CIRCULAR

AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION,
458 Squadron Branch,
April, 1950.

458 SQUADRON NEWS.

Vol.1 No.3

Our third issue follows close upon the end of the first year of 458 Squadron's organisation as a continuously functioning concern based upon the 458 Branch of the Air Force Association. Members can look back on a year of great activity with a Theatre Party, "Buggle Call" functions, two Reunions, three cricket matches and, for Association members, Branch meetings. It's involved some hard work but those of us who have been able to take part know that the year has led to a revival and expansion of wartime friendship which we would not now wish to be without.

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING:

The 11th Reunion. The half-yearly Reunion and Annual Meeting was held at Air Force House on March 3rd. About fifty attended and 27 gallons of beer went down. We have to thank Jack Atken and Harry Bainea for solving the beer problem on this occasion. Audited Annual Accounts presented to the meeting showed that the Committee had increased the Squadron's opening cash balance of 30/- to £26. The Reunion itself led, as Reunions do, to a loss (of about £4). The following were there: Stuart Ricketts, Geoff Burgess, Pete Campbell, Fred Strom, Cac. Nation, Sam Berlow, Ray Davies, Harry Bainea, Bert Thompson, Frank Mullin, Lofty Bracker, Jack Nichols, Slappy Hammon, Alan Piggott, Peter Beille, Ken Knaage, Doug Bennett, Buster Belmer, Dick Cattanach, Peter Pettit, Fred Lyres, Allan Macmater, Goldy Brettell, Fred James, Bob Miller, Morv. Hargraves, Tom Mitchell, George Bradd, Tony Harris, Cliff Hayward, Frank Keith, Fred Ridge, Peter Alexander, Eric Munkmen, Bob Bruce, Ernie Dovon, Tom Moore, Ron Ricketts, Tommy Taylor, Terry Walden, W. Chapman, Jack McDonald, and Bud McKay. Apologies from Bob Scholes, Jack McHae, Don Bittm, J. Timms, J. Hamilton and Neil Archbold. The following were the office-bearers elected for the following year: PRESIDENT Pete Campbell; VICE PRES. Slappy Hammon, Pop Nation; HON. TREASURER Sam Berlow; HON. SECRETARY Peter Alexander; COMMITTEE Ralph Belley (Immediate Past President), Fred Strom, Eric Munkmen, Bob Bruce, Geoff. Burgess, Ernie Dovon, Tony Harris, Bud McKay, Bert Thompson, Peter Pettit. HON. AUDITOR D. Bennett.

During the Reunion the new Squadron Banner was unfurled for the first time. It consists of the Squadron crest with a flying torpedo in colours upon an Air Force blue (cerulean) background, with scroll-work showing where the Squadron operated. Photographs were taken (by Fred Strom) of members with the banner which is regarded as the first-fruits of the Committee's endeavours to establish the Squadron on a permanent basis. During the evening members present subscribed £7.15.0 towards the estimated cost of the banner (£11) which was a great effort.

Cricket. 458 Squadron played its first cricket match at Centennial Park on December 12th against the Air Force Club and won by 52 runs. Since the same A.F.C. side has since defeated both Bathurst and Newcastle, our success was very satisfactory. Scores were:

458 SQUADRON:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. Berlow</th>
<th>B. Grogen</th>
<th>4</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>D. Bennett</td>
<td>C. Keogh b. Salomon</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Burgess</td>
<td>Run out</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. McKay</td>
<td>B. Wylie</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Harris</td>
<td>Lbw b. Wylie</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Ridge</td>
<td>B. Wylie</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T. Waldon</td>
<td>C. G. Brogen</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Moore</td>
<td>Run out</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P. Alexander</td>
<td>C. Grogen b. Wylie</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T. Moore</td>
<td>B. Wylie</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. Hammond</td>
<td>Run out</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundries</td>
<td></td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
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TOTAL 201

A.F.C.:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. Colver</th>
<th>Lbw B. McKay</th>
<th>20</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grogen</td>
<td>Lbw B. McKay</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M. Slocombe</td>
<td>C. McKay b. Weld</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kannard</td>
<td>B. McKay</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bessens</td>
<td>C. Burgess b. Weld</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T. Keogh</td>
<td>B. McKay</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Emmerson</td>
<td>B. Berlow</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruce</td>
<td>Run out</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McLean</td>
<td>B. Welsh</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salmon</td>
<td>Not out</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wylie</td>
<td>B. McKay</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL 149
This match must go down to history as McKee's match, as the scores illustrate, 81 runs, 5 wickets and an excellent slip catch forming as brilliant an all-round combination as anyone could wish to see.

The second match, against a team nominally representing 455 Sqn, but as readers will observe substantially supplied by the A.F.C., was lost by 4 wickets. Scores were:

458 SQUADRON: 455 SQUADRON:
S. Berlow 0 B. Philen 0 W. Keogh 43 B. Berlow 43
D. Bennett C. Sub-B. Kennard 4 D. Kennard 4 L. Alexander B. McKee 96 96
G. Burgess(C) C. B. Kennard 47 J. Philen 35 C. B. Kennard C. B. McKee 35 0
M. McKee Run out 37 L. Becker 37 B. Alexander C. Harris 1 0
L. Harris 3 B. Becker 0 A. Alexander 1 B. Harris 1
H. Baines C. Skinner F. Crooks 63 E. Rutterford Run out 14 0
R. Miller L. Becker 5 B. Skinner 5 B. Alexander 0
P. Reutit C. Sub-B. Becker 17 E. Salmond Not out 10 0
T. Weldon Run out 2 Sundries 2 0
P. Alexander Llw B. Keogh 0
T. Moore Not out 0
Sundries 23 199 (6 wickets)

Rain interfered with a proposed return match against the A.F.C. Instead those of our team who turned up joined with a few of the A.F.C. in a picnic game against a team from a Pub called either "The Coach and Horses" "Keg Hall" "Thistle", or possibly, the "Fuel of Balls" - the Editor cannot remember who had an 18 gallon keg of beer. The Editor would like to dwell on this game (for once he made some runs) but space does not permit.

Bugle Call Quiz. Two more Quiz competitions have been held (at 2 U.C.) Studio where, unfortunately, we cannot invite an audience) against 455 Squadron and 3 Squadron. Though members who recall previous results may find it hard to credit, 458 won both (by 2-0 and 3-1 respectively). Terms and questions were:

Against 455:
Geoff Burgess: What percentage of the National Income is devoted to Returned servicemen?
Bob Druss: What great American said "If a man is good enough to fight for his country he is good enough to be given a fair deal afterwards?"
Arthur Jollan: What flying boat is now on the Trans-Trans run?
Peter Alexander: King Arthur had a favourite magician whose name was the same as a famous aircraft engine, what was it?

Against 3 Squadron:
Pete Campbell: What aircraft recently crashed with large loss of life in Asia?
Sam Arow: Name three R.A.F. mustering beginning with C.
Jack McDonald: What American filmaker had a meritorious record with the U.S.A.A.F.?
Lofty Chalmers: What Explorer has several times flown over the Antarctic but does not hold a flying licence?

PERSONAL ADS.
Burt Thompson: Accountant with the Joint Coal Board.
Bob Miller: Helping to make Austin cars.
Snowy Fennall: Travelling over the State for Cooper Engineers.
Cliff Heywood: In the building trade.
Keith Clymo: Tailoring in Melbourne.
"Flesby" Thomas: Recently seen in Sydney on a visit.
Bill Carr: Doing an engineering course and now living in Wagongong. Jack will be remembered as being 1/c 458 Wireless Sqn.
Jack Nicholls: In charge of Maintenance for Henderson's Bets. (If anyone wants a bet...?)
Ernie Henwood: Finishing an engineering course with Toronto University. Ernie who was one of our Canadian Fedor men has recently married. He says possibly be coming this way in connection with the Snowy River Scheme.
Jack McDonald: An Insurance man with the M.I.C.
Jack Kayne: In the Motor trade and doing well.
Bernie Hughes: Now living near Warwick in Queensland. Asked to be remembered to Allan Wilks, Goldy Bartlett, Snow Fennell and Don McNeil.

Peter Beilie: A composer. Still seeking a home for the wife and family.

Laurie Crowley: With Guinaer Air Traders in Lee.

Dick Harvey: The Squadron Intelligence Officer is now travelling for Nyea Ltd.

Frank Keith: Our 14 Squadron representative is servicing typewriters.

Peter Pettit: Has now qualified as a dentist and has our warm congratulations.

Harry Beines: Helping to arrange an hotel in Wingham. The Cricket Committee is wondering if it can arrange his transfer to Sydney for the next season.

Doug. Holland: We were delighted to have news of "Dutch" Holland again. He is managing a sheep property near Wellington with a constant battle against the rabbits. We have also heard of

Stu Currington: who has a wheat farm out of Rock Hill. Don't suppose Stu is bothered by rabbits as those he didn't trap would undoubtedly fall to his revolver. Good luck to you, Stu.

News out of Africa: We've had several interesting letters from Africa from:

Gordon Vale who is managing a business in Port Elizabeth, sent us on a list of 458 addresses, most of which we hadn't got. Hance the fact that a lot of people who may have thought 458 was dead recently heard from us.

Mal Priest who expects to be in Sydney on leave later this year;

Robin Knight who is with a timber mill in Kenya wants news of one of his trees (attention Dusty and Bert!). He has sent us some photographs for the Squadron Album (members nearer home please note) and wants to join the 458 Branch of the Air Force Association.

Association Members:

We welcome the following new members: "Dutch" Holland, Harry Beines, Cliff Hayward, Ernie Domen, Tony Harris, Bert Thompson, Jack Bevan.

Squadron Album:

Photographs from the following are acknowledged with thanks: Pop Nette, Alf Hennam, Buster Baxter, Dick Harvey, Bert Thompson, Robin Knight.

Branch Resolutions:

Members will recall that the Squadron Branch passed resolutions asking for the large scale provision of prefabricated houses and about architects fees. Both resolutions were adopted by the Air Force Association as its policy. The Housing resolution was taken up vigorously with the Minister for Housing by the Squadron and with the Branch by the Association. Members will have observed from the Press that N.S.W. is apparently to get some prefabricated houses; and while we don't claim all the credit, still:.

Annual Assembly of Delegates:

Two delegates will represent 458 at the Annual Conference of the Air Force Association at Orange in June. These will be Alf Hennam and Peter Alexander. Allen Piggott will be there as a delegate from the Ryle-Gladstone Branch. We hope to see "Rino" Furcell in Orange. Association Branch Meeting:

The 458 Branch held a meeting on March 23rd to decide what items the Branch should put on the agenda for the Assembly of Delegates. Various motions were approved. The Branch also discussed the organisation of the proposed Ball, the picnic and the Anzac Day March. Members had the benefit of some bottled bear.

Hon. Secretary's Address:

Members are asked to note that the squadron secretary's address has changed to 120 Wycombe Road, Neutral Bay, SYDNEY.

Marriages:

Our congratulations to Ralph Beilie and Don Bitmead both of whom recently got married.

Births:

To Harry and Mrs. Beines, a daughter. To Dad and Mrs. McKay, a daughter.
That's to Come.

Squadron Ball:
This is to take place at the Ballroom, Air Force House, Goulburn Street, Sydney on Friday May 26th. This will be the first Squadron Ball and while it is a formidable undertaking at which other Squadrons have not been successful, we already know from the members who have asked for tickets that we shall have a success. Still we hope a lot more will apply (through the Squadron Secretary) for tickets which will be 10/- each. No money can be taken at the door. Supper will be provided and tables may be reserved. The Ball Committee comprises Pop Nation (Chairman), Eric Munkau, Les Riggott and Ken Knaggs. Dress is optional but members are invited to appear in their dinner jackets.

Anzac March:
458 Squadron will march on Anzac Day, the Squadron Ensign being carried on this occasion by Sleepy Hammond.

Picnic-Excursion:
Weather permitting, there will be an excursion via Cronulla and the Port Hacking River to National Park on Sunday April 30th. Members attending will assemble at Cronulla Station at 9.50am. This is being organised by Jack Atkin, Tony Harris and Geoff Burgess, and is particularly intended for wives and families.

Comment:
458 Squadron has always been pretty fortunate in having a good attendance at its functions and, particularly, its Reunions. But we would like to draw members' attention to their obligations to their own contemporaries. It is no fun to come to a Reunion and find out that you are, for example, the only person there who was at Holme-on-Spalding-Moor. There were a number of helpful suggestions put forward by members at the last Reunion, including the provision of a pianist and the sending of a second reminder just before future Reunions. Among suggestions which the Committee will no doubt consider is that at each Reunion a certain period in Squadron history will be selected for special attention. While all members will be expected as usual, a special additional summons will be sent to members who were at (say) Lyde or Melba. A member receiving such a special summons will be expected to move heaven and earth if necessary (and no one will have to do as much as that) to be at that Reunion for it will mean that all his contemporaries will be there.

Authorised by the Editor: Peter Alexander,
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