

# 458 SQUADRON NEWS



The Editor:

G.P.O.Box 5289, Sydney, N.S.W.

Vol.3, No.12.

July, 1952.

READ ALL ABOUT IT! 458 Since our last issue.

## The Squadron in Queensland has its First Reunion.

458 members in Queensland have had their first post-war Reunion. They met on Saturday evening, May 31st. at Anzac House, Brisbane. Members had had good notice of the Reunion, and many travelled long distances to be in it. The number attending—34— was greater than the number budgetted for, which is always a good sign. There had been some thorough local organising by Chas. Richardson. A five man party attended from N.S.W.

This was a first Reunion in Queensland, and even to those of us from other states who have had the good luck to be at many Reunions it was a remarkable sight to watch squadron members coming in and to see their sudden change of expression as they caught sight of an old friend not previously seen since the war. Members present were:

Bob. Male	Bob Helyar	Frank Wilks	"Massa" Foote
Don. Brandon	Erie Hetherington	Ned Kelly	Tony Stone
Jack Carter	Bill Ernst	Lock Simpson	Dicky Bird
Jack Lewis	Ken. Cahill	Theo Hutton	George Connors
Bernie Hughes	Fred O'Brien	Ray McDougall	"Hoot" Gibson
C. Richardson	B. McLaughlin	Charlie Warren	Clive Wyman
Sam Barlow	Jim. Holliday	Bill McBride	Bill Snowden
Ron. Russell	Bill Honan	Terry Waldon	Cec Nation
Jack Baker	Peter Alexander.		

The N.S.W. Secretary, as Convenor, suggested to members that they might elect a committee to look after 458 affairs in Queensland, and this was done, members electing the following:

President: Charlie Warren,  
 Vice President: Lock Simpson  
 Hon. Treasurer: Erie Hetherington  
 Hon. Secretary: Jim. Holliday  
 Hon. Asst. Secretary: Bill Ernst.

The Committee was given power to co-opt. It intends to organise two Reunions a year.

It is not possible here to mention all our old friends (for that see "Personal Notes" below) but a few pictures spring to mind; Charlie Richardson, magnificently garbed, making a graceful speech (though he has been known to speak at greater length on other subjects, watches for instance). Frank Wilks looking distinguished with a few grey hairs. Some excellent photos were taken and are now, thanks to Lock Simpson, in the Squadron Album.

We recollect also a couple of (very) late nights at Lennons Hotel with dead marines in spectacular array: we recollect the flying entry of Lock Simpson on one such evening, after Mr. Barlow's attention had been distracted by talk of blondes, and we recall Bernie McLaughlin's

taking judicial notice of the telephone system.

The N.S.W. party in fact were received with a warmth and kindness they are not likely ever to forget. We say "Thank you, Queensland."

#### ANZAC DAY IN SYDNEY.

This was very wet, so much so that after we had spent a couple of hours at the Assembly point, sheltering in doorways or under other people's umbrellas, the March was cancelled for the first time in history. Among members who put in an appearance, with or without umbrellas, were Ken Everett, John Dunn, and Jack Pomfrett who was down from Newcastle. Later in the day various members got together at different places, including the Air Force Club, Air Force House, and the Long Bar at the Hotel Australia.

On the previous evening, the Squadron President, accompanied by a number of members, laid a wreath on the Cenotaph. Mrs. Lipscomb, Bill Lipscomb's mother, was with us at this ceremony, and it was very nice to have her with us.

#### A SQUADRON PICNIC IN LANE COVE NATIONAL PARK.

On the Sunday immediately after Anzac Day, the weather apparently thought better of it, and turned on beautiful sunny day for a 458 Picnic at Lane Cove. This had been thoroughly organised by Eric Munkman and other members of the Sports sub-committee and proved remarkably enjoyable. There was a program of sports both for the children and the adults. There was for example an energetically run Mothers' Race in which Kitty Piggott and Dorothy Munkman de-l-heated. There was also a Tug-of-War in which Betty Bruce, keenly watched by young Stephen, was a star performer. Alan Piggott was invited to demonstrate river-swimming but managed to decline. The days prizes were given by Sam Barlow and the soft drinks by Allan Walker, to whom our thanks.

#### THE 3rd. ANNUAL SQUADRON BALL.

On Friday May 23rd, 125 members and friends danced at the 458 Annual Ball, at the White City Ballroom. This was the most successful yet of our Annual Balls. The Squadron invited as Guests of Honour G/Capt. Waddy, the State President of the Air Force Association and a member of Air Board; Mr. Jack Davenport, war-time C.O. and post-war President of 455 Squadron, and Mr. Gerry Harrison, of the State Committee of the Air Force Association. These guests were all present with their wives. Another Guest whose presence added a lot to the pleasure of the evening was our 458 Squadron adjutant, Wally (Caesar) Baird, with whom we have only recently again got in touch. He is now living at Palm Beach, some miles from Sydney. Squadron members seen dancing included: Alf. Hammond, Eric Munkman, Alan Piggott, Les. Piggott (again M.C.), Cec. Nation, Bob. Lyndon, Maca Macmaster, Bob. Bruce, Bob. Millar, Tom Mitchell, Doug. Bennett, Peter Alexander, Sam Barlow, Allan Walker, Fred. Strom, Geoff. Burgess, Pete Campbell, Hal Coffill and Jack Nichols, and, of course, the Adj. Among the events of a happy evening that come to mind are G/Capt. Waddy's polished impromptu speech; Geoff. Burgess asking for, and getting, a faster floor; and the Squadron Auditor on golf.

#### GOLF IN 1952.

The 1952 season opened at Campbelltown Links on May 25th with a well-attended Stapleford Competition, which was efficiently organised by Bob. Bruce and Allan Walker. It rained off and on of course, but not enough to spoil things. The Competition was won by Doug. Bennett who had an excellent round in the afternoon. (Must have been that practice on Friday night, Dougie). Members playing included Bob Bruce, Allan Walker, Doug. Bennett, Sam Barlow, Bob Millar, Tom Mitchell, Peter Alexander and various friends.

#### The SQUADRON ALBUM.

The N.S.W. Committee wishes to acknowledge with its thanks the gift or loan to the Album of photographs from these members: Bernie McLaughlin, Wally Baird, Bernie Hughes, Lock Simpson.

## SQUADRON ORGANISATION IN AUSTRALIA.

We have had queries from members about the form of 458 post-war organisation. Members in various states have said something like this: "We're delighted to read about all the 458 functions going on in the different states. We want to be in it. But what do we do to join? Who can we send subscriptions to?"

So this paragraph is written to describe the 458 organisational set-up. 458 Squadron Associations function as independent but closely allied bodies in Victoria, South Australia, Queensland and N.S.W. Members in all states wear the same blue winged torpedo badge as token of their membership of 458 Squadron. State details are:

### Victoria.

The 458 Squadron Association holds Reunions twice a year in Melbourne, and marches on Anzac Day. It has a mailing list of about 80 interested members. Secretary is Bill Carr, 36 Harbury Street, Reservoir, Melbourne. (Telephone: JB 3511-Ext. 82). Victorian members should keep in touch with Bill. There is at present no annual sub., the Association being financed by donations from members and the profits of functions.

### South Australia.

The 458 Squadron Club in S.A. holds a luncheon in Adelaide on Anzac Day after taking part, behind its Banner, in the March. It also holds an evening Reunion from time to time. No annual sub. but the Club is financed by donations from members and the profits of functions. The Secretary is Brian Woodhead, 10, Cowra Street, Mile End, Adelaide. There are about 65 members on the S.A. mailing list.

### Queensland.

In Queensland the 458 Squadron Association has recently been formed and its Committee is now discussing its form of organisation. It is already known that the Committee hopes to organise two Reunions a year and to acquire a Banner for 458 to march behind on Anzac Day. Queensland members should communicate with the Secretary, Jim. Holliday, Stella Street, Holland Park, Brisbane, to whom members can, if they wish, send donations for 458 funds. There are about 60 members.

### New South Wales.

Here, the 458 Squadron Association which looks after the interests of all N.S.W. members of 458 Squadron, and is financed by annual donations, runs concurrently with the active 458 Squadron branch of the Air Force Association, which caters for those members who wish to combine squadron membership with membership of one of the large Returned Servicemens bodies. The annual subscription for the A.F.A. branch is 15/- of which 5/- goes to the branch and 10/- to A.F.A. headquarters. The Squadron holds two Reunions a year, an Annual Ball, many cricket and golf days, picnics and social functions, and marches behind its Banner on Anzac Day. Squadron Secretary in N.S.W. is Peter Alexander, Box 5289, G.P.O., Sydney, N.S.W. The N.S.W. branch is responsible for the publication of 458 Squadron News which circulates in all states and overseas. Annual Subscription to 458 Squadron News is 5/- for all members (except in S.A. where by special arrangement the "News" is supplied in bulk to the S.A. branch). There are 225 on the N.S.W. mailing list.

