



THE EDITOR.

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ANZACTIME IN BRISBANE. ALL-STATES REUNION IN QUEENSLAND CENTENARY YEAR.

The culminating day of the 458 Year is, every year, the All-States Reunion. This year, 1959, the Anzactime Festival including the All-States Reunion, was held in Brisbane.

Brisbane was a peculiarly suitable place since, among other reasons, it together with the rest of the great State of Queensland, was celebrating the passing of one hundred years since, by Letters-patent dated June 6th, 1859, the territory northward from Point Danger to Cape York was raised into a separate colony called the colony of Queensland.

In the short span of that 100 years, Queensland has become a sovereign State and the centre of great primary and secondary industrial ventures. It is one of the World's great producers of Sugar, Bananas and Pineapples.

The Arrivals. To Brisbane, thus celebrating, came 458ers and their wives from all the mainland Australian States. This was the first All-States Reunion at which all Australian Flights were directly represented and none needed proxies at the Squadron Conference. First arrivals from interstate were Bill Chapman and his wife, from Newcastle in New South Wales. They had been touring North Queensland, and arrived in Brisbane on Sunday April 17th to prepare for the fray.

Then came Johnny Bax and his wife Kath and their son, and "Ding" Conway with his daughter Marilyn who travelled from Adelaide by train. Their journey via Melbourne and Sydney was something of a triumphal progress. In Melbourne they were entertained by Arthur Green and Bill Carr and were shown the local sights. This included a memorable visit to the Gardens and Captain Cook's Cottage, an episode which has taken its place in the post-war 458 fund of anecdotes.

In Brisbane, the party was met by Bill Ernst and Eric Lloyd and a reporter and photographer from the Brisbane Telegraph. All Brisbane knew, as well as every 458er that Johnny and Ding had arrived by the publication of their laughing faces on page 2 of Tuesday's Telegraph.

From then on, interstate members (the word 'Visitor' is tabooed for application to a 458er at a 458 function) arrived by car, train, air -- and by bus too. Many made a holiday of it, stopping at the Gold Coast on the way through. Sam Barlow and party from Sydney came by car. Alf and Enid Hammond travelled in convoy by car with Eric and Dorothy Munkman and 'Nundi' and Agnes Carpenter. Nundi and Agnes, coming from Fremantle in Western Australia, teamed up with the rest of their convoy in Sydney instead of proceeding by long-distance coach, as originally planned.

Long distance record went to Al and Joy Wheat who came by air from Geraldton in Western Australia. Al won a Trip to Brisbane for himself and Joy in a tractor pulling Competition. They met Al's crew, in three different States, on the way.

Nick Bertram and S.A. Secretary Arn. Scholar completed the Sth. Aust. party. Arthur Green, Dave and Gladys Firth, and Jim and Joan Munday came from Victoria and the N.S.W. party totalled 17.

Civic Reception. Out of the blue came an invitation for all members of 458 and their wives to attend a civic reception by the Lord Mayor of Brisbane, Alderman Groom, to Group Captain Cheshire, V.C., and his wife on the opening day of the official 458 programme.

Group Capt. Cheshire remarked immediately on the 458 Tie as the 458 group was introduced, and spent a great deal of time conversing with our members.

All-States in Brisbane.(cont.)The Reunion Dances.

That evening, Thursday 23rd., the Queensland Flight held a welcoming Dance. It was at the large, new and commodious Waterside Workers Recreation Hall in Petrie Bight. As had been anticipated, at first no one wanted to dance. A far greater attraction was the renewal of old friendships. Conversation and then dancing flowed brighter and faster as the evening progressed. Bulimba also flowed. Informality was a keynote. The orchestra played on and the evening was far too short. It was a happy introduction to the following days' schedule of festivities.

Oxley and the Anzac Cup.

