

458 SQUADRON NEWS.

Vol. 2, No.6.

All good wishes for 1951 from 458 SQUADRON NEWS to Squadron members throughout the world. 458 members know themselves to belong to a unit which, though those who served with it are now scattered over the five continents of the world, retains its wartime links in a way that probably very few other such organisations can equal.

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING:

Golf. On October 22nd. at Campbelltown Golf Links Squadron members competed for the 458 Handicap Cup. The weather interfered with the attendance but as usual those who made the trip enjoyed themselves. The rains as well as interfering with the attendance made the course, which can never be called easy, a bit harder and those of us who pushed ahead regardless very sincerely congratulated Geoff. Burgess on the excellent afternoon round which won the Cup. Congratulations also went to Lofty Chalmers for playing up to the severe handicap he set himself.

Cricket. Three games have been played (all at Centennial Park) against 3 Squadron, 460 Squadron and 466 Squadron, all of which 458 has managed to win. Another game against the R.A.F. Branch of the Air Force Association was cancelled. Our Cricket Commentator's description of the games follows.

CRICKET COMMENTS (Polite and otherwise)		BY	"RUN-TO-COVER".		
<u>458 SQUADRON</u>	<u>versus</u>		<u>3 SQUADRON</u>		
Barlow	b.Clarkson	30	Saville	b.Barlow	6
Bennett	c.Wannon b.Saville	13	Ronson	c.McKay b.Waldon	3
McKay (c)	Run out	43	Boyd	b.Barlow	0
Waldon	b.Saville	9	Russell	b.Bruce	8
Bruce	Run out	15	Clarkson	c.Bruce b.Waldon	34
Millar	b.Clarkson	5	Wannon	c.Bennett b.Waldon	6
Nation	st.Ronson b.MacDonald	16	MacDonald	c.Waldon b.Barlow	23
Alexander	b.Russell	24	Kloster	b.McKay	0
Sundries		10	Sundries		12
		<u>165</u>			<u>92</u>

Owing to Sydney's summer weather both sides were short of men. 3 Squadron batting while the weather was at its worst owed much of their success, as usual, to the energetic Alec MacDonald. Terry Waldon, for 458, made a lot of pace off the wet macadam wicket. For 458 everyone made some runs. A well-deserved 30 came Sam Barlow's way and as usual, Dud McKay was a tower of strength batting, bowling or fielding, when he arrived. Doug Bennett, setting about the bowling early scored, we understand, three fours in succession before falling, as he often does, to a brilliant catch at mid wicket. Two batsmen were run out and 458's running between wickets could have been better. 458 won by 73 runs.

<u>458 SQUADRON</u>	<u>versus</u>	<u>460 SQUADRON</u>			
Chalmers	c.Aboud b.Moffatt	8	Aboud	c. & b.McKay	4
Burgess (c)	Retired	68	Marsh	Run out	16
Harris	b.Tinsley	17	Turnbull	b.Chalmers	20
Doman	Run out	4	Ritchie	b.Chalmers	3
Walker	b.Tinsley	0	Johnson	c. & b.Harris	2
Campbell	b.Turnbull	21	Moffatt	b.Doman	26
Baker	B.Aboud	15	Tinsley	st.Alexander b.Harris	0
Alexander	b. Ritchie	5	Mack	c.Campbell b.Harris	0
Waldon	Not out	1	Lynton	Not Out	2
Sundries		5	Sundries		2
		<u>144</u>			<u>75</u>

460 Squadron, playing their first game, were handicapped by not knowing their right batting order. Their team included, as a second innings showed, probably the best bat to oppose us this season (Moffatt). This was a slow bowlers' day. Ernie Doman and Tony Harris bowling into a strong wind deceived the batsmen by flight and Lofty Chalmers' slightly faster bowling on middle and leg stumps hit their wickets.

In the first 458 innings Geoff Burgess scored 68 ( six sixes) and Peter Campbell 21 with some hefty hitting and, in a second innings played against time for an outright win, in a spectacular knock Dud McKay scored 59 and Lofty Chalmers 35 very fast. 458 won by 69 runs on the first innings.

458 SQUADRON		versus	466 SQUADRON	
Bennett	b.Finley	8	Melville	c.Baker b.Harris 6
Alexander	b.Finley	14	Glasson	b.Waldon 0
McKay(c)	c.Plasto b.Shannon	14	Plasto	b.Munkman 5
Harris	b.Bain	1	Bailey	b.Munkman 1
Walker	lbw. b.Bailey	34	Smith	c.Bennett b.Harris 11
Munkman	b.Bain	57	Bain	b.Harris 20
Bevan	b.Bain	14	Finley(c)	Not out 40
Bruce	c.Plasto b.Finley	27	Shannon	st.Alexander b.McKay 45
Baker	b.Bain	0	Bligh	lbw. b.Munkman 5
Campbell	b.Bain	5	Grant	c.Walker b.Bennett 10
Waldon	Not out	3	Plasto G.	C.Alexander B.Bennett 2
Sundries		27	Sundries	22
		<u>204</u>		<u>167</u>

458 won the toss and scored 204 after a shaky start against some fast and late outswing bowling from Bain whose deliveries, fortunately, swung so far as to beat the most insistent efforts to snick them. The bulk of 458's runs were made by the middle batsmen Allen Walker, Eric Munkman and Bob Bruce who punished some slow left arm bowling. 466, like 460, would have scored more had they had their batting order right. Terry Waldon, bowling with a strong wind, was extremely fast through the air and was treated with great respect. He had the remarkable average of 6 overs, 3 maidens, 8 runs, 1 wicket. Eric Munkman, medium right arm, Doug Bennett, slow right, bowled accurately; and Tony Harris, as usual, was among the wickets. The ball with which Dud McKay dismissed Shannon was probably the best of the game. 458 won by 37 runs.

The Squadron's cricketers are to be congratulated on their good showing on the Squadron's behalf. They have certainly enjoyed themselves and have found their opponents without exception good sportsmen and pleasant associates. Further matches are to come. Incidentally, Squadron cricket caps have now been made and will be available to Squadron cricketers in the near future.

#### THE SQUADRON CREST.

We draw members attention to the following correspondence between the Squadron and the Department of the Air.

1. 458 Squadron to the Department. July, 16th. 1950.

"During the war years, 1941-45, 458 Squadron, R.A.A.F., adopted in the field a Squadron Crest with the motto "Invenimus et Delemus". An illustration of this crest is attached hereto.

"It was understood that the crest was registered with the British College of Heraldry but it is desired to ascertain that the Crest was in fact so registered and I am instructed by the Committee of this branch to ask you to confirm that the Crest has been duly registered as pertaining to 458 Squadron; or, if further steps to that end remain to be taken, so to inform me."

2. Department of the Air to 458 Squadron. November 14th., 1950.

"I desire to refer to our previous correspondence relating to the crest of No.458 Squadron.

"I regret to advise that representatives in London have confirmed that a unit badge for No.458 Squadron was not submitted for approval and therefore your squadron did not possess an official crest. I advise further that the Chester Herald, who carries the appointment of Inspector of R.A.A.F. Badges, confirms that badges for disbanded units can not be submitted for registration and approval now".

458 Squadron News' comment on all that is that whether or not the Winged Torpedo crest which 458 Squadron used was registered with the Chester Herald of course makes not the smallest difference to the fact that it was and is the Crest of 458 Squadron. But the position revealed by the letters is quite unacceptable and vigorous steps in certain directions are in the course of preparation. Members will be kept informed and possibly asked for their assistance. With two exceptions all the other Australian Squadrons stationed in the Mediterranean area are similarly placed.

MEMORIALS TO COMMONWEALTH AIRMEN.

A Memorial to Commonwealth airmen who lost their lives flying from British bases is being built at Runnymede in England in the design of a cloister with 52 chapels containing the names of the airmen, each chapel emblazoned with the badge of the Squadron with which they served. The following letter has been received from the Dept. of Air on this matter, on December 5th., 1950.

"Your letter dated 17th October, 1950, has been referred to this Department for reply.

The position with regard to your unit crest has been dealt with in my letter to you, 39/7/567(119A) dated November 14th. 1950.

All members of the R.A.F. and of the R.A.A.F. and other Dominion Air Forces who lost their lives whilst operating from bases in the United Kingdom and North West Europe and who have no known grave, will be commemorated by having their names included in the Memorial at Runnymede. The Memorial is being erected by the Imperial War Graves Commission. The work of compiling a list of the names of R.A.A.F. members to be included in the Memorial is at present being undertaken by R.A.A.F. Headquarters.

A Memorial at El Alamein will commemorate those lost from bases in the Middle East, including Greece and Crete, and another memorial at Malta will bear the names of those lost in the Central Mediterranean Area, which includes Africa from Tunis westward, Italy and adjacent islands and Yugoslavia.

Details of the design of the Memorials have not yet been received by this Department".

It seems 453 Airmen whose names appear in honour in these Memorials are yet not to be honoured by the emblazoning beside their names of their Squadron Crest, unless we can rectify the present position. As we said, members will be kept informed.

458 SQUADRON IN VICTORIA.

Members will be very glad to know that there is to be a Reunion of 458 SQUADRON in Melbourne on March 16th, 1951, at 7.30pm. at Air Force House, 45 Flinders Lane. The Squadron in Victoria functioned most successfully for some time after the war but owing to difficulties in obtaining premises for meetings, etc., has not met for a couple of years. Victorian members should make it a point to be at the forthcoming Reunion as a lot will depend on its success. A party from Sydney will be going to Melbourne for the Reunion and is expected to include Peter Campbell (N.S.W. President), Sam Barlow, Peter Alexander and possibly others. There will be a supper and plenty of beer. Charge, 7/6d. per head. Jock McGowen (24 Stroud Street, Balwyn, Melbourne) is the man with the G.G. We understand Victorian members will be circularised about the Reunion shortly.

PERSONAL NEWS.

Bill Astley. A solicitor at St. Marys. Sends his regards to "all the boys".

Clarry Hanckel. Living in Henty, N.S.W.

Rube Johnson. In Albury. Another member living in Albury is Forbes Paulot.

Fred Strom. Has moved into his newly built house at Hornsby and is now starting a Tech. course with a view ultimately to entering the Teachers College.

Geoff Danby. In the printing trade.

Ross Burgess. Now in his own house in Mayfield. Asks to be remembered to Bernie Hughes.

Jack Bevan. Taking his Final exams as an Engineer.

John Kenyon. (late R.A.F.) has been accepted in Britain for the RAAF. and hopes to sail with his family for Australia soon.

Lex Porter. Living in Brisbane.

Terry Waldon. The Cossack is moving to Grafton where he has a house.

We wish him the very best of luck there though we do not know what the cricket eleven will do without him.

Dick Rutter. Has recently married. He writes to thank the Squadron on behalf of his wife and himself for a Food Parcel. Our congratulations to you, Dick, and all good wishes for a lifetime of happiness.

Jim Palmer. Has written to us from W.A. Says he has read and re-read the last number of 458 SQUADRON NEWS and wishes he were near enough to come to a Reunion. He wants to know if he and fellow Sandgraspers can join the 458 Branch of the Air Force Association. (The answer is yes and most welcome).

Curly Young. In Bentleigh, Melbourne. Says he often sees Kev. Guiney. Wants to hear from Tom Moore.

Shorty Taylor. In the furniture business in Melbourne.

Ernie Laming. Still serving with the R.A.A.F. in Melbourne. Do you remember 458, Ernie? All our good wishes to you.

Mel Priest. Was in Sydney recently on leave from Kenya and met some of his friends. Mel seemed to us to be completely unchanged. He is doing well in Kenya and quite happy there.

Jock McGwen. Instrument Division Manager of Wilcolator Mfg. Pty. Ltd. in Melbourne and living with his wife and daughters in a new house in Balwyn. He hopes to attend the next Sydney Reunion.

Stan Tarczynski. Sales Promoter for "The Leader" in Victoria.

Hutton Armstrong. Living in Tocrak with his family. Proprietor of The West End Coffee Lounge in Melbourne. Asks to be remembered to Harry Mark.

John Islip. With the Institute of Architects in Melbourne.

Rinco Purcill. Living in Orange with his wife, daughter and son and in partnership with his brothers in an Engineering business.

Junior Hawke. A newly enrolled member of the Association Branch, Junior also lives in Orange with his wife and daughter. He has a cherry orchard. He requests us to help the fruit grower and include fruit in our diets at least five times a day. The Editor had the real pleasure of seeing both these Orange members recently and found them unchanged from Squadron days.

Kipper Herring. Has now left the R.A.F., is married and working in London.

Father McNamara. Living in East Kew, Melbourne, and a subscriber to 458 SQUADRON NEWS.

Bert Thompson. Assistant Accountant with Schweppes Ltd.

Gordon Ough. Living in Chatham, Canada, and working with Canadian Industries Ltd.

Jack Payne. Has recently left Concord Hospital after an operation. Our good wishes for your recovery, Jack.

#### SQUADRON ALBUM.

The Committee's thanks for photographs from Peter Campbell and Hal Coffill.

#### BIRTH.

Congratulations to Ralph and Mrs. Bailey on the birth of a daughter.

#### WHAT'S TO COME:

13th Squadron Reunion in Sydney. This will take place on Friday, February 23rd., at 330 George Street (Basement). Judging by the number of country and interstate members who have announced their intention of coming this will be a very well attended Reunion.

#### COMMENT.

458's progress is a matter with which its Committee may justly be pleased. For good attendances, the amount of business it gets through and for its complete lack of the disorders which afflict many Committees, the Squadron Committee may itself be considered one of the Squadron's best post-war achievements.

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