



THE EDITOR.

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Australia.

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#### SQUADRON PRESIDENT VISITS SYDNEY FOR ANZAC MARCH.

Harry Ashworth, the Squadron President, who lives in Melbourne, visited the N.S.W. Flight for Anzac Day, 1968, and led the Squadron on the March. He also presided at the Annual Meeting of the 458 Squadron Council.

The Squadron President was accompanied by his wife to Sydney, and also by Squadron crewmate and Victorian Committeeman Ian Alison with his wife. They travelled by train!

As is normally the case, Anzac Day was fine in Sydney and the March and subsequent 458 Reunion went off very enjoyably. Another crewmate of Harry Ashworth's in the person of Ralph Bailey was well to the fore in entertaining the Melbourne party. Ralph is now in practice as a dentist in Sydney.

#### Squadron Council Meeting at Mt. Wilga.

At the invitation of the Squadron Secretary, Bob Bruce, Squadron Council held its meeting, during the evening of April 26th., at the Mt. Wilga Rehabilitation Centre run by the Commonwealth Department of Social Services, and managed by Bob. There was, concurrently, a Barbecue for the wives and those members not at the Council meeting. The barbecue was notable for the steaks and for some red wines produced under the influence of that "Vino Veteran" Sam Barlow. Of these examples of Australian clarets it may be said that some were very good and some quite remarkable.

Squadron Council received reports on activities and progress in each of the State Flights and also the U.K. Flight. It agreed to a Q. Flight suggestion of a raffle in financial aid of the Special Interstate Reunion in 1970 to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of 458's Gibraltar Stand-down in June 1945. Council also discussed the matter of proposed plastic stick-on type 458 Car badges.

Council members remarked on the lift given to the meeting by having both the President and interstate representation, the latter through Ian Alison representing Victoria.

Council heard of planning for next year's All States Reunion in Adelaide.

#### VICTORIAN VIEWPOINT.

from Harry Ashworth, 39, Andrew Street, Oakleigh,  
Victoria, 3166.

#### Marches, Meetings and Elections.

Vic. Flight still manages to remain fairly active and all are looking forward to another good year under the leadership of the new Flight President, Ron Russell, who was elected to follow Harold "Yank" Martin in this high office at the Annual meeting held on Anzac Day afternoon at our usual spot. Others elected were:

Senior Vice President Frank Wilson (who is in Heidelberg Hospital at the moment of going to press, but is permitted visitors),

Junior Vice President Don Johnson; ---and the hard-working

Victorian Viewpoint (cont.)

Bill Carr again as Secretary/Treasurer.

A Committee of 17 members was also elected.

Approximately 35 members marched behind the Squadron Banner on Anzac Day, with 30 members arriving at Prahran for the usual Reunion. Those present were:--

John Bilney	Ted Kennedy	Ken Brown	Ted Love	Gordon Cuthbertson
Harold Martin	Bill Carr	Jim Munday	Norm Cugley	Bob McKinna
Stan Cartledge	Tom Primrose	Dave Firth	Ron Russell	Harry Rocke
Jack Fleming	Bob Smith	Kev Guiney	Mick Singe	Bill Henry
Jim Timms	Bill Hurford	Stan Tarczynski	Don Johnson	Frank Wilson
Harry Jenkins	Tom Wishart	Harold Young	Ron Yates	

Apologies were received from Ian Alison and Harry Ashworth who had journeyed to Sydney with their wives to attend the March and Reunion there. However they did arrange all catering needs and left everything in order for the Reunion.

Sundry Snippets (from Bill Carr)

Tom (Scotty) Wishart who is living at 24, Alexandra Avenue, Elsternwick, is now a grandfather.

Ron Yates is schoolteaching in the country at Toolamba. Ron has not been sighted at one of our functions for ages and it was nice to see him again;

Gordon Cuthbertson together with Ted Kennedy was down from the Ballarat district for the day. Gordon has a son at Melbourne University whom he was able to visit after the Reunion. Hope his son made sense of what he had to say;

Jim Munday. It was nice to see Jim once again. He would like to retain his active interest in Squadron affairs but finds this hard now that he resides in Geelong. Jim told us that he had sold his interest in the Hotel and is now carrying on his own business as a Manufacturers Agent. He is looking for good agency lines. Who requires a good rep. for the Geelong and Western Districts? Jim can be contacted at Geelong 21-5072 or 167, McKillop Street, E. Geelong, 3219.

Mick Mather Little birds are saying that Mick will be in Melbourne and later on in Darwin; Mick is still serving with the R.A.A.F.;

Bill Carr and his wife, Rose, now have two sons and a daughter. Bill also has a 15 year old daughter. He continues in the employ of Kodaks as Data Processing Manager;

Ern Laming and his wife are at present in New Zealand visiting their daughter. Ern also has a son in New Guinea;

Bob McKinna advises that his undercarriage requires some repairs. Didn't march. Was detailed as Duty Cook for the Reunion. Did a good job too;

John Bilney --still laughing despite the necessity to scratch out a living in the photographic industry in opposition to 'that name'. Our members note that he and Bill Carr have continued a friendship since Squadron days (Bill is with Kodak, John Agfa--Ed.)  
The Trots to Come.

Vic. Flight members are reminded that we have two nights arranged for the next season. We hope for the usual support. There will be 150 tickets available on each occasion. Further notice of these meetings will be sent to members.

NEW SOUTH NOTES.

from Cy. Irwin, 61, Park Avenue, Ashfield, N.S.W. 2131.

There is not a great deal to report of N.S.W. Flight doings since the February News issue. To take things in their order:--

Trout-fishing Weekend.

This was forecast in the last News. It can now be reported that the weekend was held and voted a very good one by those who got there. (One member did not arrive and several found the navigation exercise a bit hard for retired airmen). Bob Bruce, Sam Barlow, Frank Ward, Stuart Ricketts, Graeme Coombes, Fred Strom and two non friends made the trip--into the wilds of Oberon. Camp was set up on the Friday night, and with the aid of numerous bottles of Sam's claret and mosquito repellent they were able to make themselves reasonably comfortable for the weekend, despite the lack of rope,

New South Notes (Cont.)

food, and a few other minor items. NO fish were caught but the boys still have their Licenses to fish and drink. This weekend will be repeated before the licenses run out.

The Dining Days.

We have been represented at several dinners of Air Force interest and importance. Flight President John Hosking represented us at the Annual Dinner and Reunion of 466/462 Squadrons Association on April 10th. A little earlier, Peter Alexander attended the Dinner to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Royal Air Force--this was held on March 29th. (the Actual Anniversary being April 1st.). Finally, on May 16th, John Hosking, Cy. Irwin and Peter Alexander were at the A.F.A. branch Presidents and Secretaries Dinner to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Dam Busters exploit by 617 Squadron, R.A.F. The latter had as main speakers W/Cdr. J.N. Davenport and also Paul Brickhill, an ex-Fighter pilot and a P.O.W., who wrote the best-selling book "The Dam Busters" among a well-known series of war stories. We are always glad to be represented at these functions.

Visit of Bill Clues.

Bill Clues, who is the W.A. Flight President, made a caravan visit to the Eastern States recently. A party of 458ers was happy to meet up with him at the Air Force Club. Bill was able to attend our monthly Committee meeting and give some news of the W.A. blokes and in turn take back some news of Squadron members met on his trip.

Anzac Day, 1968.

On Anzac Eve a wreath was placed on the Cenotaph to commemorate the Squadron Dead. The Squadron marched in force in the Air Force section of the March, behind our new Banner, and led by Squadron President Harry Ashworth and Flight President John Hosking. Between 50 and 60 458ers marched.

Annual Reunion.

After the March we gathered at the usual Anzac day venue, the Great Southern Hotel in George Street for the Reunion; lunch, beer and the works and, for good measure, we also held the Annual General Meeting and election of the Flight. The Reunion Roll Call was:--

D. Benson-Inglis	J. Aitken	J. Hosking	B. Dean	F. Ward	C. P. Irwin
H. Baines	L. J. Barlow	P. C. Alexander	J. Bevan	G. Ballmer	R. Bailey
A. Piggott	H. Bryant	W. McBride	L. Piggott	J. Preston	B. Lyndon
N. Peachey	J. McPhee	T. Ridgeway	S. Longhurst	R. Hills	J. McGowen
H. Ashworth	I. Alison	K. Beach	F. Ayres	E. Munkman	B. Nagorcka
G. Unitt	F. Strom	N. Spurling			

A number of 458ers who marched were unable for business or other reasons to come on to the Reunion. If any special mentions are due, it was good to have with us the South Coast reps. Jack Bevan and George Unitt and also Dave Benson-Inglis who was passing through Sydney and caught up with the Reunion through the papers. We were happy to have with us guests from other Squadrons.

Our regards to other Flight members from N.S.W. Flight.

---Cy. Irwin.

BRITISH BULLETIN.

from Sid Thompsett, 119, George Lane, Lewisham, S.E.13, London.

All's Well.

All is well with us in the U.K. as far as I know.

Anzac Day went off very well. The U.K. Flight laid a wreath at the Cenotaph in Whitehall, this being carried out by Leon Armstrong.

After the ceremony there was a demonstration by students over the Vietnam war but I expect you have these too in Australia.

On Saturday April 27th., we had our Annual Reunion, this being held at the Pathfinder Club. Just the usual few attended, but this year it was nice to have Bill Prater and his wife. How nice it would be for a few of the others to come along.

I have had a phone call from Tom Moore but he was so busy it was not possible to meet him. But we had a long chat.

All the best to you all in Aussie.

Sid. Thompsett.

CROWEATER COMMENTARY.from Lofty Trewartha, 60, California St., Nailsworth, S.A."Massa" Foote.

Selwyn (Massa) Foote was in Adelaide with several of his banana-bending mates on March 8th. for the Australian Clay Pigeon Shoot. He was entertained by a few of the boys and their wives at the Stage Coach Room, Highway Inn. Massa, looking remarkably fit, hasn't changed much since we last saw him in Tunisia 25 years ago. Those in attendance were:-- Ron and Jackie McRae, Sid and Pat Bartram, Lofty and Marge Trewartha, and Arn. Scholar.

Bill Clues.

The Western Australian Flight President and his attractive better half Joan were in Adelaide recently after having toured the Eastern States. It was most regrettable that time did not allow members in this State the opportunity to meet Joan, as it has been most noticeable in the past that Western Australian hospitality has been second to none. We trust that you both had a very pleasant trip back, Bill and Joan.

Anzac Day March.

About 30 strong, the South Australian Flight marched once again as a separate unit behind Squadron Vice President Bill Taylor. Our old cobbler Bill Cribb once again accepted the honour of being Banner-bearer---everyone thought it was an honour except Bill who considered he was the victim of a three-card trick. Guest-of-Honour was Ray Whitrod, the Commonwealth Police Commissioner. Robert Drinnan, son of our late comrade Bob, marched in our ranks and it was an inspiration to see him striding it out in his father's place.

After the March was over...

After the March, the usual Get-together was had at the Talbot Hotel in Gouger Street, where Mel Priest had the chance to catch up with subscriptions due; I believe the response was most generous. I would like to acknowledge cheques for \$4.00 from both Gerry Young and Ron McRae which have been paid to the Secretary. Those seen at the March ---and apologies to any I may have missed:--

Jack Riseley	Bert Ravenscroft	Bill Taylor	Brian Woodhead
Sid Bartram	Snow Bartram	H. Bartram	Ron Badger
Arn. Scholar	Norm. Trewartha	Bill Cribb	Junior Davies
Ted Creighton	Mel Priest	Bruce Thomas	Reg. Priest
John Carey	H. Oliver	Mal Goers	K. Foreman
J. McGlasson	Lloyd Letcher	R. Robertson	J. Fisher
F. Hall	Kevin Tait.		

What Started All This.

458 Squadron was formed at Williamstown in N.S.W. on July 10 '41 and embarked on the M.V. ~~Awatea~~ on August 8th, as a Squadron. It re-formed at Holme-on-Spalding Moor, Yorkshire, England on September 1st ---though personnel continued to arrive throughout September and October.

Regards to all,

Lofty.

FROM THE BANANA-BENDERS. Q. FLIGHT NEWS.from Jim Holliday, 43, Stella St., Holland Park, Q.Anzac Day.

It was a dirty drizzly day, and for the second time since World War II the Anzac March in Brisbane was abandoned.

We laid a wreath at the R.A.A.F. Plaque in the Crypt at Anzac Park. It was, as usually, a simple, brief but moving ceremony that is a highlight of the day. Interesting and different that the padre was a Salvation Army Captain and the bugler a Salvation Army lass. Each year, more and more attend the ceremony, drawn by the solemnity as much as the simplicity.

A respite over a warm cup of coffee and we hied ourselves to the palatial customer-waiting rooms at the business premises of good Charles Warren. Fifteen men we were around and about a chest of golden treasure, sipping and supping and singing quietly the praises of the servicelife of our long-departed youth. One of the nicest afternoons we have ever spent marred only by the lack of many more of our mates. So passed another Anzac Day and another milestone of our lives.

Presidential Party.

The next month, May 11th. to be precise, Flight President Chas. Richardson hosted a few of the Committee and friends at a party at the Milton Tennis Club where we wined, dined and danced, accompanied

Q.Flight News (cont.)

by our wives who grew more beautiful as the flagons grew lighter.

Occasion for Jubilee.

Don't Forget. The Jubilee Reunion, Brisbane, 1970. Plans are proceeding apace. Remember, a penny saved now means Surfers Paradise in 1970, over the Queens Birthday Weekend.

--Jim Halliday.

CORRESPONDENCE: Letters to the Editor.

From Ernie Laming, at 48, Brayley Ave., Paparangi, via Johnsonville, Wellington, N.Z.

Dear Peter,

Just a note to let you know I had the privilege of attending Ron Verity's Anzac Service at his school on the 24th April and with the R.S.A. at Blenheim on the 25th. I am enclosing a copy of the Service for the Post-war History. Unfortunately we did not get our photo taken for the Album on Parade. Ron's wife took one of us with his son at the Ferry Terminal so he might send one on. He asked to be remembered to you and wondered if he owed anything. Four Australians were to be in Blenheim on Friday but I don't know if Geo. Nation would be with them.

yours sincerely,

Ern.

From Mrs. Alison Wheatley, Flat 8, 117, Park Street, South Yarra, Melbourne, Vic., 3141.

Dear Peter,

Thank you for your letter. I have intended writing long before this, but I have had a pretty busy time.....As you see I have a new address. I waited ten weeks for this flat but now I'm slowly getting settled.

I still haven't gone to New Zealand but hope to soon. My brother has had quite a big operation, new arteries put into his heart and its not much good going till he is able to drive.....I am glad I am not in Vietnam now although they don't seem to be worrying about ships...

yours sincerely,

Alison Wheatley.

From Beatrice and Bob McKinna, 29, Taylor Avenue, Burwood East, Melbourne, Vic., 3151.

Dear Peter,

Bob and I look forward to and enjoy the 458 Squadron News.

We were particularly interested in the article "The Prangers". You don't have to get to N.S.W. to have a prang. Bob and I were travelling to Sydney at Christmas time but only got as far as Albury where we were stopped in our tracks. Sandwiched between two cars in Albury. Our car was a wipe off but we were only shaken. However we eventually got to Sydney and had a nice fortnight in French's Forest with our daughter and son-in-law. Came home by train.

It will soon be Anzac time again and we will be looking forward to seeing the 458 Banner again in the march.

yours sincerely,

Beatrice and Bob McKinna.

PERSONAL PARS.

Dave Benson-Inglis is Construction Manager with the Dillingham Corporation at Port Moresby, New Guinea. Involved with a CRA Dam at Rouana. Married with two sons and a daughter;

"Dusty" Miller has a steel construction and Engineering business--making particularly farm machinery, at Griffith, N.S.W., named Collier and Miller. Is associated with Vanderfield and Reid of Sydney. Is a grandfather and a local Bowls Champion. Wishes to be remembered to Geoff. Esau. How is the latter on Poker Dice, he asks.

Don Anderson doing well at Hay, N.S.W. Now taking an interest in Cotton;

Jack Aitken still flying Fokker Friendships and DC 3s for Airlines of N.S.W. He has a son in the R.A.A.F. and another doing architecture.

John "Curly" Hosking has an intra-state Removals business;

Frank Ward is in practice as a Public Accountant at 29, Blight Street, Sydney;

Personal Pars (cont.)

Jack Bevan is i/c Maintenance for Australian Iron and Steel, Woollongong;  
"Buster" Balmer is now working with Garden Island Dockyard, Sydney;  
Ralph Bailey is in practice as a Dentist at Collins House, Broadway, Sydney;  
Alan Piggott is working with E.T. Doig and Associates, Surveyors and Civil Engineers. Was recently bitten by a Funnel web spider while working at the Cardinal's Palace;  
Eric Munkman and wife Dorothy recently visited Victoria and stayed with Dave and Glad Firth at Robinvale. They also saw Ken Cupper. Dave was well though we understand his son was not. Dave intends to be at next year's All-States Reunion in Adelaide and also the 1970 Jubilee Reunion in Queensland. Eric met Stan Smith some time ago. Stan is doing well on King Island, off Tasmania;  
Henry Bryant is Foreman i/c Maintenance with the Sydney Morning Herald. Has a son doing Commerce at the University of N.S.W. and a daughter who is to be a teacher. His son, Dennis, is something of a champion athlete;  
Bill McBride works with Smiths, the Stationery manufacturers, i/c Envelope Manufacture.  
Les Piggott has the Post Office at Tarana, N.S.W.;  
Tom Ridgeway is Headmaster of Revesby South Public School. Ex-38 Squadron, we welcome Tom as the first formally 'posted' Associate member of the N.S.W. Flight of 458 Squadron;  
Jack Preston is with the N.S.W. District Contract Board of the Dept. of Supply;  
Stan Longhurst works with T.E.I., Sydney;  
Ron Hills recently accepted by Repatriation as Totally and Permanently Incapacitated. Was elected to the N.S.W. Flight Committee at the Anzac Day General Meeting;  
Jock McGowen is Sales Manager of G.W. Engineering, Sydney at Camperdown. Has re-married;  
Kemp Beach who is with the Bank of New South Wales, is Chairman of the local R.S.L. Youth Club and also a member of the R.S.L. Youth Club Council. Is a member of the N.S.W. Amateur Boxing Association and a Judge and Time-keeper;  
Ian Alison is extending his house in Melbourne. In the Advertising business.  
Fred Ayres is at Petersham Post Office. Has lost 2½ stone in weight; None the less is still quite substantial;  
Harry Ashworth in A Grade Pennants for his Club in Melbourne.

WORLD VETERANS FEDERATION SECRETARY GENERAL IN AUSTRALIA.

"News" Readers will be interested to know that the recently chosen Secretary General of the W.V.F. recently paid us a visit. Mr. W.O. Cooper, though he has his H.Q. in Paris (which is W.V.F.'s H.Q.) is an American from Texas—indeed from Dallas. As part of his 'taking over office' he is visiting Member Associations and came to us via India and Indonesia. In India he looked into the Gorkha Soldier Training Farm which we of the Australian W.V.F. have recently been able to help (in liaison with Freedom from Hunger) with 2000 breeding chicks.

In Australia he spent some days in Sydney, meeting Australian Ex-Servicemen's officials, and in Canberra. As W.V.F. Council Member for Australia I also went to Canberra. We attended the opening days of the E.C.A.F.E. Conference, W.V.F. being an accredited Non Government Organisation with the United Nations. We called on the department of External Affairs and discussed Aid Projects for S.E. Asia and (in Sydney) on Senator McKellar, the Minister for Repatriation. We were shown over the Repatriation General Hospital Concord by the Deputy Commissioner, the Medical Superintendent and the Matron. In both Canberra and Sydney the R.S.L. offered hospitality.

Bill Cooper who is a former National Commander of the Disabled American Veterans, an organisation of several million members, and later was in charge of American Aid in the Sudan, comes to his new international office with high qualifications. In personality he has all the charm so often found in the Southern American and the Texan. He is also a man of remarkably keen perception and sees clearly to the heart of a problem as quickly as any man I have known.

That the Australian R.S.L. has not joined other Australian Ex-Service bodies in W.V.F. has been a matter of regret among Veterans throughout the W.V.F. membership. Space does not warrant my going into the reasons of this piece of post-war history but we hope one day they will. Certainly their office-bearers were impressed by what the Secretary General was able to say of the work of W.V.F. with its 50 Countries and 20,000,000 membership.

We are planning the maximum Australian impact on international Ex-Service problems, particularly in the area of great importance to Australia in the near North. ———P.C.A.