft Constitution for the Flights. Conference also heard with interest of a plan by the U.K. Flight to produce a 458 Squadron Tie.

458 SQUADRON IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

Letter from

PETE PETTIT.

The Reunion went off very well, and as a mark of the success of the evening we finished up singing songs around the piano under the brilliant leadership of Johnno Johnston---yes, he made it at the last moment without advance notice.

There were about 29 blokes present--

Johnno Johnston	E. Cook	W. Madden	R.V. Lewis-Lavender	W. Richards	P. Walker
P. Doran	R. Havers	F. Makin	Geoff. Barrett	D. Connell	M. Mason
N. Gilbert	Dick Tombs	F. Hatchard	Steve Search	H. Filley	S. Thompson
H. Hamlet	W. Prater	John Dandy	V. Thwaites	B. Wykes	Harry Bishop
R. Lovelace	Eric Fendick	Dick Murrell	Leo Armstrong	P. Pettit.	

There were replies from about a dozen others and another six accepted but did not make it. Of the six two phoned up (one from Scotland) so all in all the show created a lot of interest.

Harry Bishop suggested that a squadron tie be devised and made available to the troops at cost and Johnno has taken it upon himself to look into that one.

Johnno was unanimously elected President, Leo Armstrong Treasurer and Dick Murrell (13, Lovell Rd., Bullsboro Lane Estate, Enmore, Middlesex) Secretary.

Cheerio for now, you'll be hearing from us again in the near future.

WEAR YOUR 458 SQUADRON BADGE !

PUT THE SQUADRON CAR BADGE ON YOUR CAR !



Forthcoming BALL.

Generally regarded as the highlight of the N.S.W. 458 season, the 6th. ANNUAL BALL is to be held on Friday, May 27th, at the Pickwick Club, at the corner of Castlereagh and Hunter Streets, Sydney. If Squadron Balls of previous years are any indication then this 6th. Annual Ball should be a very enjoyable evening.

The Ball Committee (Graeme Coombes, Cy. Irwin and Eric Munkman) have been very active and chose the Pickwick Club as the venue only after a close scrutiny of suitable places. A Circular (many thanks, Tom Moore) has been sent to metropolitan and some country members giving details. Tickets are £1-1-0 each and all inquiries about tickets or table reservations will be promptly attended to---write to Box 5289, G.P.O. or give the N.S.W. Secretary a phone call. Roll up! Have a whale of a time and make the 6th. Annual Ball something to be remembered.

March Reunion.

The Reunion of members in March and the Annual Election of officers was held on Friday March 4th at the usual place, 330, George Street, Sydney. Between 50 and 60 members were present to have a few beers and chat about old times, and to enjoy the first class supper arranged by Goldy Bartlett and his wife Betty. Many thanks, Goldy and Betty. Among those present was Don McNeil, now living in Panama. It was Don's first Reunion and, Don, it was nice to see you.

In retiring as N.S.W. President and stating that he was unavailable for re-election, Alan Piggott reviewed the year's proceedings and thanked the outgoing Committee for its work.

Peter Alexander was unanimously elected President and he then thanked Alan on behalf of all 458ers---a feeling we all echo very sincerely. The new President needs no introduction---surely no person deserves the honour---and honour it surely must be---more than he. After seven years of extremely hard work as N.S.W. Secretary Peter has the best wishes of all Squadron members. Other officers elected were:

Vice Presidents: Sam Barlow and Eric Munkman; Hon. Treasurer: Graeme Coombes, Hon. Secretary: Allan Walker;

Committee: George Unitt, Goldy Bartlett, Cy. Irwin, Kemp Beach, Cec. Nation, Bob Millar, Bob. Lyndon, Noel Spurling, Tom Moore, Don Bithead, Ray Davies, Jock McGowen, Fred Stron, Frank Hickey, Jack Baker, Dick Healey. Hon. Auditor: Bert Thompson, A.A.S.A.

We welcome new members in George Unitt, Don Bithead, Jock McGowen and Noel Spurling, and Ray Davies.

Welcome to N.S.W.!