### West Australia.

There were always many Sandgroppers on 458, in fact at Gibraltar, where a census was taken, there were more from the West than from N.S.W. There must therefore now be about as many 458ers in W.A. as there are in N.S.W. There is however no 458 organisation in the West. We confess ourselves unable to give one good reason why this is so. We do not believe there is one good reason. Perth members must decide for themselves whether they are sufficiently interested in 458 and their old friends to do something about it. In the meantime we are anxious to do what can be done to keep W.A. members in touch. The few names and addresses we have are published at the end of this issue. If members in any state know any W.A. 458 names and addresses not on the list, will they please let the Editor have them?

## AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION. N.S.W. Annual Assembly.

The 458 Squadron branch was represented this year at the Annual Assembly of Delegates, by Alan Piggott, and by Bob Bruce. The

Assembly lasted two days and was held at the Air Force Club in Sydney.

The Squadron branch had put several items on the agenda and these were discussed at some length. The first and perhaps most controversial dealt with the annual subscription, recently increased from 10/- to 15/- a year. The squadron considered that the old system of a 50-50 division of the sub between A.F.A. Headquarters and a branch. The Assembly however decided that the division should be 10/- to H.Q., 5/- to the branch.

Motions put up by the Squadron delegates were carried in favour of setting up a Liaison Committee between the R.A.A.F. and the A.F.A. to promote visits to R.A.A.F. Stations and the organisation of sporting functions; and asking for the increase of the Unemployment and Sickness Benefit for ex-servicemen proportionately with the Basic Wage.

Motions to give A.F.A. branches the right to decline to accept transfers of members to the branches, and favouring the use now by the R.A.A.F. of the squadron numbers of the Australian Empire Air Training Scheme squadrons (450-466 Sqdns) were not carried.

Bob Bruce was elected to the State Committee for a year, Alan Piggott being already a member.

At the Annual General Meeting of the Air Force Club two days later Peter Alexander was re-elected to the Committee of the Club, and also re-elected unopposed as Hon. Treasurer.

#### VICTORIAN NOTES.

by

Bill Carr.

The Annual Meeting was held on May 23rd and it elected the following Committee:

President: Jock McGowen  
 Vice President: Jim Munday  
 Treasurer: Col Fereday  
 Secretary: Bill Carr  
 Committee: Norm. Cugley, John Bilney, Dave Spence,

Tom Wishart, Alan Holmes, Ron Yates, Stan Tarczynski, John Jenkins.

Members present at the Reunion were:

J. Rodwell	P. Hedgcock	G. Cowan	V. Richards	J. Cruttenden
F. Ray	K. Hinton	D. Spence	W. T. Harford	J. Munday
H. Mark	J. McGowen	J. Dowling	G. Wise	A. Holmes
H. Hull	J. Jenkins	S. Cartledge	J. Fleming	H. Young
F. Wilson	P. Bennett	B. Sherrah	K. Brown	A. Green
J. Ramsay	J. Morris	B. Carr	E. Love	T. Wishart
D. Johnson	J. Ellis	C. D. Singe	H. Bailey	K. Cymo
J. Bilney	S. Tarczynski	C. Fereday	R. Coghian	R. Yates
K. Guiney	B. Prideaux	L. Wurr	R. Zenner	G. Nash
H. Ashworth	B. Farrer	N. Cugley.	There were also some 20 old friends from other squadrons.	

Expenses for the evening were £42-5-7, and takings, including £6-10-0 donations, were £42-10-0.

The next Reunion in Melbourne, at Air Force House, will be on Friday September 19th. Attendances at the three Reunions to date have been 66, 86 and 72, averaging 75 for Reunions. This would have been lower if friends of members had not been welcomed. Our mailing list of interested members is about 30 458ers.

Stan Tarczynski addressed the boys saying that in his opinion a new President and Vice President should be elected each year and whilst standing down offered himself for reelection to the committee. Bill Carr and Jock McGowen were nominated for President but the former declined explaining that he offered himself for re-election as Secretary. Jim Munday was elected Vice President on a close show of hands. The President outlined the necessity of increasing the Committee to take care of all the duties associated with Reunions and this was done.

Apologies were received from G. Cuthbertson and G. Ridlock, G. Orchard, S/Ldr. Mather, E. Laming, Bert Smith and Ken Morkham.

The boys want a separate Anzac Day Reunion, and resolved to march in strength at the next Anzac March. We had 36 gallons available and as all this wasn't cleared we could have done with the loan of some good performers from other states.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Jim Holliday. The Squadron Secretary in Queensland, who was with the Squadron as a Navigator at Holme on Spalding Moor where he flew with J. Seargeant's crew, is now Publicity Officer of the Queensland Health Education Council, Exhibition Grounds, Brisbane.

Jack Carter. Jack is now growing Pineapples and Citrus at Palmwoods in Queensland. Jack has had a varied career since his return to civil life, having had a Hotel, been a Shift Engineer in Darwin and a Refrigeration Engineer. Sends his regards to Eric Cox, Sid Bartram and the S.Aus. Boys.

George Connors is an Accountant with Shell in Brisbane. Sends his good wishes to Maca.

Ray McDougall who is married with two sons, works with a firm of Public Accountants in Brisbane.

Ned Kelly is building in Brisbane. Has a daughter Carmel, and a son, Patrick, on whose arrival Ned has our congratulations.

Bill Honan is managing the Sandgate branch of Woolworths. Has a son and a daughter. Sends regards to Doggie McPhee.

Frank Wilks who has a garage business in Toowoomba sends good wishes to Len Stewart and Tim McQuaid.

Dicky Bird is saw milling in Queensland. Has two girls and a boy. Wants to be remembered to all, especially Alf Peake and Alan Atherton.

Bill McBride is engineering with "Truth and Sportsman" in Brisbane. Married with two boys and two girls, Bill sends regards to Curly Hoskins and Goldy Bartlett.

Bill Snowden is with the State department of Migration at Kangaroo Point, Brisbane.

Clive Wyman is a lawyer, with Biggs and Biggs in Brisbane. He has a son of 9 months. Sends good wishes to his crew and to John Hamilton and Len Thiele. There was also some mention, for the attention of Len Thiele, of a book by C.E.M. Joad!

Ron Russell is starting a Service Station at Mt. Gravatt where he will be glad to see members with empty petrol tanks. Ron has a son and a daughter.

Bill Ernst married with a son and twins, Bill is with the Finance Sect. of T.A.A. Sends regards to the old gang (he says, tell Frank Mahony to come up).

Fred (Shorty) O'Brien in a carting business at Canungra. Is Single. Sends good wishes to Cyril Irwin and Neil McPhee's crew.

Tony Stone is merchandising manager with Vacuum Oil in Brisbane.

Don Brandon Manages a Hardware business for his father and brothers. Is Married with a daughter. Sends remembrances to Frank Ward and Cyril Irwin.

Bernie Hughes has a block of grazing land of 4000 acres in the Hills near Warwick. Sends remembrances to Allan Walker and Ross Burgess.

Jack Lewis is a wool classer and like

Kenny Cahill who is a motor mechanic with Civil Aviation at Eagle Farm, is still single. We understand they are looking for two Sydney girls.

Bernie McLaughlin after the war went back to the State Public Service and then to England with the Agent-General for 3 years. Qualifying in law he is now practicing as a Barrister in Brisbane.

Cyril Murray has qualified with 1st Class Honours in Science and Engineering at Sydney University. A thesis of his won 1st Prize in Australia. He is now living in Eastwood, Sydney. We understand we shall be seeing something of Cyril in the future.

Barry Menser now owns Roy's Service and Filling Station at 360, New Canterbury Rd., Dulwich Hill in Sydney. He has taken an electrical course at the Sydney Tech.

John Dunn is a pharmacist in Sydney, and is married with a daughter.

Eric Jewell is improving in health in Heidelberg Hospital.

Merv. Hargraves and his wife have a three month old son. Many congratulations, Merv.

Erle Hetherington who has recently returned to the Brisbane area, is working with T.W. Brandon and Sons. Erle has had some very bad luck with his family and has our sincere sympathy.

Arthur Lehey at Goolagong in N.S.W. sends regards to "all my mates".

Ken Mercer was married on June 7th. Congratulations and Good wishes!

Colin Hutchinson, at South Payneham, Adelaide is a qualified Forester. Sends his regards to Tom Moore, Doug Bennett and Bert Reynolds.

Forbes Paulet who is a new member of the 458 Sq. branch of the A.F.A.

is living and working in Albury. He sends good wishes to the Sqdn. News.  
Ken Everett is a grazier at Kyogle.  
Cec. Nation Our most hearty and sincere congratulations to the N.S.W.  
 Vice President on his Engagement.  
Ron Hills is now living in Sydney.

458 in SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

by

Brian Woodhead.

Our Annual Anzac Day Lunch duly took place at Kings Hall, King Willy Street. Members unanimously decided that we should donate the sum of £5 to the Sydney Branch as a small sign of our appreciation at receiving the Squadron News. Everyone present said how much they appreciated receiving it as they could quite easily contact a lot of old friends whose names or addresses had slipped their minds and the various activities of the club could be followed by those here.

Bill Tay lor and I saw Eric Cox just prior to Anzac Day and he seemed to be looking very well indeed. He is at present at Birilli Convalescent Home Belair, S.A. Ron Badger has now moved into his own place at Brighton after many months fighting pink tape. Johnny Bax and his wife have both been ill. Our sympathy and good wishes to them both.

Bill Taylor and family have been holidaying at Yorke Peninsula, on a fishing trip. Bill was endeavouring to beat Jack Davey's record! Lofty Trewartha's wife has presented him with a daughter.

Good wishes to the new Queensland branch. May it flourish!

#### FUTURE EVENTS:

##### New South Wales

The next Reunion will be at the Air Force Club, 330 George Street, Sydney on SATURDAY OCTOBER 11th. We are hoping several Queensland members will be able to make the journey down. This is one reason for the change from the usual Friday night. But we feel that N.S.W. country members too may be better suited by a Saturday. Further circulars will be sent to members. On the Sunday following, that is, October 12th, there will be an Interstate Golf Match between 458 in Queensland and in N.S.W. and the Squadron Golf Cup will be competed for. N.S.W. Golfers are urged to practice: they will need to!

Golf. There will be Squadron Golf Days at Campbelltown Links on July 20th (not July 13th as previously announced), and on August 31st, September 21st and October 12th. Members are asked to note the dates and to come along.

##### Victoria.

The next Melbourne 458 Reunion will be at Air Force House on Friday September 10th next. Members can look forward to another enjoyable and successful evening.

#### The SQUADRON HISTORY:

We now have copies of the official records about 458 Squadrons wartime activities and can make a start with the writing of the Squadron History. The Squadron is very considerably obliged to Bill Carr in this matter as he has undertaken the long negotiations with the Dept. of Air and also the copying.

A Substantial number of members in all states have not yet sent in their History Sheets in connection with the Squadron History. We are particularly anxious to have details of social and humorous events in Squadron life. How about it, please? Starting at the top, we observe that none of the Branch Presidents have yet sent theirs in. And quite a few committeemen in all states are lagging. Action, Gentlemen, please.

Authorised by the Editor (P.C. Alexander),  
 Box 5289,  
 G.P.O.,  
 Sydney, N.S.W., AUSTRALIA.

Please turn over.



458 Squadron in West Australia. (Addresses known.)

R.A. Bint	269, Hay Street, Perth
J.M. Briers	56, Cathedral Street, Geraldton
B. Cormack	78, Douglas Avenue, South Perth
C. Davis	Loco Running Staff, Kalgoorlie
K. Farrer	25 Park Road, Mt. Lawley
V. Flaherty	Box 13, Cue, W.A.
R.M. Gannaway	27, Hampden Street, South Perth
S.J. Hamilton	33, Harvey Street, Mosman Park, W.A.
R.A. Hatton	3, Hopkin Street, Boulder
H.S. Hortin	Young's Sliding, via Albany, W.A.
G.S. Jones	43, Merriwa Street, Maylands
N.A. Johnston	Box 11, Carnaman, W.A.
W. Kelliher	Toolebin, via Naragin, W.A.
A.G. Lyons	122, Charles Street, Perth
G.W. Lennox	100, Archdeacon Street, Nedlands
C. McCarthy	33, Hampton Road, Fremantle
S.G. Maddison	67, Berwick Street, Victoria Park, Perth
A.L. Nobbs	47, Drake Street, Bayswater
J.L. Palmer	"Graham, Kojonup, W.A.
D.O. Savage	191, Campbell Street, Kalgoorlie
E.K. Screigh	Avon Terrace, York
L. Simpson	Rokewood, Karragullen, W.A.
L. Stewart	87, Olive Street, Subiaco, W.A.
C.S. Turnbull	4, Smith Building, Bunbury
A.J. Wells	43, Brandon Street, South Perth.
L.J. Waldoek	207, Vincent Street, North Perth
A.G. Wheat	P.O. Box 97, Geraldton
E. Wheeler	23, Duke Street, Albany
R.G. Willis	c/o A.M.P. Society, Geraldton, W.A.
J. Riseley	Naval Base Hotel, Naval Base, Fremantle.

To the Editor,  
 458 Squadron News,  
 Box 5289, G.P.O.,  
 Sydney, N.S.W., AUSTRALIA.

The Following are addresses, not appearing on the list in July  
 458 Sq. News, of 458 Squadron members living in West Australia.

Name: .....

Address.....

Name: .....

Address.. ..

Name .....

Address.....

Name .....

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Name .....

Address.....

Name: .....

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