



THE EDITOR.

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

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February, 1964.

WHO'S FOR PERTH?

April, 1964, sees the holding of the 11th All-States Reunion of 458 SQUADRON; and this will be the second to be held in the fair city of Perth, Western Australia. The first Perth All-States Reunion in 1958 was one of the true highpoints of 458 Squadron history and was attended by a substantial party of interstate members—most of whom travelled in a party by trans-continental train across Australia from the more easterly States. They achieved for themselves five days in Perth of hospitality, and warm friendship—to achieve which the years of war service overseas were well worth while. They saw also a beautiful State lit by the sunlight of clear summer and enriched by the unspoiled beauty of river, lake and sea and the charm of Perth itself.

This year, a similar experience awaits those making their way to the West. The organisers have already heard that there will be representation from 458 in all mainland States.

The programme notified by the W.A. Flight is as follows:

Friday 24th., April. Reception of interstate members who will be met at the Railway Station or airport and conducted to their selected hotel or private accommodation. Informal entertainment;

Saturday 25th., April. Early morning. Dawn Service at the War Memorial in Kings Park. The Squadron President or his deputy will lay a wreath on behalf of the Squadron. Morning. Anzac March through Perth. Service on the Esplanade and March Past. The State Governor takes the salute.

Afternoon. All-States Reunion at the Braille Society Hall—corner of Stirling and Newcastle Streets. Sit-down lunch commences about 12.30. Reunion finishes about 6.0. p.m. During the afternoon, visiting ladies will be entertained by the local ladies.

Evening. Official visit to Gloucester Park for Anzac Day Charity Trotting meeting. The track and appointments are reported to be the best in Australia.

Sunday 26th., April. Day on the Swan River with a barbeque lunch at Mosman Bay. Running of the Stewart Cup. Evening free-local entertainment.

Monday 27th. April. Morning. Squadron Conference at Air Force Association, Adelaide Terrace, Perth; Afternoon. Golf at Wembley Downs Golf Course. The Anzac Cup competed for. Evening. Squadron Ball.

Although that will conclude the official itinerary, all interstate and country members who can stay longer will be well catered for with sight-seeing tours to places of interest.

Be In It ! Every 458er and his wife and family will be welcome. Members should drop the W.A. Secretary a line for advice or further particulars. He will be glad to know they are coming. His address? Peter Power, 145, Gildercliffe Street, Scarborough, W.A.

IF YOU HAVE NEVER BEEN TO A PERTH 458 REUNION YOU HAVE MISSED THE EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME !

THE PERTH GUESSING COMPETITION.

The Perth Guessing Competition was drawn at the Air Force Club on Friday night, 20th. December, 1963. About 50 Squadron members and friends were there. Results were as follow:

First Prize (Return trip to Perth for two or £275)---Jack Lewis, 458 member from Brisbane. Ticket 1553;
 Second Prize (£5)---D. Harte, Abbotsford, Victoria. Ticket 880 sold by M. Kernot;
 Third Prize (£5)---Usher Newton, Lismore, N.S.W. Ticket 607; 458 Member;
 Fourth Prize (£5)---B. Patterson, Burwood, Vict. Ticket 846 sold by H. Jenkins;
 Fifth Prize (£5)---Jack Cruttenden, Altona, Vict. Ticket 764; 458 member;
 Sixth Prize (£5)---J. Enright, Myponga, S.A. Ticket 1143 sold by P. Enright.

Flight Sales Scoreboard.

<u>Flight.</u>	<u>Books Issued.</u>	<u>Books Sold.</u>
N.S.W.	268	251
Victoria	82	55
Queensland	57	51
South Australia	50	30
Western Australia	38	27
Tasmania	1	1
Northern Territory	2	2
New Guinea	2	2
	<u>500</u>	<u>419</u>

The Accounting

Total Sales £419. Prize Money £300. Expenses £32-12-8. Profit £86-7-4d. This has been paid to the Squadron Council Treasurer for disbursement.

Thanks.

Some big ticket sellers were:-

Bob Bruce, Fred Strom, Cy. Irwin and Tom Moore in N.S.W.

Ernie Laming and Ian Higlett in Victoria.

Jim Plunkett and Jim. Holliday in Queensland.

Jack Riseley in South Australia.

"Trike" Wheeler in Western Australia.

Sincere thanks to all those Squadron members who generously supported this activity.

Sam Barlow, Promoter.

N.S.W. FLIGHT NEWS.

from Cyril Irwin, 17, Vincent Street, Canterbury, N.S.W.

Sports Evenings.

Squadron members, plus wives, have been engaged in two Saturday evening sports fixtures at the Air Force Club, at Darts and Carpet Bowls. We played the Manly-Warringah branch of the Air Force Association on the first occasion and 455 Squadron on the other. The evenings were thoroughly enjoyed, win lose or draw. No budding champions have been discovered in our midst but we are steadily improving at the art of carpet bowls and darts. Next games are against the W.A.A.A.F. Wing and Kuringai branch of the A.F.A.

At Christmas.

A Christmas Social, on Friday 20th. December, at the Air Force Club, during which the draw for the Perth Competition was made by the Squadron President, was generally conceded to be the most enjoyable Squadron function held for some time. Approximately 50 attended. It was a very fine conclusion to 1963. Congratulations to Jack Lewis (Q.Flight) on his win, also to the winners of the minor prizes.

Wheat from the West.

We were very pleased to receive a visit from Al. Wheat (W.A. Flight) who, although over on business was able to spend two evenings with us during his short stay. He flew back a Cessna aircraft on its delivery flight.

So much for events passed.

Dinner for Squadron Association office-bearers.

The N.S.W. President and Secretary have been invited to attend a dinner being organised, on 14th. February at the Air Force Club. This will be a get-together to enable the office-bearers of the various Squadron Associations in Sydney to get to know each other. 458 has played a part in the organisation of this function. The after-dinner Speaker will be Jack Davenport (455 Squadron), who is well-known to many of our members. Some of the Squadrons attending are 2, 3, 6, 10, 450, 452/7, 461, 462/466, 460, 463/467, Pathfinders, Catalinas, 455 and 458.

N.S.W. News (Cont.)Golf Day.

A Golf Day has been arranged for Sunday 15th. March at Gordon Golf Club--hit off 9.a.m. Further advice about this day will follow.

In conclusion, greetings to Squadron members in other Flights--may 1964 be a successful year.

VICTORIAN VIEWPOINT.

from "Shorty" Wilson, 78, Carnarvon Road, Strathmore,
W.6., Victoria.

The Childrens' Christmas Party.

Festivities for the 1963 yuletide commenced for most Victorian Flight Members with the Childrens Xmas Party. This function was held once again under the patronage of Lyle Wurr and Pat Wurr at their home in Tooradin--on the second Sunday of December. This annual event is now a well-established function judging by the smooth organisation, increasing attendance and, most important, increasing pleasure for the children. Vic. Flight members and friends in attendance were:

Ern. Laming	Wal Garde	Bob McKinna
Jim Nope	John Morris	Frank Wilson
Tich Ramsay	Don Johnston	Evan Shields
Norm. Cugley	Jack Williams	Harry Ashworth
Les. Boyer	Bill Carr	Ian Alison
	Jim Timms	

In all, there were 45 Adults, 53 children and 12 grandchildren.

Lyle and Pat once again proved to be the genial hosts, plenty of barbeques, full use of house facilities, the track for foot-running well mown, and a couple of battered wrecks of cars for the mechanically minded children.

The day dawned fine and cool and starters began to arrive about 11 a.m. The cricket game for children soon got under way, the wives started nattering and the dads soon had their tongues wagging. Umpires Cugley and Wilson soon had the childrens' game of tip and run under control but were confused occasionally by "advice" from the outer. In order to ensure a full and plentiful lunch, properly cooked, the game was adjourned to enable the dads to don the aprons.

At the conclusion of lunch at 2 o'clock sharp, the long awaited event took place: Father Christmas arrived with presents for all the children. Who gets the biggest kick out of it, the children or the parents? There were many moist eyes as the children received their presents. Father Christmas is a fine invention. He gladdens the hearts of both young and old.

Racers and Fresh Eggs. The childrens' races were next on the programme, and all participants received a prize, which they deserved because of the amount of urging and barracking they had to contend with. However they had their turn during the egg-catching event for the mums and dads. Yes, fresh eggs! Urk!

Father Christmas returned with ice cream and soft drinks for all the children, and the snow wound up about 4.30 p.m.

Highlights.

Wonderful hospitality of Lyle and Pat Wurr;

The spirit in which the teenagers entered into the activity of Father Christmas by lining up for their presents and encouraging the younger children;

Benign approach of Ern. Laming;

Organising ability of Norm and Nancy Cugley, assisted by their helpers, in looking after the childrens' events;

Offer of Lyle and Pat to repeat the show on the first Sunday of

December 1964;

Attendance of John Morris and Tich Ramsay, together with their families, who we have not seen for some time;

Enthusiasm of the Boyers for travelling such a long distance to attend.

The Grapevine.

Alma Wilson and children caravanning at Portarlinton for 5½ weeks while Shorty had to batch. for 2½ weeks.

The Cugley family had a beach house at Portarlinton, complete with boat, and Nancy is still talking about the one that got away. Thanks for the supply of fish, Norm.

The Alison family at St. Leonards and the Munday and Burgess families at Torquay. What a pity--all within a radius of ten miles!

THE BRITISH BULLETIN

from Sid Thompsett, 369, Downham way, Bromley, Kent.

Many thanks for the match box fronts sent. Since the beginning of the year, my boy has managed to get nearly 300 different ones.

Guy Johnston has sent a photo of the Squadron Tree at Holme-on-Spalding

Moor, which he managed to get taken by a friend who now works on the drome. The Tree has grown very well despite our very severe winter, but has not yet flowered. Please let Johnno know. We will send you two copies.

We are now having an annual reunion in April. Guy Johnston sends his best wishes to C. Richardson, L. Simpson, A. Kelly, B. Monan, Otto Mann and Ron Gannaway.

Perth Reunion.

We hope you are lucky enough to make the Perth Reunion. We would like the Conference to consider the idea of each flight sending a small annual subscription to the Pea Nut Club ward at the West Grinstead Hospital--which is still doing so marvellous a job.

CROWEATERS COMMENTS.

from Brian Woodhead, 90, Observation Drive,
Highbury, South Australia.

Due to some personal problems and the fierce weather I'm afraid I've been a very poor correspondent--but will try to amend my ways. But the supply of news is very scarce.

Phillis from Darwin.

Tom Phillis was down from Darwin on leave, and arrangements had been made to meet him at a certain bar for a few drinks, but somehow or other the bars or drinks were mixed for we finished in one and Tom in another. He visited Bill Taylor at his home and had lunch with Mel Priest.

Cuthy Over.

Gordon Cuthbertson and his family were over for their annual holidays in South Aus. Gordon didn't have much time to spare as he had some car trouble, so couldn't make his round of calls. Ron Badger has been unavailable so presume he is at his usual Sellicks Beach hideout.

At Ned Kelly's.

Late last November some of the boys gathered at Ned Kellys for an excuse. These included Gordon McRae, Norm. Trewartha, Arn. Scholar and Jack Riseley, all of whom had a very enjoyable evening.

Kindest Regards.

LEN ADAMS ILL.

458ers who were with the Squadron at Holme-on-Spalding Moor, Shallufa or Amiriya will remember Len, who was a Fitter N.C.O. Though an Australian, he was serving in the Royal Air Force. He had been on a tour of Europe in 1939 and only just succeeded in getting out of Germany before the declaration of war. He promptly joined the R.A.F. and was later posted to 458. In post-war years he has had a successful garage business in Gundagai, N.S.W.

Len is now in the Repat. Hospital at Concord. He has, it seems, had a stroke. This has affected his mobility and speech. However his 458 friends will be most welcome visitors to him in hospital. We wish him a steady recovery.

CORRESPONDENCE: Letters to the Editor.

From Jock Forbes, 15, Boyd Street, Glasgow, Scotland.

Dear Sir, During the war I was attached to the 458 Squadron for three years, whilst serving overseas. I was in charge of the Officers' Bar. Never was I among a finer or more generous crowd--who made the separation from home much more tolerable than it would otherwise have been. I would give a lot to meet them all once more, and many a time I talk of you all to my wife and son, recalling the magnificent spirit of comradeship which you all displayed to me. I'd dearly love to emigrate to Australia but unfortunately my wife won't agree.

I occasionally see Pilot Officer Harry Smith who lives fairly near me, and I had a visit from Leon Armstrong who was here in Scotland on holiday from London. We enjoyed reminiscing on the many wonderful incidents we all shared in 1942-5.

My kindest regards and best wishes to all who may remember me.

yours very sincerely,

Jock Forbes.

From Bruce McKenzie, Nairobi, Kenya.

Dear Peter, ...I have to-day done a tape message from Kenya to Australia in my capacity as Minister for Agriculture in the new independent Kenya Government. The

Correspondence (cont.)

idea originally came from Mr. T.A. Goglin of Apsley, Queensland. I gather he is Chairman of the local Rotary Club.

I am still hoping to be able to get to Australia some time in the near future and I am off to the U.K. and to Washington at the end of January. I hope, whilst I am in the States to get up to Peterborough in Canada to see Peter Eastcott. I was in the U.K. four or five weeks ago and went down and met Peter Thompson at his home at Camberley. He is now a Wing Commander in charge of a Canberra Squadron and is due very shortly to become a Group Captain. I had dinner with Geoffrey Tuttle who is now an active Director of Vickers and is involved mainly on the personnel side. Both of them are very fit and looking as young as ever.

Our Independence celebrations went off extremely well and quietly. I managed to have a talk to your Lord Casey who represented Australia at the celebrations.

With kind regards to all the chaps and all the best for 1964.

yours aye,

Bruce.

From Bill Fiddes, "Ingeborg", Winewoods Green, Tutshill, Chepstow, Monmouth, England.

Dear Peter, For a long time I have been meaning to write to you and to-day your address turned up in an old notebook which I was using when I came here in 1952.

I am writing now to send my best regards to your goodself and the boys who may remember me.

I am still employed here as a Technical Adviser, and cover all the south-west of England and South Wales. Again I offer my services if any of the lads want anything done over here. I shall also be interested to know if there is a 458 Club in the U.K.

It is possible I may return to Australia during next year and if you have any gen. on War Service loans I would appreciate this.

Pernaps you would be kind enough to give my special greetings to Bev. Wallace, Jock McGowen and Jimmy Brown if you are in touch, also Jack Pomfrett. Any news would be most welcome.

All the best to all 458.

yours sincerely,

Bill Fiddes.

SANDGROPER AT THE READY.

from "Butch" Power, 145, Gildercliffe St., Scarborough, W.A.

In the West we are in a somewhat peculiar position. All arrangements for the All-States Reunion are complete. But we aren't informed as to who is coming. I would stress that it is essential that we know as early as possible just who will be coming to the West for the Reunion, just how they will be coming, and who would require accomodation whether private or public. Will members please let us know!

Personal Pars.

Al. Wheat left Perth on Monday night on a business trip to Sydney, and he will be contacting you there.

Jim Palmer and his attractive wife Lucy are on their annual vacation and are stopping at Scarborough Beach. Both send their best wishes to all intending comers to the Reunion and are looking forward to seeing them at Anzac Time.

As regards myself, the position, to say the least, is very dull. In September last I had a heart attack occasioned by extremely low blood pressure and, as a result, was placed on a monastic diet, minus all alcohol. As a result, I am now 11 stone 5 lbs, fully clothed, and but a shadow of my former self. "Bubble-Gutz" Power is alas no more. It means also that I will be relinquishing the position of Flight Secretary which I have held for the past nine years. Not through lack of interest but because of present circumstances and doctor's instructions. In other words, I have developed into a 'glorified wet blanket'.

We know that Dave and Glad. Firth from Robinvale in Victoria will be starters for the All-States Reunion. They are coming overland in their station waggon. They are nice people and will be as welcome as the flowers in spring. They will be stopping with Amy and myself here.

Sandgroppers at the Ready (cont.)

A few days ago we had a lightning visit from Jack Riseley who was over on a business trip from Adelaide. He is still the same old Jack except that there was a lot more of him. He sent his 'best wishes' to all the "Sandgroppers".

Tony Stone had a very short sojourn only in Western Australia. He was posted back to Melbourne early in December and no doubt by now has contacted "V" Flight.

Well, that is about all the news; so it is now a case of Come One, Come All, to Perth in April. Regards to everybody.

ALL-SQUADRONS GET-TOGETHER IN SYDNEY.

There are quite a few Squadron Associations in existence in the Sydney area and it occurred to some members of 458 and 466 Squadrons that it would be an idea to arrange a dinner one evening for the office-bearers of all the known Squadron Associations. This was done, 458 acting as the "Secretarial" Squadron with Bob Bruce issuing the invitations. This was the dinner mentioned earlier in this issue and it took place at the Air Force Club, Clarence Street, Sydney on Friday, February 14th. About 40 Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurers or committeemen came from 18 Squadrons or Associations. W/Cdr. J. Davenport of 455 Squadron was the after-dinner speaker and told the party something about the Ultra Low Frequency Submarine Communication Station being built in the wilds of North western Australia for the U.S. Navy by the company of which he is a Managing Director. One of the more striking remarks he made was that the power to be transmitted from the great lengths of aerial involved in U L.F. radio will be such that, without special arrangements every wire fence withing several miles of the Station would glow white hot while it transmitted.

W/Cdr. "Bobby" Gibbes of 3 Squadron spoke, thanking the speaker, and by request talking about New Guinea (of which he is a prominent resident) and its defences. Other speakers expressed appreciation of the dinner and urged closer links between the various Squadrons and with the Air Force Association. These included Deryck Giblin (Pathfinders), John Cole (467 Squadron), D. Valentine (1 Squadron) and Bert Butler (2 Squadron).

As a matter of general interest the names of the units and officers there were:

<u>2 Squadron</u>	<u>3 Squadron</u>	<u>6 Squadron</u>	<u>450 Squadron</u>
B. Butler President	R. Gibbes President	B. Brown President	L. Murray Pres'tnt
D. Martin Committee	J. Doyle V-President	T. Pomeroy Committee	G. Buckman Secretary
	B. Amm Secretary		
	R. Gray Committee		
<u>455 Squadron</u>	<u>456 Squadron</u>	<u>458 Squadron</u>	<u>462/466 Squadrons</u>
J. Davenport Pres.	M. Gatenby Pres.	P. Alexander Fed. Pres.	A. Swann Pres'nt.
H. Spink V-Pres.	J. Benning Sec.	S. Bruce President	W. E. Eagleton P/Pres.
T. Crooks Sec.		C. Irwin Sec.	H. Wills Committee
S. Young Treasurer		F. Strom Committee	
<u>10/461 Squadrons</u>	<u>463/467 Squadrons</u>	<u>Path Finders Assoc.</u>	<u>Catalina Association</u>
P. Jensen Pres.	J. Cole Pres.	D. Giblin Pres.	J. Thompson Pres.
T. Mold Sec.	D. Wheeler Sec.	E. Brown Asst. Sec	R. Cade Sec.
J. Swan Treasurer	T. Bashford Treas.		
G. Parker Committee			
<u>Malayan Squadrons</u>	<u>Air Force Club.</u>	<u>Apologies.</u>	
D. McLaren Pres.	R. Levenger Pres.	452/7 Squadrons, 22 Squadron, 77 Squadron	
D. Valentine Committ.	K. Whiting Committee.	454/459 Squadrons	
<u>460 Squadron</u>			
R. Turnbull Treas.			

Authorised by the Editor (P. C. Alexander)

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

To the Hon. Secretary,

.....Flight,

458 Squadron

.....

for 1964.

Please find herewith my annual sub of.....

Name:

Address: