

CIRCULAR

# 458 SQUADRON NEWS



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

YEAR 27; No. 107.

May, 1976.

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## SQUADRON COUNCIL OFFICE-BEARERS.

SQUADRON PRESIDENT: H.G. (Bill) Clues (W.A.) SQUADRON VICE PRESIDENT: L.J. (Sam) Barlow (N.S.W.)  
SQUADRON TREASURER: C.P. (Cy.) Irwin (N.S.W.) SQUADRON SECRETARY: A.J. (Paddy) Walker (N.S.W.)

EDITOR OF 458 SQUADRON NEWS: Peter Alexander.

## RENMARK REUNION ORGANISED.

When this issue of the NEWS reaches you the Working Committee will have nearly finalised the detailed arrangements for the Renmark Reunion, in the week commencing July 12th. (some members may arrive earlier): Tentative programme is:

July 12th. On arrival, go to the Jane Eliza Landing. Own arrangements for mid-day meal. At 5.30 p.m. the Mayor has invited 458 to a welcoming drink at the Council Chambers. Afterwards Ian and Fee Showell have organised a Buffet meal at their home. An early night.

July 13th. Boats stocked. Breakfast aboard. Set off upriver at 9 a.m. for historical Chowilla Station (25 mile trip) stopping for an organised lunch. Evening meal, possibly country music and a barrel, in the Chowilla Woolshed

July 14th. Head back downstream with a stop at the Japanese P.O.W. Camp site for lunch. Past Renmark for Paringa Hotel -- evening meal.

July 15th. Downstream through Lock 5 to Berri, lunch at Lyrup Village, evening meal at Berri Hotel;

July 16th. From Berri by charter bus or cars to Overland Pub, recently restored by the National Trust (Early 1850s coach-change hostelry); afternoon, visit distillery or play golf. Informal dinner-dance at Renmark Country Club in evening;

July 17th. Sail back to Renmark for Farewell Dinner at Renmark Hotel.

July 18th. Big bonfire and barbecue in evening. Free day, sailing, fishing

July 19th. Vacate boats by 10.00 a.m.

A first class occasion, for which 458 is really indebted to Ian Showell. There are still a few vacancies for 458 members and some friends if they wish to invite them. But please notify the Squadron Secretary by return if you wish to be in it.

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SANDGROPPERS SAY..... from Ted Jewell, 65, Kirkham Hill Terrace, Maylands, W.A.

Our attendance for Anzac Day this year was slightly down but, with perfect weather and a long weekend, this could have been the reason. All those who did attend the March, and luncheon afterwards at Bill and Joan Clues place had an exceedingly enjoyable day. Plenty to eat and drink, with a few familiar stories thrown in for good measure. The roll call at Bill's was:

Ted and Elsie Jewell, Henry and Vera Etherton, Stan Long, Pete McCarthy, Chas

SANDGROPPERS SAY....(cont.)

and Betty Davis, Len. Stewart, Ray and Marg. Turley, Gordon and Olga Jones, Tom. and Phyl. Foster, Ted Ellis, Bob Ellis, Ron and Alice Gannaway, and Tom. Hicks.

Having just read the arrangements for the Get-together at Renmark, I am sure everyone who is going will be in for the treat of a lifetime. I must congratulate Ian and Fee for making all this available to members and their wives. Had a call from Bill Clues that Peter Alexander was in town, so we managed to have a lager or two at the Lincoln Auto Lodge with Peter before he had to rush off on business. Pleased to see any members over this way on holidays or passing through. Had been giving some serious thought for some time to retiring from work; and at last have made the plunge--about two months ago, and now I wonder how I ever found the time to go to work. I seem to have so much to do around the home, with the family--plus six grandchildren. Regards to all.....Ted. Jewell.

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CROWEATER NEWS.

FROM

Lofty Trewartha, 60, California St., Nailsworth  
S.A., 5083.

The Annual Meeting was held as usual, just prior to the start of the Amzac March in drizzling rain. It was decided that S.A. would support any move to restrict the number of the News as the cost has risen so alarmingly.

The March. Was as successful as any in the past. Bert. Ravenscroft in his new role as Flight President led the boys down King William Street with dignity, and somehow managed to get us all looking the same way when we were opposite the dais. After the March, Bert told us that he is considering retiring soon and that he and Lorna would like to do a car tour around Australia and meet all the old mob again. Not a bad idea, Pal. Those present at the March were:

Bert Ravenscroft	Jack Riseley	Bert Oliver	Eric Baker	Brian Woodhead
Arn. Scholar	Len. Gardner	Bill. Cribb	Reg. Priest	Jeff. East
John Carey	Geoff. Briggs	Jack Fisher	Chas. Cunningham	Ron. Badger
Harry Bartram	Kev. Tate	Lofty Trewartha.		

Personal Pars.

Mel. Priest who has been in charge of our funds for umpteen years decided that as he is now resident at Oakbank, about twenty miles from our fair city, he is not perhaps the ideal bloke for the job of Treasurer. Members said 'Thank you' to Mel. for the way he has looked after us financially for so many years.

Bill and Madge Taylor are doing a bit of touring in New Zealand. So far I have not been able to obtain any news of their movements, but hope for some copy soon;

Syd and Pat. Bartram are, I believe, somewhere in Europe;

Flash Thomas is still basking in the new-found freedom of retirement and was a push-over for the job of Treasurer. They tell me that Flash has taken up the time-honoured sport of lawn bowling, so, who knows, we might even be able to organise an interstate carnival one of these days (Ed. Please note.); Eric Lloyd now a licensed real estate agent at Coolumb Beach, Queensland, recently caught up with an old mate of mine and sent me his regards. Hope to catch up with you one of these days, Eric.

A little bird tells me that Ron (Silver) Badger is in line for life membership with the R.S.L.

All the best, Lofty.

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

We've been busy planning for the 1977 All-States Reunion. Both the boys and the girls have been in it. In accordance with the wishes expressed at the Perth Conference of the 458 Squadron Council, we've arranged the Reunion for the Sunshine Coast, the sparkling, unspoilt beaches north of Brisbane. For more, see our circular. For a memorable Reunion, plan to holiday in 1977 at the Sunshine Coast.

The Brisbane boys again marched on Anzac Day. A few less; but those who couldn't, joined in the Reunion at the Water Street Drill Hall. Again at the traditional poker game vast sums of cents changed hands, but nobody had any reason to bail

Q.FLIGHT NEWS (cont.)

out. At the Annual Meeting Clive Wyman was re-elected President, and yours truly, in refusing nomination as Secretary, was ruled out of order. Regretfully, Jack Lewis has been unable to continue as Treasurer. His many years of service in this office were recognised by all. His careful keeping of the books will be missed.

It is pleasing to note that Bill Snowden was awarded the Imperial Service Medal by the Queen for 28 years service with the Queensland Government in its State Migration office. It is an honour not frequently bestowed. Congratulations, Bill, from us all.

On the debit side, we must advise the deaths of GEORGE CONNORS, who died suddenly on 17th January; and CED. BRADNAM, who died peacefully of terminal cancer in the Greenslopes Repatriation Hospital on 6th March. To the widows and children, we express our deepest sympathy.

BOB MALE was hospitalised for a time in Greenslopes but is back again at his old stamping ground at Noosa.

We've lost track of Dud. McKay, R. (Stan.) Slater, Eric (Dicky) Bird, and Fred. Kleckham. Anyone knowing their whereabouts, please send a signal. TONY STONE has returned to Brisbane. If you want a good tip, back Gordon Postle's Spedito in its next big race at the Brisbane Winter Carnival.

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Editor's Addendum. A business trip to North Queensland gave us the chance to meet or at least talk to some 458ers in the warm North. We met Jim. Plunkett and Erle Hetherington in Cairns for a few beers, etc. J.J.J. Plunkett has a few health problems but bears up well. Erle was and is a mainstay of the Cairns Masonic Club. We were able to speak by phone to Johnny Dew at Tully, he is in good form and busy in 2-way radio--and we gather, the gemstone industry. We made a dusty trip across the Range to Mareeba from Mossman and found Danny Dangaard at the Ice Works. Met his wife, daughter and son and renewed old acquaintance. We hope all these 458ers can make next years All-States Reunion. Called at DUD and ENID MCKAY'S address at Freshwater (without notice, as the chance arose at short odds)---11, Le Grande Street--but no one was home.

