

CIRCULAR

# 458 SQUADRON NEWS



THE EDITOR.

Box 5289, G.P.O., Sydney, N.S.W., 2001, AUSTRALIA.

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## 14th. ALL-STATES REUNION OF 458 SQUADRON HELD IN ADELAIDE.

The 14th in the remarkable series of All-States Reunions of 458 Squadron has been most successfully held in the South Australian capital, Adelaide. Members from other States have commented that this has been easily the best of the Adelaide All-States Reunions. A commentary by Squadron Secretary Bob Bruce who attended follows:

Having made up my mind to go to Adelaide I was cautioned by many "You'll find Adelaide dull." "What shocking beer!" and many such comments.

Oh, the winds of change! Adelaide proved to be a most hospitable city, the beer (West End) most palatable, food served in restaurants delightful, and indeed some of Adelaide's suburban hotels and dining rooms were as excellent as they were unusual in the food and entertainment offered. When added to this, one was able to attend a 458 Squadron All-States Reunion for a four day stand then, as the youngsters say "Man, you can really have a ball!"

Obviously a lot of good planning had been accomplished over the preceding months by Bill Taylor and his hard-working Committee. The arrangements were first-class—it was 458 Squadron weather at its best—and, for those who missed being there I shall broadly sketch the events of the Reunion.

### Thursday 24th.

Interstate members began arriving in Adelaide, some of them playing up that night in a Bavarian Tavern at the Arkaba Hotel, Glen Osborn.

### Friday—Anzac Day.

Bill Taylor was up early at the Dawn Service but most 458 members made their appearance at the wreath-laying ceremony at West Beach Airport. There, several Squadrons congregate and after a simple but most impressive service by an ex-R.A.A.F. Padre, wreaths are laid on behalf of the Squadrons present. Mel Priest laid one on behalf of 458. Then, after some rather bad navigation, all members made their way to the March assembly point. By this time a large Victorian contingent arrived after travelling overnight from Melbourne.

Ernie Laming, looking younger than ever, appeared to have increasing difficulty in getting over 70 fellows into ranks, but eventually we marched off and were greeted along the route by a large cheering band of 458 wives.

After the march a delightful walk back to the city through the Gardens and University grounds brought us to the Reunion at the Hindmarsh Hotel. This was well-attended; the Squadron Albums were displayed and created much interest. The Reunion was high-lighted by a presentation by Flight President Bill Taylor on behalf of S.A. Flight to An. Scholar for his services over many years to the Flight. While the men were enjoying the Reunion the wives of interstate members were taken for a drive followed by an excellent luncheon at the Hotel Feathers. Madge Taylor and Verna Riseley had gone to great pains to ensure their guests were made welcome; each lady visitor received a posy and Squadron people six miniature wine varieties. Friday evening, with everyone perhaps rather tired, was given to private hospitality.

### Saturday Morning, the 26th.

The Squadron Conference met under the chairmanship of Squadron President Harry Ashworth. This is reported elsewhere in this News. After Conference delegates had, after its closure, had a few drinks together and much

All-States Reunion (cont.)

ear-bashing they dispersed in different directions--to football, sightseeing, etc.

Saturday Night.

This brought a Dinner-Dance at the Arkaba Castle under the organising eye of Bruce (Flash) Thomas. The night was a huge success after which the Hotel where the interstate members and visitors stayed seemed to take some time to settle down for the night.

Sunday Morning.

The Anzac Cup for golf was played for on Sunday morning. Harry Ashworth had held the Cup for two years and broke it on the trip from Melbourne, so it was fitting or poetic justice that he won it again (by a colossal margin). The Victorians say Harry is a better bowler than golfer but despite Bert Ravenscroft's golf organising ability Harry couldn't be contained and carried off the trophy. The weather was glorious and the change of venue to Bellair enabled the golfer to have a short walk to the 19th. where the Squadron family barbeque was already underway.

The Barbeque.

At first sight the barbeque was frightening. From sources unknown John Ringwood had produced a 5 gallon container of claret (vintage unknown) and when viewing this, and Jack Riseley dispensing beer from a 9 gallon keg one wondered at the headaches in store. However the wine with beautifully barbecued steaks and sausages developed a delectable flavour and it was lots of fun.

An innovation--Catching the Egg Race in lieu of the Footrace event proved very entertaining and was won by Brian Woodhead.

The Dick-the-Tick Trophy for Darts was carried off by John Carey in grand style:--in accordance with the usual practice we shall hope to see John defend his trophy in Sydney in 1971.

And so on Sunday evening planes trains and cars started to take people home, interstate, the country, or Adelaide. Certainly all would have been pleased they made the effort to take part. Personally, I will always remember the friendships renewed in Adelaide with Squadron members and families; the vintage harvest in the Barossa; the drive to Murray Bridge; and with a certain heaviness of heart a certain Angaston Hotel where a mural of Bacchus looked down on a few Vint Veterans tasting fine local wines.

One who now on a very strict drying-out process, thanks South Australians, will undoubtedly continue to drink their wines and signs himself as

Bacchus the Younger (Mk. XIV).

NEW SOUTH NOTES.

From Cyril Irwin, 32, Rose Street, Ashfield, N.S.W., 2131.

Anzac time in Sydney.

As with other State Flights, the main report for our corner of this issue centres around our Anzac Day Get-together. We congratulate South Australia Flight on a very successful All-States Reunion. Returning Sydney members Sam Barlow, and Bob Bruce and their wives report that the Reunion in Adelaide was well worth the trip. In Sydney we celebrated "as usual". A wreath was placed on the Cenotaph on Anzac Eve. 458 marched 35/40 strong in the March and afterwards lunch and the reunion took place at the Great Southern Hotel.

The rollcall at the Reunion and on the March included:

N. Skinner	Cec. Nation	Fred. Strom	Henry Bryant	Ron. Hills	Bill McBride
Kemp Beach	Bruce Dean	Graeme Coombes	John Hosking	Norm Teachey	Noel Spurling
Tom Ridgeway	Cy. Irwin	Jock McGowen	Tom Moore	Stan Longhurst	Keith Cousins
"Pop" Lewis-Hughes		Eric Munkman	George Unitt	Jack Bevan	Les. Piggott
Don. Bitmead	Stuart Ricketts	Jack Baker	Bill Astley	Peter Alexander	Bob Millar
Harry Baines	Dick Healey	Buster Balmer	Alf. Hammond	Erle Hetherington.	

We were very pleased to welcome Q. Flight member Erle Hetherington to the Reunion. He was on a visit to his married daughter in Sydney.

Annual Meeting.

Flight President John Hosking conducted a brief meeting at which reports and accounts were presented and the committee and office-bearers (re)elected. Members remembered in silence 458ers who have died

New South Notes (cont.)

during the year:---Len. Adams, Bunny Williams, and Doug. Millard.

General Newsitems.

His many friends will be glad to know that Fred. Strom is now fit and well after his illness and (Gallstones) operations. Fred. had to take it easy for a while but is now able to take an ale or two---a good sign.

Flight President John Hosking has represented us at two recent reunion dinners held by brother R.A.A.F. Squadrons.

458 Squadron will be represented at the coming N.S.W. Assembly of Delegates of the Air Force Association. Peter Alexander will be there and, we hope, John Hosking. This year it will be in a country centre, Wagga.

Regards to 458ers in other States from N.S.W.---C.P.I.

SANDGROPPERS SAY....

from Henry Etherton, 15, Chaffers St., Morley, W.A., 6062.

We had a good roll-up on Anzac Day; the March swelled its ranks by a few this year and the Reunion afterwards was about the same---though several new faces appeared. Bob Shearman and Doug. (Bruno) Anderson were with us and Peter McCarthy joined us in the March. So keep up the good work, chaps, and help us keep the Flight together.

From Victoria.

We had an interstate member at the "Do" in Norm. (Porridge) McLaren from the Victorian Flight. Norm. asked about Harold Manton but I'm afraid I couldn't tell him much as we seem to have lost touch with Harold.

At the "Do".

Ben. Cormack was another old timer to come back to the Flight. Al Wheat as usual came down from Geraldton. I cannot mention everyone here but Bill Clues and I want to say thanks for your support. The spread at the Reunion was very nice and I think everyone had enough to eat and drink. The "Do" got underway about 12.30 and broke up about 5.30. A good old sing song around the piano, with Butch Power at the keyboard was a highlight. Butch is a bit sha'y on it but still a good old "work horse".

Sales.

We sold six car badges and two ties. One went to Keith Hampshire (one-time C.O. of 456 Squadron).

The Next Op.

Bill Clues and I have decided to organise a family day in the Hills about September, so, think about it, chaps, and get your wives to come along and give us their support. We will also try to get another get-together in early December. This sort of entertainment seems to be holding the Eastern State Flights together---so, give us your support.

Best of luck to all 458ers and their families.

VICTORIAN VIEWS

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

The Melbourne March.

With a large contingent of members in South Aus. only 13 marched in Melbourne. Those present were:

Stan. Tarczynski Ian Alison Jim Munday Ed. Bradshaw, Bill Carr  
Bill Bailey Bill Hurford Mick Singe Stan. Cartledge George Cowan and  
Ken. Morkham.

Trots Night.

Vic. Flight has a Trots Night on June 7th.---Final night of Trotting this season. Please contact Bill Carr for tickets.

Elections.

Flight office-bearers are now

President: Frank (Shorty) Wilson Senior V.P. Don Johnson  
Junior V.P. Ernie Laming Secretary Bill Carr.

The Committee---the same.

Our Detachment in Adelaide.

No doubt there will be plenty in the News re Adelaide so we don't want to duplicate---but would like to mention that the Vic. party was 22 strong---and how pleased we were to have Beatrice McKinna along with us, particularly



as husband Bob was in Heidelberg Hospital awaiting an operation.

Vic. Flight would like to warmly congratulate S.A. Flight for terrific organisation of the whole interstate reunion:—and our sincere thanks for the way in which they looked after each and every one of us. Harry A.

### FROM THE CROWEATERS.

by Lofty Trewartha, 60, California St., Nailsworth,  
South Australia.

### The Cormack Clan.

Ben and Val with twins Craig and Colleen on their way back to Perth from a caravan holiday in the Eastern States dropped in to say 'Hello' recently. Ben, Val, Jackie, Ron McRae, Marj. and self had a most enjoyable evening at the Halfway Inn, and later with Jackie at the helm, set out to find where Adelaide's night life is. Come again, Cormacks, my headache is gone.

### Back to School.

The Customs Dept., in their wisdom, decided that Melbourne and Sydney would provide the correct setting for a brainwashing technique for the "Old Gray Mare". Yes, customers, back to school. A fortnight in Melbourne and a fortnight in Sydney where, I can assure you, after 29 years I was happy to see a few old coppers again. Dick Whiteman, now a Detective Sergeant, pulled quite a few strings to make my stay an enjoyable one. Had a few drinks with Sam Barlow, Bob Bruce, and Slappy Hammond and managed to say a few words on the blower to Peter Alexander and Buster Balmer.

In Melbourne a phone call to Shorty Wilson was the start of a very enjoyable evening at Shorty's home. Having met Alma and settled down with a glass of beer I walked Norm and Nancy Cugley, Arthur and Elsie Green, and Bill Carr. Thanks for a beaut. evening, gang, and especially thank you, Alma.

### The Anzac March.

At the March a great deal of backslapping was indulged in, as we quickly recognised coppers some of whom we hadn't seen since the war. With our ranks bursting we passed the 458 ladies who almost stopped the March with their enthusiastic support. Bob Hinks, recently arrived from England was with the Squadron at Holme-on-Spalding Moor and recognising the 458 Banner, joined the mob. Jack Carter, looking particularly fit was stepping it out like a two year old. In brilliant sunshine we must have looked a pretty bloody important mob as we swung past the official dais. Those that marched were:

Bruce Thomas	Bill Taylor	Ted Creighton	Mel. Priest	Ron Russell
Jack McGlasson	Sid Bartram	Geoff. Esau	Harry Ashworth	Shorty Wilson
Eric Baker	Yank Martin	Bert Ravenscroft	Arn. Scholar	Blue Firth
Bill Cribb	Col. Bowley	Tom Phillis	John Ringwood	Jack Threadgold
Jack Carter	Bob Hinks	George Riddoch	Sam Barlow	Bob Bruce
Jim Timms	Ern. Laming	Pat Enright	Gordon Nash	Ron Badger
Wally Archbold	Norm. Cugley	Jim Perry	Reg. Priest	Norm. Trewartha
Ross Burgess	G. Cuthbertson	Ted. Kennedy	Lloyd Simpson	Charlie Mann
Ron McRae	Lloyd Letcher	Peter Thom	John Carey	Jack Riseley
Bert Oliver	Paul Hinsley	Others present during the Reunion events were:		
Ken Russell	Mal Goers	Johnny Excell	Bert Drinnan	Hank Ewens.

### At Lunch.

During lunch, State President Bill Taylor thanked Arn. Scholar for the manner he carried out Secretarial duties over many years and presented him with an inscribed beer mug. Jack Riseley sang O'Leary.

The ladies gathered at the Feathers Hotel where I believe they indulged in a few followed by a delightful luncheon. Thanks must go to the Ladies Committee, particularly Madge Taylor and Verna Riseley. Those present were:

Jackie McRae	Margo Ewens	Pat Cribb	Marj. Trewartha	Peg Cuthbertson
Joan Dickson	Betty Bruce	Maisie Barlow	Winifred Mann	Betty Archbold
Pat Burgess	Glad Firth	Lorna Ravenscroft	Mattie Baker	Joan Russell
Kath. Martin	Elaine Timms	Nell Ashworth	Pat Drinnan	Jean Laming
Nancy Cugley	Jan Priest	Pru Kingwood	Dianne Ewens	Gail Cugley
Maisie Thomas	Verna Riseley	Barbara Ringwood	Madge Taylor.	

### The Dinner Dance.

Held at the Castle Hotel, this was without a doubt the highlight of the weekend. Flash Thomas had a supply of dubious yarns which he related to

From the Croweaters (cont.)

anyone with a spare ear. The music was good, the booze was excellent, the tucker superb. Especially nice to see Pat Bartram (though with her ankle still in plaster) and Joyce Bertram and Joan Dickson. Bea McKinna made the trip from Melbourne to represent Bob (in the Repatriation Hospital) (A notable piece of support, Bea!—Ed.)

The Picnic.

Held at National Park in perfect weather and a huge success. Ron Badger in his usual role as chef soon had a king-sized barbecue going and settled down to feed the troops. We were pleased to see Nancy Scholar back on her feet after a fairly lengthy period on the Sick List. The results of events were:

Horseshoe tossing	Ern. Laming
Egg Flipping	Joan and Brian Woodhead
Blind Flying	Ron. Badger (a natural)
Golf	Harry Ashworth
Darts (Ladies)	Jackie McRae
Darts (Men)	John Carey
Darts (Juniors)	Warren Wood

Next to Queensland.

In conclusion I should like to thank, on behalf of S.A. Flight, all the blokes and girls who got stuck into making this Reunion the great success it was. Anyone interested in walking, joining a motorcade, hiring a bus or chartering an aircraft to attend the Q. Flight Show next year please contact us. Note: the Dance photograph is a beauty; copies—6 x 4—obtainable @ \$1.00 from Cox Foy's, Rundle Street, Adelaide. Lofty.

Q. FLIGHT NEWS.

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

As we have not heard from other centres in Queensland, we can only report on Brisbane. Here many of us went along at 9.45 a.m. on Anzac Day to that simple and very moving ceremony at the R.A.A.F. Plaque in the Crypt to lay our usual floral tribute. With more and more attending each year this has become the most important R.A.A.F. ceremony of the day.

On the March.

Our boys did very well and kept up the tradition of being the smartest dressed, and the Squadron always in step. It's the Banner that does it! Two new faces swelled the ranks (the first for a few years) in the features of "Ack Ack" Taylor and Johnny Rosenberg. The usual stalwarts marched, including Chas. Richardson, who was given the usual President's privilege of carrying the Banner, Chas. Warren, Len MacDonnell, Eric Kelly, Bert Garland, Clive Wyman, Don. Brandon, Gordon Postle, Sel. Foote with our ever-loyal associate members Merv. McClurg and Cec. Bull. And of course, yours truly. We missed Jack Lewis on the march. He has been suffering from a severely rheumatic back but was with us at the feast. We missed Lew Johnson too. The unexpected arrival of a brother prevented his coming up from the Gold Coast. Judge Bernie McLoughlin was in far away places.

After the March.

We had our usual 16 men on the "Dead Man's Chest"—the usual liquid assets and the usual top-hole lunch provided by, as usual, Jack Lewis. A quiet purposeful gathering; no roistering, no Wimpies shot down, a chatty cheerful get together that ended in the usual communal game of poker.

Johnny Rosenberg is still flying for T.A.A., and after a few years in New Guinea, is now i/c Operations for T.A.A., Brisbane and keeping his hand in flying DC 9s. For those who would like to write it is 43, Union Street, Clayfield, Q. (next to Danny Postle, Gordon's brother).

Sel (Massa) Foote (Fleet of) couldn't make Adelaide to defend his title of the fastest runner on Squadron. The drought in Queensland hobbled him. Erle Hetherington strolled through Brisbane recently from his home town Cairns to Sydney on a matter of urgent family business. From what we can pierce together from the few facts we have Erle made the journey in far less time than a Wimpie could do it. However on the way back Erle was able to spend a while in Brisbane attending to a tail pipe that fell off somewhere on the rough N.S.W. roads—and, of course, a Saturday morning beer with the boys. Erle says he's just about finished building a 45 footer for charter work. A seaworthy boat for the deep-sea and reef fishing enthusiasts, with a thumping big diesel in her. Wearing remarkably well is young Erle.

We missed Bill Snowden this Anzac Day. Mrs. S. and Bill have departed on a long holiday to the Old Dart. "For a last look round," said Bill.

Q. Flight News (cont.)From Enid McKay.

We had a beautifully typed letter from Enid McKay writing on behalf of Dud McKay of Freshwater, near Cairns. It seems that Dud is a contractor in a big way up Weipa way in the earth (and heaven ?) moving way. Enid sees him every couple of months. But soon it's to be permanent for they're moving down to Caloundra way.

Personal Pars.

Jim Browne of "Enfield", Rangers Bridge, wrote to apologise for being marked absent but states that distance has made his heart grow fonder, particularly for the "News" and news about names.

Gordon Postle made some pointed remarks recently about having to resort to taxis and chauffeured cars. Gordon does enjoy the whistle of the wind through that radiator grille.

Dapper Jim McKay is now at a Shell Service Station at Kessels Road, Mr. Gravatt, Brisbane, after several years in Rockhampton.

THE BRITISH BULLETIN. from Sid Thompson, 119, George Lane, Lewisham, London, S.E. 13, England.

Reunion Deferred.

We had to postpone our Reunion Get-together, originally planned for April 26th. until Saturday, May 17th. After all this time we have found another member—George Broad, from Reading and we are pleased that he is coming to the Reunion.

Passing of Geoff. Barrett.

I have to report the death of Geoff. Barrett, who passed away during March after a long illness. This news was passed on to me by John Dandy.

News Items from Members.

During the past week I have heard from Bill Harry (ex Officers Mess cook) that he has sold his guest house and has taken on a shop as a Delicatessen and snack bar.

Les. Cook had a move a few months ago to another bank at Boroughbridge. Bill Anton and his wife have just spent a week in Holland, seeing the tulips.

Car Badges.

I will make some inquiries and let Bob Bruce know how many I can get rid of.

Cheerio for now, Sid.

CORRESPONDENCE: Letters to the Editor.

From Bryan (Junior) Quinlan, Box 70, Kinnaird, British Columbia, Canada.

Dear Peter,

Many thanks for your letter and the November "News" which I found most interesting, particularly as it covered Bruce McKenzie's visit. He is indeed a remarkable man and was an equally remarkable C.O. during my days on the Squadron. He visited Canada within the last two years but confined his visit to Eastern Canada and I did not get to see him. I can certainly endorse his remarks made at the Sydney Reunion regarding 458's special spirit—I will always remember it with pride and satisfaction. I had the opportunity to serve with an R.A.F. Squadron prior to 458 and a Canadian Squadron subsequently; however neither could hold a candle to the sense of comradeship which existed on 458 during the days with the "Colonel".

I am enclosing a cheque which I hope will cover expenses listed in your letter. I would also appreciate receiving a Squadron Pin, if one exists, and also if I could borrow a copy of "We Find and Destroy" if one can be rounded up, which I would have copied over here.

I am enclosing a snap of my family taken at Christmas showing my wife, Jean, son Dennis, age 17, and daughter Peggy, age 13—oh, yes and our Scottie, Angus.

At present I am Assistant Construction Manager for the Provincial Power Authority on the construction of the Arrow Dam Project, one of three major flood control and hydro-electric projects being built under the Colombia River



Correspondence (cont.)

Treaty with the U.S.A. The Arrow Project is nearly complete having commenced in 1965, and we only expect to be here for three or four months more. Probably we will go to a new project on Vancouver Island, near Victoria, B.C.

Before joining Hydro, I spent ten years with Alcan on construction projects at Kitinet and Kemana, B.C., and in Montreal, Que., preceded by five years in an engineering design office in Vancouver, which takes me back to 1950 the year of my marriage and graduation from the University of B.C. as a civil engineer, after a five year course following my discharge from the R.C.A.F. in '45. The two years after leaving 458 were broken up with some instructing at Shallufa after leaving Protville, and some extremely dull drogue-towing at a Gunnery School, followed by return to England, a month in hospital in London with the Buzz bombs and the start of the invasion, a month's leave in Canada, then back to England and a part tour in Leigh Light Wellingtons on 407 Squadron until the end of the European War. I volunteered for the Pacific but it was over before we could be re-organised. That about covers things to the present which finds me a happily married middle-aged father putting on weight and losing my hair--and puzzling over the younger generation and the state of things in general. I am active in coaching and organising minor ice hockey--have been for the last eleven years, golf in the summer, swimming and the usual work around the house.

I have sent along a few pages of snaps from 458 days at Ma'ta, Blida and Protville and a few back at Shallufa. There are some good shots of George Unitt, Lofty Kernot, and Adj. Baird in his "Desert Bathroom" and maybe of some interest to some members of that era. As these photos are naturally among my most treasured mementoes I would appreciate their being returned to me in due course. By the way, the one of George Unitt (yours truly adjacent) at Shallufa Xmas Dinner 1943 was remarkable in that George had made an amazing recovery during the meal after some over-exuberant pre-dinner celebrating! I wonder if he remembers.

Best I sign off, with best wishes to all the fine types who made up 458 in those hectic but somehow happy days--the Aussies, New Zealanders, R.A.F., South Africans and Canadians.

yours sincerely,

Bryan Quinlan.

Editor's Note. We thank "Junior" for responding so well to our request for news of his post-war history. Many readers will share our interest. Bill Carr is trying to see if some of the photos, of considerable 458 interest, can be copied for the Squadron Albums. Re the dinner, at Shallufa;--Yes, George remembers.

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From Padre Fred McKay, Australian Inland Mission, 44, Margaret St., Sydney, N.S.W. 2001.

Dear Pete,

This is a quick note just to say how tremendously I appreciate the faithful way you have kept me in touch with 458 News. I read every word and yet am never able to keep my good intentions of getting to any of the Reunions. My type of life makes this extremely difficult. I even missed seeing Bruce McKenzie.

I am in town--at home with the family--until the 15th. but am then off again to North West Australia. I will not be near enough to Perth even on Anzac Day to pop in at Bill Clues backyard--for I shall probably be up at Port Hedland.

However, I am sending you my subscription--and with it my best wishes for the Sydney Reunion on Anzac Day.

Cheers.

Yours sincerely,

Fred McKay

Padre.

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NEARLY TWENTY YEARS AFTER.

As some readers will have observed our next issue will be our 80th. As we publish quarterly this, of course, means we are about to complete twenty years of continuous publication. Of this we are proud, as we also are of not in that time missing an issue.

We should like to hear from some of those who, as Flight contributors, etc, have over the years, helped to make the News a continuing reality. Editor.

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SQUADRON CAR BADGES are selling extremely well. They are plastic and adhere to glass or similar suitable surfaces by pressure and can be removed and replaced.

VALETE!GEOFF. BARRETT.

Geoff., whose passing after a long illness is reported in the British Bulletin in this issue, was a Wireless Operator who served in 458's Signals Section. He came to 458 at Holme-on-Spalding Moor and stayed with us for the full length of his overseas tour. He was one of the older members of the Squadron. Apart from his work on servicing aircraft W.T. gear he also worked on the Switchboard. In this capacity he got to know the members of the 458 Service Police Section well and his friendship with at least one of them--John Dandy--continued in the afterwar years. Geoff. worked with Gilbeys in their office. He and his wife, who predeceased him, were a childless but devoted couple. We well remember Geoff.'s habitual exclamation as a comment on someone's tall story--- "Turn it up, old lad, turn it up!"

DOUG. MILLARD.

Doug., apart from being a prominent and well-known wartime member of 458 was a regular attender at All-States Reunions in recent years. He was very much missed at Adelaide recently.. He died on March 13th. His son Michael writes, to Bill Carr: "He had been having a bit of trouble with asthma but was O.K. He took the truck to Wagga with a load of sheep and spent most of the day in there at the R.S.L. Club playing snooker with an old clobber of his. He was home watching the telly when he collapsed and died about ten o'clock."

Doug. was responsible for the introduction to 458 of Contract Bridge as a major off-duty game. After the war he obtained a War Service Land Settlement Grant at Humula which he called "Katakeera" (Arabic for (Thanks very much) where he did very well. On 458 he was a Fitter.

LEN. ADAMS.

Len died after a very long illness and several strokes which left him paralysed, a few months ago, after spending his postwar years at his successful garage at Gundagai, in N.S.W. Len was one of the small group of Australians who joined the R.A.F. and were posted to 458. He was in Europe at the outbreak of war and made his way with some difficulty from the Continent to U.K. where he promptly joined the R.A.F. He came to 458 as a Fitter II E at Holme and travelled out to the M.E. with us. A firm, capable, pleasant man, he maintained his 458 interest. Apart from seeing him in the Concord Repat. Hospital, we last recall seeing him at the N.S.W. Flight's Canberra Country Reunion a few years ago.

Len's personality was such that despite a relatively early posting away from 458 he remained in our minds as an important Squadron personality.

To the families of these departed members, 458's sympathy--and we hope they keep in touch with us--as also with the family of Bunny Williams whose death was reported in a previous News issue.

We shall remember them.

R.A.A.F. MEMORIAL ROOM OPENED IN SYDNEY.

John Hosking (N.S.W. Flight President) and Peter Alexander attended the official opening by Sir Roden Cutler, V.C., Governor of N.S.W. of a very beautiful Memorial Room for the Fallen of the R.A.A.F. It is at the Air Force Association Rooms at 213 Clarence Street, Sydney and those interested are invited to visit it. It features, among other things, two striking stained-glass windows by the young artist David Saunders, who was awarded a Churchill Fellowship for his work, depicting in symbolic semi-abstract style aircraft used in two World Wars. We will describe this room further in a later issue.

THE EDITOR (Peter Alexander)

Box 5289, G.P.O., Sydney, N.S.W., 2001.

To S.R. Bruce, Squadron Secretary, Box 5289, G.P.O Sydney, N.S.W., 2001, Australia.

Please send me.....458 Car Badges @ \$1-00 each.

Name.....Address.....