

JOURNAL OF THE 458 SQUADRON COUNCIL: Box 5289, G.P.O., Sydney, N.S.W., 2001, AUSTRALIA.

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458 SQUADRON COUNCIL --- OFFICE-BEARERS.

Squadron President Ern.Laming (Victoria) Tel.47-7850/42-1051

Squadron Vice Presidents

Sam Barlow (N.S.W.) Sid.Bartram (S.A.)

Squadron Treasurer Cy. Irwin (N.S.W.)

Squadron Secretary

Bob. Bruce (N.S.W.)

Editor of 458 Squadron News:Pater Alexander.

ANZAC DAY. MESSAGE FROM THE SQUADRON PRESIDENT (Ern.Laming)

Gentlemen -- What is Anzac Day ?

In this cur squadron we regard it as the day above all days when we remember those who did not return to receive the thanks of our nation.

It is the day when we remember those who sleep where they were left -- amid the holly scrub in the valleys and on the ridges of Gallipoli and on the rugged terreced hills of Palestine, and in the beautiful cemetaries of France.

It is the day when we remember those who lie asleep beneath the shimmering haze of the Libyan Desert--at Bardia, Derna, Tobruk; and amid the mountain passes and olive groves of Greece and Crete; and on the snow-capped hills of Syria.

We remember too those who lie buried in the rank jungles of Malaya and New Guinea, and in the distant isles of the Pacific.

We also remember those who lie in unknown resting places in almost every land; and those gallant men whose grave is the never-ending sea.

Especially do we remember those who died as prisoners-of-war, remote from their homeland and from the comforting presence of their own kith and kin.

We recall too those staunch friends who fought alongside our men on their first Anzac Day-men of New Zealand, who helped to create the name ANZAC.

We cherish the memory of all those who gave their lives in the Navy, the Army, and the Air Force; and we think, too, of all the men and women who paid the supreme sacrifice in order that the lights of freedom and humanity might continue to shine.

May they all rest proudly in the knowledge of their achievement, and may we and our successors in that heritage be worthy of their sacrifice.

For they shall grown not old, as we who are left grow old; Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun, and in the morning, we shall remember them.

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NEW SOUTH NOTES.

from Cy. Irwin, 32, Rose Street, Ashfield, 2131. Tel.798-9716.

Much to relate since the last N.S.W.Notes.

Anzac Day in Sydney.

A wreath-laying ceremony took place on Anzac Eve. A Squadron President Eric Munkman placed a remembrance wreath on the Cenotaph. Afterwards at a short and impressive ceremony a sheaf of flowers was placed in the Memorial Room in the Air Force Association Chapel.

On Anzac Day, squadron members (about 30 strong) marched with the Air Force contingent. The Reunion, with lunch and trimmings, was held, as usual, at the Great Southern Hotel, George Street. The Rollcall:--

Eric Munkman Norm.Peachey Henry Bryant Frank Ward Pop Lewis-HughesCy. Irwin Noel Spurling Bob.Bruce Tom.Ridgeway Stan.Longhurst Bill Astlwy Allan Walker Peter AlexanderJack Baker Jack Bevan John McPhee Fred.Strom At the March Col.Corten Joe Pratt.

Sam Barlow Bill McBride Bob Millar Keith Cousins Jack Preston John Hosking Jock McGowen Alf.Hammond Gordon Balmer Steve Gilkes Frank Keith

During the afternoon a brief and at all times coherent annual meeting was conducted by Flight President Eric Munkman. A message was conveyed to members from Squadron President Ern.Laming. Reports were presented, and an election of officers for 1972-3 resulted:--

Flight President: Eric Munkman

Vice Presidents: Sam Barlow, Stuart Ricketts,

Treasurer: Frank Ward,

Secretary: Cy. Irwin---plus a Committee of ten.

Past Functions. A Squadron party of 14 attended a very pleasant Dinner-Dance evening on 25th.March to help celebrate with our St.George branch friends their 21st.birthday. It was held at the Air Force Memorial Club. Rockdale.

On 17th.March, the Flight was represented at another birthday celebration -- at the Crest Hotel, Kings Cross, for the 51st.birthday of the R.A.A.F.

And yet another dinner, on 14th. April, a function for the Air Force Association Branch Presidents and Secretaries. We were represented.

Some General News Items. Stuart Ricketts, on leave from the Anzactime functions, celebrated his 25th.wedding anniversary with a trip to Cooma and the Snowy Mountains. Squadron congratulations to Stuart and Iris.

The Air Force Association State Assembly will shortly be held at Taree, on the weekend of June 10th-11th. Any squadron member (and wife) wishing to participate will be very welcome and assured of an enjoyable weekend.

Passing of Ron Hills. The Flights's deep sympathy to Nancy Hills, and Ron's children, on the passing of our old squadron mate, Ron. Hills. Ron, of course, suffered a major mishap whenin the Air Force and has been in poor health for some time. He died after some time in the Repatriation Hospital, Concord. 458 attended his funeral service. We shall miss him.

Regards to Flight members in other States from N.S.W.Flight. C.P.I.

NOTE FROM THE N.S.W.PRESIDENT TO N.S.W.MEMBERS. I have arrived home from yet another Anzac Day and a 458 Squadron gathering rather a disappointed man. On looking over our attendance, which was far below average one begins to think--what is wrong with these fellows who we considered we knew so well--surely that comradeship still exists to-day !

From the N.S.W.President (cont.)

I realise we have all taken our different directions in life since those days but surely we are not selfish enough not to be able to give at least one day of 365 away just to be with those fellows who helped to form our future manhood in the years then still to come.

In all sincerity,I say to you--give it a thought, and help to rekindle that comradeship and understanding which existed in those days of patriotism.

Eric Munkman,

VICTORIAN VIEWPOINT:

from Jim. Timms, 39, Frank Street, Vermont, 3133.

On Anzac Day.

Angac Day saw 32 in attendance at the March and Reunion at Harry Ashworth's. Catering was in the capable hands of Harry and Tan Alisen; they did a great job.

Election of officers resulted as follows:

Flight President: 805 McKinna Tel.286-6142 Senior Vice President:Ron Russell Tel.848-3120 Junior Vice President:Ian Alison Tel.88-5927

Committee:Ken.Morkham,H.Ashworth,E.Laming,G.Cuthbertson,W.Carr,H.Martin, F.Wilson,N.Cugley,R.Rodwell,J.Fleming,S.Tarczynski.

Others in attendance were Ron.Yates, T. Wishart, H. Young, Bob. Smith, Arthur Green, Mick Singe, Russ. Connelly, Tom. Primrose, D. Johnson, Ted. Kennedy, L. Wurr, C. Bradshaw, Col. Hutchinson. The raffle for a 12" portable T.V. was drawn and was won by Robyn Riddoch, daughter of George and Thelma of Burrum Beet.

Our Ladies Committee, under the presidency of Joan Russell, is doing a sterling job as far as fund-raising is concerned for the All-States Reunion next year.

Personal Pars.

Phil.Morkham is recovering slowly after a major operation; recover soon, Phil., as we have some good do's coming up.

Ern.Laming has received an Award of Merit gong for ten years good service with the Corps pf Commissionaires.

Elsie Green is also recovering from a serious operation. Get well soon,

Harry Ashworth and Ian Alison will be in Sydney over Queen's Birthday weekend. Staying at Kirsa Cross Motel, Kings Cross, for bowls events.

 $$\operatorname{Bob}_{\circ}$$ and $\operatorname{Beatrice}$ McKinna are holidaying in Western Austalia ,visiting their daughter Jill and her husband.

Don. Johnson has been promoted to Branch Manager, of Motor Spares, in Mildura---Good luck, Don.

Lisle Wurr was discharged from the Repat. Hospital, Heidelberg, where he has been a patient for some weeks.

We are already in the process of drawing up a preliminary programme for the All-States Reunion nest year, and can promise great entertainment for everyone who attends.

yours, Jim.Timms.

O.FLIGHT NEWS.

Elsie.

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

Quiet Reunion.

It was a quiet reunion, probably because it was a working day following. Very few marched. Indeed, it was our smallest ever. However, some of our regulars had very good reasons. Still it was a wonderful day. Not a cloud in the sky;—and the kids were wonderful. But we've got to do something about that non-existent band.

At the Reunion afterwards, Don. Brandon was re-elected President; Jack Lewis again as Treasurer; yours truly was unable to find anyone to take up his pen. Jack Lewis provided the most elegant vittles in a most beautiful fashion. Providore Jack, we call him, Don, President Past and Present, and our most handsome and youngest grandfather, brought forth our spirits. Charles Warren, guardian of the glasses, arrived well in time to hand us

Q.Flight News (cont.) refreshment as we puffed our way in. Afterwards there was the Who won ? I doubt if anyone knows. traditional game of poker.

