

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

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## SQUADRON COUNCIL OFFICE-BEARERS.

SQUADRON PRESIDENT: E.T. Munkman (N.S.W.): SQUADRON VICE-PRESIDENTS: Ian Showell (.S.A.),

Clive Wyman (Q.).
SQUADRON TREASURER:Cy.Irwin (N.S.W.) SQUADRON SECRETARY: L.J.(Sam) Barlow (N.)

EDITOR of 458 SQUADRON NEWS: Peter Alexander.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SQUADRON HISTORY. Following the decision of the 18th. Squadron Conference to have a 2nd.Edition of the Squadron History,updated and where necessary amended from the first Edition of 1959, the Squadron Council, through Squadron Secretary Sam Barlow has been investigating possibilities. It is now apparent that the 2nd Edition is quite practicable and will hopefully be published during 1978. Members have been contributing suggestions for additions and alterations and a number have made very generous donations towards the necessary capital costs involved. We mention Syd.Bartram and Harry Baines in this regard.

It seems that the price to members of the 2nd Edition will not exceed \$10 per copy (though in these days of rising costs nothing is absolutely certain). It might be less. Considering that in 1959 the 1st Edition was \$6, the current \$10 envisaged is not bad. There will be a "new" chapter dealing with some of the events of the post-war years and some more photographs.

Squadron Council now asks Squadron Members to pay in advance the \$10 estimated price for a copy of the History, and this will help to provide the required publishing costs. On publication, each subscribing member will receive his copy with an adjustment of price if the cost is up or down. There is a form at the end of this News and we appeal to interested members to secure their copy of the 2nd Edition by forwarding their \$10. A number of 458ers have already done this.

The Dust Cover. Squadron Council has decided to Hold a Competition among members for a new Dust Cover for the 2nd Edition---Prize will be a free copy of the History. Council hopes members with ideas and an artistic bent will enter. Entries close December 31st 1977.

Your items for the new Edition.
The Author plans to start his revision work and the additions during October. So will members please have their Questionnaire back by October 17th 1977.

 $\underline{\text{QUEEN'S JUBILEE MEDALS.}}$  Three 458 Squadron members are known to have received the Queens Jubilee Medal.

The members concerned were: Dick Healey (N.S.W), Jim. Holliday (Queensland), and Peter Alexander (N.S.W.) The Squadron Council extended its congratulations to them.

## SANDGROPERS SAY.....

from Ted. Jewell, 65, Kirkham Hill Terrace, Maylands, 6051.

Due to my being still away on holidays when the last edition went to press, there was no news of happenings in the West, so I will try to bring things up to date.

Anzac March, 1977. This year's Anzac March was not great in attendance owing to many members going to Queensland for the All-States Reunion. But those members who attended the Bar.B.Q at Ray and Marge Turley's home after the March, I am told, enjoyed themselves thoroughly, with a superb luncheon, plenty to drink and lots to talk about. I would like to thank Ray and Marge for soing the honours for this occasion. Those present were: Ray and Marge Turley, Tim and Poss Dale, Ron and Alice Cannaway, Bob. Ellis, Peter McCarthy, Tom and Phil. Foster, Charlie Geddes, Ted. Ellis, Martin and June Eqlitis.

To the Further North—after Surfair. After the Queensland Reunion, Elsie and I stayed an extra day at Surfair before making our way up north to Cairns, where we were only going to stay a week but finished by staying ten days, it being such a wonderful place. Would have liked to stay longer. On arriving at our Motel the first day, there was a note from Erle Hetherington asking us to ring him at the Club; finished up having a minor Reunion. for besides Erle, there were Bob (Danny) Dangaard, Laurie Crowley, and Jackie Dew. Spent a pleasant hour or two dowing a few cold beers, and talking and laughing about old times. Cairns sure is a great place. Hope to return one day.

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Passing of Noel Humphries. A few members will have heard of the death of H.C.(Noel) Humphries, ex=458 Navigator, who flew with Mick Moran's crew in Egypt. He died after a long illness. Noel was not an active member but was always ready to talk about the Squadron. I attended the funeral, representing the Squadron, and also as an ex=employee of Brisbane and Wunderlich, of which Noel Humphries had been Chairman.

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Dick Whiteman in Perth.

Just had a quick visit to Perth from Dick Whiteman and his lovely wife, who are doing a tour of our State, hoping eventually to get to Geraldton. Told him to look up Al. Wheat there. Dick has now retired from the Force and really looks in good shape. A few of us went, at short notice, to the Raffles Hotel, where they were staying, for a few beers. There were Doug. Anderson, Charlie Davis, Bill Clues, Ray Turley and myself. Really enjoyed it, Dick. Good to have seen you again.

To Jack and Dot.Fleming All here in the West send our deepest sympathy to Jack and Dot on the tragic death of their daughter, Jennifer.

Personalities. Charlie Davis is going into hospital for an operation on his knee (arthritis). He hope to retire from the Railways at the end of the year. Bill and Joan Clues are busy making arrangements for their eldest daughter, Jennifer's, wedding at the end of the year.

