

458 SQUADRON NEWS



The Editor:

G.P.O.Box 5239, Sydney, N.S.W.

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SINCE OUR LAST ISSUE.

REUNION in the WEST: Anzac Day in PERTH.

458 Squadron held its first post-war Reunion in Western Australia in Perth on Anzac Day. Len Stewart's report of the Reunion appears below. We bring this news to readers with more satisfaction than we find it easy to express for it means that 458 now has an active membership in every centre where it is possible. The Squadron has an organisation now in every mainland State of Australia and also in the United Kingdom. We doubt if there is another squadron that can equal this post-war achievement, which is the more notable since as recently as 1948 all we had going was an occasional Reunion in two of the States (N.S.W. and S.A.).

It is now the job of the Squadron Council and the Committees in the States and the U.K. to consolidate and improve the organisation.

SANDGROPER PARADE

News from

Len Stewart and Jack Riseley.

Again a few lines to let you "read all about it" re our Anzac Day March and Reunion. Not quite as many marched as we would have liked, numbering eighteen, but just the same it was a great improvement on last year's attendance. Those attending the March agreed most unanimously that every minute of the Parade and the Service was deeply felt and appreciated. Now that we have got the ball rolling, next year we are hoping to double this figure. Although marching with the Air Force Association, we were still able to march as a separate unit, Len Stewart being pushed to the front to do the honours.

After parade it was straight over to the Reunion, and we are happy to say this was indeed a great success. In all about 25 members being present. It was really good to see all the gang once again, and talking their heads off of course about old times.

To add to the day's entertainment, Doug (Bruno) Anderson brought along his portable Talkie outfit and turned on quite a show (many thanks, Doug.). Special mention must go to those lads who travelled quite some distance to "be in it", namely Charlie Davis (Kalgoorlie), Jimmy Palmer (Kojonup), Al. Wheat (Geraldton). It was good to see them there.

Owing to the amount of self-made humour, it was strongly recommended that a belt be made and presented on this annual occasion. In my (Len's) opinion J. "Twinkle Toes" Riseley this year won it hands down. High light of the show being Jack's 'Jindivick' Take-off, closely escorted by Ken McLeod. How he brought the Morris Minor home to a safe landing, we'll never know. It was not until 9.p.m. that the last drop of the 30th gallon had been merrily consumed that we decided to call it a day, and so end our first Reunion. Nothing yet definite has been decided on re the next step in forming the club here except that we are endeavouring to hold another meeting in the near future, maybe middle June.

We distributed 18 of the 20 squadron badges sent over from Sydney. The names of those attending the Reunion were:

L. Stewart	E. Jewell (Ted)	D. Anderson	R. McLeod	W. C' Connor	C. Eagle	D. Daniels
J. Riseley	C. McCarthy	H. Hull	J. Moriarty	J. Palmer	A. Dale	S. Long
A. Lyons	A. Barras	C. Geddes	A. Power	L. Grigsby	A. Wheat	A. Naylor
L. Lockhart	B. McCormack	C. Davis.				

At the CORONATION BALL in Sydney.

458 Squadron members in N.S.W. joined the national Coronation celebrations by holding the Annual Squadron Ball on May 29th. There was an attendance of 135 who danced to the excellent music of Fred Norfoot's Band until 1.30 the following morning. This was the fourth Annual Squadron Ball and was again held at the White City Ballroom, Rushcutter's Bay. Eric Munkman was this year's M.C. Guests were present from Campbelltown Golf Club committee, including the President, Dr. Morris.

During the evening the N.S.W. Squadron President, Alan Piggott, called upon members to drink the Queen's Health. Members rising drank to Queen Elizabeth's health and spontaneously sang the National Anthem, the President leading. Photographs were taken of the dancers and the events of the evening, some of which are destined for the Squadron Album.

Everyone had a first rate time. During an interval there was a floorshow, a troupe of dancers giving us Scots dances, hornpipes, etc. The floorshow was arranged by Vice-President, Alf Hammond.

One of the effects of the years of 458 activity post-war has been that we have gradually got to know one another's friends, some of whom are regular visitors at 458 functions. There were several of these members' friends at the Ball, and we were glad to see them.