Where did we hold it ? The Army came to our rescue. No.3 Casualty Clearing Station. Water Strest, eache of our past pleasant nights. Central, quiet, good parking, nice people---and as clean as a whistle.

We missed Johnne this year. Son, Nigel, in the school cadets, and Dad had a part to play too. The Gold Coest has never seen such a display of precision and polish.

The Sick List. It's been hospital for two of our stalwarts. Gordon Postle first. painful affair, and a littleshorter now in the digestive area. Fitter than ever though. Nothing to worry about, says Gardon.

Charles Warren was the other. Come unstuck somewhere, so the stitch in time was needed. Waited until he retired though. Couldn't let the customers down. Looks fitsin fact, so fit, plus his remarks about nurses, we wonder.

But we are peeved. Neither Gordon nor Chas, said a word about their coing to hospital. We never knew until they came out. Of course Gordon flits off here and there so if he's not around we don't wonder. Chas, did a cunning one. Said he was going on a trip. That really fooled us. Just think of the lovely time wa missed sesing them in hospital, slipping them a medicine bottle--and then adjourning to the nearest local afterwards.

Fishy Story. Some people have anthusiaem, particularly fishermen. Do you know where Bert. Carland's going for a quiet fish ? Port Douglas. Look that up in your atlas !

Bill Snowden couldn't make the march but sent his usual applicates in his usual magnificant handwriting. I'm thinking of entering it in the local Show, and the prize I collect I'll send to Legacy

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CROWEATER NEWS.

From Lofty Treworths, 60, California Street, Nailsworth, 5083.

Anzac Day As if to make amends for the wettest Anzac Day ever recorded, the Murch this year was carried out in brilliant sunshine with weather as near perfect as possible. Sid.Bartram led the Squadron, and although the onlockers were small in numbers, I feel it was one of the best marches I have ever participated in.

The Reunion as usual was held in the bar at the rear of the Talbot Hotel but I am afraid I cannot comment on this part of the celebration as I saw the light and went bowling.

Marching were:

Sid.Bartram Harry Bartram Frank Holl Keith Foreman Lofty Trewartha Brian Woodhead Arn.Scholar Paul Hinsley Ken.Miller John Cerey Geoff.Esau Bruce Thomas Rag.Priest Mel.Priest Bert Oliver Jack Riseley Ron.Badger Ted.Creighton Tim O'Reilly Diver Dunn.

Safari pending Preparations are going shead at the Trewartha camp for a safari north. We hope to leave Adelaids on 1st. July and call at the Alice, Darwin, Wyndham, Broome, Carnervon, and Perth.

That's Life. Or the Gospel According to St. Trewartha.

It seems that when the creator of man was making the world he called man aside and bestowed upon him 20 years of sex life. Man was horrified - only 20 years & But the creator did not budge. That is all he would grant him.

Then he called the mankey and gave him 20 years. "But I don't need 20 years, 10 is planty" said the monkey.

Man spoke up and said "Can I have the other 10 years?" The monkey agreed.

Then the creator called the lion and gave him 20 years. The lion said he only needed 10.

St. Trawartha (cont.)

Again, the man asked, "Can't I have the other ten ?" "Of course." roared the line.

Then came the donkey. He was given twenty years and like the others said 10 was all he Again man asked for and received the extra 10. needed.

This explains why man has 20 years of normal sex life,10 years of monkeying about,10 years of lion about it, and 10 years of making an ass of himself. Lofty.

CORRESPONDENCE: Letters to the Editor and others.

From Robin Knight, P.O. Box 946, Durban, Natal, Republic of South Africa.

Dear Peter.

Our son Roland has just arrived to stay with us for a short time after his sojourn in Australia. He has greatly enjoyed his time there and I am grateful to all my old friends who have entertained him and made him welcome......

My wife and I have now left Kenya for good and we trying our luck here in South Africa. A hard decision to have to make after all our years in East Africa but forced upon us by the growing determination up there to get rid of all white faces, and also by the growing chaos and anarchy in those countries.

I had a letter from Bill Taylor the other day. I gather he's off for a protracted visit to Europe.

I shall be grateful if you will arrange for the 453 Squadron News to be addressed as above until further notice.

Roland moves on to Europe and eventually Ethiopia in two wesks time but it has been wonderful to see him again after 2½ years.

Greetings to you all, yours as ever, Robin Knight.

From "Dusty" Miller, 27, Boomah Street, Griffith, N.S. W., 2680.

Dear Secretary,

Herswith cheque to cover News and Membership -- the balance a donation.

I appreciate the efforts of committeemen in all States who keep '458' alive, and particularly of you in Sydney who keep the "News" up to us.

All is well with me. My eldest daughter lives in Malbourne with her husband and two children--we are the usual proud grandparents! Our eldest son, Peter, commenced a Food technology course at Hawkesbury this year. This leaves Wendy, (Sixth Form), and Paul (fourth Form) still at home.

Have just returned from a week's fishing trip to Burrinjuck Dam--most enjoyable--but was disappointed to find that Robin Knight's son, Roland, had rung from Wagga in my He intended coming over to Griffith to see us. Perhaps Bert Thompson saw absence. him in Sydney (Editor: Yes).

My very best regards to you, Peter, and members of your committee.

Sincerely, Ron (Dusty)

EXTRACT from the Ballarat COURIER.

Missionary Aviation Fellowship engineer, Mr. Roland Knight, has completed his training with M.A.F.-Air Services Pty Ltd., Ballarat, and will be taking up the position of British MAF engineer in Ethiopia in May.

Mr.Knight was farewelled at a valedictory church service arranged jointly by the Wendouree Baptist Church and MAF-Air.

After gaining an engineering degree at Cambridge University, Mr. Knight came to Australia

From The Courier (conc'd)

to gain light aircraft maintenance experience, and to qualify as a licenced engineer.

Prior to the beginning of his service in Ethiopia, Mr. Knight plans to visit his parents in South Africa and to return to England for brief orientation training with British M. AF.

CARD FROM BILL TAYLOR.

FALCONARA. A note to let you know that we found our old stamping ground much as we left it. Still an Army Barracks. Was shown over the whole place after stilling fears, that we were possible spies. Foggia and Ancona full of huge flats and more unrecognisable. Will give you full details later. Bill.

OBITUARIES. MAY THEY REST IN PEACE.

RON.HILLS.

Ron, we understand, was born in the Maitland area of New South Wales. He grew up in the country and in the paswar days rose to eminence as a cyclist. He was in fact N.S.W. Amateur Cycling Champion. With the War, he joined the Air Force and in due time 458 Squadron, as a fitter. Quiet, capable and popular, he reached N.C.O. rank. He met a major accident while in North Africa, being hit across the head and face by a moving propeller. Lucky indeed to survive and of course necessarily suffering some consequences he rebuilt his life back in Australia, in the Grafton area and later back in Sydney. Ron was twice married and leaves two families. To Nancy and to Ron's children, our sincere sympathy.

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GEOFF, GRUBB.

We have heard with great regret recently of the sudden passing of another old mate, Geoff. Grubb, in Launceston, Tasmania. We hope to receive further details Geoff. was an electrician with 458 for much of its long wantime carear. In the post-war, hewerked with the Tasmanian Hydro-electric Authority. We shall with the Tasmanian Hydro-electric Authority.

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ERIC MAILER. Eric Ma'ler, who also lived in Launceston, in the retailing business in his post-war years, was a "Rec" on the Squadron and worked in the Stores. He died recently, after a long illness in Launceston. Harold Stavens tells us that Eric's widow is seeking Repat. acceptance of Eric's abdominal cancer as war-caused. It will greatly help if anyone who travelled with Eric on the U.S.S. Grant Mitchell from Australia and recalls Eric's being hespitalised in Bembay about October 7th., 1944 with acute dysentery, will supply evidence, including a Statutory Declaration if possible, to that effect. Please send any avidence to Harold Stevens, whose address is

194, Alanvale Road, Newsham, Tasmania, 7250.

Our warm sympathy to Eric's family in their bereavement. We too shall miss him.

EDITORIAL.

To the words of admonition addressed by the N.S.W.Flight President, earlier in this Issue, to his N.S.W. troops (and perhaps applicable to a wider 458 audience) we would only add this. Those 458 ers who retain a Squadron interest but keep deferring to "Later On" coming to a 458 Dc --perticularly Anzac Day-should remember something. That is--It is later than you think. If they procrastinate for too long, the old mates they want to see, may not be there. Certainly some will have fallen by the wayside. Over a quarter of a century of years have passed and people have married, built homes, raised familias, carved out careers. Not a few of them are now grandparents. A great source of warm friendship exists among 450ers for their old associates. But time passes. Let's be having you.