

CIRCULAR

458 SQUADRON NEWS



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THE EDITOR.

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REUNION IN THE WEST.

For the first time, there has been an All-States Reunion of 458 Squadron in Western Australia.

458 Squadron members---and their wives---gathered in Perth, capital city of the West, for the Reunion programme arranged for the days April 24th-29th. This, of course, included Anzac Day and the celebrations centring on Anzac.

There was an excellent attendance from Western Australian members and a party of seventeen came over the Nullarbor Desert from the Eastern States of Australia.

The passage of the party from the East, who travelled by rail over the 3,000 miles journey from Sydney, via Melbourne, to Perth, aroused considerable enthusiasm among 458ers all along the way.

Members came to greet the train as it halted briefly at stations along the way. They came, however early in the morning or late at night it was, to shake hands, exchange greetings and a few words of news, and perhaps drink a quick glass of beer, before the train moved on. The story of the journey is told in detail elsewhere in this Issue. But it culminated in the scenes of spontaneous excitement and enthusiasm which distinguished the gathering in Perth. One distinguished 458 er---Dave (Bluey) Firth---made the journey by car, accompanied by his wife, frog Robinvale in Victoria.

Scenic Tour. Thursday, April 24th, the day before Anzac Day, was assigned to a

scenic tour. The Squadron party, in a convoy of cars, left from Stirling Street, Perth early in the morning and drove south, through the great port of Fremantle to the Kwinana area.

This area has been the location of some major industrial

development in the last few years and 458 went to see some of it. There are two closely neighbouring plants. First seen was the new Steel Rolling Mills. Here, in several

separate parties, members and their wives, walked along the new jetty extending into the deep water of Cockburn Sound and then through the mills, watching steel bar rolling, red hot, and at speed along the moulding channels.

The Refinery. Further south, but still on Cockburn Sound, is the new multi-million pound Oil Refinery built by British Petroleum. Here crude oil, brought from the Middle East by ships, which can now enter the sheltered Sound through a new deep-dredged channel, is refined by different processes into petrol, kerosene, diesel oil and bitumen. The silver-painted storage tanks, many of them, rest on the bare sands of the coastal dunes, which carry the great weights without shifting a fraction. No foundations are required.

To Rockingham. From Kwinana, onward to the south, through the sandy coastlands, thinly covered with scrub, to the old port of Rockingham, where the whaling ships come for shelter. Here, in the beautiful late summer sunshine, lunch---an excellent one---at the new Rockingham Hotel.

Dam on the Canning River. After lunch, on through the foothills of the Darling Ranges to a high water storage dam on the Canning River, a beautiful drive. And so back to Perth.

Squadron Conference and Barbecue at the Riseleys.

After dinner---with some glasses of the excellent Swan Draft Beer---Delegates went to the 458 Squadron Conference---meeting of 458's highest controlling body. Conference is reported below. But, on arriving at Air Force House for the meeting, delegates found a reporter from the A.B.C. waiting to report its deliberations for the national news. Other 458 ers, who were not delegates at Conference, with their families, went to the Riseleys for a barbecue. After

Reunion in the Past (cont.)

on to the Risesleys and joined the barbecue. Conference finished, at about 11.30 p.m., the Delegates too went

Anzac Day--the March and the Reunion.

some. 4.0 a.m. saw Squadron and Flight officers and many 458 ers up and dressed and then up in the darkness to the Perth War Memorial high on the hill overlooking Perth and the Swan River. There, in the darkness and silence (no torches were allowed) they gathered with other returned servicemen and official representatives for the Dawn Service. Squadron President Sam Barlow and Vice President Peter Alexander were to place a wreath on the Memorial in memory of the 458 Dead. Carrying a beautiful wreath of white flowers they fell in with other wreath bearers and the small column began to march to the Memorial. A single drum beat marked the step dramatically and insistently. The wreaths were placed, 458 immediately following the official representatives of the Governor and the Armed Services. A loud cannon shot and the light of dawn quickly began to fill the sky from the East. A loud back to hotel and home for breakfast. So

The March.

It rained a little, putting March organisers in fear for the marchers, but in the end it was alright. Gathering for the March behind the 458 Banner was, as always, an exciting thing. Here was the first chance of really seeing who was going to turn up. Here for example the interstate members had their first sight of such W.A.

458ers as Don Daniels, Teddy Jewell, Lock Simpson, Ted Wheeler, and Charlie Geddes. The W.A. members, or some of them, saw the interstate members for the first time. Sydney member Fred. Strom, who had brought a camera and flash with him took photographs and continued the excellent photo coverage (for the 458 Album) he was to give from beginning to end of the expedition.

Sam Barlow, as Squadron President, supported by the Squadron Vice President and the W.A. President (Len Stewart), led 458. The Banner was carried by W.A. Secretary Peter "Bubbles" Power. 458 led the Air Force Section of the March.

In Perth, the Anzac Service is held in the middle of the March and before the Governor takes the salute. 458, in its ranks, halted immediately opposite the official dais and beside the ranks of the Regular Army, with its Black Swan emblem on the soldiers' shoulders. After prayers, an address by the R.S.L. President and the singing of "Oh, God, our Help in Ages Past," and "Land of Hope and Glory", the March Past took place, Governor Sir Charles Gairdner taking the salute.

The All States Reunion was held at the East Perth Tennis

Club, starting after the March--about 12.30. It finished about 9.0 p.m., by which time the 48 members present had finished 48 gallons of draught beer. Before going on to narrate the story of the Reunion, this seems as good a place as the best to list the names of 458 members who came to this and/or other functions in Perth during the Anzac week:

Len Stewart	"Butch" Power	F. Barnett	Alec Barras	Arthur Budd	"Mundy" Carpenter
R. Chessell	Billy Clues	K. McLeod	J. Cobb	Ben Cormack	Tim Dale
D. Daniels	"Digger" Watts	P. Davies	Chris Davis	H. Ethernott	Ron Gannaway
G. Geddes	I. Gibbons	"Pops" Grigsby	T. Jewell	I. Lockhart	Gordon Jones
"Shorty" Long	J. Moriarty	Tony Main	H. Manton	P. McCarthy	Alan "Tiger" Lyons
"Curly" O'Connor	Jim Palmer	J. Quigley	Lock Simpson	Lloyd Simpson	Ray Turley
Joe Watson	Al. Wheat	"Trike" Wheeler	"Bunny" Williams	Sam Barlow	
P. Alexander	F. Strom	"Slappy" Hammond	Cy. Irwin	Eric Munkman	
Arthur Green	"Yank" Martin	Dave Firth	A. Scholier	Nick Bertram	"Sonja" Henry

After everyone had booked in, bought Squadron ties, blazer pockets, lapel badges, etc., there was a good sit-down lunch with plenty of good Swan Beer. Arthur Budd had brought his Tape Recorder, and proceedings were recorded. After the Minute's Silence, the Squadron President read the Commemoration Prayer (which was used on Anzac Day at Gibraltar):---

"Hallowed in Christ be the Memory of brave men and women who have died for the Freedom of the World. They shall yet stand before the Throne, an exceeding great army. And in that last muster there shall be found our own well-beloved Dead of 458 Squadron. They were young; straight of limb; true of eye. They were staunch to the end, against odds uncounted. They fell with their faces to the foe. They shall not grow old, as we who are left grow old. Age shall not weary them nor the years condemn. At the going down of the Sun and in the morning we shall Remember Them."

Sam Barlow spoke to the Squadron, W.A. President Len Stewart proposed the Toast of Interstate Members and the Visitors. Peter Alexander replied to the Toast and W.A. Secretary Butch Power gave an extremely amusing extempore speech which kept the Reunion in constant laughter. All this was recorded together with messages from and to members. The recording was a good one and members in England and the other States will hear it in due course of time and postage.

The Squadron Banner was 'piped in' by a Highland Piper. During the Reunion which followed, purely a Get-together of old wartime friends--and therefore one of the best things life holds--the Editor was able to move round and collect news of members. And the beer flowed freely.

Reunion in the West (cont.)After Anzac, the Ball.

Squadron Ball at the 16th Infantry Drill Hall. They found the Hall carefully decorated with Palms. Men were issued with small cardboard Parabushes and the ladies with small lace-like veils--yashmaks. There was an excellent band and a very novel and able floor show man. Supper and Swan Draught were good and plentiful. 190 people, approx., came. Dancing was universal and universally enjoyed, until well after 1.0 a.m. One Floor Show item must be mentioned--eight ladies, including interstate ladies, ringing tuned Cymbells with the Floor Showman as Conductor of "The Bells of St. Mary's".

Picnic at Lake Yanchep.

Lake Yanchep is a sylvan body of fresh water, spring-fed, some miles from Perth. At its side 458 picniced and held the usual picnic pleasures of races for children, wives and members. The weather was still 458 weather, fine frost and sunny. Len Stewart presented a really fine silver Cup, to be awarded to the most fleet of foot 458 man. This was run in three closely-run heats and a final, in which S.A. Secretary Arnold Scholander eclipsed the opposition to take the Cup to Adelaide for a year. He was widely congratulated as Sam Barlow presented him with the Cup.

A journey by barge around the borders of the Lake, now appearing, now disappearing from the watching eye among the islets and overhanging trees of the borders, completed the day.

Evening Reception and the Anzac Cup.

On the succeeding days, members were able to see and shop, if from the East, or return to the job. On the Monday evening, however the W.A. Division of the Air Force Association gave 458 a very nice Reception and cocktail party during which the A.F.A. Divisional President, a former Dan Buster, said some very nice things about 458 and the way in which its wartime Squadron spirit had survived. And, thanks to arrangements made by Arthur Budd, members were, another morning able to play the annual tournament for the Anzac (Golf) Cup. This was very deservedly and popularly won by Victorian Secretary Arthur Green--W.A. Member Lock Simpson being runner-up. On the Thursday afternoon members saw 'Yank' Martin off by sea on his return to Melbourne--a most enthusiastic farewell. And, in the evening, as all good things have to come to a close, the N.S.W. members caught their train and started off for the East. W.A. Members saw them off; streamers flew and old friends planned to meet again in Brisbane next year. The S.A. members flew back to Adelaide and the Victorians followed by their several ways. W.A. members remained--with intensified Squadron links and deep enthusiasm for a continuation of the friendship of the Perth All-States Reunion.

JOURNAL OF A JOURNEY.

contributed by

A Sydney Member.

I did write, not to make a secret of it, in previous Squadron News, as The Dazed Delegate. But the pseudonym, I claim, scarcely fits. Having been in 12 trains in the going to and returning from Perth I might admit to being The Rattled Representative: some of the trains indeed--but I shall come to that. Let me take it train by train.

Thursday April 19th.

We assembled at Central Station between 7 and 8 in the evening, to be seen off by our relatives. Keep a keen eye to see which 458 member will cut it finest. On past years' performances, favorites would be L.J.B. or C.I. Actually it turns out to be C.I. Whistles blow and we are off. Travelling 1st Class on this stage, and 8.30 being everybody's usual bedtime, the N.S.W. Railways put us straight into our Sleepers in which there is much dark-stained woodwork and not much room. Find we rank for a morning cup of tea. Ask Conductor time when this drink may be expected. He says "When you get it." Take to my bunk and sleep occasionally through the night. Otherwise listen to the wheels playing

techie solfas on the lines, and resist tendency of centrifugal force to ryp top of head or soles of feet smartly on the head or foot of the bunk whenever train goes round a bend.

Sunday April 20th.

Unrestrain at Albury into the modern and comfortable 'Spirit of Progress'. Lock out for Forbes Paulet but, unfortunately, it seems we missed him. Have breakfast and the train streaks towards Melbourne. Watch the green and beautiful Victorian countryside. Also watch the Hammonds play the Hunkmans at cards. Towards reaching Melbourne--some three hours later--gather the Hammonds are ahead by 661 worth of used matchsticks. E.T.M. decides to do something about that and tosses Double or Quits, to make it 2122. Middle of the morning brings us to a cold day and a warm-hearted welcome from 458 in Melbourne. Jim and Joan Munday, Lisle Warr, Arthur and Elsie Green, Bill Bailey and Yank greet us, and take us to the Hotel Cecil for the day. Members come and members go. Jim, F.S., C.I., and self grog on. Norm Gugley, Jack Crutenden, Shorty Wilson, Mick Singe, Don Johnston come to join us. Here, as throughout the Journey, the Albans are the centre of great interest. Come the evening and a meal of quite the nicest fried fish ever produced to me, at the Cecil, to cap a successful day on good Melbourne Beer, and we return to Spencer Street Station to catch the "Overlander" which is to take us to Adelaide. This turns out

Journal of a Journey (cont.)

to be a very comfortable train indeed, with two and single

berth cabins, airconditioned, each with its own washing and toilet facilities and so on. The Old Master, L.J.B., has brought aboard several dozen cans of beer. So, to see how we like canned beer, we polish them off before reaching Ballarat. At Ballarat, late in the evening though it is, we find two loyal Squadron friends on the platform waiting to greet us--Cutty and Ted Kennedy.