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VICTORIAN VIEWS. from Jim. Timms, 39, Frank Street, Vermont, Vic., 3133.

Anzac Reunion. Twenty two members marched on Anzac Day, led by President Roger Rodwell. The Reunion after the March was at the Melbourne Bowling Club. Harry Ashworth and Ian Alison did the organising and what a fine spread it was. Russ. Connolly was elected Flight President for this year. All Victorian members going to the Renmark Reunion are really looking forward to July.

Valete. PHYL. MORKHAM Everyone who knew Phyl. will be very sorry to hear of her rather sudden death on 23rd. December. Like her husband Ken she was a very keen supporter of 458, and she was a member of the Ladies Committee. LLOYD SIMPSON--Squadron members will be sorry to hear that Lloyd passed away in February. He was a staunch member of 458 attending all Victorian and Interstate Reunions. He lived in Ballarat, and 458 was represented at his funeral by members who live in that area. He was with 458 through its long war time work and journeyings, as one of the Fitters who gave 458 its high reputation for serviceability. His postwar life was spent between W.A. and Victoria. Despite much ill health, he maintained his typical cheerfulness as well as his abiding loyalty to his mates and his squadron. Our sincere sympathy to the next of kin.

Visits. Bea. McKinna spent Xmas in Perth with her daughter Jill. Whilst there she looked up Unc McCarthy and Tim. Dale. Ern. and Jean Laming travelled to New Zealand and while there met up with Ron. Verity. Elaine and I went up to Tweed Heads for a week in the New Year and then on to Brisbane where we spent an evening with Bluey and Jean Thorpe--Bluey sends regards to all old mates. Kath. Martin spent Xmas and New Year in N.S.W. visiting her mother.

Regards, Jim.

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CORNSTALKS TALKS.

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

I will have to leave details of the Anzac Day celebrations to the Editor, as I was again away on leave at the time. Tess and I went to Dunk Island for a couple of weeks, and it a truly beautiful and very delightful island.

CORNSTALK TALK (cont.)

To any of you who have read any of Banfield's books, especially "Confessions of a Beachcomber", this was his island where he and his wife lived for 25 years. They did not withdraw from life--on the contrary but lived very close to and loved the natural surroundings of Dunk. They are buried here, and his epitaph seems most appropriate; "If you march at a different step to your fellow men, perhaps it is because you hear a different drummer." After leaving Dunk we went to Mt. Isa to spend a week with our daughter Margaret and son-in-law Tom Farrell. Spent some time boating on the Lake despite the windy conditions. Took a trip to Urundangi, 120 miles out, half bitumen, the rest dirt--not a house to be seen after Isa until the Dangi comes into view, Pub, Post office and Store; population 5, increasing to 7 during school holidays. Main feature of the pub is a huge Frig. The proprietress has to shake the cans to see if they are frozen. After the 120 miles, our remark--Never mind that, we'll eat it. Apart from a young kangaroo, an emu and a few cattle, nothing moving. Incredible country and the publican is something again. A war bride, went to the U.S.A. and had two children. The family decided to come back to Australia 12 years ago and went into the Dangi pub. Husband had a stroke some years ago and is semi-paralysed as a result. She carries on the business and says she gets some rough tough customers at times. Shewed us the scar where a drunk hit her on the head with a can. Incredible people in an incredible place. Witchetty grubs were available. But we didn't.

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After that it seems flat to record that the Sydney March took place, over the new track, had an average attendance and was followed by the Reunion at the Great Southern where we were rather crowded but, I guess, enjoyed ourselves.

Flight elections were: President--Eric Munkman, Treasurer--Stan Longhurst, Secretary--Arthur Jollow--and the old committee was re-elected.

Personal Pars. To Black-Jack BAKER and family, our most sincere sympathy on the death of his wife and their mother, Glad, after a long illness.