A very warm welcome to N.S.W. is extended to Bill McBride and family who have migrated from Queensland. We are happy to meet you again, Bill, and wish you all the best. Anyone wishing to contact Bill can do so at 11, Anne Elizabeth Street, Yagoona, N.S.W.

N.S.W. President lays wreath on Cenotaph.

In a simple and dignified ceremony, N.S.W. President Peter Alexander laid a wreath in memory of Squadron Dead on the Cenotaph in Martin Place on Thursday 21st. April at 7.45 p.m.

It was gratifying to see a few families and friends turn up to see Peter in his first public appearance as N.S.W. President---Well done, Peter!

Anzac Day, Sydney.

Sydney was blessed with perfect weather for Anzac Day 1955 and a grand number of fellows turned out to march under the Squadron Banner and to pay homage.

President Peter Alex. being in Melbourne for the All-States Reunion, the Squadron contingent was fittingly led by Immediate Past President Alan Piggott with Kemp Beach and Ray Davies on the flanks. Frank Keith carried the Banner, a job well done.

The March was not quite the marathon affair of previous years and the 458 boys were on their way to various celebrations at a fairly early hour.

Besides those already mentioned the following turned out to march (please forgive if any names are missed):

Eric Munkman	Cec. Nation	Bill McBride	Jack Baker	Ron Hills	Charlie Ruthven
Bruno Anderson	Goldy Bartlett	Henry Bryant	Dick Whitman	Fred Ridge	Alf Hammond
Brian Lord	Noel Spurling	Pop Lewis-Hughes	Bob Lyndon	Tom Moore	Bill Turier
Geoff. Cannon	Stuart Ricketts	Les. Piggott	Bert Thompson	Jack Aitken	George Unitt
Stan Longhurst	Cliff Hayward	Bob Millar	Joe Pratt	Bluey Lamond	Cliff Tillack

Have you seen the Album?

The Squadron Photographic Albums having survived a perilous trip to Melbourne are now back at Base. Anyone wishing to see the Albums should note that they are on view at every major Squadron function. Only their weight prevents their being at every Squadron function. Many thanks to Black Jack Baker for his meticulous and painstaking job and of course to all those who have sent along snaps---there is still room for more. Thanks to Bruce Dean and Ian Higlett for the loan of some valuable Squadron photographs for copying.



N.S.W. Notes (cont.)

Notes to all Golfers. Golf Days have been arranged as follows at Campbelltown Golf Club-----May 15th.-July 17th-August 14th.-September 11th. We would like to see a good roll up. Details from the N.S.W. Secretary or from Cy. Irwin, 17 Vincent Street, Canterbury (UW 1981).

A last plug. Don't forget the Squadron Ball at the Pickwick Club-Friday 27th. May !!!

PERSONALITIES.

Stan. Longhurst is living in Sydney and is Fitting with Tutt Bryant. He is married with several children including twin sons, aged nine. Wants to be remembered to Jack Riseley, Ted Littlehales, and Ches Chessell;

Don McNeil is a Fitter with Western Barbed Wire Co, Ltd in Sydney. Don, who has acquired a new house, was married while in England;

Bill Perkins is with the Fairfield branch of the Bank of N.S.W. Members in search of an overdraft should look him up there;

Cliff. Tillack and his wife have an 8 month old daughter (Janne);

Norm. Walker was a very welcome attender at the recent Sydney Reunion. Norm has been pretty ill but now looks quite fit. He holds the patent rights to a new type of Automatic Hypodermic Self-Injector, which, for interested members is, we understand, obtainable through Repat. Norm asks to be remembered to Stan Tarczynski and Lock Simpson;

Brian Hutton is understood to be with Automatic Totalisators in Sydney;

Len Adams who has a motor business in Gundagai, where he sells Chrysler and Plymouth cars, hopes any 458er in Gundagai will look him up;

Geoff. Danby has a Guest House in Sydney;

Jack Miles has returned to Sydney;

Bert Reynolds has taken over a milk run in Woollooware, Sydney;

Merv. Hargraves and his wife now have a daughter (Margaret);

Harry Baines has a hotel at Wallahbadah where we believe he is doing very well indeed. The hotel, San Barlow reports to be very comfortable;

Bill Farrer is with the R.A.A.F. in Melbourne, having attained the rank of Flight Sergeant. His work deals with the assessing of engine parts;

Gordon Wise is housepainting in Melbourne. At present he is doing maintenance work with the Australian Club. Married with two children, Gordon wishes to be remembered to Wal Archbold;

Pappy McDonald works with the Sun-News Pictorial in Melbourne. He wishes to be remembered to Rinso Purcill and Danny Dangaard. Pappy is now a widower with two sons;

Jim McKay is a Bus Proprietor in Wangaratta, Victoria and is soon opening a Service Station on the Hume Highway there. He is married with a boy and a girl. Sends good wishes to George Unitt;

Nick Bertram runs his own engineering business the "Bertram Engineering Co." on the Anzac Highway near Adelaide. He is married with one child;

Ken Brown is shortly taking up Dairy Farming in the Goulburn Valley. He is married with a son. (sorry we couldn't locate the Album when we wanted it, Ken, but it was much in demand at the time)

Neil McPhee is General Manager of the R.A.C.V.;

Bill Henry is a Jute (sack) merchant. Married with a daughter. Sends his regards to Curly O'Connor, Goldy Bartlett and Curly Hoskings;

Lisle (Woozle) Wurr is teaching in St. Kilda, Melbourne.

Bob McKinna, building at Sea Lake, sends remembrances to Slappy Hammond, Arthru Jollow and Dick Whiteman; also to Kemp Beach;

Doug. Millard is farming at Humula with between 1100 and 1200 sheep;

Jack Kewley is managing a sawmill at Mirrinbah, Victoria;

Ian Higlett is with the Bank of N.S.W. Collins Street, Melbourne;

Aub Dombkins has moved to Caringbah with his family. He has a Garage at the corner of Port Hacking Road and Kingsway.

Ron Redpath has a family Woollen Mills in Melbourne. He has recently made a trip to New Guinea;

Roy Schoppe is in Melbourne, building houses. Sends his regards to Pete Campbell;

Ron Gannon is fruitgrowing near Swan Hill, Victoria;

Bob Sherrah and his wife have a third son (James)-our congratulations to them;

Bill Taylor, South Australian President, sends regards to Leo Armstrong and Joe Wadsworth;

George Cowan, who is in Melbourne, sends his good wishes to Tom Moore and Pete Pettit;

Norm Cugley who played a prominent part in the organisation of the Melbourne All-States Reunion, is in a car business. He has two children, Don and Gale;

Don (Johnno) Johnston, who is, we understand, one of 458's few remaining bachelors, is selling motor spares with Motor Spares Ltd, Box Hill, Melbourne

Harry Ashworth is building and plumbing in Melbourne. He is currently building a house for



Personalities (cont.)

Squadron member Ian Beer. Harry is married with three daughters. Sends his regards to Bob Lyndon and Maca.

Dave (Bluey) Firth is a soldier settler at Robinvale, Victoria, growing dried fruits and citrus. Married with a boy and a girl, his son is working on the block with him. Dave is Director of a packing company and is active in the R.S.L.

Bill Hurford is Principal of the College of Aviation in Melbourne. Is a married man with three sons. Has just acquired a new home at Springvale.

Bill Flentje is with the Forestry Commission at Dinboola;

Tich Ramsay is an Administrative Assistant with the P.M.G's Dept. in Melbourne;

Doug McGuigan, and his wife, we hear, have a new son--Congratulations to you both;

John Bilney is a Gemologist in Melbourne. He has built a house at Box Hill. John took a series of photographs at the Emerald Golf Day which will form a valuable record of a happy Squadron occasion. John has a son and a daughter;

Ian Beer is in the Commercial Advertising game. He recently spent 18 months in England studying art at the St. Martin's Art School. While there he married an Australian girl. They have one child;

"Charger" Cameron, we are told, has a business in Deloraine, Tasmania;

"Tote" Peace, we are also told, is farming at Coonya, Tasmania;

Curly Young wishes to be remembered to Syd Hamilton.

S. Varcoe is selling Holden cars, in Melbourne.

RETURN OF THE DAZED DELEGATE.

by

P.C.A.

Friday-3.10 p.m. Arrive at T.A.A. Bus to leave at 3.20. C.I., F.S., LJB arrive. No A.J.W. Discover bus to leave at 3.40 C.I. and LJB decide to have one for road. 3.40 Bus ready: no C.I., no LJB, no A.J.W. Locate two delegates. Uncivilised interruption to leisurely drinking. Bus leaves. 4.5 At Essendon; find A.J.W., meet B.G. en route from Brisbane. Some chat. F.S. suggests we look for Kite. Find Hostess controlling feelings -- "We were waiting for you." Kite takes off. Someone orders four beers, one Scotch. Hostess does best to save us from our own worst selves by taking long time over bringing grog but hardly succeeds. A.J.W. orders. C.I. orders: and so on. 6.0 (ish) Reach Essendon. A.G. drives us to Hotel. Orch there. Have few beers. No doubt also had dinner but can't now remember. The Clan begins to gather. Old friends come in in large numbers to greet us. 7.30 Orch orders a dozen jugs of beer. Talk to Pappy, Scotty and Jock; also to Ace. Orch orders a dozen jugs. Eat chicken. Calculate there are 40 Squadron members in room. Orch orders...

Saturday--Hold head together. Eat Breakfast. B.T. and I.S. and friends arrive from Adelaide. Join old friends at the London Hotel. Have some beers. Talk to Roy S.; to Gerry A. and many others. 2.30 p.m. Squadron Conference. 7.30 p.m. All-States Reunion. Shorty and Johnno at war with empty glasses. Talk to many old friends. Have a beer with them. 10.0 p.m. Discussion about opening additional keg. Hear certain N.S.W. delegate say firmly "We shouldn't open it." Decided not to open new keg.

I.7. Observe same N.S.W. Delegate helping to open keg.....

Sunday. Delegates palely eyeing eggs and bacon. Sudden uproar as I.S. discovers he has been allowed to come down without doing hair. Hair duly done. Drive to Golf with Dizzy. Really beautiful drive up to Emerald, beautiful course. Large Squadron gallery at Ist. Tee in surprisingly good voice. As old Campbelltown Links player, see worst apprehensions true--there is a creek across the middle of Ist. Fairway. Squadron hits off -- many good drives including one through slips. I go round with D.M., T.L., and friend. Manage to clear creek with vigorous drive over Cover Point's head. Depart for the Tiger Country. See fellow players at intervals. 5th Hole--doing quite well. 6th. Hole--take 6 shots to get out of bunker. Decide to relax. Barbecue lunch. Guest of Mary and Bill Carr. Tarz wins Anzac Cup. Orch and self make speeches. Keg and bottles finished. 458 adjourns to Clematis Hotel. Drive back to Melbourne. Very kindly invited to tea with Dizzy and Mrs. Dean. Dizzy drives Nick Bertram and self back to City. 10.30. Orch invites B.D. and self to party in his room. Have some beers. Have some Scotch. Have some beers. 12.0. Car arrives at Hotel. Delegate asleep in back. Orch and H.J.M. lead discussion on philosophy. Orch orders.... About 1.30 a.m. Retire from debate. Sleep. 3.30 a.m. Lights on. Enter, laughing heartily, Orch and H.M. "Anyone got any smokes? Have a beer!" 4.0. Asleep again. 6.30 a.m. Horrible noise wakens all sleepers. F.S. coming down corridor with song on his lips.... "Lagos Lagoon, Lagos Lagoon.." Has been to Dawn Service. Rouses A.J.W. with his knocking to open door. Enters, singing. "Have a beer, you fellows." 8.0 a.m. F.S. falls asleep. 8.45 a.m. We wake F.S. for breakfast. Wake him with song. 1.30. 458 marches. 3.30 p.m. Harry Ashworth drives us to Desert Air Force Reunion at Griff's Woodyard. Many more old friends. Some with their wives. 6.0 Plan to leave at 6.20 to catch kite in good time. Leave at 6.35. Arrive at Essendon to hear dulcet voice saying "Your aircraft is now ready to leave." Stop biting fingernails, say brief but sincere goodbye and thanks to Victorian members and board aircraft. A.J.W. orders Scotch. Adelaide, here we come !!!



FROM THE SANDGROPPERS.

from

Allan Lyons.

We, too, have had a few changes over here. I at present am enjoying a spell in the pasture and have handed the pen and ink section to "Butch" Power. No doubt he will write to you soon and tell you all, but, to keep you all up to date, here are our new office bearers for 1955.

President	J. Riseley
Vice President	S. Long
Secretary/Treasurer	A. Power
Committee:	L. Stewart, R. Gannaway, S. Henry, C. Eagles.

I am still "on tap" whenever I can be of use. My sincere thanks for all the help extended to me and the boys in enabling us to have a very successful year of inception.

(Editor's Note: 458's thanks to Allan Lyons for his part in establishing the W.A. Flight. (To his successor every good wish from his many old friends. Right-o, Bubbles, let's be (having some news of you !)).

---

CORRESPONDENCE: Letters to the Editor.

From "Aunt Agatha" of the Peanut Club;

Dear Mr. Alexander, After all this long time I am at last able to write to tell you that the Children's Wing at the East Grinstead Hospital will be officially opened by the Queen-Mother on July 6th. We are having all the plaques made and they will be fixed to the cots before that date, and there will be one for 458 Squadron! We are having a small garden made which is for the exclusive use of the children. It will have lawns and little garden seats and a host of flowering shrubs, so that they will have flowers at all times of the year.

We wish that some of the lads of the Squadron were able to be here but I will send along any newspaper pictures that may be taken on that day, for I know that you will be proud to have helped in this much needed Wing.

yours sincerely, Aunt Agatha.

(Ed. 458 raised £500 to endow a child's bed at the Hospital by sale of Peanut Club badges and other means. )

---

From "Killer" Browne, 59, Parker St., West Devonport, Tasmania.

Dear Peter, Your very welcome letter to hand and let me say it is a very great pleasure to join the Club. Gordon Cuthbertson put me in touch, he wrote to me some time ago and suggested that I get in touch.....so decided to write direct to you in Sydney.

I am married with one child and employed with the Tas. Government railways as Locomotive Fitter here at Devonport, good job and money and a job for life and living in a War Service Home built on my own property. Devonport is a very pretty place on the banks of the Mersey and a great number of tourists come here from all parts of Aus.....

I know of only two 458 members in Tas., Geoff Grubb of Hobart Hydro-Electric Commission and Stan Smith of King Island on a soldier settlement farm, dairying and doing well. I will pass my newsletter on to Stan and no doubt he too will become a member. I would like to be remembered to Slappy Hammond, we did have some good times at Protville, mostly around the vineyards, partaking of that very succulent juice derived from the grape. A very special cheerio to you, Slappy, and your wife and family. And by the way my wife would like to know the origin of "Killer". You had better come over and explain for me.

Cheerio to Billy Cribb, Tom Burgess, Charlie Harding, Teddy Love, Dick Whiteman, Freddy Ridge, Alan Piggott (I do hope Alan is much better in health now), Ross Burgess, Bert Ravenscroft, Eric Cox, Les Boyer, Roger Rodwell, Massa Foote, Billy Cobb, Peter McCarthy, Arthur Jollow--there are so many names but if I have forgotten any, I am sorry but wish every member the very best.

Thank you for listening and again many thanks,  
yours sincerely, T.H. Browne

---

From Mrs. Lipscombe, 12, Mandalong Road, Mosman, N.S.W.

Dear Sir, Thank you very much for the card of remembrance which you sent me in memory of Bill. I would be very pleased if you would convey my best wishes to the members of 458 Squadron  
yours sincerely, Elie Lipscombe.



458 Squadron's sincere Sympathy to its Past President, S/Ldr. L.L. Johnston, on the death of his wife.

COUNTRY REUNION---ROBINVALE---Victoria. June 10th-13th.

There will be a REUNION of 458 Squadron members held in ROBINVALE in the Murray River Irrigation area on June 10-13th. We strongly urge members in Victoria, N.S.W. and S.A. to go to Robinvale for this Reunion, which is being organised by Dave (Bluey) Firth and Ken Cupper. We understand that if any member can get to Mildura, Ken and Dave will see that he gets to Robinvale and is accomodated and entertained there.

For a long time 458 Sqdn. News has been wanting to see such Reunions as this one arranged in the many Country towns which are the centre of an area with 458 representation. We have said so on various occasions. Now Dave Firth and Ken Cupper have had the initiative to get one going. It is up to 458 to support then. We hope the Country will shew that the City is not the only place where a 458 Reunion can be held.

Good luck, Ken and Bluey !!

(Ken Cupper-Box 38, P.O. Robinvale, Vic.

Dave Firth Box 46, P.O., Robinvale, Vic)

CRICKET COMMENTS.

<u>458 Squadron</u>		by	<u>"Run-to-Cover"</u>	
		versus	<u>R.A.A.F. Station, Richmond.</u>	
D. Dover	b. Hanrahan	0	Sibley	c. Matheson b. Ward 2
M. Hallahan	b. Hanrahan	0	Crane	Lbw b. Dover 5
J.C. Baker	b. Williams	2	Eggerton	Lbw b. Munkman 4
F. Ward	b. Williams	27	Millers	b. Munkman 0
J. Murphy	b. Crane	12	Williams	Run out 21
A.J. Walker	c. Bennett b. Hanrahan	3	Cameron	c. Munkman b. Matheson 5
P.C. Alexander	b. Hanrahan	4	Bennetts	b. Matheson 5
F. Hickey	b. Hanrahan	0	Hanrahan	b. Matheson 0
B. Millar	b. Littlehales	12	Littlehales	b. Matheson 0
M. Matheson	b. Crane	8	Lucas	c. Dover b. Hickey 14
E. Munkman	Not out	7	Martin	Not out 8
Sundries		11	Sundries	9
		85		73

This was an enjoyable, hard-fought game in pleasant surroundings. The Station played a bowler who did well for the Combined Services against the Colts of N.S.W. at the S.C.G. recently. After he took the wickets of both our openers in the first over, no one would have given much for 458's chances. However, Hanrahan was taken off and by the time he came on again 458 had 60 runs up, thanks mainly to Frank Ward. Hostile and accurate 458 bowling and keen fielding took the Station by surprise and 458 won by 13 runs.

The Squadron and the Station have now met four times, each side having won two matches. Presumably it will go on until the years finally defeat 458.

458 Squadron played the Australian Broadcasting Commission a week later at Birchgrove Oval on turf. Dick Healey, who is an accurate medium pace opening bowler and an extremely good field played for 458. The Squadron won by 69 runs. Allan Walker top-scored for 458 with 43 runs. Ernie Doman took 4 wickets.

AUTHORISED BY THE EDITOR. (P.C. Alexander).....Box 5289, G.P.O., Sydney, N.S.W., AUSTRALIA.

To the Squadron Secretary, Box 5289, G.P.O., Sydney, N.S.W.

TITLE FOR 458 SQUADRON HISTORY.

I suggest that the Squadron History be given the title I have written below. I understand that the member suggesting the History Title Competition will receive a free copy of the History when published. The copyright in the winning title will rest with the 458 Squadron Council. Winning, or any, suggested title not necessarily used.

SUGGESTED TITLE.....

Member's name.....Address.....

TO the N.S.W. Secretary, Box 5289, G.P.O., Sydney, N.S.W.

Please send me.....tickets for the 6th ANNUAL SQUADRON BALL to be held at the Pickwick Club, Sydney on May 27th. I enclose £..... @2/- per ticket.

Name.....Address.....