Monday April 21st.

Due at Murray Bridge at 6.10 a.m. Book call from conductor for 5.55.

Get up at 5.55. Call comes at 6.10. Arrive M.B. 6.30. All a.m. Find Johnny Excell on the platform, waiting us. Johnny wears glasses now and has the responsible air of the successful business man. But it's still Johnny. So on, over the rich Murray river flats and the terra cotta soil of the South Australian country to Adelaide. There Bill and Midge Taylor, Arn, Scholar, John Ringwood, Flash Thomas, Mel Priest, Brian Woodhead, Pat Bright, Johnny Bax, Mrs. Joffy Frewartha to greet us, with Ron Badger and--Jack 'Wrong Way' Riseley, proceeding last from Perth on unavoidable business, to his keen regret. Much West End beer.

From Adelaide to Port Pirie by train--just a train. The Old Master L.J.B. has some bottles for us. At Port Pirie, Junior Davies on the platform. Delighted indeed to see him once more. He looks older. Port Pirie pub has the highest bar in the country. LJB, organising, rests chin, chad-like, on the bar. So into another train--the Transcontinental.

Through Port Augusta, onto the Nullabor Plain, treeless, stony, thinly flecked with saltbush. Hundreds of miles, including 300 miles without a curve in the line. Drink various beers. Observe L.J.B. in the middle of a glass of beer decline well-meant offer of a chocolate.

Tuesday April 22nd.

Kalgoorlie in the evening. Wide streets, quiet, many pubs, most empty. In one of them, we are asked to draw the raffle. I quote the 'Kalgoorlie Miner'--

"At the York Hotel last night the raffle for the Canteen of cutlery was drawn "and resulted in a win for 'Les and Max' of Boulder. The ticket was drawn by Mr. "Sam Barlow of Sydney. Mr. Barlow is the President of 458 Squadron on the R.A.A.F. "and was on his way with fellow members to the States Reunion to be held in Perth."

Next into another train. One night aboard. Have slept on a shelf before, so no great hardship. Hannan's bear this time.

Wednesday April 23rd. Early morning halt at Gunderdin for cupper tea. Slappy alights in stylish dressing gown. Buys tea. Half train sets off suddenly. Crying 'I want Mamma!' Slappy starts in pursuit coat-tails flying. Catches train and climbs aboard. Train halts 50 yards off, picks up dining car and returns to Station. Good exercise, however.

Northam, and Charlie Davis there. A joy to see him again.

Through the W.A. country, through the primitive Grass Trees, along the pipe line carrying Kalgoorlie's water supply from Perth.

And then--and then came Perth! A platform full of friends not seen for nearly fifteen years but so well remembered. And their wives with them.

Foregather with them. Which was the object of it all.

In the evening, drive with Bubbles and look out over the Swan River and Perth from the War Memorial Heights of King's Park. The lights by night edging and surmounting the darkness of the river one of the beauties of the world.

Thursday April 24th. March with 458, behind the Banner, with 458 leading the Air Force. 458 much cheered and particularly by the generous enthusiasm of Lady Mundman and the girls. To the Reunion, and this is the highpoint.

Among others, make speech. Refer--factlessly, considering presence of railwaymen Charlie Davis and Ches.--to trains with square wheels. This makes mark on Charlie who thenceforth signs name followed by the sign of a square wheel. Refer, also tactlessly, to members who are now twice the men they used to be. So they are. And why not? We can't have too much of a good thing.

Drink Swan Draught Beer and now begin to understand (what I have observed as a fact over the years) how W.A. 458 ers are able to drink so much more beer than 458ers in the other States. It is nectar and nectar without a hangover in it.

Observe Al. Wheat, who, having pulled a certain chain, found it to release a cold shower.

In the evening, back at the Hotel, the lounge is full of 458ers listening to the Reunion tape recording--Arthur Budd has to play it for us twice.

Ensuing Days in Perth--or was it Paradise?

The Ball and the accumulating memories of music and dancing in the--alas, fleeting--company of old friends. Make, after Sam, another speech. Explain why eastern women wear yashmaks--if not veiled, their beauty drives men mad. Alternatively, one way of keeping their mouths shut. Admit they probably

Journal of a Journey (concluded). they probably drive men mad anyway.

Then sit down, Billy Clues birthday.

Understand nobody heard a word which is probably as well. Billy makes spectacular appearance All sing 'Happy Birthday' to very well-liked member. Billy makes spectacular appearance on Ballroom in response. Watch the Bolles of St. Wimp's play the Bolles of St. Mary's.

The Reception. Meditate on the links among those who cater for ex-servicemen's needs and interests. Being frivolous, sometimes think main need concerned is to keep the beer supply going. Watch Aloe Barras in the Race.

Not only does he walk well but he can run like a hare. Watch Arn's purposeful win.

Also watch the Squadron Treasurer's face when he accidentally gets a shandy instead of a beer.

The Way Back. So into the first of another six trains, farewellled by the W.A. Flight in force. Northam, with a final glimpse of Charlie Davis, Kalgoorlie, Port Pirie, with Junior Davies and his family, Adelaide--with 458 in force at the Station, including S.A. President lofty Brewartha, Arn, Scholar, and Billy Gribb. Leave my hat in the Railway Refreshment Rooms, whence it is rescued by D.M. Apart from me, everyone amused. Into the Overlander.

Beer supplies maintained all the time by the care of C.I. and L.J.B.

Murray Bridge with Johnny Excell and his family. Ballarat and Ted

Kennedy. Guard unable to persuade Driver to start from Ballarat despite much

whistling and flag-wagging. Lean out and offer to come and push train. Guard smiles faintly but offer not accepted.

Melbourne and the day with the Mundays for a splendid 458 Barbecue at their home. Lisle Wurr, Don Johnston, Jim, Mick Mather, Bill Bailey, Mrs. 'Yank' Martin, and friends with us. Much good Melbourne bottled beer. Back via the Hotel Cecil, and some of it's

notable fried fish, to Spencer Street where--the Old Master, L.J.B., loses 48 cans of beer.

There they may be to this day. Albany and then Sydney. And the end of it--of a time to remember--of a meeting of friends, nearly 15 years after, who, in all the circumstances of time and great distances, might never have met again--but for the fairy tale-like prospering of the post-war 458 Squadron. But for the obstinate will-to-live of the 458 Squadron Spirit.

CORNSHANK COMMENTARY.

from

Bob Bruce. (Sydney).

Annual Flight Meeting.

April 11th. saw the Annual Meeting, once again on the 3rd Floor of 330, George Street. This date was chosen as being near to Anzac Day, but early enough for the party going to Perth to be able to attend.

This Reunion must be voted one of the best attended for some time as about 50 members were present. They included:

Dick Healey	Bob Miller	Bob Bruce	Bob Lyndon	Fred Strom	Peter Alexander
Curly Hosking	Alf. Hammond	Col Corten	San Barlow	Buster Balmer	Stuart Ricketts
Pop Nation	Ray Davies	Kemp Beach	Alan Walker	Tony Harris	Blue Milner
Ian Thiele	Geoff. Cannon	Cy. Irwin	Frank Keith	Bert Thompson	Fred Ridge
Noel Spurling	Bill Perkins	Pete Pettit	Ec. Funkman	Alan Pigott	Graeme Coombes
E. Gill	George Farry	Frank Hickey	Joe Pratt	Bert Reynolds	Don. Bitmead
Norm. Walker	George Bradd	Geoff. Wright	Dick Cook	Jack Baker	Jack Aitken
Jock Philip.					

During the evening, the election of officers was held. Several changes came about.

New Office-bearers. Peter Alexander declined renomination as Flight President, and Sam Barlow was thereupon elected as President. Vice Presidents elected,

after a ballot, were Eric Funkman and Graeme Coombes. Tony Harris was re-elected as N.S.W. Treasurer.

As Allan Walker was unable to accept nomination as Secretary, this position went to Bob Bruce. There was considerable interest in accepting nomination to the Committee. Those appointed were: P. Alexander, D. Healey, B. Lyndon, G. Balmer, C. Irwin, C. Nation, N. Spurling, A. J. Walker, K. Beach, B. Milner, R. Milner, A. Hammond, F. Pettit, F. Ward, F. Strom.

Tape Recording. During the evening a tape recording made by the U.K. Flight was played over, by courtesy of Dick Healey. It was very interesting. A tape was also made at the Reunion for despatch to England.

Allan Walker. Opportunity was taken of presenting an Overnight Bag to Allan Walker in appreciation of his Secretarial duties, so capably carried out over the last three years.

Legacy Film Evening. The film of the Olympic Games, 1956, was specially shown to members on March 26th, at 330, George Street, takings going in aid of Legacy. While not strongly attended, those who came enjoyed their evening. We thank Occ. Nation for enabling us to hold the show.

THE ALL-STATES REUNION 1959 will be in BRISBANE. Start Planning NOW to be there.

Cornstalks' Commentary (cont.)

Anzac Day in Sydney.

Notwithstanding the absence of many Squadron stalwarts in Perth (lucky blighters) and the wet weather, there was a roll-up of over 30 Squadron members plus some odd-bods to make up a very strong contingent under the 458 Banner. Jack Riseley, over from Perth, lead the Squadron, followed by Buster Balmer with the Banner and flanked by Cec. Nation and Kemp Beach. Among others we noticed were

Bob Millar Max Egan Ken Crago Bill Astley Tony Harris Jack Aitken Ted Fabian
Mal Archbold Doug. Anderson Stan Longhurst Roy Carter Blue Spurling Merv. Hargraves
Cliff Hayward Alan Piggett Bill Turrier Jock McGowen Geoff. Cannon Stuart. Ricketts
Ray Davies Black-Jack Baker Tom Mitchell Bob Bruce, Frank Keith, Allan Walker.

After the March and several grogs, Alan Piggett took a party of chaps to the Ryde Bowling Club for a session lasting several hours

On Anzac Eve a wreath-laying ceremony was held at the Cenotaph. The wreath, which had as its centrepiece the Squadron Crest, was placed by the Vice President Graeme Coumbes.

Some days later there was a gathering of squadron members to bid farewell to Jack Riseley at an evening in the Air Force Club.

THE CROWDSTERS RELATE that:--

News from

Ron Badger.
(Adelaide)

South Australian Flight future activities are based on a very sound new Committee recently formed. While the organised fixtures are not perhaps so comprehensive as in some States, S.A. members can be relied on to rally to the special functions on the year's calendar even though the members are widely dispersed throughout the State.

With Perth as the host state this year S.A. was placed geographically in a position to welcome interstate members both going to and coming from Perth, giving us the unique advantage of having a pre- and post- reunion for the Anzac Festivities.

By a coincidence, while we were waiting at the steps of the Adelaide Station for the Eastern States en route for Perth, Mrs. Taylor called our attention to a bod walking up the road, saying how like Jack Riseley he was, and, sure enough, Jack it turned out to be. He had just arrived by plane from Perth en route to the Eastern States on business, thus missing the Perth Reunion, into which, no doubt, he put a lot of the spadework towards its outstanding success.

It was indeed a happy morning at the Strathmore Hotel. Being a Monday and a working day, the purpose of the flight was to get as many as possible to call down to the Hotel and greet the travellers for an hour each. However, so much good fellowship prevailed, that practically the whole welcoming committee said Maaleesh the Boss and stayed for the full morning. Both the beer and the tongues flowed continuously, with the steadying influence of the odd plates of sandwiches as a back stop.

Mrs. Trewartha and Mrs. Taylor played a sterling part in the entertainment of the ladies, escorting them on shopping sprees and trips to the local points of interest, and later rejoining the gang at the Strathmore.

During the morning, Squadron President Sam Barlow made a presentation to our retiring President, Bill Taylor and retiring Secretary, Johnny Ringwood, for services so well and competently completed. The presentation was greeted by an ovation by those present.

How envious, how very envious we were, that we were left standing on the station when finally the train pulled out on the final leg to Perth.

The next day our two stalwarts and only S.A. representatives, in Arm. Scholar and Nick Bertram flew to Perth for the All-States Reunion.

Anzac Day in Adelaide.

We are very proud of the number of our members who assembled for the various services this year. Bill Taylor and John Ringwood officially attended the main city Dawn Service and laid a 458 wreath.

After dawn emerged the most perfect sunshiny weather we have ever experienced for Anzac Day, and both the marchers and the people rallied to the spirit of both the weather and the day in almost record numbers. This year, with the shortened march, the excellent music, was perhaps the most successful ever. The assembly area for the Air Force personnel became the reunion ground of our wartime coppers.

We marched together, some 45 of us. We talked together, and although middle age is fast catching up with us, this day we were young again and were counting our exploits of daring rather than the number of our children.

And so to the Reunion.

The annual Reunion at Legacy House was very successful and justified the effort put in by the committee. Squadron members and friends there included:

Bill Taylor Mal Goers Geoff Esau B. Woodhead A. Dickson N. Trewartha

The Croweaters Relate... (cont.)

S. Bartram	H. Plant	J. Ringwood	B. Thomas	J. Bax	A. Ewens	R. McRae	Ned Kelly
K. Russell	J. Young	M. Priest	J. Fisher	J. Threadgold	D. Conway	Bill Cribb	
J. Parkin	R. Badger						
J. O'Halloran	K. Gunston	B. Trewartha	J. Herbert	K. Falt	T. Bax	B. Royal	C. Westergaard
J. Dunn	H. Bartram	A. Beinke	T. Scully	R. Richardson	P. Dawson	E. O'Reilly	F. Topley

Standing around the proverbial keg we sang, accompanied by a three-piece orchestra. As the years go by our reunions become more popular but are being tempered with an ideal... the efforts expended for legacy have proved exemplary, giving us a feeling of justifiable existence.

Bardin. With the return of our two delegates from the West we learned of the successful reunion there, which was verified again on meeting the Eastern States contingent at the train at Adelaide. Congratulations, W.A. Flight on your most popular and successful "All-Stater". Congratulations too to Arn Scholar and Arthur Green for their Cup successes.

Sam Barlow and Jim Holliday. It is the S.A. Flight's express desire to thank Sam Barlow for the magnificent effort he put into his period as Squadron President. We think that the only thing that got Sam down was at Gramps Winery, during the S.A. Reunion. Everything else he overcame in his inimitable and popular style. On Sam's retirement we extend our best wishes to Jim Holliday, as new Squadron President and, knowing Jim, feel he will uphold the traditions made and set out by our previous Presidents.

Yank Martin and Dave Firth. Another straggler from Perth rolled up in a wreath of smiles in the shape of Yank, returning to Melbourne by ship. Nick Barbran met him and Johnny Bax saw him off. Bluey called in on his way back and stayed the night with Jim Perry at Port Augusta and the next night with Johnny Bax in Adelaide.

Bob Driman had planned to motor over to the Perth Reunion, but we have just learned that Bob is on the sick list. Latest reports indicate that Bob is on the mend and will look up his Adelaide cobbles shortly. All the best for a complete recovery, Bob.

Our next Function. We will be entertained by the 2nd.43rd Battalion on July 3rd. at the Pigeon Hall, Forrensville. Members are asked to keep this date well in front of them as they are really good nights, and the Squadron honour is at stake, to bring home the bacon in the various competitions conducted during the Evening.

NEWS FROM Q FLIGHT.

from

Jim Holliday (Brisbane).

On Anzac Day. We had a good roll-up. Counting friends, 45 marched behind the Banner proudly borne by Queensland President Len MacDonnell. Johnno was there too, out in front leading the Flight. More joined us for refreshment afterwards, at the A.T.C. Mess.

It was pleasing to hear the boys tell of ceremonies they had attended earlier in the day. Among those that I remember were Jack Lewis at the Dawn Ceremony at the Shrine of Remembrance; Chas. Warren laying a wreath at the Urn of Remembrance; and Geoff, Browne telephoning from his country home saying he had to attend four wreath-laying ceremonies and just couldn't get down. Geoff advises that he had stood for the recent Shire Elections and topped the poll. Please accept our heartiest congratulations!

Eric Lloyd was in his usual place on the saluting dais at the City Hall in his official capacity as a member of Parliament. Eric said that the Flight looked well as it marched past.

Golf and No Beer.

We've abandoned our golf day this year, due to the local blitz on the serving of beer on Sundays. It wouldn't be a golf day without something with which to fill the trophy cups.

Our next Social.

This is set down for Saturday 28th. June at the A.T.C. Mess-- of which more later by circular. Among other things, the raffle will be drawn for a Fibre glass rod (made and generously donated by Jack Lewis) and reel (donated by Clive Wynn and Chas. Warren). It's a reel beaut. Tickets 1/- from the Secretary (43, Stella Street, Holland Park, Brisbane).

Terry Weldon.

Q Flight was shocked to hear of the untimely death of Terry Weldon. He was a constant visitor to our "Do s". In the absence of the Secretary, Chas. Warren and Gordon Postle arranged the sending of a wreath.

DEATH OF TERRY WALDON.

458ers will be deeply sorry to learn of the death of another old friend. Terry Waldon (the Cossack, the Wild Russian) came to 458 at Holme-on-Spalding Moor and went right through to Gibraltar. He was a Fitter. On 458 he was one of the men who made the Squadron what it was. He was 'one of the boys'. After the war he remained one of its loyalst supporters, being an early member of the Cricket team in Sydney, as a fast bowler with a remarkable 'lift' from the pitch. Later he went to Grafton near his home district and successfully started a Garage. He was booked to go to Perth with the Sydney party for the recent All-States Reunion and we had in fact picked up his tickets for him on the day before he was killed. The Sydney Morning Herald report said, "At Grafton, Leonard Allan Waldon, 38; Charlie Waldon, 48; were killed and Mrs. Noel Smith was injured critically (she later died) when the car they were in overturned on the Glen Innes-Grafton road early in the morning."

Terry was married and leaves two sons.

PERSOY L. ITEMS.

I. L. (JOHNNY) JOHNSTON is the father of a fine baby boy. Shortly after this, his Father died. He has both our congratulations and our sympathy;

GORDON POSTLE recently spent a short time in hospital but is back on deck again, selling pubs all over the place;

NORM (SQUIZZY) TAYLOR (of Charlie Fox's crew) called in to see Chas. Warren recently. He was on his way from working at Hayman Island to rejoin the R.A.A.F. as a catering officer with the rank of Flying Officer;

FRANK CROWLEY is now domiciled at Hayman Island;

ERIC (NED) KELLY is the father of a baby boy---congratulations to you !;

TONY STONE has been promoted by his company, Vacuum Oil, from O.C., Tasmania, to an executive position in Melbourne;

JACK CROMAU is just out of Greenlapses Repatriation Hospital. Couldn't join the Anzac March; CHAS WARREN and ERIC HETHERINGTON send regards to FRANK GANNAWAY in Perth;

JACK PARKIN and his wife have our congratulations on the birth of a baby girl;

ERIC COX is still in the Repatriation Hospital, Adelaide, and is far from his usual cheery self. Good luck, Eric, from all your cobbbers;

NORM WALKER in Sydney, is in greatly improved health;

NORM PRATER, who is with the R.A.F., is at Biggin Hill;

BOB (BILLY) MILNER and his wife have our sincere congratulations on the birth of their first child, a daughter (Robynne);

ALAN PIGGOTT is travelling. Has a Humber car. Is now licensee of the Ryde Bowling Club, Sydney;

FRED STROM is coping successfully with the problems of schoolteaching in Sydney;

BILL PERKINS is currently with the Chatswood, N.S.W. branch of the Bank of N.S.W.; sends his regards to Snowy Slater in Brisbane;

BERE REYNOLDS is prospering in his Milk Retailing business near Sydney and has recently sold part of his round;

JOE PRATT and DICK COOK, both ex-Transport Section and both now in the motor trade, send their regards to Transport Section members in the West and the U.K. Joe has two daughters and Dick two boys;

LESLIE THOMPSON is at Cockatoo Island Dockyard where he is Personal Assistant to the Secretary;

GEORGE WRIGHT is now flying again with Qantas. Recently flew over Poggia. Wishes to be remembered to Mel Priest, Bunny Byrne, Hal Goffill, Snowy Slater, & Lofty Chalmers;

JACK ALKEN is flying Yakotas with Butlers. Sends good wishes to Eric Jewell, Don Anderson, Curly Brain and Fred James;

PAT ENRIGHT has a successful Sheep property in South Australia;

RAY TUBLEY is a linotype operator with the (Perth) Sunday Times; he would be remembered to Arnold Ashton and Dick Cook; he may come east in a couple of years;

DON (DONGA) DANIELS is a carpenter in W.A. Is now a grandfather;

SHORTY LONG is journeying east from Perth in September. Has a Shoe Agency business. Sends regards to Dick Whiteman, Dicky Bird, Kemp Beach, Bob McKinnon, and Alf. Peake;

ED JEWELL is a maintenance painter with Wunderlich in Perth. Married with 3 girls and a boy. One works with Len Stewart. Sends his regards to Junior Davies;

HENSELL (SONJA) HENY, the recently elected W.A. Secretary, is Purchasing Officer with Tropical Traders and Patersons, who are Fruit and Fish processors in Fremantle. Married, he has 3 boys and a girl. I son is in the R.A.A.F. and I Teaching. His daughter is nursing. Wishes to be remembered to Joe Elliott, Artie O'Shea, Howard Gavin, Ian Sorrell, and Lofty Kerrot;

NOEL HEMPHRIES is a senior officer of Wunderlich's in Perth;

PETER PIGFORD is with the Perth Fire Station. Has four children;

JACK GINGLEY works with the Royal Perth Hospital, being i/c Instrument Section;