Friday saw the Annual Competition for the Anzac Cup, held, once again, at Bernie McLoughlin's Golf Club at Oxley. Interstate members returning found that the Club House had been rebuilt and is very well-equipped indeed. The Cup was competed for over 10 holes, before lunch. Handicaps were awarded by Bernie, off the cuff and by instinct and, mostly, competitors obliged by playing to them. It was a pleasant round in fine Queensland sunshine and over a not-too-hard course, green and countrified.

Bill McBride, returning for the Reunion to his old State of Queensland from Sydney, was the new holder of the Anzac Cup, with Keith Campbell as Runner-up. A Trophy for the best Interstate Member went to last year's holder of the Anzac Cup, Arthur Green who beat Alf Hammond in a play-off. Best Gross trophy went to Bill Wilson, an Associate member. Best Associate performance was by Bill McBride's brother, Sandy.

The Club served 458 with a lobster luncheon and all that goes with it. After lunch came something for which the Brisbane Reunion will always be notable. The first issue to Squadron members of the Squadron History, with Stars N.C.O. Johnny Box officiating once again, while the Squadron Treasurer and Secretary kept the score. Such was the effect that from a cheerful chatter there was a sudden complete hush while everyone examined his book. No more eloquent tribute could be paid to an author than this hush. Then Peter was besieged with requests to have him autograph copies.

While the Golfers swung...

Their Ladies, or some of them, accompanied Ruth MacDonnell and Peg Holliday to the Koola Park at Lone Pine. Two of the younger members of the party will long remember it as the day they were cuddled by a Carpet Snake.

In the Evening

That night there were a series of parties at Brisbane members' homes. Jim Holliday, Len MacDonnell and Eric Lloyd were among those who gave parties. At Jim's one feature was the first (at this Reunion,) production of one of the highlights of available tape records. This was again played at the All-States Reunion later.

For the most part it was beer, reliving the past, more beer, more memories and bed.

Anzac Day, April 25th., 1952.Dawn Service at the Flame of Remembrance.

Queensland Treasurer Jack Lewis represented 458 at the Dawn Service at Anzac Park in Ann Street and placed a fine wreath.

The Squadron Conference.

Conference's decisions and debates are dealt with elsewhere. The function of this article is to sketch in the scene and the background.

The scene was brilliant. Located on the top of the new Prudential Insurance Building at North Quay in its large Staff Recreation Room, equipped with all the brightness of new architecture and new building. A superb view outside over the broad reaches of the City and the Brisbane River. Sunlight streaming through the windows and over the building. A gallery of over 50 Squadron members and their wives to watch the opening by the Premier of Queensland. Delegates from the Flights and the Squadron officers sitting round a horseshoe table with Squadron President Jim Holliday presiding.

The Premier.

The Premier, the Hon. G. F. R. Nicklin, M.L.A., M.M., arrived in one lift while the official 458 party was going down in the other to meet him but after that minor hitch proceedings went excellently. The Premier met the Delegates and then spoke for 20 minutes or so, referring in most favourable terms to 458 both in war and peacetime. He declared Conference open, after being invited to do so by the Squadron President. 458 C.O., Lew. Johnston, moved a vote of thanks in a sparkling speech which raised many a chuckle.

Sitting next to the Premier at Conference table was the Deputy Leader of the Queensland Opposition, Squadron member Eric Lloyd, M.L.A., who supported the vote of thanks.

As a gesture of appreciation Jim Holliday presented the Premier with a copy of the Squadron History. The Premier, who is a tetotalter, stayed and drank some tea with the Squadron, met many members and their wives, looked at the Squadron Albums, and was photographed by the Press holding the Squadron History in front of the 458 Banner.

Interstate members, meeting Mr. Nicklin (who is a Country Party Premier) described him as a shrewd-looking and kindly-mannered man.

After the Premier left, Conference resumed and ate an excellent chicken lunch while business proceeded. Lunch was the responsibility of Len MacDonnell, Ruth MacDonnell and Eric (Mod) Kelly who also looked after morning tea and did a superb job.

In fact and in particular it has to be recorded how much the success of the whole All-States Reunion programme owed to the untiring and self-effacing work of Len MacDonnell.

The March.

It was the greatest number ever to march behind the 458 Banner in Brisbane. A tally of 51 was counted. The Squadron President Jim Holliday led the Squadron (which was accorded the first place in the Air Force Section of the March) and the President-elect Jim Munday carried the Banner. We marched to the stirring music of the R.A.A.F. Band from Amberley. It was a thrill to every marching member to be given such a rousing welcome by 458 wives and children who massed just beyond the Post Office waving 458 Squadron Pennants (Bannerettes) and cheering most mightily. Dorothy Munkman organised the issue of the pennants.

The All-States Reunion itself.

After the March thirsty throats were quenched at the Reunion which followed at the Waterside Workers Recreation Hall. Never before have there been so many 458ers together in Brisbane. It was particularly good to see "Snowy" Atherton there, taking the long-distance honours for Queensland members with 1,000 miles from Dingo in the North. This seems a good place to list the names of 458ers who appeared during the Anzac Festivities:

A.A. Taylor (Q.)	A. Green (Vict.)	C. Wyman (Q.)	A. Hammond (N.S.W.)	F. Wilks (Q.)
E. Munkman (N.S.W.)	C. Warren (Q.)	C. Irwin (N.S.W.)	J. Taylor (Q.)	Fred. Strom (N.S.W.)
B. Snowden (Q.)	N. Spurling (N.S.W.)	C. Richardson (Q.)	A. Wheat (W.A.)	G. Postle (Q.)
D. Firth (Vict.)	B. Male (Q.)	A. Conway (S.A.)	J. Thorpe (Q.)	G. Pradd (N.S.W.)
K. Everett (N.S.W.)	B. McLoughlin (Q.)	J. Bax (S.A.)	L. MacDonnell (Q.)	J. Munday (Vict.)
J. Lewis (Q.)	F. Alexander (N.S.W.)	E. Lloyd (Q.)	S. Barlow (N.S.W.)	E. Kelly (Q.)
K. Crago (N.S.W.)	L. Johnston (Q.)	N. Carpenter (W.A.)	H. Kellam (Q.)	N. Bertram (S.A.)
J. Holliday (Q.)	A. Scholar (S.A.)	F. Hutton (Q.)	B. Chapman (N.S.W.)	B. Hughes (Q.)
B. McBride (N.S.W.)	H. Dorge (Q.)	A. Atherton (Q.)	B. Garland (Q.)	E. Bird (Q.)
T. Hinsley (Q.)	D. Brandon (Q.)	C. Helyar (Q.)	J. Baxter (Q.)	B. Ernst (Q.)
K. Cahill (Q.)	J. Elliott (Q.)	K. Campbell (Q.)	J. Cronau (Q.)	J. Carter (Q.)
B. Coles (Q.)	G. Connors (Q.)			

There were apologies from many members, including Stan Parker, Jim Plunkett, Jack Hobbs, Frank Crowley and best wishes from the U.K. Flight, W.A. Flight, Lefty Trewartha, Ron Badger and the A.A. Flight and Ernie Laming from Malaya. Associate members, friends and relatives swelled the total to 84 present. Further issues of the History were made and members took the chance to buy Squadron Ties, badges and Elazer pockets. Bermuda Jackets with 458 blazer pockets look extremely good, and quite a number of members were wearing them during the Anzac period.

After many pints had gone down, many stories of the old Squadron had been told, news of absent friends exchanged, and old friendships revived, it was, too soon, time to move on. For only-too-brief a time the close associations which existed for the war years were revived. After the Reunion some members went on to the A.T.C. Mess for a while and later carried on the celebrations over more beers at the Hotel.

Over the Green Mountains to the Gold Coast.

On Sunday morning all cars assembled outside the National Hotel to be briefed for the visit to Beechmont and the South Coast. In all there were 25 cars containing 75 adults and 32 children. Route maps were issued (supplied by Chas. Richardson) and Route Instructions prepared with Service precision by Lew Johnston. Each car bore a 458 Air screen sticker.

The Convoy moved off in independent order but was brought back into column of march at an unheralded brief halt brought about by Charlie Richardson and his wife who gave every morning refreshment, a glass of beer and some fine cheese, at a delightful spot at the edge of the Albert River. Being unexpected, this action of Charlie's gave everyone great pleasure and remains in mind as a high point of Reunion friendliness.

From then on, the convoy went through a scenic tour, via Canungra, where the Jungle Warfare Training Camp is, and over the Green Mountains to the Green Hillside site chosen for the Barbecue. There they found Johnnie and Jack Baxter in command of arrangements for the Barbecue. While eating barbecued steaks and billy tea, 1,800' above sealevel, the group, sitting in the cool air and the bright sunshine, had a fine panoramic view over the Pacific Ocean and the Queensland South Coast--the well-known Gold Coast of Southport, Surfers' Paradise and Coolangatta.

A late start after lunch prevented the full run to Coolangatta but we had a look, on admiring look, at Southport and Surfers' Paradise at the crest of the Gold Coast Building boom. All arrived on time at Johnnie and Nolly Johnston's home for a buffet tea, organised by the Johnstons, the Bixtons, and Cec. and Mrs. Miles. It was a fitting end to a glorious day and week end. The New Squadron President, Jim Munday, on behalf of the members thanked the workers for their efforts and was supported by Squadron Vice President S. Barlow. Johnnie responded with his usual felicity.

And so to Melbourne! This saw the end of the official functions. Sam Barlow, Dick Conway, Nandi Carpenter, Alf Hammond and Eric Munkman with Cy Irwin and their party and a further look at South Queensland and Dave Firth went further north. But for most 458ers it was chaotic to or from Brisbane next morning--with plans already making to be at next years All-States Reunion in MELBOURNE, where many other 458ers are waiting to welcome you! ---J.H. and P.C.A.

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS.

- BERNIE HUGHES is selling his property at Amu Vale and buying some flats in N.S.W.;
- BOB COLES is an official of Parks and Gardens in Toowoomba, Queensland. He is father of three girls and one boy. Wants to contact Curly Wilson;
- BLESLEY THORPE is Workshop Foreman with Frank Pearce Ltd, in Brisbane, who deal in Shock Absorbers. Wants to be remembered to 'All the Boys of 458';
- JACK TAYLOR is Grocery Department Manager with Producers Co-Op. Sends remembrances to the Drinnan crew;
- HARRY DORGE has 458's congratulations on his recent marriage. He lives in Toowoomba and is a Builder and Carpenter. We understand he is open for business in these lines. His regards to Bob Bruce, John Carey, Tony Harris;
- JACK CROMAU This Holme-on-Spalding Moor member is driving with the Brisbane Council. Wants news of Lanham and Toohy;
- BOB HELYAR representing Shell and Massey-Ferguson in Tara, Queensland. Has a son and a daughter. Wants to be remembered to Dick Boydell and Stan Tarczynski;
- BOB MALE has a property at Dirranbandi, Queensland. Interviewed at the Reunion, his comment was 'Silence is Golden';
- CHAS RICHARDSON is with Shell Sales Dept.-Brisbane Metropolitan Area;
- "SNOWY" ATHERTON is grazing in North Queensland. Says he doesn't see many 458ers there. One girl, two boys. An officer with the Citizen Military Forces;
- ALF DEANE has a Lime Mine at Ayr, North Queensland;
- KEN EVERETT is grazing at Kyogle in northern New South Wales. Is Past-President of Rotary there. Looks prosperous but says he isn't. I boy, one girl;
- THO HUTTON an architect. With Lund Hutton and Newell, Brisbane. I boy, two girls. Wishes to be remembered to Jack and Ron Pomfrett;
- BILL CHAPMAN (ex-Stores) works with the Newcastle City Council, in N.S.W. Enjoyed his time in Brisbane;
- KEITH CAMPBELL still with Fauldings in Brisbane. Short of hair; says it comes of flying with hairy pilots;
- JACK BAXTER has his own motor cycle business in the Gold Coast where he now lives;
- "MEL" WILLIAM has sold his Pub and is in the Advertising business--has a Scotchlite Agency;
- PETER DAVIES is now in Brisbane with Bell's Asbestos but may move, with them, to Newcastle, N.S.W.
- JACK CARTER is a member of the Maroochy Shire Council in Queensland. President of the North Coast Zone, R.S.L. and Vice President of the S.E. District. His son is now stationed in Canberra with the R.A.A.F., attached to the V.I.P. Flight. Jack himself recently sold his Pineapple Farm and retired but, of course, works harder than ever. Apart from the activities mentioned above he is President of the National Fitness Committee in his area and Secretary of the Fruitgrowers Association. As an R.S.L. official he recently had occasion to present an R.S.L. Life member's badge to the Premier, Mr. Nicklin;
- JOHN BILNEY recently transferred to Henry York and Co., where he is Melbourne Photographic Sales Rep. Says it won't be long before he does Bill Carr out of his easy job with Kodaks. John has two sons and a daughter and is now living at Box Hill;
- ARTHUR GREEN is still in the Spring Manufacturing game in Brunswick, Melbourne. He is currently a very busy boy as he and his partner are building a new Factory. He recently visited Robinvale and contacted Blue Firth and Ken Cupper, both farming in that area. Arthur tells us he has secured some very good Defence Contracts. Elsie his wife recently shared £2,000 in Tattersalls with their son Ron;
- "PAPPY" McDONALD has recently been taking half his Long Service Leave from the Melbourne Herald, where he is Deputy Foreman of the Reel Paper Store. Paid a visit to Sydney during it and met some of the boys in the Air Force Club. Pappy is a Gilbert and Sullivan addict;
- BOB JOHNSON is a traveller with Motor Spares, Melbourne. At the moment is still single. Wishes to be remembered to all his pals of yesterday and sends a particular greeting to Eric Munkman and Clappy Hammond;
- "SHORTY" WILSON spent Easter at Robinvale where he too saw Dave Firth and Ken Cupper, as well as Arthur Green. Sharty is Examiner of Aircraft Engineers with the Dept. of Civil Aviation. He proved an excellent reserve Banner Carrier (Jim Munday being in Brisbane) at the Anzac March in Melbourne;
- HARRY ASHWORTH has his own plumbing business in Prahran and lives in Oakleigh, Melbourne. There is more of him than there was. Sends his regards to the two boys in the N.S.W. scrub, identified as 'the short farmer and the long dentist, neither of whom could fly the course he gave them;
- ERIC PERCY has a garage and repair shop at Dandenong (Victoria) and lives at Seaford. Has a very fine home there. Came to Melbourne for the Anzac March;
- BOB SHERRAH is still in the wool business and living at Sandringham (Victoria).
- WILL HERFORD at the Melbourne Anzac March. Has a lad just entering the Air Force. Is still very actively interested in the Air Reserve and A.T.C. Living at Springvale;

Personal Paragraphs (cont.)

- BOB SIEGE who is in Victoria, sends remembrances to "Chico" Mercer, Eric Phillips and Lofty Trewartha;
- ALAN MATHER who is currently Wing Commander, Postings at R.A.A.F. H.Q., Melbourne is leaving shortly for Washington, U.S.A., where he will take up duties as Air Attache at the Australian Embassy for a three year period; he had half a dozen drinks with a lot of 458ers at the H.Q. Mess on Anzac Day;
- PETER HEDGCOCK is with War Service Homes, Melbourne. Sends regards to his pals;
- HARRY (MATRON) JENKINS marched with 458 on Anzac Day. Is nursing at Heidelberg Repat. Hospital;
- JOHNNY MORRIS -- Bill Carr understands he is conducting his own Menswear business in Mt. Waverley. Has altered very little over the years;
- PEIL MCPHEE Is Manager of the Royal Automobile Club of Victoria;
- BOB MCKINNA is farming at Sealake, Victoria;
- JACK RAMSAY is with the Post Office. Was moving his Department to new premises on Anzac Day. Living at Box Hill;
- BRUCE "DIZZY" DEAN is expected home on leave from the Gilbert and Ellice Islands;
- SEAN TARCZYNSKI is still with the "Leader" at the Age Melbourne office. Currently on leave, and playing a lot of golf;
- A. BRADSHAW recently had the misfortune to have the back part of his home destroyed by fire. Is very interested in R.S.L. activities out Spotswood way;
- PILL BAILEY is in the Woodyard business at Caulfield. Told Bill Carr he was considering a move to another locality;
- EDIE CARTLEDGE lives at Yarraville. Marched on Anzac Day. Sends regards to all his mates;
- JOHN DOWLING is currently at Albert Park Barracks as Group Captain, Training;
- GORDON CUTHBERTSON farming at Burrum Beet, Victoria. Turn left at the 89 mile post on the Highway and his is the 3rd. place on the left. All welcome, says Cuthy.
- GEORGE RIDDOCH is farming at Burrum Beet alongside Cuthy;
- JACK GUTHRIE is school-teaching, at Box Hill, Victoria;
- CHARLIE HARDING is reported to be approaching his second million, farming at Mortlake;
- BOB CUGLEY is foreman mechanic at Atlas Auto Auctions, Melbourne. A tireless and invaluable supporter of the Victorian Flight. Tells us he recently saw PEIL BENNETT who was down from New Guinea, where he is Maintenance Mechanic with Guinea Airways;
- ARTHUR PACKHAM has a Motor Mechanic business at Bungaree, doing tractor and car repairs;
- JACK SHARPLEY is at the Bridge Hotel, Richmond, Victoria;
- RAY WARWICK is at Holowiliena Station, Cradock, South Australia. Recently wrote for his copy of the Squadron History. We were delighted to hear from him after many years;
- J.V. GRIGGS is at Moe, Victoria;
- ALLAN SLARKS is in Shepparton, Victoria;
- FLOYD O'BRIEN (OBIE) is at Graman, N.S.W. Recently wrote for his History;
- NOEL WALTER sends regards to all friends;
- VIN CLOHESY is in Yallourn, Victoria;
- "BUCK" BUCHANAN is with Winchcombe Carson, Brisbane;
- BILL PERKINS who has been ill, has our good wishes for his recovery;
- KEMP BEACH: this valued member of the N.S.W. Committee has been in Concord Repat for an operation. Is now recovered.
- BOB SMITH with Income Tax, assessing, in Sydney. His regards to Bob Drinnan, Ken Brown and Jack Taylor;
- BERT THOMPSON is Asst. Secretary, Cockatoo Island Dockyard, Sydney;
- CHARLIE PIGGOTT was a welcome starter at the recent Sydney Reunion. Has a mixed Milk business at Bondi. Has a son of 16, who was born in Scotland. Sent regards to Fred Ridge, and Henry Bryant;
- LANE "TIMBER" WOOD recently promoted in the Accounts Section of the Sydney Post Office;
- "WANK" MARTIN and his wife have our congratulations on the birth of a daughter;
- "BLACK JACK" BAKER recently spent 6 weeks with the R.A.A.F. in N.S.W.
- FRANK WARD the N.S.W. Treasurer is now Accountant with Potter and Birks, Sydney. Is taking Chartered Secretary's exams.
- MRS. YVONNE CROMPTON is now working with the Sydney Metropolitan Meat Board. Was a welcome attender at the Brisbane All-States festivities.

THE RETURN OF BILL CARR.

458 Squadron members will be interested to know that Bill Carr has recently again taken on the Victorian Secretaryship, which he held with distinction for a number of years before. We are in a position to testify to the energy and drive he is putting into the job. The substantial number of Victorian news items included above are from Bill. Readers can also gain the same impression of drive from the Victorian News printed below. Readers of the Squadron History also should know that it could not have been written with anything like the same degree of detail or accuracy had it not been for Bill who, years ago, sent his own staff down to the Dept. of Air in Melbourne to hand copy the

