



THE EDITOR.

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May, 1963.

VICTORIAN VIEWS AND VOTES.

News from F. (Shorty) Wilson, 78, Carnarvon Rd.,  
Strathmore, W.6., Victoria.

Being on annual leave during the time when information regarding Flight activities should have been forwarded for the last issue of Squadron News, I am afraid this is going to be a long newsflash.

Mystery Car Trial. The Chadstone Shopping Centre had a Saturday morning appearance when 24 cars gathered there to start in the mystery Car Trial on Sunday morning 19th. November, 1962. The marshalling of competitors was in the very capable hands of Harry Ashworth and Ian Alison, who were the organisers. They sent the cars off at 2 minute intervals and ensured in the process that no clues were traded. "Yours truly" duly started and was soon busily engaged in following the directions handed out by the "cheese and kisses" and young Peter who was my backseat driver. Observation points came thick and fast, one needed a sharp eye for clues and I thought a ready reckoner would have been handy on several occasions. There was never a dull moment, especially as some bright soul knocked off one of the signs. The excellent roads and interesting scenery impressed me en route.

The destination proved to be Seaford Beach where we all arrived on time with loud laughter for those who had picked the wrong clues. The attendance of 24 drivers plus wives and a total of 31 children was a rewarding result for the untiring efforts of the Trial organisers. They shewed a lot of thought in laying out an interesting course and keeping it to well-made roads which carried little traffic--which permitted travel at 30 or 50 M.P.H. according to traffic regulations. Outright winner was Mrs. Nell Ashworth. Ron Yates took second prize, just beating Yank Martin and also Valerie Alison. After lunch, Victorian President John Jenkins presented a biscuit barrel to Nell Ashworth and a most appropriate prize to Ron Yates--a bottle of car polish. Ern. Laming won the 14 inch scale model of the Wimpey and Mrs. Jack Skinner won a ladies hat so graciously donated by Alma Wilson who, from all comments, has proved that her hobby of making ladies hats shews considerable skill in the art.

Christmas and the Children. Our party was held once again at the Tooradin home of Lyle and Pat Wurr on December 2nd. The trip to Tooradin was in the form of a Car Trial. Fifteen members with friends and families attended and with wives and families made quite a crowd. Among those attending was Kevin Laird who is secretary of 452 Squadron. The weather was fine till the latter part of the day so all joined in the organised games and races. Our host and hostess had the barbecues well stoked. During the afternoon Father Christmas arrived and personally greeted 47 children, each of whom received a present--which was followed by ice-cream for all.

Anzac Day in Melbourne. This turned out to be cool with rain threatening. But it remained fine until late afternoon by which time it didn't matter. The rollcall was:

Bob McKinna	Ern. Laming	George Riddoch	Jack Fleming	Arthur Green	Ron Yates
Jack Carter	Bill Carr	S. Tarczynski	Ian Higlett	Yank Martin	Norm. Cugley
G. Guthbertson	Bob Smith	Bert Smith	Mick Singe	Bill Hurford	George Cowan
Harry Jenkins	S. Cartledge	L. Wurr	Ted Kennedy	R. Eggers	H. Young
Ian Alison	H. Ashworth	G. Matthews	Lloyd Tame	D. Johnston	T. Primrose

Shorty Wilson.

Victorian Views and Votes (cont.)

There were apologies from other members. On completion of the March most members attended the Reunion and Annual Meeting held, as usual, at the business premises of Harry Ashworth. Apart from members mentioned above we had Ken Brown, John Jenkins, and Dizzy Dean, and Jack Carter.

Toasts and Elections. After Flight President John Jenkins proposed the Loyal Toast and Fallen Comrades, the elections were held: office-bearers chosen were

Flight President Ian Alison,  
Vice Pres. John Jenkins,  
Sec/Treas. Frank (Shorty) Wilson,

Committee: Harry Ashworth, Jim Munday, Arthur Green, Kevin Guiney, Norm. Cugley, Bob McKinna, Harold Martin, Ern. Laming, Lyle Wurr, Bill Bailey, Don. Johnston.

Squadron Conferences. The Flight Secretary then gave an outline of the Agenda item concerning how often Squadron Conferences should be held. A vote was taken with a unanimous decision that Squadron Conferences should be held at two-yearly intervals.

Unfinancial Members. Sanctions pending? The Secretary pointed out that 80% of members lived within a ten mile radius of Melbourne yet only about the same 15% attended functions; and also that only about 50% of recipients of the Squadron News pay their subscriptions while the others ignore regular reminders. He said the Flight would find it hard to survive without the assistance of a small body of members whose assistance to-date was worth several hundreds of pounds.

The Reunion closed before sundown but quite a few of the chaps later went on to the Melbourne Bowling Club.

CROWEATERS COMMENTS.

from Brian Woodhead, 9, Observation Drive,  
Highbury, South Australia.

The Flight news has fallen to my lot as our Flight Secretary has decided to take his leave and shoot off down the Coorong shooting and fishing for three weeks, so here I go.

Anzac Reunion. Over the past few years the Committee has noticed a falling off in attendances at Reunions. Therefore this year we decided to make a complete change in arrangements. Instead of the usual luncheon after the March, a dinner was arranged on the Friday prior to Anzac Day at the Hotel Richmond in Rundle Street. With this complete change you may imagine there was some concern as to whether sufficient would respond. However we did not have to worry for eighteen members were present and a further five would have come if previous engagements had not prevented them. We had a very fine dinner with eleven items on the menu. The floorshow was also very well presented and I think I'm quite safe in saying that everyone had a most enjoyable evening; in fact quite a few have made a point of calling in to say how much they enjoyed it.

Next year we hope to hold a similar function with as much success, but possibly at another hotel.

Functions on Anzac Day. Anzac Morning, Bill Taylor represented us at the Dawn Service at the State War Memorial. This was followed by the Service at West Beach Airport at which 458 was well represented. Also, the attendance at the March far exceeded our expectations. The March was followed by a get together at the Talbot, where various ones managed to continue until thrown out. I think everyone enjoyed the Anzac arrangements.

Bert Ravenscroft's was a face we hadn't seen for a long time. I hear he's back in Adelaide again.

Lofty Trewartha's wife has been in hospital on the sick list, but we trust she will be well on the way to recovery by now and we shall see her cheery face about again soon.

Regards to everyone.

HAVE YOU DONE THE RIGHT THING YET ? PLEASE RETURN YOUR PERTH REUNION  
COMPETITION TICKET BUTTS TO THE PROMOTER, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE  
YOU COULDN'T GET BETTER PRIZES.  
A RETURN TRIP FOR TWO TO THE PERTH REUNION FROM  
SYDNEY OR THE EQUIVALENT CASH.

CORNSTALKS ON PARADE.

by Cyril Irwin, 17, Vincent St. Canterbury N.S.W.

Annual Meeting

This was held on March 22nd., at the Air Force Association's rooms in the Association's new building at 213, Clarence Street, Sydney.

The Flight carried out a general survey of its activities, social, financial and otherwise as reported to it. It also elected its officers and committee for the coming year. They were:

President of Flight: Bob Bruce; Vice Presidents: Kemp Beach, Bob Lyndon;  
Flight Secretary: Cyril Irwin; Flight Treasurer Tom Moore;  
Committee: Peter Alexander, Alan Piggott, Bob Osborne, Noel Spurling; Fred. Strom,  
Graeme Coombes, Gordon Balmer, Stuart Ricketts, Bob Smith, Jack Aitken, Cec. Nation,  
Sam Barlow, and Frank Ward.

Alec Barras Goes East.

Alec Barras, one of 458's best known pilots---and one of the quartet who walked back to Egypt after coming down in the desert not far from Tobruk---came over on business from Perth. He is responsible for the Perth newspaper The West Australian. In the midst of a very busy week he made time to meet some of his Squadron oppos as could be mustered in the new Air Force Club in Clarence Street, early in April. Among the Holme-on-Spalding Moor and Shallufa 458ers who were there were George Catchlove, Stuart Ricketts, Col Campbell, Col. Corten, Graeme Coombes, Alf. Hammond, Peter Alexander, Sam Barlow, and Cyril Irwin. They had a nostalgic time talking of Air Force Days of what is now long ago. Many of those present wished that Dizzy Dean, currently in Melbourne, could have been present too. Alec has not changed much since we saw him during the first Perth All-States Reunion.

Anzac Day in Sydney.

We had a good attendance at our Anzac Day functions this year. This was the first time for many years, apart from the years when the All-States Reunion has been in Sydney, that we did not have quite a few members away in other States. On Anzac Eve, despite rainy conditions, a small party assembled in Martin Place at the Cenotaph, where Flight President Bob Bruce placed a wreath.

The March.

About fifty marched behind the 458 Squadron banner, led by President Bob Bruce. Noted among those marching were some faces we had not seen for some time--a very good thing.

After the March, we held the Reunion at the Great Southern Hotel, where, after a satisfactory buffet, the boys settled down to swap stories. The last tale, they tell me, was not told until somewhere round 11 p.m.

The Great Southern Hotel, venue of our last two reunions after the March seems to be the answer to our after-march get-together. The list of those members seen at the March or Reunion is

Bill Chapman	Sam Barlow	Jack McPhee	Bob Osborne	Tom Moore	Eric Munkman
Goldy Bartlett	Max Egan	Curly Hosking	Cy. Irwin,	Bob Bruce	Fred Strom
Cec. Nation	Jack Bevan	P. Alexander	Kemp Beach	Doug. Millard	Stan. Longhurst
Wal Archbold	Don. Bitmead	Bill McBride	Noel Spurling	Allan MacMaster	Frank Ward
Jack Aitken	Jack Baker	Jack Baker	Martin O'Shea	Allan Walker	Bert Thompson
Bob Lyndon	Bob Smith	John Dunn	Bill Astley	Bob Millar	Tom Mitchell
Joe wadsworth	Stuart Ricketts	Pop Lewis	Hughes	Alf Hammond	Freddy Ridge
Jimmy Wren	Ernie Mercer	Bert Reynolds	Jock McGowan	Len Barton	Doug. Anderson
Graeme Coombes	Col Corten				

A tape recording was made during the Reunion for despatch to other Flights; and the Squadron albums were on display.

Shadows Cast Before.

Coming Events on the Calendar of the N.S.W. Flight are the following. Dates will not be altered. Flight members will receive further notice of these fixtures as they approach. But will you right now resolve to attend. We want to see you.

28th. July Annual Picnic Lane Cove National Park;

11th. August President's Cup Golf Day;

13th. September Air Force Association Ball--The Trocadero. This

is our Annual Ball, where we have our own 458 Table, and we hope for a large 458 Squadron party there.

Arrangements are being made for a Country Reunion in October in the Near North Coast area (Gosford-Wyong). The date has not been settled. You will be advised.

In the A.T.C. Mess.

After our next Flight Committee meeting, Friday June 28th., the Committee members, on invitation from Squadron members (Black) Jack Baker,



Cornstalks on Parade (cont.)

Don. Bitmead, and Stuart Ricketts will attend the Air Training Corps Mess at Circular Quay for a few beers and a talk with the instructors of the A.T.C. Any 458 Squadron member who feels inclined to join with the Committee members in the night's visit would be very welcome. Please phone me at UW 1981 or B056 ext. 516, if interested.

BRITISH BULLETIN.

from Sid. Thompsett, 369, Downham Way, Bromley, Kent, England.

I want to send off my report this week end as I am going on my holiday next weekend, the 25th. May to Jersey. Before that however, I received to-day the minutes of the Squadron Council meeting it came by seamail as insufficient postage was put on. I had known of the motion concerning whether Squadron Conference should be held annually or biennially, and I put this to members at our last reunion and they expressed the opinion that biennially was often enough, but made it clear that in the event of any urgent business arising an emergency meeting be called at the earliest opportunity.

Anzac Day. Anzac Day was remembered as usual with the Squadron laying its wreath at the Cenotaph at Whitehall, with a service at St. Martin-in-the-Fields (as Westminster Abbey was used the day before for the wedding of Princess Alexandra and Angus Ogilvie). The usual get together at Australia House was attended by a few of the members and their wives. On Saturday 27th. April we held our Reunion at Gows Restaurant and twenty members and wives attended--a really first-rate time was had by all. It was nice to see Geoff. Barrett again. He recently lost his wife and has our deep sympathy.

Spring and the Future. Not much else has gone on since I last wrote. It takes me all my time to get some of our members to answer letters. However with all the spring flowers and trees out it makes a world of difference after all the weeks and weeks of snow we had such a short time ago.

By the way my son aged 8 is in a competition at school to collect as many different match box fronts as possible from as many countries as possible. Could you help? I will willingly pay any postage. (Editor: Can members assist, please?)

SANDGROPPERS SAY....

from Peter Power, 145, Gildercliffe Street,  
Scarborough, W.A.

Annual Meeting.

The Annual Meeting of the W.A. Flight was held on Thursday 14th. March and the following office bearers were elected:

Flight President: Tim Dale (re-elected),  
Vice Pres: Stan Long (re-elected),  
Secretary: Peter Power (re-elected),  
Asst. Secretary: Len Stewart.