The Ball sub-committee (Bob Bruce, Eric Munkman, Goldy Bartlett) are already making plans for next year's Ball. Each year so far numbers have been increased on the previous year. No doubt it will be so again in 1954. Squadron members at the Ball included: Col. Campbell, Stuart Ricketts, Pete Alexander, Sam Barlow, Jack Baxter, Doug. Bennett, Jack Ewan, Don. Bitmead, Bob Bruce, Henry Bryant, Darky Crompton, Harry Dorge, Ray Davies, Alf Hammond, Cy. Irwin, Bob. Millar, Tom Mitchell, Eric Munkman, Allan Macmaster, Cec. Nation, Alan Piggott, Fred. Strom and Allan Walker. We were all particularly happy to have Jack Lewis and his bride, Evelyn, with us, on their way home to Brisbane. Congratulations, Jack and Evelyn.

GOLF at Campbelltown.

The first of a regular series of monthly golf days was held this season on June 7th., in good weather. Fewer than usual were at this function, but several regular performers happened to have other engagements. On this occasion Eric Munkman was the best Squadron performer. Other Sundays arranged for Golf at Campbelltown for this season are (Members please note): July 12th; August 9th; September 13th; and October 11th on which 1st date the President's Cup will be up for Competition.

The 458 PICNIC at Lane Cove National Park.

Plunging heavily on the weather, the N.S.W. Committee, after several postponements, organised the Annual Picnic at No. 7 Picnic Ground in the beautiful surroundings of Lane Cove National Park, on June 28th. The weather couldn't have been better suited to a Picnic, being sunny without excessive heat, and members brought their wives, their children, and friends, and their friends' children from all parts of Sydney. Jack Miller for instance came from Cronulla, and Graeme Coombes from Warwick Farm.

No. 7 is one of the smaller camp sites, oval in shape, shaded at the sides by the Bush and overlooking the Lane Cove river flowing between low cliffs below. There are swings and roundabouts and Slippery-slides for children and enough room for the adults to play Softball and Badminton. Sam Barlow and Cyril Irwin organised a small keg of beer. Eric Munkman arranged transport. Dorothy Munkman and Yvonne Crompton looked after catering arrangements with great efficiency. Allan Walker and Peter Alexander arranged races and games for young and old. The Badminton comp. was won by Bob Bruce and Mrs.

Beach from Graeme Coombes and Dorothy Piggott. Kitty Piggott won the Married Women's Race with ease again. The Bachelors' Race proved impossible, as far as the Starter was concerned, and after four false starts, one contestant was left at the post.

All told, there were 63 men women and children at the Picnic, and the organisers were very happy with the attendance. Squadron members there were; Kemp Beach, Sam Barlow, Allan Walker, Cy. Irwin, Peter Alexander, Jack Miller, Graeme Coombes, Vinc. Bartlett, Alan Piggott, Alf. Hammond, Eric Munkman, Bob. Bruce, Owen Crompton, Ray Davies, Merv. Hargraves, and Lofty Bracker. The first and only rain of the day fell lightly just as the last picnickers were preparing to depart. Most 458 functions are successful and all enjoyable but this Picnic was definitely one of the events of the Squadron year. Roll on the next one!

Q-FLIGHT COMMENTARY.

by

Jim Holliday.

The Highlight of the last quarter was the golf tournament held at Oxley Golf Course on Coronation Day. Sixteen hit off, including W/Cdr. Johnston, who took time off from his holidays to play a round.

The N.S.W. branch very generously sent along a Trophy, suitably inscribed "Coronation Trophy", which was won much to his surprise by Secretary Jim Holliday. He attributes his success to the luck of a liberal handicap. Handicapper Bernie McLoughlin made himself scratch which scratched his chances by being too much of a handicap.

Trophies were also given for runner-up and best gross. Everyone enjoyed the day, and even those who had never played golf before are asking for a repeat performance at an early date.

Our next get-together will be on Saturday 8th August when it is proposed to hold a Reunion in the Norman Park R.S.L. Hall.

Personalities.

To Keith and Mrs. Campbell, a bouncing boy, Ian.

To Eric (Ned) and Mrs. Kelly, a fourth addition to the family.

Tony Stone has transferred to Toowoomba as branch manager for his firm.

Bill Honan has been transferred by his firm to Beau Desert as manager of the branch there.

Eric Hetherington is back in Brisbane and we believe wedding bells might be ringing for him shortly.

Charles Warren has also had a change and has taken over a very nicely equipped garage at Wynne Junction, Brisbane.

Jack Plunkett has had a few weeks in Greenslopes Repat. Hospital.

More of the Old Guard.

We've discovered several more folk who were at Holme-on-Spalding Moor: S/Ldr. Mick Mather, now C.O. the "City of Brisbane" Squadron, Archerfield; Howard Hughes, manager of a grazing property "Raby", Warren, N.S.W.; Frank Crawley, Immigration Holding Centre, Wacol, Brisbane (Continued below)

MESSAGE from the SQUADRON PRESIDENT.

It has been pointed out to me that as President of the newly-formed 458 Council I should take this opportunity of writing something in the form of a message for this issue of 458 Sqn. News. I never did care much for writing. I generally left that to the Adj.

However I shall take the opportunity and say that I feel very honoured to have been elected to this post. The previous occasion when I occupied a somewhat similar position in the Sqn., I was appointed by the A.O.C. This time it is by the vote of the interstate delegates to the Conference. (The fact that most of these delegates seem to have narrowly averted court-martial on some past occasion due to leniency or defective sight on my part may have affected the voting). I might say at this point that I am credited with knowing of, and consequently overlooking, many misdemeanours, of which actually I didn't have a clue. Naturally I was horrified (and entertained) to hear of all this undetected crime which went on ten years ago.

The Sqn.'s spirit, which I remember so well has not diminished in these ten years. Our effort loading petrol at night just before Alamein was the result of the same Sqn. spirit which produced such a magnificent roll-up at the Interstate Anzac Day March at Sydney this year.

I think that we can claim without fear of contradiction to have the most active Sqn. Association in Australia. This undoubtedly is due to hard work put in by all the Committeemen in the various States, and I should like to acknowledge this here, and on your behalf offer thanks for their mighty efforts. All we have to do is turn up and enjoy ourselves when they organise a function.

My tour of duty in Australia is for 2 years. In the remaining eighteen months I hope to get around and meet up with a lot more of you. Sincerely,

Johnno.

(Sqn/Ldr. L.L. Johnston, R.A.F.)

Q-Flight Commentary (continued).Where are they?

We've heard that "Swan" Hanson has a "Pub" somewhere in Northern N.S.W. and that A.A. (Ack Ack) Taylor is an Instructor with the R.A.A.F. Has anyone any clues on these folk?

The Q-Flight Committee held a meeting early in May, to deal with Flight business and will meet again on June 26th. to consider the decisions of the recent Squadron Conference.

458 SQUADRON in VICTORIA.

by

Bill Carr.

The Squadron Reunion went off extremely well in May. As usual it was held at Air Force House. The strength was not indeed up to our past average of 76, there being only 53 present. The Committee believes this is explained by the closeness of three Melbourne functions---the Anzac Day Reunion at Dennis, this Reunion, and the Social-Dance Evening, on June 26th. Apart from the lower attendance all else was possibly the best Reunion yet held in Melbourne. The fact that some 20 odd chaps were having "one for the Road" at 2.0 a.m. speaks for itself. Many of the chaps remarked on the Reunion atmosphere. To have Orch. back with us kind of left us with the feeling of the Mess at Bone. Among those who, as I recall it, stuck it out until well after 2.0 a.m. were Orch, with his brother Alan; Yank Martin, Stan Tarczynski, Don Johnson, Norm Cugley, Ken Morkham, Col Fereday, and Shorty Wilson. As usual the beer supply was plentiful, in all we consumed 27 gallons which was good for 53 chaps drinking on a cold night. This notwithstanding the fact that many dinners were consumed, with beer, in organised parties before the function began.

A dozen bottles of beer was donated by Bruce Dean and Norm Cugley and was won by Col Fereday. This netted about £5-7-6 towards a Squadron Banner. Expenses for the Reunion were over £30 which necessitated a "Call" of 2/- each to pay for the last nine---our original charge of 10/- being a convenient amount to pass through the mail but on this occasion not quite enough. However on the evening squadron funds advanced by some £7, which places on the right side of the books to about £26 which we believe is as much as such an Association as ours needs to hold functions as we intend.

