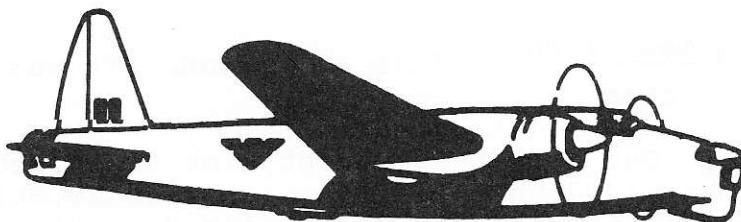


458

SQUADRON NEWS



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4 5 8 S Q U A D R O N C O U N C I L
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ALL SET FOR THE All-STATES REUNION IN MELBOURNE--19-25 November 199.

With this Issue of the NEWS, Readers will receive full details of this year's Squadron Reunion, organised by Victoria Flight. Readers will see details of a full and engaging programme--and the chance of being with old friends of 458 days. The News urges a prompt response.

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NEWS FROM VICTORIA FLIGHT.--from Rupert Pearce.

Recent special functions here have included the RAAF ASSOCIATION ECUMENICAL CHURCH SERVICE in March. This was held at St. Martin's Church, South Yarra, as part of the "Australia Remembers" programme. Among the 200 attending were 15 of our members. Lunch was made available after the Service at the recently re-furbished RAAFA premises.

BBQ Lunch.

16 members and friends came to the home of Jack and Margaret

Victorian News (cont.) Ellis at Dromana. It was a very enjoyable and friendly outing.

Anzac Day. Our Flight President, Mick Singe, led the Flight. We had these members:--John Bilney, Shorty Bradshaw, Stan. Cartledge, Neil Dean, with the Wellington photo, Jack Ellis, Jack Fleming, Farmer Giles, Ken. Hinton, Laurie Kew, Gordon Nash, Roy and Rupert Pearce, Bruce Prideaux and Tom Primrose. We also had two friends of members---and Karen, granddaughter of Stan. Cartledge, who marched for the 15th consecutive year.

Les Kennedy met us before we moved off and, later, Ian Alison and Yank Martin joined us at the Melbourne Bowling Club. We also had 7 ladies with us at the Club. A pleasant gathering. Our thanks to members of 2 Flight. A.T.C. who carried our banner.

Dromana & District Historical Society. This Society plans to erect a granite pillar, to be unveiled and dedicated on 12th July, at 2.p.m., at the summit of Arthur's Seat, on the 53rd anniversary of the crash of an RAAF Beaufort there, in which 4 crewmembers were killed. Our members are welcome to attend.

V.E. Day. Congratulations to Eric Munkman on his selection as one of the 10 Official ex-service pilgrims to the VE Day Anniversary celebrations in North Africa, Greece, and England. Two members of our Flight were able to see him in Melbourne before he left.

Vale. We are sorry to tell of the passing of two of our members.

Roy Schoppe died on April 26th. He was a W.Op. who flew with Bill Taylor and Bernie McLoughlin. He had a lung operation in 1993 and had undergone many tests in the last six months. We send our sympathy to June and their children, Jayne and Lindsay.

After a long illness, John Morris died on May 10th. He was a W.Op with Gordon Howie's crew. Jack Ramsay trained with John in Canada and was with him in England with 217 Squadron before both came to 458. Members attended his funeral. Our sympathy to Vivienne and their children, Jane and Andrew.

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THE RED DOT EXERCISE!

Was a considerable success. Squadron Council thanks members for their good humoured response to the prompting. In some Flights there will be a follow-up exercise in this issue of the News. So, if you happen to be the receiver of some more red dotting--please respond with the same goodwill.

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THE BRITISH BULLETIN. from Norman Duke.

Our Annual get-together was a great success this year and was held at the White Hart Royal Hotel in Moreton-in-Marsh. As most of us were staying overnight in the hotel on April 23rd we had more time together. Especially nostalgic for Harry Filley, David Davis and myself as we had all done our OTU in Moreton in 1941/2. The town and the Pub are still just the same. Sixteen of us sat down to dinner in a private room--Peter and Eileen Leonard, Leon and Doreen Armstrong, Harry and Nance Filley, Matt and Mary Lanigan, Bert and Nell Sleight, David and Rose Davis, Hal Lee and his son Steve, and Joyce and myself. A memorable evening, rounded off by drinking the Toast to our parent unit, 458 Squadron, RAAF. We had apologies from seven members, mostly away on holiday. If they had all been able to attend with their wives we would have had a bumper turn-out. Maybe in 1996? We also all enjoyed visiting the local Wellington Museum in Moreton run by a great enthusiast, a local ex-RAF type---it was full of Wellington memorabilia.

Personalities. Peter and Eileen Leonard are looking forward to their visit to the Reunion in Australia next November--they will bring good wishes from us all here. Harry and Nance Filley look as young as ever but continue to amaze us with news and photos of their great grandchild. Leon Armstrong and Doreen had an exciting holiday in Hong Kong over Xmas where their son-in-law is living with his family. He is a pilot with Dragonair.

British Bulletin (cont.)

David Davis--this was the first Reunion for him. David was an Air gunner with the Squadron in 1942, before El Alamein. He made a good recovery from last year's hip operation. He tells me that he learned, when talking to the Israeli actor Topol that "Shallufa" is not really the name of a place but is an Arabic word for "I don't know". David stayed in the RAF after WWII and tells some interesting stories about his career in Germany as Sports Officer.

Jock Petersen was an armourer with 458 at Holme, and stayed behind in UK when they went overseas. We first met last year. Jock phoned me that he had placed a wreath, during VE weekend on our 458 graves in the churchyard at Holme. Well done, Jock, for this thoughtful act.

Christina McKenzie. I have been in touch with Christina and all is well. Still buzzing back and forth to Kenya. she tells me that the boys are flourishing. Kim is flying as a commercial pilot in Kenya (he was the youngster who ferried you down to the gate at Knowle in 1982 in his old banger) and Jamie is a 4th year student at John Radcliffe Hospital at Oxford as a medical student. How time flies!

Kevin George...we were looking forward to a visit from Kevin this month but had a letter last week to say he had fallen off a ladder onto a cement path, fractured his pelvis and cracked a bone in his hip. Tough luck, Kevin and best wishes for a quick recovery. And finally..... Joyce and I had the great pleasure of meeting Eric Munkman for a few hours at the Grosvenor Hotel in London during his epic visit to London--and other places--over the VE Celebration weekend. We were very lucky to catch him in the only free time he had in his action-packed visit. The VE commemorations were virtually continuous for three days but our meeting was the highlight of the weekend for us.

I think that's all for now. I'd better close the hangar doors.

Best regards Norman.

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AUSTRALIA REMEMBERS. AFTER 50 YEARS. PILGRIMAGE TO NORTH AFRICA AND EUROPE.

by Eric Munkman.

(As part of Australia's celebration and commemoration, the Australian Government has arranged some pilgrimages for a few veterans to return to where they fought and served. The first of 10 people went (to North Africa, Crete, Greece and England. Of three airmen chosen (Eric Munkman was one--from the whole of Australia. His account follows.)

The Pilgrimage party representing Army, Navy, Air Force, Nurses and Merchant seamen, plus an official party of 6, assembled at the Park Royal Hotel, Melbourne, where we were briefed and then transported to Victoria Barracks War Cabinet Room to be welcomed. We then returned to the Hotel where I met up with Mick and Mavis Singe, Rupert Pearce and Norma. Next day, 29th April, by wartime Geep to Flinders Street Station for an official farewell by the Hon. Simon Crean and then off to the Airport. Mick and Mavis Singe came to the Station and Airport to farewell us (Thank you!)

After 23 hours flying time we arrived at Cairo where the Minister for Veterans Affairs, the Hon. Con Sciacca and the Ambassador greeted us. Then aboard a coach for El Alamein. We passed through Heliopolis, observing that it had not changed, wogs still the same, buckshee boys, donkey drawn carts, dirty side streets, police in pairs every two hundred yards--must be a main means of employment. We passed the pyramids--they are in a very decayed condition. I was surprised to see buildings within 200 yards of the Pyramids. Then on to Aida Beach Hotel where we stayed: an amazing welcome from a five-piece Gyppo band. Accommodation and food very good.

Next day, another 25 kilometers to El Alamein for a Service of Remembrance. The Australian Minister for Veterans Affairs and I placed a wreath on the Memorial. The cemetery is impressive and well-kept with small shrubs and plants by the graves. Then another ceremony at the 9th Division Memorial and the unveiling of BASTIAAN Battlefield Plaque. We also visited the War Museum

Australia Remembers (cont.)

and then on to the German and Italian Memorials---very impressive buildings. Among us was a machine gunner who took part in the Battle of El Alamein.

Next morning off to Alexandria, on the way passing through Amariya, now a big industrial city. Overnight in Alexandria. Sister Street and Stella beer still there. I sampled the latter.

Off to Athens, still accompanied by Minister Con Sciacca: on arrival welcomed by the Australian Ambassador and then to Phaleron War Cemetery for an impressive ceremony. The Greek people gave us a very warm reception. They still remember the Australian troops of wartime. Lunch at the Ambassador's home, then a viewing of Athens and the Acropolis.

Next day off to Crete, with a call on the Prefect and the Army Commander. Visited the Battle of Crete Memorial and then a Ceremony at Suda Bay War Cemetery. A nice setting at the head of the Bay--where ships were trapped with no Air support. More ceremonies next day, with an Army Guard of Honour and Band in attendance.

After a long coach journey we visited Preveb Monastery, where many Australian troops were hidden from the Germans. Lunch at Sfakia taverna, opposite the beach from which a soldier and the nurse travelling with us were evacuated from Crete during the war.

Farewelled by Minister Sciacca at Athens and off to London where we were met by members of the Australian High Commission. From Heathrow we were driven to Barley Mew pub, Englefield Green where exservicemen and women greeted us. Now to clarify my hugging a lady (widely shewn on TV around the world)--she knew the Squadron at HOSM. It was an impulse reaction, that's the truth! After a few beers we attended a ceremony at Runnymede Air Force Memorial. Dinner in the evening with the Australian Minister for Defence Senator Robert Ray, with Sir Roden Cutler, VC and Lady Cutler, the Australian High Commissioner, Dr. Bluett and other Staff in the War Cabinet Room--an amazing experience--a bunker covered by a meter of concrete. A Planning Room where Churchill and heads of Services met, telegraph room, deciphering room, Churchill's own bedroom, etc. All the same as then.

Next day, a ceremony at the Merchant Mariner Memorial, Tower Hill and then to Hyde Park for the Official Opening Ceremony of the VE Day 50th Anniversary a wonderful sight. Back by coach to watch cricket at the Oval (an England XI v. a Bunbury XI) from a private box. Then to the Members Room, where we met Keith Miller and other, England, Old time greats.

In the evening Norm and Joyce Duke came to the Hotel for dinner, a most enjoyable evening; they both look well and wish to be remembered to all.

Second last day we attended a special service at St. Paul's Cathedral with HM the Queen and Prince Phillip and the royal family in attendance. What an experience to witness with all pomp and ceremony. Afterwards lunch at Royal Chelsea Hospital. Then flew to Paris for viewing of the parade at the Arc de Triomphe. Again a magnificent spectacle. The display and the singing of the choir were out of this world. Now back to Heathrow for our flight home. It's good to be back: what a lot of wonderful memories. I'm grateful to think I was chosen to witness such an occasion. Summing up: The very warm wonderful and appreciative welcome we received in Greece, Crete and England. The tragedy and futility of war when you see thousands upon thousands of names of young men and women killed on both sides.

A big thank-you to those who looked after us during the pilgrimage.

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SANDGROPPERS SAY..... FROM Ted Jewell.

Bill and Joan Clues invited members of 458, 454 and 3 Squadrons for afternoon tea at their home to meet Padre Fred McKay, who most of us had not seen for over 50 years. Fred was over for a short stay in Perth. It was a great afternoon with about 30 in attendance. Fred had a short talk, about half an hour or so, on the Flying Doctor Service and the War years. From what I remember of him, he hasn't changed over the years. In the evening Bill and Joan asked Jim and Lucy Palmer and myself to stay for the evening meal with Fred and

Sandgroppers Say (cont.) themselves. At the meal a few tales were told by Fred of those wartime years of 458, some very interesting indeed. It was good to see Lock and Margaret Simpson come along as we hadn't seen them for some time. Lock has sold his business now, is retired and enjoying life---but without his 'plane.

Passing of a Member. I received a letter from Jim Palmer telling me of the death of a 458 Squadron member who lived in Kohonup where Jim comes from. This was Don Tunney, a W.Op/AG in George Buchanan's crew, who crashed in the Med. while stationed on Malta in 1943. Taken prisoner by the Italians he finished up in Germany for the rest of the war. He will be remembered by members who went to Malta.

BBQ. Associate members Brian and Margaret Hicks put on a BBQ at their home for W.A.Flight members but, I am sorry to say, a poor crowd turned up. Those not there missed out on greathospitality.

Anzac Day. What glorious weather Perth turned on! Our President, Bill Clues laid a wreath at the War Memorial in King's Park at the Dawn Service. At the March, behind the Banner later in the morning, all five of us fell in for the roll call. Bill Clues out front, Dudley Etherton, Henry's son as Sister Anna, Henry Etherton, Ted Jewell, Jack Cobb, and John "Junior" Davies plus a few blokes to help fill the ranks. After the March we retreated to the Hyde Park Hotel for drinks and lunch. We had about 30 members, wives and Associates. The extra 458ers there were Ron Gannaway, Stan Hopewell, Charlie Davis, Gordon Jones, Doug "Bruno" Anderson, Ray Turley, John Lilley. John Lilley was in Hollywood Hospital and was picked up by Bruno Anderson and brought along. A great day, it was good to see Ray Turley bring Marg along after her heart attack. Great to see you both!

Thanks to Dudley and Vera Etherton. I want to thank Dudley on behalf of W.A.Flight for acting as Sister Anna at all our Anzac Days. He does a good job carrying the Banner. I guess we are getting too old to handle the banner these days, particularly down windy Perth streets. Every year, Vera has made beautiful wreaths for W.A.Flight. One our President laid at the Veterans Home Service, and one at the Dawn Service on Anzac Day. We thank her very much for putting so much time into making them every year. Vera says it gives her much pleasure to make them for W.A.Flight.

After 50 years! How do you feel when you meet an old mate and 458 member after 50 years? John "Junior" Davies came over with wife June for a week in Perth. Bill Clues picked them up and got them settled in their hotel. Junior joined us on Anzac Day and we had all those years to catch up. Bill and Joan took them on a tour round Perth and on May 30th had a BBQ at their home for them. Those there included Nobby and Esme Nobbs, Lea and Val Stewart, and myself came up from Mandurah.

VE Day. W.A.Flight of 458 Squadron was invited to attend the ceremony at the War Memorial in Kings Park on the Sunday before VE Day. There were several Air Force units connected with that theatre of war. We fell in behind the banner and marched to the Memorial for a short service. Once again the banner was carried by Dudley Etherton. We arrived early in the Park and had lunch together before the service. 458 members were Bill Clues, Ray Turley, Gordon Jones, Ted Jewell, Henry Etherton, Ron Gannaway, Doug Anderson, John Lilley.

I was watching TV shewing VE Day in Paris with all the celebrations in the street, when they asked an overseas visitor what he thought of it all; and who should it be but Eric Munkman--once seen never forgotten.

I had a long talk on the 'phone with Charlie McCarthy. He was asking about old Squadron members, is still in good health, said he'd just been doing a job on the roof. Regards, Ted Jewell.

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NEWS FROM Q.FLIGHT. from Jack Lewis.

Anzac Day. Q.Flight contingent, led by Flight President Eric Kelly, marched in the Anzac Day parade. Our numbers are becoming lower each year. However we were made into a respectable body by the usual Odd Bods who help to swell our ranks each year. After the march we were invited by Judge Bernie McLoughlin to join him at the Irish Club where we enjoyed refreshments he had arranged. We were able to conduct a short meeting at which Eric Kelly was re-elected President. Jack Lewis Sec/Treas.

News from Q.Flight (cont.)

It was good to see Fred Kleckham again. Fred. makes the trip each year from Seaforth, near Mackay.

Personal Pars.

Joan and Ron Russell flew to Los Angeles on the 9th. May --from there they are going to San Juan to board the Cunard Countess for a two week cruise; then they fly to Seattle to visit relatives before flying home. In June Bert and Isla Garland are leaving for a trip to the U.K.. Have a good trip Bert and Isla, you'll be right in the middle of an English summer. Great!

Received a letter from Cyril Murray, he informs me he underwent a double heart by-pass in February. He has joined the ranks of the walkers now and is feeling well again. He sends his regards.

Don Brandon is off to the Whitsundays in early July. He is helping to crew his friend Hugh Morris' 50ft motor sailer. They intend to make Hamilton Island their headquarters; other members of the party are flying north and will join the boat at Hamilton Island. I was wondering, Don, if you need a bailer boy? Frank Wilks has not been well of late; he is in hospital undergoing tests and assessment.

I would like to thank Flight members for their response to subs. due this year. However, a few are outstanding; I would appreciate their response.

Vale. With sadness I advise the passing of Joan Wyman: Joan died in hospital after a heart operation.

All the best, Jack Lewis.

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CROWEATERS' COMMENTS.

from Ted. Creighton.

South Australia Remembers.

This year we omit the usual Anzac Day Report, and its ever-decreasing number of old familiar names. In its place, and 50 years on, we attempt a post-war casualty list of SA Flight members. It includes Squadron personnel and other blokes associated with us. These pages often were graced with many of the names below. Neither our records nor our memories are as complete as they should be and we apologise for errors and omissions.

THEY SHALL GROW NOT OLD....

Ron Badger	C. Cunningham	Bill Johnson	Horrie Plant	Fred Barnett
Ian Douglas	Keith Kappler	Jack Riseley	Harry Bartram	"Snow" Dickson
"Ned" Kelly	Ken Robertson	Jack Bax	Col. Draysey	L. Letcher
N. Trewartha	Nick Nertram	Bob Drinnan	J. McGlasson	B. Thomas
Eric Both	P. Enright	R. McRae	J. Thredgold	C. Bowley
K. Foreman	B. Moody	Ron. Usher	Jack Carter	C. Hanlon
Tom Phillis	M. White	Eric Cox	T. Hinsley	M. Priest.

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM.

Contact Missing.

We have missed contact for years with

C.R. Johnson	Jack East	Ern. McGuire	J. Sheerlock	Hank Ewens
G.H. Macdonald	Gerry Young.			

Personal Pars. Sporting a broken hip, it is now obvious to Bert Oliver that going arm-over-tip onto a concrete floor is not an approved method of grape-crushing. Called on for extra duties, Marjorie Oliver decided to join the party by spraining an ankle. Get well, Folks! Adding to our numbers on Anzac Day were Steven Bowley, who marched for his Dad, the late Col. Bowley, whilst Joe Fenwick with wife Pat were over from N.S.W. to catch up with Peter and Monica Thom.

Tin Lydda. In an Australia Remembers anecdote to his local

S.A.News (Cont.)

community, Bert Ravenscroft recounted the time when 458 Ground crews were flown by Liberator from Egypt to Lydda in Palestine. Once there they had the seemingly endless job of refuelling the Lib. by hand from 4-gallon tins. Neatly stacking the empties, they finished with an imposing tin wall---just in time for the first Willy Willy to disperse the lot over the 'drome and surrounding area.

Midyear Luncheon. Start saving your pennies now for a late July lunch date, probably at either The Feathers or The Buffalo. More details later by post.

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CANUCK CAUCUS.

from Jim.Donaldson.

With all that has been going on, on the Telly as the Pommies would say, I am sure the Aussies, like the Canucks have been re-living VE Day, I have finally come to realise what a hardship it must have been for the Aussies to be fighting a war in Africa when there was a war going on in your own backyard. It must have been hell for you, Mates, It's a wonder you didn't take off with all the Wimps and equipment, and left us with our shirt tails hanging out. I'm sure if you had decided to go, and you had asked, we would all have gone with you.

So, from all your mates in Canada, go out and have a VJ bash like you never had before, you deserve it. God bless, Jim Donaldson.

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THE CORNSTALK COMMUNICATION. from Jock McGowen.

*Some changes to the N.S.W. Flight Committee at the Anzac Day meeting. Our Flight President is still Eric Munkman, and Senior Vice President is Bob Smith, with Bob Lyndon as Junior Vice President. A new Secretary, we welcome our old friend Noel Walter, whose address is 9, Wolli Street, Kingsgrove, 2208. His 'phone number is 02-504-246. Bob Bruce is our new Treasurer. His address is 41a Berowra Road, Hornsby, 2077 and his 'phone number is 02-476-1233. Cy Irwin is still Minute Secretary: Jock McGowen is scribe for the Squadron News. Committee members are Peter Alexander, Don.Bitmead, Sam Barlow, Keith Cousins and Pete Pettit.

*Our N.S.W. Flight President Eric Munkman was fortunate to be selected to do the Pilgrimage to North Africa and Europe with 9 others to represent Australia at the 50th Anniversary Celebrations there--more of that elsewhere in this Bulletin.

*For the 50th Anniversary there was a Church Service at St. Andrews Cathedral on 7th May and Noel Walter and I attended. On 8th May there was a wreath-laying at the Cenotaph in Martin Place to celebrate the actual day, 50 years ago, when the war in Europe ended. Many were there and 458 was represented by Bob Bruce, Cy. Irwin, Bob Smith with Dorothy, Sam Barlow, Bob Millar, Keith Cousins, Merv Hargraves, Kevin Barlow, Don Bitmead, Joe Pratt and myself with a couple from 3 Squadron--Lew Ranger and Merv. Beck. A very impressive service and we all gave full credit to the young Air Force who stood with reversed arms through the whole service without a movement: they certainly added to the dignity of the morning. (ED: That event at the Cenotaph was immediately followed (by a more festive event in the forecourt of the Sydney Opera House-- (that magnificent site on the foreshore of Sydney Harbour under (the blue skies of the Pacific. Attended by many hundreds and (Official Guests that included past and present Prime Ministers and (State Premiers, etc it witnessed a display of song, speeches and (music from a tri-service band--and overflying by more modern aircraft (than 458 had. Enlivened but not spoilt by the Opera House sound-- (system breaking down three times. Once while a lady sang Vera Lynn (songs, once while the State Premier stood up to speak--and then it (cut the Opposition speaker off in mid-flow. Another great event! (Apparently too many stalls around the place plugged into the electrics (to heat coffee!) Peter Alexander and daughter Deborah represented (458. That was followed by a lunch at Parliament House).

The Cornstalk Communication (cont.)

* Back to Anzac Day, held as before at the Criterion Hotel, our own private room, just great. This year we had 29 attending with 5 apologies. We had 30 on the March. Attending the lunch were Eric Munkman, Jock McGowen, Peter Pettit, Ralph Bailey, Bob Smith, Bob Bruce, Wal Archbold, Noel Walter, Don Bitmead, Harry Baines, Len Barton, Sam Barlow, Marshall Allan, Arnold Ashton, Reg. Hansell, Keith Cousins, Peter Alexander, Rinso Purcill, Bob Lyndon, Laurie Crowley, Stephen and David Hankel (sons of (Clarry), Geoff Lamont (son of Bluey), Merv Hargraves, Jack Preston, Stephen Bruce (son of Bob), Bob Miller, Ken Rosen, and Rinso Purcill's son (sorry, no name recorded).

* Late in May, the "McGowen Collection" as it has become known, of model aircraft was dedicated at Narrandera in the presence of a large group of 458ers. (ED. this event into which Jock put much effort (and finance was, on 458 recommendation, financially aided by the (Federal Government as part of the Australia Remembers year).

* When Anne and I took the models down early in April--and we never broke one--we took the opportunity to slip down to Cobram to see Doff Pollock, Bob's widow. She is great and spends time on the Golf course. Good to see you, Doff, and we pass on your good wishes to all of Bob's mates.

* Had a visit from Bill Fiddes the other day; down for a check up. looks O.K. though he has a few problems. Still likes a cold beer. Keep on going, Bill.
Jock.

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ON THE AUSTRALIAN VETERANS SCENE.

The Australian ex-service scene, despite or perhaps because of the ageing of the WW II Veterans and their spouses, remains a very active one. A round-up of some of the things-in-action follows.

Australia Remembers. Led by the present Minister for Veterans Affairs. Mr. Con Sciacca (his parents in Sicily, were on the "other side"), like his predecessor a good and helpful Minister, 1995 has been an unprecedented celebration of Veterans activities 50 years ago. We've seen nothing like it before. Three pilgrimages, (Two coming up in New Guinea, and Borneo--a lot of work incidentally!--) one to Europe and North Africa. Celebrations all round the country every week Not only celebration for us who were involved but a very useful impact on the present-day population and media.

Aged Care. We have for some time been pressing the Government to ensure an adequate Aged Care program for Veterans and spouses. Home care and maintenance, hospital facilities both Acute and Chronic Health maintenance programs, rehabilitation: facilities for Alzheimers cases. Resulting in a recent program announcement in the Federal Budget which goes along the desired path.

An Australian Veterans Charter. While the Australian system is long established we have felt, in view of the ageing, diminution in number over the coming years, and so lesser political impact, the Australian commitment should be set out very formally, by Parliament in Charter form. We have put up to the Government such a Charter (Peter Alexander wrote it) for issue as an outcome of Australia Remembers. We shall see what emerges!

The dire consequences of smoking. Cancers and heart diseases and other disabilities have been accepted as a result of wartime smoking but recently the new Repatriation Medical Authority --composed of five lively and generally helpful professors--has reversed a previous acceptance of Prostate cancer as induced by the cadmium and zinc and other constituents of tobacco smoke. In this we believe them wrong and have lodged an Appeal to the Review Tribunal (the first such appeal). This is now pending.

Other matters pending. But we are out of space!.