The meeting was attended by a dozen blokes and six apologies were received. Naturally, the main business of the evening was the All-States Reunion to be held in Perth, Anzac Day, 1964. A special committee has been formed to go into ways and means and also to draw up a programme.

Perth, 1964. The big question at this early stage is to determine just how many members and visitors we may expect; in that regard would all Flight Secretaries please assist by bringing this matter up at Flight meetings? As previously we are quite prepared to accommodate members and their wives in our homes as it is appreciated that it is a long haul to Perth, and involves a lot of expense. We would be most happy to relieve as many visitors as possible from the expense of hotel accommodation. Eastern States members may contact me personally if they so desire.

In 1965. Our current year's Reunion will be in the Braille Society Hall, Newcastle Street, Perth, which has been the scene of many a wing ding over the years.

Jack Parkin Recovered. Squadron members will be pleased to know that Jack Parkin has fully recovered from his accident on the Eyre Highway whilst travelling to Western Australia. They lost a lot of irreplaceable personal effects in the fire which was triggered off by a gas refrigerator in the caravan they were towing behind their station waggon. However, Jack is very philosophic about the whole thing and is thankful for small mercies because quite fortuitously his son Bronte happened to look out of the window of the station waggon and noticed some smoke coming from the caravan. Jack stopped the station waggon, dived round the back, disconnected the caravan, Laurel drove the station waggon clear and--whoosh! up went the caravan and in seconds flat was a total write-off. Had Bronte not noticed the smoke, anything could have happened.

Sandgroppers Say... (cont.)

Jack spoke very highly of the help and consideration he received from other motorists on the Highway, and from the doctor, nurses and Police officers at Norseman.

He and Laurel have purchased a property just off the South Western Highway about 50 miles south of Perth and their address is:

"Cheviot Stud",  
Post Office,  
North Dandalup, W.A.

I know Jack will be delighted to hear from any of the Squadron who care to write to him.

Plans for the Reunion Events. The last All-States Reunion in W.A. entailed the expenditure of approximately £360. The next is unlikely to cost less, so we have a long row to hoe. It looks as if we will have to run a raffle or two to provide the necessary finance. I myself had no intention of accepting nomination for the position of Secretary this year as, apart from the fact that I have had eight years of office, my personal commitments make it very difficult for me. However the best laid schemes of mice and men, etc; and I had no option but again to accept the office. It was typical of Len Stewart that he agreed to become Assistant Secretary to relieve me of the bulk of my responsibilities. He has been a tower of strength in holding the W.A. Flight together over the years. We propose to make sure that the standard of hospitality set at the last Perth All-States Reunion is fully maintained.

With kind regards.

AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION TROPHY.

Squadron members will remember that, on the initial suggestion of the 458 Squadron branch of the Association in N.S.W., the Air Force Association presented to the R.A.A.F. a Trophy for annual competition among Citizen Air Force Squadrons. Won in 1961 for the first time, it was presented to the City of Perth Squadron in a ceremony at Pearce. This was reported in the "News" at the time.

For Next year, 1962, the Trophy moved right to the other end of the Commonwealth, being won by 23 Squadron--City of Brisbane. The writer accompanied the Federal Secretary of the Association, Air Marshal Sir Richard Williams to Brisbane for the presentation parade at Amberley early in April. He was impressed with the development and equipment of the R.A.A.F. at Amberley.

During his time in Brisbane he attended the Annual Meeting and associated functions of the Queensland Division of the Association, where he saw Jim Holliday, the Queensland Flight Secretary (an active member of the A.F.A.), as well as Flight President Clive Wyman, and Past Squadron President Lew Johnst on who came up from Southport.

He was also delighted to run into Bruce (Dizzy) Dean, in Brisbane on business. They both accompanied Jim Holliday out to Greenslopes Repat. Hospital to see Jim Plunkett who has been hospitalised with a knee injury.

Jim Holliday and the writer also had lunch with Bruce Dean at the United Services Club. Incidentally, Dizzy, who has been ill, has rarely looked more fit than he does now. ---P.C.A.

PERSONAL PARS.

BILL CHAPMAN. This is Bill the Fitter not Bill the Stores Basher. He is driving electric trains for the N.S.W. Railways (on the North Shore line. Is moving to a new home in Concord;

ERNIE MERCER who was with the Electrical Section in Gibraltar, now lives at Maroubra, Sydney. Is married with a family. wishes to be remembered to Jim Wren and Ken (Chico) Mercer;

DOUG ANDERSON. Bruno is now living in Double Bay, Sydney;

DOUG MILLARD has paid two recent visits to Sydney from Humula, N.S.W. The first at Anzactime. The second to see his son in hospital as an accident victim. We are glad to say the son is mending well. We were glad to see Doug;

ALLAN WALKER is still working with Howard Industries in Sydney;

JACK BEVAN is Maintenance Engineer with Australian Iron and Steel in Wollongong;

JOHNNY MILLS is also working with A.I.S., as well as being vice President of his R.S.L. Club at Austinmer;

DON BITMEAD is teaching science with the City Tech., Sydney. Is active with the A.T.C.;

JACK MCPHEE is working with S.T.C., in Alexandria, Sydney;

Personalities (cont.)

KEITH CAMPBELL recently resigned from his business to become Queensland Agent for a well-known product. At this stage, he tells us, he is a one-man band, answering the telephone, typing and doing all general clerical work. He is too busy to make morning tea;

KEL KELLAM is now back at work after suffering a coronary on a visit to Ann Kellam's home town of Grafton. Still not back on the bowling green but it won't be long now. Says he met Jock McGowen at Grafton;

JACK PLUNKETT although not fully recovered from a knee operation (for a war injury) returned to Cairns on crutches just before Easter;

MARTIN O'SHEA is now living at Pymble, Sydney. Recently sold a sheep property near Inverell. Now working with a shipping firm. A new member of the Air Force Club. Wants to be remembered to Joe Elliott and crew and to Stan Parker;

CURLY HOSKINGS has a carrying business at Sutherland, N.S.W. (see the Pink pages!);

STAN LONGHURST is with T.E.I., Sydney, on the Supply side. Had 12 months off recently.

Q. FLIGHT NEWS.

from Jim Holliday, 43, Stella Street, Holland Park, Q.

Anzac Day. This was a wet affair. Nevertheless, behind the Banner, carried by Flight President Clive Wyman, marched 18 members. For the first time in many years I watched from the sidelines, having just been discharged from hospital where an appendix was removed. From the sidelines one could be critical. However there was nothing to criticise in the way the Air Force marched in general and 458 Squadron in particular. The Air Force was by far the smartest bunch. At the Reunion afterwards at Water Street, many others joined us and we accrued a gathering of 41.

Winter Social. Our next function will be a Winter Social, at Water Street, on June 8th. Already we know of 101 acceptances. We trust the number will be doubled.

Interstate Invasion. No doubt our Editor will be reporting on his visit to Brisbane to attend the Annual Conference of the Queensland Division of the Air Force Association. Peter was acting in his capacity of Secretary of the Federal Council.

By a strange coincidence, Peter, who was staying at Lennons, ran into "Dizzy" Dean in the lobby. We berated "Dizzy" soundly for not contacting us earlier so he could have been welcomed to Queensland in the usual manner. However, he has promised to do the right thing on his next visit. He has a very senior position with Dalgety's.

Robbery at Landsborough

In the Courier-Mail on 21st. May, was a report of the arrest of two persons charged with the robbery of £394/10/0 worth of goods from Landsborough Motors. This is Kenny Cahill's garage. While we have not heard from Kenny about the misfortune, we feel he is taking it in his stride in the usual manner.

Bernie McLoughlin Engaged. Our best news is that our confirmed bachelor, Barrister-at-law, Bernie McLoughlin is now engaged to be married---to his secretary. It couldn't have happened to a nicer bloke. Bernie joins the ranks of the benedicts in July.

He carries with him all the best that Q. Flight can wish him (a wish that 458ers everywhere will heartily endorse--Editor).

Future Additions in Future Editions. Next Squadron News, we will be able to announce additions to the families of two of our best known Q. Flight personalities. I feel one will be a complete surprise.

BRIEF BULLETIN from RON BADGER. "Daughter Heather June arrived 1.4.63. 7lbs 11oz. " All well. Another.....Badger. Have one on me. Message ends" Congratulations !

PERTH COMPETITION PROGRESS REPORT.

The organiser advises that the score is, to date,

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>N.S.W.</u>	<u>Vict.</u>	<u>Q.Flt.</u>	<u>S.A.</u>	<u>W.A.</u>	<u>Tas.</u>	<u>N.T.</u>	<u>New Guinea.</u>
Books Issued	470	237	82	58	51	38	1	1	2;
Books Sold & returned	129	85	14	7	10	10	-	1	2.

Will members please expedite the return of tickets.