Members at the Reunion (many with brothers or friends) were:

G.Orchard	J.Cruttenden	L.Wurr	A.Sharpe	B.Varcoe	S.Cartledge	N.Cugley	T.Wishart
J.Bilney	R.Coghlan	I.Beer	C.Fereday	J.Jenkins	K.Guiney	S.Tarczynski	
"Farmer" Giles	H.Jenkins	B.Carr	B.Dean	B.Hurford	K.Brown	B.McKinna	V.Richards
B.Bailey	Ted Love	J.Ramsay	"Yank" Martin	J.Munday	K.Morkham	F.Wilson	D.Johnson
J.Carey	A.Green	G.Cannon	P.Hedgecock				

The main business of the evening was the election of officers for the next period. This was carried out in a most orderly fashion and resulted in the following being elected for a period of twelve months:

President: Jim Munday;

Vice Presidents: Stan Tarczynski; Lon Johnston

Treasurer: Col Fereday

Secretary: Bill Carr;

Committee: Bruce Dean; Gordon Orchard; N.Cugley; J.Jenkins; J.Bilney;

"Shorty" Wilson; T.Wishart; L.Wurr; R.Yates.

The only variation was that Bruce Dean retires to the Committee while Stan Tarczynski becomes joint Vice-president with Lon Johnston (the Squadron President); Gordon Orchard also joins the Committee. Members were required to vote for the election of President and vice-presidents, but the retiring Treasurer and Secretary were elected unopposed. The retiring Committee with the addition of Orch were re-elected as a body. They thanked members for the support over the past year and expressed a decision to increase activities over the next twelve months.

We particularly regretted that Johnno was interstate on the occasion of this Reunion. In this matter of squadron notabilities we feel that Victoria appears to enjoy the Lion's share at present and also that our Reunions appear to last approximately twice the length in hours of the average Sydney "Do". This we can assume is due entirely to the fact that our grog supply always has the last laugh on the drinkers and has nothing to do with the Sydney suggestion that we have nowhere to go afterwards---besides 2.0 a.m. was the usual Bar closing time on the old unit.

The first Victorian Social-dance evening for several years was held at Air Force House, Melbourne on Friday June 26th. 83 attended this function which, on notifications, was 25 less than we had expected. Fortunately the Committee knew in advance and was able to control expenditure accordingly.

As an evening the general opinion seemed to suggest a first-class success; however certain flaws were apparent to the Committee which will be righted should another function of this nature be arranged at a later date. It appeared to be generally felt that insufficient good dance records were available. However the dozen or so that were were all quite suitable, apart from the fact that they all were played four or five times. Tape recordings also were available mostly containing Square Dance calling. The Committee wish to record their thanks to Kev. Guiney, Harry Ashworth and Shorty Wilson and, also, to John Jenkins for the loan of his pick-up, etc.

This function was very much in the nature of a feeler towards a more ambitious undertaking which could well develop into a full-scale Ball next year. Several members have already expressed their delight at this function and request that our September "Do" be organised along similar lines in lieu of the usual "Bucks" evening. Of course, there

458 in Victoria (cont:)

were also others who expressed the opposite view. The point will be considered at a later Committee meeting.

Charges for the evening were 10/- a double and 7/6 for a member on his own.

As is usual with a Melbourne "Do" there were still a number of members standing at the Bar or sitting with their wives at 2.0 a.m., and at 3.0 the lights were still on while the final few proceeded to clean up the remaining wine stocks.

The Committee wish to thank the Ladies for the excellent and varied supper provided; they also sincerely hope the Ladies were each able finally to locate their plates, baskets, etc.

Supper was slightly delayed owing to the cook's overlooking the cocktail sausages, which the Secretary finally found nicely placed under one of the supper tables. Who was the cook, anyway? Or did we fail to appoint one? However all was soon under control. There was an immediate queue for hot tea.

Supper over there was a Square dance, which to my inexperienced eye seemed reasonably well executed. However after half an hour, the President called the party to order. He began by welcoming members, wives, and visitors, thanked the Ladies for the supper, and then introduced the Squadron President, and also one of our Flight Commanders, Gordon Orchard, each of whom was asked to address the gathering. Johnno remarked upon the apparent strength of 458 and said in his opinion we must be the largest and most active Squadron Association in existence. Orch. said the C.O. had said most of what he had wanted to say, and suggested that the Bar be opened and the next record played.

We couldn't find some Barn dance records, which was disappointing. The Secretary would very much like to hear from any members able to loan suitable recordings.

Members attending this function were: Bob Sherrah, Gordon Orchard, Don Johnson, Ian Beer (who for commercial reasons has changed his surname to Allison), Harry Ashworth, Stan Cartledge, Rusty Zenner, Ken Brown, Bill Stapleton, Bill Varcoe, John Jenkins, Tom Wishart, Stan Tarczynski, Jim Munday, Shorty Wilson, Val Richards, Shorty Bradshaw, Dizzy Dean, Kev. Guiney, Arthur Sharp, Bert Smith, Woozle Warr, Bert O'Leary, George Cowan, Lon Johnston, and Bill Carr.

PERSONALITIES --- Announcements and disclosures.

Bob Molo. Bob recently succeeded in obtaining a large property sub-divided in West Queensland. He is now looking, we understand, for several thousand Australian Steel fencing posts. Can anyone quote?

Bill Fiddes who has been living in the United Kingdom, has recently married a Danish girl and expects shortly to leave Britain for South Africa.

Jack Lewis who recently married a Sydney girl, has a flat in Brisbane.

Jock Philip has been ill for several months now but is up and about. Jock would like to see some of his squadron friends at his home from time to time (Jock's address is 105 Botany Street, Randwick, Sydney).

Chris Hare who served with the Squadron as a pilot at Holme-on-Spalding-Moor is serving with the Royal Canadian Air Force.

Harry Hill has moved from Victoria to W.A. where he has a Carrying business.

Laurie Kew is working with de Havilland Aircraft at Bankstown, N.S.W.

Peter Alexander was recently re-elected to membership of the Committee of the Air Force Club, Sydney. He has resigned the Treasurership of that Club.

Allan Piggott and Rob Bruce have been elected to membership, for two years, of the State Committee of the Air Force Association in N.S.W.

Bob Davies formerly of Canberra, Rob is now Rector and Archdeacon of Wagga Wagga.

Marriages: The following members have recently married; Jack Lewis, Ron Hills, Peter Alexander.

Births: Congratulations to the following members and their wives;

Bob and Mrs. Lyndon --- a daughter (Anne),

Harry and Mrs. Baines --- a son (Peter Charles)

ANZAC DAY in ALEXANDRIA.

from

Brian Woodhead.

Our Anzac Day Luncheon seemed to pick up a bit on previous years and we were very pleased with the day. Our usual 40 (approx.) marched behind the Banner. Bill Taylor arranged with the Advertiser to give us a write-up in the paper, and, also, a bit of ear-bashing on 5 AD resulted in our getting a fair mention over the Air. Most of those who marched came along to the Luncheon, and a very successful luncheon was had by all --- finishing at about 5 p.m. (beer gone). Ron Bidger arranged for an entertainer to come along and tell us a story or two. All that I can say about that arrangement was that although I laughed from the beginning to the end as I'm sure most others did, only one

bright boy, who was seen to be making notes of jokes for future use, is likely to be able to remember them.

With us we had Yank Martin from Melbourne, who was over attending a golfing tournament. Noel Hoody had his nose in the beer at Broken Hill with Howard Prout and Reg. Hansell, but sent a telegram excusing himself. Those present included Jack Parkin, Snow Dickson, Murray White, Pat Enright, Ron McRae, Ken Russell, Harry Plant, Syd. Bartram, Gerry Young, Johnny Bax, and Colin Michell.

We heard that Padre Fred McKay was now stationed at Alice Springs and sent him a copy of our notice. Poor fellow must have been inundated with invitations. Dr. Angove who couldn't be present sent a donation and his apologies.

The 458 SQUADRON COUNCIL.

Members will recall that the Squadron Conference, held in Sydney during the Anzac Reunion, set up a Squadron Council to handle matters requiring a uniform action. This Council consists of the Squadron President (Johnno Johnston), the Squadron Vice-President/Secretary (Peter Alexander), the Squadron Treasurer (Sam Barlow), and a member from each of the branches in the States and the U.K. Branch appointments have now been made in a number of cases, these being N.S.W.--Alan Piggott; Queensland--Jack Baker (proxy); Victoria--a delegate to visit Sydney for each meeting of Council; South Australia--Pete Campbell (proxy). Arrangements are believed to be under way for the inaugural meeting of Council to be held in Sydney on August 1st. Councillors have yet to be named for W.A., and the U.K. but no doubt Len Stewart and Pete Pettit can be relied upon to attend to that matter before Council meets.