Charlie (Mum) Geddes,I am told,was at the Reunion and is still going well and enjoying a beer or two. Laurie Grigsby is still with Brisbane and Wunderlich.

Doug.(Bruno) Anderson is still his big self and looking fit.

Best regards from the West.

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# VIC.VIEWS. from Ken.Morkham, 19, Terang Avenue, Burwood East, 3151.

Not much to report on this occasion. a) Gordon and Peg.Cuthbertson went for a trip up North recently and intended calling on 458ers on the way. b) Vic.Flight will hold a General Meeting on Friday 30th.September at 6.30 p.m. at the Air Force Club of Victoria, 4. Cromwell Road, South Yarra. After the meeting there will be a four-course dinner. So bring your good lady, and make a night of it. Approx.cost per head \$7-50, plus refreshments. A good time is assured, so notify Vic.Flight Hon.Secretary before September 16th of your intention to attend and the number of your party.

Our normal General Meeting is held after the March on Anzac Day but due to

Our normal General Meeting is held after the March on Anzac Day but due to circumstances existing on Anzac Day this year (petrol strike, and Reunion in Queensland) we were not able to hold the usual meeting on that day because of insufficient members: attending.

Kindest regards to all Squadron members from Vic.Flight.

## Planning Ahead for the 1st.INTERNATIONAL REUNION, 1979.

The Host Flight (N.S.W.),under Squadron and Flight President Eric Munkman's chairmanship, has already made outline plans for the 1st.International (and 19th All-States) Reunion of 458 Squadron.

### The Outline is:

Thursday September 27th 1979. Overseas Members arrive in SYDNEY. Taken to their Hotel and left in peace to recover from their Jet-lag, until the evening of Friday.

Friday Sept.28th (Evening) Welcoming Dinner for all attending--overseas,inter state, country and Sydneysiders.

Saturday Sept.29th. Morning:Sydney Harbour Cruise and luncheon. Evening:Dinner and Dance;

Sunday Sept.30th. Bus journey to the Blue Mountains and Barbeque;

Monday October 1st. Squadron Conference. Sydney Functions, Opera House, etc.

Tuesday October 2nd By Bus to Camberra. Free and easy day;

Wednesday October 3rd. Visit War Museum, Parliament, Governor-General;

Thursday October 4th Visit to Country property, with Barbeque;

Friday October 5th Return to Sydney by air Evening.Farewell Dinner.

N.S.W.Flight plans to subsidise costs for international members in Sydney.

Two years will pass quickly. Members, particularly those overseas, are asked to start planning and making mental commitments NOW.

CROWEATERS COMMENTARY. from Geoff. Esau. 24, Fowlers Rd., Glen Osmond, 5064.

(Editor's Note: Welcome to Geoff.as the new S.A.Correspondent. Thanks indeed for his work to the retiring correspondent, Lofty Trewartha)

Our AGM. Our AGM was not held this year in the middle of Flinders St.prior to the March but was hospitably held at the Grange home of the retiring (and retired) Flight President, Bert Ravenscroft and his wife Lorna. Our sincere thanks and best wishes to you both for a long and happy retirement.

Bill Taylor was elected president for a two year term and Jack Riseley Secretary. John Carey was elected Assistant Secretary with an eye to next year, and yours truly as smoke signaller to HQ. It was decided that annual subs be raised to \$4 to cover ever increasing costs. All members present were co-opted as members of the Entertainment Committee and it is hoped that several functions will be held throughout the year.

The first of these,a cabaret night at Brighton RSL Club,was in fact held on Sat.11th.Aug and attended by Ron and Betty Badger,Peter and Beth. O'Connor,Syd and Pat Bartram,Bert. and Lorna Ravenscroft,Bruce and Maisie Thomas,Bill and Madge Taylor,Charlie and Emmie Cunningham,Kevin Tait and Grey Smart.It proved to be a very enjoyable evening for all in the very well appointed Clubrooms (Mir thanks to the Committee and members of the Branch for their hospitality.

It is hoped to hold a snooker evening in the near future. Members will be informed. A fishing weekend at Port Augusta is likely at the instigation of Jim.Perry.

In passing, several donations of up to \$20 have been received from members, for which the Committee is grateful.

Bill Taylor would be interested to hear from or of Joe Bartlett, a survivor of John Markey's crew. My address could be used.

Personal Pars.

Bill Taylor has donated a Squadron plaque to the Naval and Military Club, where it now proudly flies top cover over the earth—bound.

"The Gremlin"—Ted.Hinsley—of 12 Gramp Avenue, Angaston, 5353, says "Hi", and sends his regards to Chas. Warren, Arthur Jollow, Mick Singe, and Nundy Carpenter: He currently owns up, despite the drought, to a beautiful grand-daughter, Kristy Anne. Congratulations from 458.

It is noted that 458 Squadron S.A.Flight is currently providing five members to Legacy; Bill Taylor, Bruce Thomas, John Carey, John Ringwood, and Jack Riseley. Creditable Squadron representation.

Ken "Robbie" Robertson of P.R. fame in North Africa among the Australian Squadrons (and incidentally another member of Legacy) retired from the staff of the Advertiser not so very long ago and has this month been in Port Lincoln.

Croweater Commentary (cont.) Port Lincoln, world-famed for its "Tiddlers" and other sea creatures was the venue for filming "Jaws", and boasts a newspaper "The Pt. "Lincoln Times". When it started in 1927 Robbie was its initial editor. He looks not a day older than in 1944 and has recently with his wife travelled in Europe, via Vladivostok and the Trans-Siberian Railway. What a way to go! Sends his very kind regards to all 458ers.

Bill and Madge Taylor have just returned from a quick trip to Melbourne to farewell son Brett and wife Denise. Brett will attend the Imperial College in London

in search of a Master's degree in Engineering Geology. Best wishes.

CORNSTALK CALL... from Arthur Jollow, 40, Nicholson St., Chatswood, 2067.

Recently, Det. Inspector Hilton John Whiteman retired from the N.S.W. Police Force after 32 years service. How many old mates of his knew Dick's full name? To us he was Dick and I am told he was so known to his Police colleagues. Those who knew him will recall that even in the Desert Dick always managed to look as though he had just showered, shaved and put on freshly laundered clothes. To the rest of us, scruffy as usual, it was a source of great puzzlement how he managed to do it. Come on, Dick, you can tell us now.

We haven't seen as much of Dick over the years as we would have wished but I am sure that all those who remember him will join me in wishing him and his wife long and happy retirement.

Tess and I are grandparents for the third time; a grandson, Sean Adam Farrell arrived in Mt.Isa courtesy of daughter Margaret and son-in-law John Farrell. Mother and babe getting along fine; grandfather recovering slowly.

A meeting of the International Reunion Committee was held on August 15th at the the Air Force Club. The wheels are in motion and the initial inertia overcome. We have recruited members whose expertise in their fields will be invaluable. Harry Baines, a very experienced hotelier will be looking after accommodation. Bob Lyndon, who heads the State Bus system will, aided by Jack Aitken, look after land transport.

With this newsletter some N.S.W.members willreceive books of Melbourne Cup Guessing Competition tickets. This year more than ever we shall need their continued support. Costs continue to rise and this is our main source of revenue. With postage so high we will not be sending out reminders to those with books of tickets—so PLEASE remember to send butts and money as early as possible to GPO Box 5289, Sydney, N.S.W., 2001

My son, Peter, has been chosen to tour overseas with Northern Suburbs Rugby Club. A four weeks tour, with matches in England, Amsterdam, Brussels and Paris. So, any U.K. Flighters who see them playing, the big winger in Red and Black is my boy.

Our second Ethnic Dinner was Japanese—held in the authentic atmosphere of the Sukiyaki Rooms in Kings Cross. We had a big gathering of 458ers and their wives including two members not seen for some time past in the persons of Tony Harris and Pete Pettit, with their wives. Next dinner, being arranged by Peter Alexander, will be in October and will probably be Lebanese food. More details later.

### CORRESPONDENCE:Letters to the Editor.

From Ron Verity,80 Gayhurst Road,Christchurch,6.New Zealand.

Dear Folk,

Although I have little idea concerning my financial standing with the Squadron,I must owe something, and can only hope that the enclosed draft (prompted by pointed references to financial obligations in the June newsletter) may help to offset any debt.

It is good to know that there are many folk who are concerned with keeping the old comradeship alive and although I am out on a limb here I do appreciate receipt of the Newsletter. Naturally my wife and I hope some day to visit Australia and it will be our joy and privilege to meet once again with some Squadron members. Because of this we applaud the decision to hold Reunions in Sydney in 1979 and U.K. in 1981.

Since my crew comprised Canadians and Englishmen the U.K.Reunion would have special appeal but financially out of the question. So, we must get messages to Eric Fendick, Ernie Allanson (U.K.), Alan Ruggles, Bill Munro, Gerry Landry (all of Canada) to visit Sydney in 1979... See you all in '79. I am happy to acknowledge a communication from Bruce McKenzie and wish everyone

concerned the best of luck. Till '79! Cheers. Ron Verity (NZ 413518).

To the Squadron Secretary, (History) G.P.O.Box 5289,Sydney,N.S.W.,2001.
I enclose an Advance of \$(being \$10 per copy forcopies of the forthcoming Edition of the Squadron History). I forward this as requested to augment the necessary working capital for the publication and realise that, if necessary, the Squadron will adjust with me, up or down as required when the book is ready for publication, and the final price is determined.
Name
Address
To the Squadron Secretary, (History), GPO Box 5289,Sydney,N.S.W.,2881.
I enclose an entry for the Dustcover Competition for the second Edition of the History of 458 Squadron. I accept that the decision of the Judges is final.
Name
Address