

CIRCULAR

# 458 SQUADRON NEWS



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## VICTORIAN VIEWPOINT.

from "Shorty" Wilson, 26, Taylor Avenue, Burwood East,  
Victoria, 3151.

This Flight is steadily finding itself organised into social functions organised by our Ladies Auxiliary as a means of acquiring funds for entertainment during the All-States Reunion to be held in this State during the Easter/Anzac Day weekend, 1973. The Ladies are doing a very efficient job, and rightly deserve the praise they are getting.

## R.A.A.F. Europe Dinner.

A dinner for all personnel who served in the European or Middle East Theatres was held at the Chevron Hotel on the 10th. September. Among the 250 who attended was a large number from this Flight who really enjoyed themselves. The function was so successful that it appears that it will be an annual event, and it is proposed to hold the 1972 Dinner in March.

## Battle of Britain Ball.

Fourteen members and their wives represented the Squadron at the Air Force Association ball which was held at the San Remo Ballroom on September 17th. An excellent dance band helped to make the evening most enjoyable.

## Smorgasbord Luncheon.

Sunday 18th. October saw a large number of members and friends gather at the Dorset Gardens Hotel-Motel, situated in the foothills of the Dandenongs, for a smorgasbord luncheon. The surroundings and appointments were superb, the meal was delicious; and the company was relaxing and very friendly.

## Progressive Dinner.

This was held on Saturday 20th. November. Sherry and savouries were served at the home of Flight President Jim Timms; the main course at Ron Russell's; and sweets, coffee and dancing at Don Johnston's. An attendance of 42 enjoyed a variety of fine food and all the ladies concerned are to be congratulated on their efforts. These Ladies Auxiliary functions are developing a most favourable reputation. It was nice to enjoy the company of Gordon and Peg Cuthbertson, who travelled a round trip of 200 miles just to attend.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL READERS from the SQUADRON COUNCIL.



Three 458 Squadron Members Pass On (cont.)JACK CARTER.

Our highly respected Jack Carter died on 30th. August. Jack was very well known on the West Coast of South Australia and honoured for his appreciation of the people and their way of life.

He came to Australia from the U.K. at the end of World War I and entered an apprenticeship at the Port Adelaide Shipyards. He went to the West Coast in 1922 as the representative of Caterpillar Tractors. Later he joined the Vacuum Oil Co., and his job took him to some of the sparsely populated areas of the Coast. He spent some working years in Darwin and became prominent in industrial matters there.

As a Fitter N.C.O. he was prominent and immensely well-liked in his years with 458. He went through with 458 in its U.K. and Mediterranean years until his return to Australia where he had some further R.A.A.F. experience.

In later, postwar years he owned a pineapple farm in Queensland and became prominent in R.S.L. affairs. He came to nearly all the All-States Reunions wherever they were held and was on one occasion nominated for election as Squadron President, but declined appointment.

He was always keenly involved in community affairs and was a councillor of the Maroochy Shire Council, a member of the Streaky Bay Hall committee, and it is said that without his help the Hall would never have been completed. He found wide acclaim through broadcasts about his epic trip in a small car (a mini-moke) around Australia at an age over 70. He subsequently also made his way by small boat through the network of rivers from Queensland to the Murray in South Australia.

In recent years Jack was a regular freelance writer and photographer for the Streaky Bay Sentinel and he wrote the main text in the Apex tourist brochure published by the Apex Club, at the Bay last year.

Jack's funeral was attended by his son, Wing Commander John Carter, who made the trip specially from New Guinea to see his father during his illness. Also by Mel Priest and Bruce (Flash) Thomas as reps. of the S.A. Flight.

From Jack Riseley.

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BRIAN LORD.

Brian Lord, who was a Wireless/Air Gunner with 458, flew as a crew-member with Barry Menser. He died suddenly on 18th. October, leaving a widow and four children. Brian was in his later 40s.

After the war years Brian worked as an Accountant with Vanderfield and Reid, the Sydney timber merchants and then with British Paints. Latterly he was Secretary of a mining company.

Sydneyside 458ers will remember Brian particularly as a member and one of the wicket-keepers of the 458 Squadron cricket team in the immediate postwar years. All those who played in the team in those years will remember the close friendship and camaraderie which inspired the team in its relatively few years of existence.

458 was represented at the funeral and Barry Menser was among those attending. Our sincerest sympathy to Dot and the children.

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NEW SOUTH NOTES.

from Cy. Irwin, 32, Rose Street, Ashfield, N.S.W., 2131.

The N.S.W. Flight Cup Sweep was again successfully held on this year's Melbourne Cup. The winners were John Hosking, with Silver Knight; D. Smith, with Igloo; and Maisie Barlow, with Tails. Congratulations to the winners, and thanks to the many Squadron members who took books. Just over 100 books were returned for the draw.

Clive Wyman in Sydney.

Clive Wyman (Q. Flight) had a working weekend in Sydney in mid-November. He was able to meet up with old crewmembers Frank Ward and Cy. Irwin and was heralded on a quick Sunday afternoon trip by his old "Oppo." Barry Menser.

Other Items.

We had a family picnic day at Wiseman's Ferry and planned but had to cancel





from Jim Holliday, 43 Stella Street, Holland Park, Q., 4121.

Melbourne Cup Sweep brings correspondence from our country members. We of the Committee have resolved to continue this annual event if only for the reason of prodding our rural members to putting pen to paper once in the twelve months. Our regular correspondents--and I do hope we don't leave anyone out--include Harry Dorge (no at 98, Atherley St., Toowoomba), Theo. Ravenscroft, Sel. Foote, Erle Hetherington, Jack Hobbs, Bernie Hughes, Jack Baxter (is the Gold Coast rural? At least, it's the land of milk and honeys), Lew Johnston (also of the gilded surf-lapped pastures), Tim McQuaid (the boy at Barcaldine), Alf. Peake (now of Inkerman), Frank Wilks (the man behind the best of motorcars in Toowoomba), Bob Coles (also of the capital of the Downs), Bob Dangaard (still up Mareeba way), Cliff. Mannion of Maleny, and in this list we mustn't forget Bill Snowden who's returned to Brisbane Town after a long visit to the Homeland.

Our effervescent President, Don Brandon (our youngest grandfather), regaled us with his enthusiasm for paddle-wheel boats on the Murray, and Mrs. and Ian Showell at Renmark. Happy memories of hospitality. Happy memories of hospitality have engendered ponderings on new uses for Brandon's timbers.

The passing of this year will see the passing of an era. Chas. Warren's Garage, the Mecca of the Q.Flight members after the March on Anzac Day. Chas. for the past many years has hosted tired airmen not only on Anzac Day but also once monthly at meeting nights. Chas. has given the motor repair game away, as of 28th. December, 1971. Charles' Garage has been a rallying point for Q.Flight and for our interstate members. He has had an offer he couldn't knock back. "Thank Heavens !" says he. But—who could imagine Chas. without honest car grease on his fingers ? How is the automobile population of Australia going to glide to a graceful old age without the car doctor ? And Charlie himself, now that he's knocked off cigarettes is younger than he ever was. Wouldn't be surprised to see him visiting a few Southern and Northern friends in the New Year.

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I had very sad news to-day (Nov.17th.). Mrs.Beryl Parker writes from 22 Magnetic Street,Picnic Bay,Magnetic Island that STAN,passed away on 7th. October. Mrs.Parker writes that Stan,had trouble shortly after his retirement (in fact,he didn't tell us that he was in the Repat.Hospital in Brisbane). Stan. contracted Parkinson's Disease. Our sincere sympathy to Mrs.Parker. Stan was always well regarded by us locals. Always the same cheerful,hospitable Stan.

458ers at Protville will remember Stan, then a Flight Sergeant, as being in charge of the very important Post Office through which came news from home. He and Dave Thomson of the R.A.F. became most important and well known in this capacity. Both have now passed on, Dave dying back in Cumberland a year or two ago.

Stan of course had a full and distinguished operational career as a W.A.G. In postwar years he lived at Ayr, Queensland and kept in touch with 458. We recall that it was he who wrote and suggested we put the addresses of the Flight Secretaries at the head of the Flight news in each issue of 458 Squadron News, thus facilitating members' writing to their Secretary. This we still do.

We're sorry indeed to hear of his passing. P.C.A.

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I guess readers will be interested from time to time in an account of the happenings, as we get to hear of them, on the general field of ex-servicemen and their Associations.