Readers will be interested to know that both in Victoria and in Queensland active steps are being taken to obtain Squadron Banners of the design approved by Conference. S.A. and N.S.W. already have Banners.

It is now known that the All-States 458 Reunion and Squadron Conference will be held in Brisbane next year, and the local Committee is already planning the organisation.

The Squadron History.

The writing of the History of 458 Squadron is now well on its way. However, the Author is most anxious to avoid its being a dry-as-dust record of operational sorties. This must to some degree be the responsibility of individual members who know of the individual occurrences and adventures that make up the background of a squadron's life. Members are again asked, if they haven't already done so, to send in (to the Squadron Secretary, Box 5289, G.P.O., Sydney, N.S.W.) any interesting or amusing episodes they remember (like the time the Nissen hut was carried by the Sergeants at Bone in the time taken by the Officers to dismantle a section of theirs; or the time Sam Barlow stood on the water bowser at Bone--only we already know those two). Be in it now, tell us what you remember. Don't come along afterwards and want to know why the History doesn't contain all the things it ought to. This also applies to members overseas.

CORRESPONDENCE: Letters to the Editor.

Dear Editor, For a long time I have tried to make up my mind to drop you a few lines to tell you how much I appreciate receiving a copy of Squadron News, believe me I eagerly look forward to my copy, I get a real kick out of hearing about all the mates and friends I had the pleasure to be with in Australia and overseas. As time marches on one is apt to forget, but thanks to the News one's memory is refreshed.....I would like to say a special cheerio to some of my old coppers; one in particular, Ron Hills; another is my old mate Erle Rotherington, who will remember the game of 500 we organised on the way out to the Middle East. I'll say no more about that.....For myself I have no complaints, still a kick left in me. I have made Broken Hill home, my roaming days are over. I work in the mines as a Pipe Fitter, the job is easy, the pay extra good, of course due to the Lead bonus. I don't find much time for rest, I represent a club at billiards and snooker --we play inter-club. Of course I play golf most week-ends; then we are approx 70 miles from the river Darling where we go very frequently especially in the summer when it gets a bit hot for golf. We leave Friday after work, enjoy the kangaroo shooting before the sun sets (believe me they are plentiful around here). There are big hurdles to jump on the way up in the form of country pubs....I will not say too much about the fish we catch or the ducks we shoot; so I hereby make a promise to any of the boys that should they come this way I will do everything in my power to give them a good time; if it's golf, that's O.K.; if it's a trip to the river, still O.K.; if it's the big Two-up game, still O.K. Then I guess it wouldn't be any news to you, after the Royal Commission about the way the hotels trade after hours: it's still no trouble to get a drink;....

Cheerio & Lots of good luck: Howard Prout.

The following letter comes from Vickers Ltd.

Dear Sir,

We regret the delay in replying to your letter of December 22nd. This has been caused by the thorough investigation of the possibility of supplying you with further models of the Vickers Wellington. We have come to the conclusion that it would be better for you to arrange for a mould to be made from the model already supplied, and that you should take as many castings as you require. There are no further models in existence, and to make the new Master would be an expensive project.

Vickers Ltd.

Dear Peter, I was very pleased to receive the 458 Squadron News which arrived yesterday. I read them with great interest, and was quickly reminded of the two years I spent with the Squadron in the Middle East, certainly the best two years of the 6 years I spent in uniform. I was pleased to know that a Reunion had been arranged in London... and look forward to another opportunity of meeting old friends in the not-too-distant future. I should be glad to receive a copy of the News, and enclose a small contribution to defray the cost of postage, etc. With kindest regards

John Dandy

Luton, England.

Dear Peter,

Many thanks for the Squadron News Circulars, which naturally make very interesting reading. Although our first Reunion in February was not so well attended it is hoped that now the ball is rolling each meeting will bring yet another 458'er back into the fold! I have been married almost five years now and by now we are a happy little family of four; that is my wife, a little daughter (Barbara) aged $3\frac{1}{2}$ and the latest addition (William Roman) not yet two. We also have a house, a rarity around these parts too!

On demob in 1946 I returned to my old firm which became part of the National Coal Board in 1947.... I am now an Accountant at Area Headquarters in Swansea. I would very much like to receive periodic issues of the News, perhaps you will let me know how I can qualify..... All good wishes,

Dewi Davies, Swansea, Wales.

Dear Sir,

I must thank you ever so much for the "Gen" you so kindly sent on to me--it was very good to read in the News some of the old names, such as Yank Martin, Jock McGowan, Jack Wilson..... I was hoping to be out of England to Australia in 1948 but I ended up in hospital. Then out I came to meet a redhead, who after a time became my wife (I shall enclose a photo from our local paper).... As for my work I am a Builder and bricklayer. .. I am trying to make my wife's mind up in coming out to Australia. I have seen Reg. Barclay and Sgt. Kelly. Sgt. Kelly is still in the R.A.F. so some of the Armourers would like to know. I noticed Goldy Bartlett is in the Building Trade; perhaps he can pass some gen on to me, regarding the way things are.... What do you chaps think of your chances of retaining the Ashes? Wait till you meet Essex, we have some good youngsters in this county. I know we got a thrashing last time.... Now I shall close hoping to hear from you again and for some more News.... yours sincerely,

G.S. Legon (Woofers), Barking, Essex, England.

Editor's note: Enclosed with this letter was a cutting from an Essex paper, with an easily recognisable photo of George Legon with his bride.

FORTHCOMING SQUADRON EVENTS.

The following events have been notified, and members are asked to record them:

N.S.W.

<u>Function.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Remarks.</u>
Golf Day	Sunday July 12th	Campbelltown Links	Picnic lunch
Social Evening	Saturday August 1st.	Sam Barlow's Flat	By invitation
Golf Day	Sunday August 9th	Campbelltown Links	Be in it!
Golf Day	Sunday September 13th	Campbelltown Links	Handicaps by Walker & Bruce!
Reunion	Saturday September 26th	330 George Street	A Must for all.
Cricket Practice Match	Sunday September 27th	Centennial Park	2.0 p.m.
Golf Day	Sunday October 11th	Campbelltown Links	President's Cup.

A good programme of Cricket matches including a visit to the Blue Mountains is also being planned.

Queensland.

Reunion	Saturday August 8th	Norman Park R.S.L.	Q-Flight Parade.
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STOP PRESS NEWS.

Some additional news has come in from Brian Woodhead about the activities of a couple of South Australian members. Brian writes: Ian Showell has just patented and is manufacturing a small sun-trap which enables the home gardener to have his own Glass House (not the Service kind!) It consists of a wire frame with sheets of glass fitted to it and stands about 2½' high and 2' across. With attachments the height can be increased to 4 or 5 feet as the plants get higher. Ideal for early crops of vegetables! Ian had a window display in Myers the other day and believe me you have to have something to get in there (Jane Russell or the like!).

The other thing is that Ron Badger has left Geo. Bolton's and has now started a Second-hand Motor cycle and car business in Compton Street, Adelaide, where he has a nice little shop and where he reports business as good. For any of those fleets of cycles or cars Kamurak Motors is the place! (⚡ Handwriting experts' best effort--Editor)

FEES and SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Non-financial members in N.S.W. are reminded that they can support the Squadron financially by Annual Donation of 10/-. Readers of 458 Sqn News can secure regular delivery by annual subscription of 5/-. This is offset against their State branch's liability to the Squadron Council.

EDITORIAL COMMENT.

1. We aren't at all sure that members in N.S.W. have really earned the reputation for temperance which they seem to be acquiring, but we must admit that we view with admiration and awe the way W.A. members upheld 458's reputation for being able to deal with beer.

2. We did our spot of crowing early in this Issue over 458's remarkable progress. We feel disposed however to remind everyone that all that has been achieved has to be guarded and improved. Organisations have to be finalised, and programmes carefully planned and designed to suit the likings of members--likings which may vary between the different cities. What has been built up by hard work and devotion deserves every care.

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

WEAR THAT SQUADRON BADGE !