



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

YEAR 27, No. 105.

November, 1975.

Price \$1-50 p.a.

SQUADRON PRESIDENT: Bill Clues (W.A.) SQUADRON VICE PRESIDENT: Sam Barlow (N.S.W.)

SQUADRON TREASURER: Cy. Irwin (N.S.W.) SQUADRON SECRETARY: Allan Walker (N.S.W.)

EDITOR OF 458 SQUADRON NEWS: Peter Alexander.

#### MEMBERS ENROLLING FOR RENMARK.

There are still a few vacancies available, but members and wives are applying steadily, through their Flight Secretaries, to enrol for the 458 Renmark Reunion in July (12th to 19th) next year.

458er Ian Showell has, with great generosity, made available for that week his entire fleet of Paddle steamers, based on the river Murray at Renmark. The steamers have electric lighting, hot water service, modern galley, bedding, deck chairs, a dinghy, cooking utensils, room heater, maps, etc. No charge is to be made for members use of the steamers; members of 458 just have to apply through their Flight Secretary, pay a (fully returnable) holding deposit; get themselves to Renmark on the due date, and provide their food and drink.

They will then have a week on the historic Murray, navigating, fishing, resting, remembering, enjoying each others' company.

An Application Form, which should be lodged before the end of the year, is at the end of this News.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### WHO REMEMBERS FRED KENT ?

The News has had an enquiry from the U.K. from Mr. Stewart Kent of Wimbledon. He asks if we can let him have information ---photos, memories---of his Father, who was a WOP/A.G. in F/Lt. C.W. Price's crew on 458---from Malta in April, 1943 till November, 1943 when they became T.E. F/Lt. Price was a New Zealander; other crew members were

2nd Pilot Sgt Doude,  
Navigator F/O Sultan,  
WOPs Sgt. Col. Michel,  
Sgt. Thwaites.

Apart from Col. Michel, who died in Adelaide some years ago, we have no information. Can any member help? We have promised Mr. Kent to ask you.

\*\*\*\*\*

CORNSTALK COMMENTARY. from Arthur Jollow, 40, Nicholson St., Chatswood, 2067, N.S.W.

Well, the Melbourne Cup has been run and won, and the Flight sweep winners were:

D962 R.G. Scholes (Think Big); D 79 L.W.P. Astley (Holiday Wagon); D1335 R. Hockey (Medici). To the lucky ones, our congratulations; to the less fortunate, thank you again for your support.

Cornstalk Commentary (cont.)

Stu. Ricketts has retired from his position at Mt. Wilga Rehabilitation Centre. Asked how he fills in the time he said he didn't know how he ever found time to go to work. May he have many years of busy retirement and good health.

Christmas. our Christmas get-together this year is again at Cy. and Elaine Irwin's country estate at Wentworth Falls; a barbecue outing; B.Y.O.G. (and bint); and Elaine has very kindly offered to look after the food. Last year was a beauty and we look forward to another great day; Sunday, Dec. 14th--at 10, Yanko Ave., Wentworth Falls.

Personal Pars. Tess and I are grandparents again; this time a girl; name not yet decided on but from what I am told she is a Quoise kateer Bint. To our members in Central Queensland, daughter Margaret now lives in Mt. Isa, does interviews on Channel 8. Husband Ian is the ecologist for Mt. Isa Mines. You'll know him if you see him; 6' 2½, 17 stone; black beard. Nice bloke; likes beer.

Flight President Eric Munkman is fully fit after his operation. He and Dorothy are looking forward to the get-together at Renmark next July. It looks like being a big success from the number of applications being received. Like an extra All-States Reunion.

Don. Bitmead writes that his wife has just returned from an overseas trip. He is disappointed at the disbanding of the Air Training Corps with which he has been closely associated for many years. As the father of two sons who were cadets at college, right through to commissioned rank, I too am sad to see them close down. Not from the military point of view; I think a fortnight in the Forces would do as much from that angle, but as a source of mateship and discipline, so sorely needed to-day.

Merry Christmas to all our old mates, wherever you are and "May the good Lord hold you in the palm of his hand in 1976." --Arthur Jollow.

\*\*\*\*\*

VICTORIAN VIEWS

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

News from this Flight is rather scarce for this issue. Our Ladies Committee held their usual "Cup Day" do at the home of Ron. and Joan Russell; this followed the usual pattern--Bar-b-Q lunch and sweeps on the various races. The weather was not as kind as in previous years--showers on and off all day, nevertheless, quite a good roll-up of members and friends; and the ladies were quite pleased, money-wise.

Anniversary Dinner. On Nov. 8th, the Air Force Club held an Anniversary Dinner-Dance, 17 attended from 458, namely, the Ashworths, Alisons, Martins, Timms, Hutchinsons, Flemings, Stan. Tarczynski, Ken. Morkham, Beatrice McKinna, Nance Cugley, and Jean Mitchell. A good night was had by all.

Christmas. our Xmas get-together is on Sunday, 30th. November at the home of our President, John Rodwell, 120 High Street Road, Ashwood. All welcome. B.B.Q. lunch, etc.

Personal Pars. Ern. and Jean Laming are at present in New Zealand visiting their daughter and sight-seeing. Stan. Tarczynski enters the Mercy Hospital on 12th. November to undergo a small operation. We all wish you a speedy recovery, Stan. Phyl. Morkham has been very ill in hospital for the past month; Ken. informed us at the Dinner Dance that she is now on the improve. Hurry up and get well Phyl., we all want to see you at the Xmas party.

In conclusion, the President and Committee Vic. Flight, wish 458ers and their families, a merry Xmas and a happy New Year.

\*\*\*\*\*

THE SANDGROPPERS SAY.....

from Bill Clues, 179, Kooyong Rd., Rivervale, 6103, W.A.

News is scarce..... Very little has happened in the West over the last few months apart from the Annual Meeting, held at Ted. and Elsie Jewell's. Sufficient members attended for a quorum. Ted was elected Secretary/Treasurer, and yours truly retained the position of President. Remainder elected to Committee.

Mick hunting. We had a quick visit from Mick Hunter and his wife, Frances; we trust they were able to find their way around the south-west of our State with the instructions we were able to give them.

460 Dining. I represented the Squadron at 460 Squadron's dinner-dance, held during their Interstate Reunion in October; a very enjoyable evening, visitors from all states and at least two skippers were able to boast of having almost

Sandgroppers Say.....(Cont.)

complete crews in attendance. During the evening I tried to impress on the boys that 460 owed its beginning in the U.K. to 4 officers and 114 airmen from 458 which was already operational at Holme, but I'm afraid they weren't impressed; in fact rather doubtful of my claim.

We in the West have just had a quick visit from Bruce McKenzie's daughters, Sandy and Margy. They were due here on 22nd. October but owing to flight problems did not arrive until Saturday 1st. November and time did not permit them to proceed to the Eastern States as planned, but we trust that in the short time they were with us we were able to convince them that if they ever decided to leave Kenya and settle anywhere else it would be with us in Australia. They would be most welcome. Latest info. on Bruce and Christina is they are in the best of health, and Bruce is still commuting between the U.K. and Kenya, and undoubtedly still retains the zest for getting things done and moving about. Best wishes, Bruce, and we hope you can see your way clear to visit with us again soon.

Xmas is almost with us and W.A. members are planning a B.B.Q at Ted Jewell's, 65, Kirkham Hill Terrace, Maylands on 29th November at 5.p.m. Anyone planning to come should notify Ted on 71 6330. Bring your own meat and bread rolls. Friends and relatives most welcome.

As this will be the last issue of the Squadron News for 1975, I take this opportunity of wishing all members and their families a merry Christmas and a bright and prosperous New Year, and hope all who can see their way clear to make the All-States Reunion in Brisbane in 1977 are making plans and arrangements for holidays to coincide with this big event, as a good roll up would, I'm sure, be appreciated by the Q. Flight organisers. Regards to all---Bill. Clues.

\*\*\*\*\*

THE CROWEATERS CALL.

from Lofty Trewartha, 60, California Street, Nailsworth,  
S. A., 5083.

As Jack Riseley reported in the last edition of the Sqnd. News, I have been holidaying up on the Gold Coast, dividing my time between lying in the sun and playing bowls. Having been plagued by a nervous complaint closely allied to dermo. I had no intention of becoming embroiled in a thirst contest, so off I went each night to bed at 8.p.m. Came home a new man.

News Pars. The Colonel (Bruce McKenzie) very kindly took the time to drop my son Craig a note inviting him to his home. Unfortunately Craig did not receive the letter until he arrived back from Europe when he was just preparing to return to Australia. Thank you for your interest, Bruce.

Wedding bells rang out a fortnight ago for daughter Sherri who is now Mrs. Bob. Cameron. It was a magnificent ceremony, and I am fortunate that they now reside only two streets away from the old man.

The Car Rally was a success, for the few that participated. Only 7 cars were involved, and at the conclusion of the 55 k.m. run all competitors gathered in Adelaide's beautiful east parkland. Winners were decided by Bert Ravenscroft and Jack Riseley, who flipped a coin after having ties for 1st, 3rd and Booby prizes. Winners were David Priest 1st; Madge Taylor 2nd; and Pat Bartram 3rd. Elizabeth Ravenscroft took out the Booby prize. Starters in the Rally were: Syd. and Pat Bartram, Jack and Verna Riseley, John, Pat and Julianne Carey, Bert Lorna and Elizabeth Ravenscroft, Reg and David Priest, Bill and Madge Taylor, Arn. David and Peter Scholar, and Joyce Austin.

Maisie Thomas is reported to be in hospital, has undergone an operation. Members of the Car Rally contributed to send Maisie a token on behalf of the Sqdn. to wish her a speedy recovery. It is anticipated that Maisie will be hospitalised for about nine days more.

A poolside gathering has been arranged to be held at the Riseley home on Sunday, 1st. February, 1976. Refreshments will be a chicken and salad snack. The ladies are requested to bring a salad and the men will bring a bottle of whatever turns them on. The Risleys will provide the chickens required, don't forget the date; SUNDAY 1st. FEBRUARY at the Riseleys. Xmas greetings to all 458ers, including Shorty Wilson and Binghi Stewart and Val., and a happy New Year to all. Lofty.

\*\*\*\*\*

BANANA BENDERS ALL.

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

Joan and Don. Brandon have returned from their world trip. Joan says Don. worked

Banana Benders (cont.)

too hard but both say it was fantastic. Still they haven't had time to sit down and tell us about it. They're still running!

Again we had a very successful Melbourne Cup Sweep. The winner was Biniece Bull, popular wife of our staunchest associate supporter. Second was a friend of Bob Helyar. Third: our old friend Tim McQuaid. Thanks everyone for the petty cash refill until 1976 Cup.

Talking of Tim McQuaid, another daughter is to be married before Xmas. Knowing Tim, Barcaldine will have another memorable night. To use Tim's favourite expression, "There'll be a few beers or two lowered."

On the casualty front: Jack Lewis is having a return of his old complaint: Lew Johnston was brought low but has bounced back again: and Jack Baxter's knee has decided to function again.

On the fair side: Erle Hetherington is reported hale and hearty: Bob Coles is flowering well in Toowoomba: Junior O'Brien is vegetating in small crops at Beaudesert: Cliff Mannion is enjoying retirement at Maleny: Gordon Postle is also on a winner or two.

\*\*\*\*\*

SUNDRY ITEMS.

Neil McPhee writes from Melbourne to notify a changed address. He, very sadly, lost his son in Darwin recently. Neil was flying with the Concorde to Singapore and they held the aircraft to fly him direct to Melbourne. He feels the Brits and the French have something in the Concorde

\*\*\*\*\*

Jack Lusby writes to express sorrow at Butch Power's death. Says when detached to 458 at Shallufa, he met, first Eric Lloyd; then Lew Johnston; then was allotted to a tent with Butch. During his time with 458 came to know and trust Butch very well. A great cutter of (red tape) corners.

Jack had a stroke last June 5th with left-side paralysis. Worked like a sugar kanaka at physio. Now home and 90% o.k. Left arm and hand may never be the same as new but can type one handed. Still doing press work. Hopes to gate crash the next 458 corroboree.

We have two newsy news-letters from Jack and aim to print them next issue.

\*\*\*\*\*

Graeme Coombes and Dulcie are back from their overseas trip. Have a lot of slides which we look forward to seeing soon.

\*\*\*\*\*

Peter Alexander was awarded the Polish order of Polonia Restituta recently. Had previously been awarded the Polish Gold Cross of the Order of Merit. He has (temporarily he hopes) taken over the job of editing the A.F.A. paper Wings. Recently visited Canberra to address the National Congress of the R.S.L. on the work of the World Veterans Federation and of the Australian Services Council.

\*\*\*\*\*

Dick Healey is doing a notably good and successful job as Minister for Health in the Government of New South Wales.

\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

---

## R E N M A R K R E U N I O N .

The Flight Secretary,

.....Flight

..... Please inform the Squadron Secretary that I apply to join the 458 Reunion at Renmark for the week commencing July 12th, 1976. I shall/ shall not be accompanied by my wife and the following of my children.....

..... I enclose \$..... deposit @ \$20 per head (returnable in due course). Please remit this to the Squadron Secretary. If accommodation permits I should like the following of my married children and wife/husband and grandchildren to come too..... (No deposit required yet for these)

NAME..... ADDRESS.....

.....  
NOTICE OF ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

The following are now due and payable.

|                                      |        |     |
|--------------------------------------|--------|-----|
| Annual subscription A.F.A.           | \$5.00 | ( ) |
| Wings Magazine if required           | \$1.00 | { } |
| Annual subscription 458 Sqdn. Assoc. | \$2.50 | { } |
| 458 Newsletter                       | \$1.50 | { } |

Your cheque, made out to 458 Sqdn. Assoc. would be appreciated. Please indicate on this form which sections are required and place your name and address on the back. To save double handling please address to:

The Treasurer 458 Sqdn. Assoc, G.P.O. Box 5289, SYDNEY N.S.W. 2001