



The Editor:

G.P.O. Box 5289, Sydney.

Vol. 3, No. 9.

October, 1951.

We feel certain that readers generally will share our pleasure and pride at the further advance of the "News" signified by the adoption of the Newshead. The fine design of a Wellington, Mark XIV, sighting a U-Boat has been done by Tom Moore, who has done much recently to make 458 publications attractive to look at. The cost of the block is being given by vice-president Alf. Hammond, to whom our thanks.

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING.

458 plays 466 Squadron. A Golf Challenge Day at Campbelltown Links was held with Bruce Otton and his team on July 29th. The two teams played a practice round in the morning and after lunch held the match. Everyone played in the Challenge but, as the two teams were unequal in number the best six scores on each side were taken and the side with the lower aggregate score on that basis won. An exciting and enjoyable match, uncertain of result until the last score card came in was won by 6 strokes by 458 Squadron. A prize for the best score below handicap was won by Bob. Bruce. The Squadron players who returned the winning cards were Lofty Chalmers, Sam Barlow, Bob. Bruce, Graeme Coombes, Eric Munkman, and Stuart Ricketts. Other members playing were Allan Walker, Tom Mitchell, Bob Millar, Col. Campbell, Doug. Bennett, Peter Alexander and Ray Davies.

Another Golf Day on October 14th was to have been against 3 Squadron, who however were unable to make it on this particular occasion so we had a Stapleford competition which was won in dazzling style by Tom Mitchell.

Contract Bridge again. Many Squadron members, particularly groundstaff members, made Contract Bridge their main card game—at least from Bone to Gibraltar. Doug. Millard, we recall, was the original old master. We can remember one game, in the Paper Mill during Christmas at Foggia starting about 9 a.m. and finishing at 2.0. the next morning. We also recollect that even the fact that two of its members were temporarily not on speaking terms failed to prevent one regular R.A.F. four from playing. To give Bridge playing members the chance to play Contract again, a Bridge Evening was held at Cec. Nation's home on September 7th. and a number of Bridge fans spent an enjoyable evening round the card tables. Our thanks to Cec. for his hospitality.

The 14th. Sydney REUNION.

This was held, as usual, at 330, George Street, and on September 21st. The following 68 members were Reunion subscribers:

J. Aitken	Bob Lyndon	C. O. Mann	F. Ayres	R. Bailey
P. Alexander	H. Baines	J. C. Baker	E. J. Baker	Sam Barlow
D. Bennett	M. Bracker	Bob. Bruce	G. Burgess	Ross Burgess
Pete Campbell	G. Cannon	Col. Campbell	R. Cattenach	L. Chalmers
B. Chapman	G. Coombes	R. Davies	E. Doman	N. Griffiths
A. Hammond	M. Hargraves	A. Harris	R. Healey	J. Ind
F. Keith	L. Kew	B. Lord	J. Miles	R. Millar

.Miller	T.Mitchell	T.Moore	F.Mullane	E.Munkman
.McDonald	D.McKay	A.McMaster	J.McPhee	C.Nation
.O'Brien	W.Perkins	A.Piggott	L.Piggott	J.Preston
.Ricketts	F.Ridge	F.Strom	K.Rosen	W.Sullivan
.Taylor	B.Thompson	C.Tillack	W.Turier	T.Waldon
.Waiker	R.Wilson	J.Wilson	L.Wood	J.McGowen
.Menser	N.Skinner	N.Walter.		

The Committee was delighted to welcome an officer of the Squadron in Victoria, Jock McGowen (Jock was with 458 from Williamtown to Gibraltar), and to see a substantial number of members from Newcastle. Thanks go to Fred Ayres for arranging the beer, and to Alan Piggott, Tom Mitchell and Eric Munkman for transporting it. A series of photographs were taken and members can obtain copies (2/-ea. plus postage) from the N.S.W. Secretary or from Jack Baker, 5, Myrtle Street, Crows Nest, Sydney.

The subscription for the Reunion was the usual 7/6d. which is certainly the lowest Squadron Reunion charge in Sydney. A small profit of about £3 was made. On this point, another squadron (to which good luck and our greetings) recently held its Annual Reunion in Sydney. 117 members were there paying 16/6 per head. With the addition of raffles, etc that Reunion made a profit of £75, which will no doubt go towards the good purposes of publishing a Newsletter, etc. We don't know what the moral of this is except that 458 members get a pretty fair deal financially!

The Squadron in South Australia.

As readers know, 458 has kept together strongly in S.A. throughout the postwar years, and for this it owes much to the Adelaide members who have done the organising work, notably Eric Cox, Bill Taylor and Brian Woodhead, the last two being now President and Hon. Secretary. The Squadron has held a luncheon after the Anzac March each year and on August 28th this year held its first Evening Smoko most successfully at the R.S.L. Club in Adelaide. Members in attendance included, among others, Sid Bartram, Col. Mitchell, Ted Creighton, Ding Conway, Jack Parkin, Ron Badger, Johnny Bax, Eric Cox, Eric Both, Brian Woodhead, Bill Taylor and Peter Alexander. The Squadron Album was on display, and members were issued with their squadron badges. The Editor was present and wishes to acknowledge the kindness with which he was received. He now considers himself an expert on S.A. beer.

Some days later a party was given at his home by Sid Bartram and his wife at which many Adelaide members were present and which was also attended by Lofty Chalmers from N.S.W., and Keith Glymo from Melbourne.

The S.A. Branch has an excellent Squadron Banner behind which it marches on Anzac Day. Individual news of S.A. members is:

Bill Taylor has an Estate Agents business in Adelaide. Bill is married with a son. He asks to be remembered to Dick Boydell, Otto Mann, Stan. Tarczynski, Cec. Percy, Gordon Ough and Allan McKay.

Brian Woodhead working with McIlwraith McEacharn in Adelaide, Brian and his wife have a daughter,

Geoff Esau has a sheep station at Reedy Creek.

Ned Kelly (of the Electrical Section) has a new house in Adelaide,

Roger Angove: the first 458 M.O., after some years in London, is now a Specialist in North Terrace, Adelaide. He is married.

Eric Both is a soldier settler on Kangaroo Island, with a sheep property.

Ron Badger is Sales Manager of Geo. Bolton's in Adelaide.

"Ding" Conway. Casualty Officer with Lightburn and Co. Ltd (Still, he says, pushing out the pills). Married with two daughters. Going to Perth at Christmas when he intends to contact Jack Riseley.

Ian Showell with a dried fruits company at Renmark.

Col. Mitchell is a wool buyer.

Johnny Bax selling motors and electrical gear. Has a boy and a girl.

Jack Parkin is a garage proprietor (and is a strong believer in the Single Brand system). He has a son and owns a Show horse.

Ted Creighton. An Accountant, Ted is still with Specialty Printers. He has a son and a daughter.

Eric Cox is the proprietor of the Adelaide Oyster Bar, Grenfell Street.

Ron Redpath is racing cars in competitions and also building them.

Arthur Green is a partner in the Austral Spring Works, West Brunswick, Melbourne, and, we hear, doing well.

Sid Bartram. An opal cutter, Sid is prospering. He and his wife have two sons.

Tom (The Geep) Hanlon is a Security Officer with the Department of Supply.

Snow Dickson. The Ford exponent from Swan Hill has a daughter. Snow is brother-in-law to Ron Badger.

Jack Threadgold has a garage at Kingston, and is married with one child, according to our information.

Billy Cribb is a traveller with Thompson Harvey. Bill has two children and a new house at Summerton.

Col Draysey. Repairing watches with Suhards in Adelaide, Col is married with a daughter.

Arnold Scholar with the P.M.G.'s Dept.

Junior Davies is married and living at Port Pirie.

Mal Goers working with the "Barossa News" in Tanunda, and married with a son, Mal tells us he is very well content with life.

Buck Pederson. Buck lives in Richmond in a new house with his wife and two daughters and works with a metal company.

South Australian members have sent remembrances and regards to members in other states which we are glad to pass on.

Eric Both to Shorty Lewis-Hughes, Roy Rabone and Roger Rodwell

Johnny Bax to Frank Mahony and Buster (Keatings) Balmer.

Jack Parkin to Ron Hills and Jack Payne.

Ted Creighton to George Morgan, Junior Hawke, Bryan Crawford, and Val Richards.

Eric Cox to Ross Burgess, Snow Fennell and Noel Walter,

Ding Conway to Cyril Murray

Sid Bartram to Peter Bailie, Goldy Bartlett, Dick Whiteman and Fred Ridge.

Ron Badger to Alan Figgott, "Rinso" Purcill and Pete Campbell.

In Victoria.

Following the issue of its second Bulletin (an excellent production containing the addresses of all squadron members in S.A., N.S.W. and Queensland), the Victorian branch of the Squadron held its September Reunion at Air Force House, Flinders Lane on the 21st. While full details have not yet arrived, the Reunion was, as expected, most successful.

The Committee is collecting information, through a Questionnaire, about peacetime activities of Squadron members with a view to developing the news coverage of the Bulletin.

News Items from Sydney.

In Memory of the Squadron Dead.

On October 7th, while the Squadron Cricket team was at R.A.A.F. Station, Richmond, the President, in the company of a gathering of 458 members, planted a Tree to perpetuate the memory of the Squadron Dead. Group Capt. Davis, C.O. of Richmond accepted the Tree on behalf of the Station. Later on a suitable plaque will be placed by the tree. The species of tree chosen was a Kaffir Plum, which grows to a height of 30 feet and has a magnificent spreading crown.

Gibraltar Remembers.

The following item appeared in the September issue of "Wings". "The R.A.A.F.'s General Badge was among the badges unveiled by the Governor at King's Chapel, Gibraltar last February as a memorial to squadrons which operated from Gibraltar in 1939-45. No. 458 Squadron, R.A.A.F., No. 22 Squadron, S.A.A.F., and Nos. 48, 179, 202, 233, 500, 520, and 608 are the units commemorated. The R.A.F. units are each represented by the squadron badge, while No. 458 is represented by the R.A.A.F. general badge."

The Wartime Crest of 458 Squadron, R.A.A.F.

The N.S.W. Committee has received the following letter from the Official Secretary to the Administrator of the Commonwealth (Sir John Northcote), arising out of the Petition addressed to the King on the subject of the wartime crest.

"I refer to my letter of 1st. August regarding your
 "Association's wish to have the Badge used by 458 Squadron, Royal
 "Australian Air Force in the recent war, recognised and registered.
 Interim advice on your petition has been received from the
 "Minister for Air indicating that the matter has again been raised
 "with the Chester Herald, College of Arms, London.
 I shall address you further after the Administrator has
 "received the Minister's considered advice.

Yours faithfully,

M.L. Tyrrell."

Sport.Cricket Comments

BY

"Run-To-Cover".

Apart from a practice game, two matches have now been played by the Squadron cricket team. The first was against the R.A.A.F. Station Richmond team on October 7th. The second, played in Centennial Park, against the Air Force Club on October 21st.

At Richmond the team played for the first time on a grass pitch in the ideal surroundings of the Station Oval. There had been rain early in the day and the pitch was "popping" which made a good reason for putting the opposition in to bat when 458 won the toss. Our bowlers, particularly Eric Munkman, were able to make the ball lift sharply and six R.A.A.F. wickets fell for less than 60 runs. A stand for the 7th wicket raised the R.A.A.F. total, all out, to 119, which was not a bad performance on our part. There however the good performance ceased for squadron batsmen apparently found the change of pace from a macadam to a turf pitch too much for them and 458 were all out for 67. Geoff Burgess, though using the edge of his bat a lot, top-scored in a most useful innings. While their efforts were not adequately rewarded with runs, Lofty Chalmers and Tony Harris batted courageously. Scores were:

<u>R.A.A.F., Richmond.</u>		<u>458 Squadron.</u>			
Cliff	c. Barlow b. Walker	7	Alexander c & b. Hardman	1	
Robertson	c. Alexander b. Munkman	2	Chalmers	Run out	12
Tapp	c. Alexander b. Walker	2	Barlow	Lbw b. Hardman	1
Thompson	c. Alexander b. Barlow	0	Burgess	c. Walsh b. Davies	30
Hillier	c. Barlow b. Chalmers	7	Walker	b. Hardman	0
Hardman	c. Baker b. Barlow	12	Baker	c. Robertson b. Hardman	0
Brown	Hit Wkt b. Barlow	5	Campbell	c. Thompson b. Hardman	0
Taylor	Not out	45	Harris	Lbw b. Cliff	3
Walsh	c. Chalmers b. Baker	2	Munkman	b. Cliff	6
Davies	b. Barlow	7	Bennett	Not out	0
Chevasse	c & b. Burgess	8	Millar	b. Cliff	0
sundries		12	Sundries		17
		119			67

Against the Air Force Club, the story was extraordinarily different. After a stolen single went wrong, a stronger batting side for 458 produced a feast of runs. Owen Crompton, batting left-handed with all the skill we remembered him to possess made 93 very fast with a scintillating display of aggressive strokemaking. Sam Barlow batted soundly and successfully, and Dud McKay, despite an injured knee scored very fast. Had time permitted the squadron could easily have made over 400. The Air Force Club side batted doggedly to make 146. 458 won by 123 runs.

<u>458 Squadron.</u>		<u>Air Force Club.</u>		
Barlow	Retired	68	Ferry c. Burgess b. McKay	24
Alexander	Run out	0	Glocombe b. Crompton	0
Crompton	b. Phean	93	Tuckwell b. Munkman	5

458 Squadron (cont:)Air Force Club (Cont:)

McKay	Retired	56	Parks	c.Davis b.Burgess	50
Walker	st.Perry b.Parkes	3	Keogh	b.Baker	0
Munkman	Not out	18	Phelan	c.Davis b.Burgess	9
Baker	c.Tuckwell b.Grogan	4	Grogan	Not out	19
Bennett	c.Perry b.Parkes	1	Salmon	b.Crompton	1
Bruce	c.Dover b.Parkes	8	Dover	c.Alexander b.Walker	22
Davis	Not out	13	Morrison	St.Alexander b.McKay	0
Sundries		5	McQueen	b.McKay	0
			Sundries		16
	6 Wkts Decl.	269			146

The next game arranged is with 3 Squadron on November 18th.

Accommodation: Air Force House, Sydney.

Air Force Association branch members are now able to book accommodation in the re-decorated Air Force House, Goulburn Street.

Terms for accommodation, described as first class, are now Single rooms, 12/6 per night, £3-10-0 per week; Share rooms, 7/6d per night, £2-10-0 per week; Dormitory 6/- per night. Members reserving accommodation will be asked to produce their Air Force Association badge.

Queries

Is it correct that

(a) the fourth hole at Campbelltown Golf Links (where the bridge crosses the deep part of the creek), which used to be called "The Pines" is now known locally as "Millar's Dive"?

(b) following events of recent weeks "Pop" Nation now wishes to be addressed as "Grandpop" Nation?

Squadron Badges.

Squadron members not already in possession of their 458 badge are reminded that they can get it from their State Secretary (4/- plus postage).

Squadron Album. The Committee's thanks to Charlie Davis for an important contribution to the Squadron Album in the form of copies of the (groundstaff) Identity Card photographs taken at Shalufu. Thanks also to Jock McGowen for several valuable enlargements.

Personalities.

Ken Rosen, who we were glad to see again at the recent Sydney Reunion is with the Public Works Dept. in Wollongong. He also does some Active Reserve flying in Tiger Moths at Bankstown.

Russ Wilson who is now the father of two sons, has a Fruit Shop and Milk Bar at 45-7, Campbell Parade, North Bondi, Sydney.

Walter Sullivan who recently appeared in the John Alden Company production of "King Lear" is at present playing in the new A.B.C. serial "Stranger Come In" and also in "The Air Adventures of Biggles" and "Martin's Corner"

Jack Ind is living in Parkes where he has a garage. Jack, incidentally, is a supporter of the Independent petrol system. He wishes to be remembered to all his old friends.

Jack Miller is now working as a pastry cook in Cronulla. Jack is married with two daughters.

Merv Hargraves is opening a chemist's shop at 215, Coogee Bay Road, Coogee where he will be glad to see squadron members.

Lance (Timber) Wood is with the P.M.G. Dept. (Accounts Section), Sydney. He has a son and a daughter.

Lofty Bracker is with Qantas, in Sydney.

Ron Gannaway is understood to be in the furniture trade in Perth.

Guy Johnson married with two children, Guy is in charge of the gardens in the Archdiocese of York, England.

Charlie Mann doing earth-moving work as a plant operator with a Sulphide company at Cockle Creek.

Ross Burgess, Fitter with the Newcastle Council, Ross is also breeding Norwich canaries.

Lock Simpson recently passed through Sydney and a few of his friends were able to meet him. Lock is prospering with his Plumbing and engineering business in Dalby, Queensland. He is also playing a lot of golf.

"Chappy" Chapman is doing Fitting work with the Newcastle Council.
Eric Jewell, who has been having some ill-health is at present in the Repatriation General Hospital, Heidelberg, Melbourne (Ward West 3).

Peter Pettit, in London, is practising dentistry with success and spending some of his leisure time there attending concerts at the Albert Hall. He is endeavouring to help to organise 458 in Britain.

Len Barton has opened a Drive-In Diner at 77-81, Port Hacking Road, Sylvania. The memory of the food Len served on the Lydda Detachment may tempt members to pay a visit.

Theo Ravenscroft is now refrigeration manager of a large firm of electrical contractors in Queensland.

Charlie Davis is with the Loco Running Staff in Kaigoorlie.

Eric Lloyd is now a member of the Legislative Assembly in Queensland.

Roy Rabone is a soldier settler at Dunkeld, Victoria, growing wool and very contented.

Al Wheat has written to us from Geraldton, W.A. where he is in the Motor and electrical business with his brother. He is married with two sons. Wants to be remembered to Bob Drinnan, Bob Smith, Bob Lyndon, Ken Brown and Jack Taylor and also to Fred Ayres, Maca, Snow Fennell and Arthur Lehdey. A telegram from Al was read at the recent Reunion.

Henry Etherton is farming in W.A.

Pops Grigsby is foreman of a Tile-making company near Perth.

Harold Stevens lives in Newnham, Tasmania now. He has had some ill-health but is now getting over it. Asks to be remembered to his friends.

Bert (Stropper) Ravenscroft is working with Shell in Gladstone, S.A. Married with a son and daughter, Bert sends good wishes to Ross Burgess Slappy Hammond and Athol Kerry.

Eric Mailer is, we understand, managing Cox Bros., in Launceston, Tasmania.

Geoff Burgess is Accountant to Halifax Motors, Sydney.

Wal Clarke works with his brother in a chemist's business in Sydney.

Owen Crompton manages a Greyhound Racing Kennels in Sydney. He is married with two children.

Padre McKay has been appointed Superintendent of the Inland Mission in succession to the Rev. John Flynn.

"Pop" Lewis-Hughes is working with the N.R.M.A. in Sydney.

Jock Philip has been in Yaralla but is now recovering.

Alan Piggott has been appointed a delegate from N.S.W. to the Federal Conference of the Air Force Association in Perth.

Bert Thompson has moved to a new house in Sylvania, Sydney.

"Sailor" Wheatley recently passed his examination for his Master's Ticket

AN IMPORTANT NOTICE.

458 SQUADRON NEWS is now circulating in all six States as well as in Britain, Canada and Africa, a fact of which, we feel sure, Squadron members will feel proud. This, of course, involves costs which have hitherto been met from the odd profits of various squadron functions and from gifts from certain members. However, (don't stop us if you've heard this one before), postage rates and the price of paper have reached a point at which our income is no longer sufficient. The Committee therefore have decided to ask members wishing to receive the Squadron News to send along a yearly subscription of 5/-.

Returning the form attached below, with the subscription of 5/-, will ensure that you receive 458 SQUADRON News each quarter during 1952.

To The Editor, 458 Squadron News,
G.P.O. Box 5289,
Sydney, N.S.W.

Please send me 458 SQUADRON NEWS for the year 1952. I enclose the Annual Subscription of 5/-.

Name.....

Address.....

The Squadron's address in N.S.W.

Members are asked to note that all mail should now be addressed to

The Hon. Secretary,
G.P.O. Box 5239,
Sydney, N.S.W.

The addresses of the Squadron Secretaries in other States, of course, remain as before.

N.S.W. Committeemembers.

In our last issue we gave members the addresses of N.S.W. Squadron officers. Hereunder are the addresses of the members of Committee who may be contacted concerning squadron business.

Eric Munkman	59, Tyneside Avenue, Willoughby.	JA 4061
Bob Bruce	135, Parramatta Road, Auburn	
Ern. Doman	3, Bungalow Road, Lakemba.	
Les. Piggott	33, Darlington Road, Darlington.	
Bert Thompson,	36, Culwulla Street, Hurstville.	
Jack Baker	5, Myrtle Street, Crows Nest.	XA 1430
Dud. McKay	7, Battersea Street, Abbotsford	WA 3142
Tony Harris	624, New South Head Road, Rose Bay.	
Cliff Hayward,	73, Sproule Street, Lakemba	
Tom Moore,	2, Andover Street, Carlton.	

Coming Squadron Events, Sydney.

1. There will be a Squadron Party on December 15th. Invitations will be sent out in due course.

2. Members will meet informally for a Christmas noggin in the Long Bar, Hotel Australia on Thursday December 20th at 5.0. p.m. 45C Badges will be worn!

3. There will be a Fishing Party on the Hawkesbury River early in the New Year. Members who are interested should notify the Secretary or any committee-member, and they will then be sent full details.

Comment.

War Service had many disadvantages, but it had also one outstanding advantage. A man made, on his unit, a host of lifetime friends. For ourselves, we affirm that the well-being of anyone who served with 45C will always be a matter of interest and sympathy.

Authorised by:

The Editor,
G.P.O. Box 5239,
Sydney, N.S.W., AUSTRALIA.