DIZZY DEAN is with the N.S.W. Egg Marketing Board; HENRY BRYANT is i/c Maintenance with the Sydney Morning Herald; JACK BEVAN is Superintendent of Works Engineering and Supply with Aust. Iron and Steel, Wollongong; TOM MITCHELL, after a very severe attack of peritonitis, is now overseas for about six months to recuperate. P.C.A.

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CORRESPONDENCE: Letters to the Editor and others.

From Father Johnnie McNAMARA, Moran House, 100, Studley Park Rd., Kew, 3101.

Dear Peter, Thanks again for your newsletter of 458, and for your wonderful and continued work as Editor. I have been a 'bludger' long enough on the Association, and am enclosing a cheque towards the ever mounting costs. Give my kindest regards to all the boys,

yours sincerely, Father Johnnie McNamara.

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From Bill and Mona Matthews, The Cottage, Old Road, Holme-on-Spalding Moor to Ern. Laming.

Dear Mr. Laming, Just thought I'd let you know we received the hampers, one drinks one groceries, best of all we got them in time for Xmas, and did they come in useful, they certainly did, thanks to you, and thanks to the womenfolk. We had people in, and we all sampled the lager which was good. My wife found the groceries ever so useful.....Happy New Year to you all,

yours once again, Bill and Mona Matthews

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To the Hon. Secretary,  
.....Flight, 458 Squadron  
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I feel I may be unfinancial to 458. Herewith is \$.....  
to bring me up to date.

Signed.....Address.....

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458 Squadron Association

1977

INTERSTATE

REUNION



The beach is only 30 paces from the  
"SURFAIR" HOTEL.

◀ this is the Reunion Centre.



on the  
**SUNSHINE  
COAST**

North of Brisbane  
**QUEENSLAND**

## ACCOMMODATION REQUIREMENTS

Hotel ☐ Private ☐ Single ☐ Twin ☐ Double ☐

Number of days accommodation required .....

Proposed date of Arrival:     /     /     Departure:     /     /

Mode of Travel Proposed:

Road ☐ Rail ☐ East/West Air ☐ Other ☐

# 1977 INTERSTATE REUNION

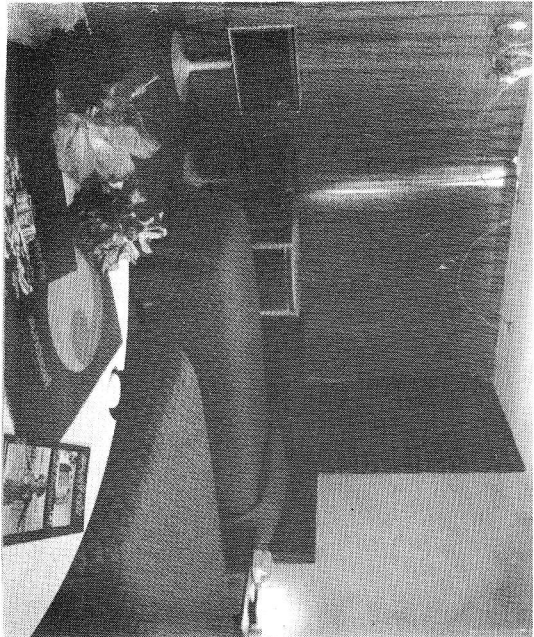
"Q" Flight is most honoured to be the host Flight for the 1977 Interstate Reunion. When this decision was made at the meeting of the Squadron Council at the Perth Reunion, the majority opinion was that the Queensland Reunion should be held, not in Brisbane, not on the Gold Coast, but on the scenic Sunshine (North Brisbane) Coast. Accordingly, "Q" Flight has chosen as the site for the Reunion, the "Surfair" International Hotel, Marcoola Beach, approximately 80 miles north of Brisbane on the Sunshine Coast.

## THE SUNSHINE COAST

Let's quote from an oil-company's brochure:-

"The area north of Brisbane to Noosa is known as the "Sunshine Coast". The Bruce Highway passes through Caboolture, turn off to Bribble Island noted for its surf beaches and excellent fishing, and further north you see the Glasshouse Mountains, strangely-shaped columns of trachyte which rise out of the near level countryside. Pineapple plantations flourish in this region. The Southern Hemisphere's only ginger factory operates at Buderim, and is open to visitors on weekdays. The coloured sands of Teewah can be visited by organised motor/launch trips from Caloundra, Noosaville, or Tewantin. This section of the coast has become popular with people who want a quiet holiday close to good beaches and sporting facilities. The Noosa lakes district, with abundant bird life, stretches north from Tewantin."

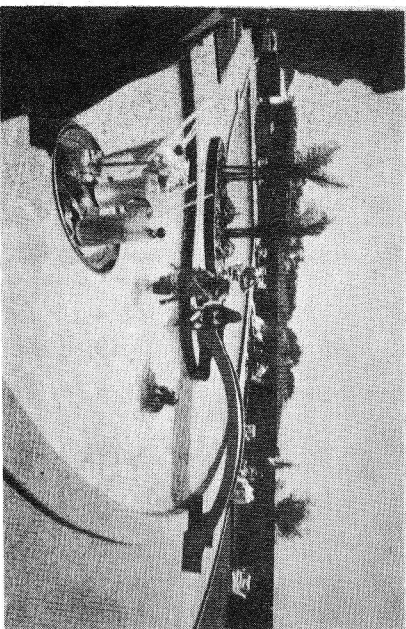
We would like to add that, while there's been a great deal of "development" in recent years, there are still miles and miles of beautiful unspoilt beaches as far as the eye can see.



## THE "SURFAIR" HOTEL

We chose the "Surfair" International Hotel because —

- (a) it is recently built;
  - (b) the appointments are superb "international" class;
  - (c) the ocean is 30 paces from the hotel;
  - (d) service, meals, bars (five), swimming pool, parking, convention rooms—everything is there.
- The David Low Highway passes the door. Though seemingly isolated (which is the feature in its favour), "Surfair" International Hotel is centrally situated between the popular surfing resorts of Caloundra, Mooloolaba and Maroochydhore (south) and Coolum and Noosa (north) and a few miles from the mountain hinterland. The room rate is \$10.00 per night per person.



## PROGRAMME

Two buses have been engaged to take us everywhere.

<b>Friday night</b> (22nd)	Barbeque.
<b>Saturday</b> (23rd)	Visit to the Mountains and Picnic Lunch.
<b>Day:</b>	Dinner and Dance.
<b>Night:</b>	
<b>Sunday</b> (23th)	Visit to Teewah Coloured and Lake Cootharaba.
<b>Day:</b>	Smorgasbord.
<b>Night:</b>	
<b>Monday</b> (25th)	Service: Coolum.
<b>Dawn:</b>	Caloundra.
<b>March:</b>	R.S.L., Caloundra.
<b>Lunch:</b>	Pumice Stone Passage.
<b>Afternoon:</b>	

## TRAVEL

The Maroochy Airport is over the road from the "Surfair" Hotel. But — there's only one air service per day. An East-West Fokker from Sydney arrives and departs about mid-day. However, both T.A.A. and Ansett are interested in charter day flights. (Maroochy has no night landing facilities.)

For those whose flights terminate at Brisbane, we will arrange private transport to "Surfair". But arrange to arrive just after lunch at the latest. For those travelling by road, it's most pleasant and scenic driving. There's a caravan park handy.

## FIVE—DAY HOLIDAY

We suggest you plan a 5-day holiday — if you use air travel. (Longer if you travel by car.) Arrive Friday. Depart Tuesday. Please stay longer. The Sunshine Coast is great for holidays.

## DEPOSIT

We'll need a deposit to hold the accommodation. A deposit of \$30.00 per person is proposed.

## EARLY ADVICE

Please tear off the attached form and send as soon as possible to Jim Holliday, 43 Stella Street, Holland Park, Brisbane, Queensland, 4121.

## RESERVATION ADVICE

To: J. E. Holliday, 43 Stella Street, Holland Park, Brisbane, Queensland, 4121.

My cheque for \$ is attached/will be forwarded later.

For: Mr. Address:

Mrs.

Others: