Preparations for ALL-STATES REUNION.

The South Australian Committee has announced tentative arrangements for this year's Anzac Reunion. Squadron members from all States will be visiting Adelaide in April to attend the fourth Interstate Get-Together. South Australian Committee-member Bruce (Flash) Thomas recently visited Sydney and discussed arrangements with the Squadron Secretary. These are the plans:

Friday April 20th. Interstate Members welcomed...Entertainment by local members;
Saturday April 21st. Informal gathering at a Local Hotel in the morning;
Squadron Conference-afternoon;
Dance-Evening;
Sunday April 22nd. Golf......Reunion;
Monday April 23rd. Excursion to the Barossa Valley (the Wine Growing area of S.A.);
Tuesday April 24th. Wednesday April 25th. Anzac Day Reunion.

Bruce Thomas stressed that accommodation was a difficult problem in Adelaide and the S.A. Committee was most anxious to know the E.T.A. and E.T.D. of all members wanting accommodation in Adelaide. Deadline for notifying the S.A. Secretary is March 15th. Each member wanting Hotel accommodation reserved should send a deposit of £2.

From all present information there will be a big influx of 458 Squadron into Adelaide for the Anzac Get-together. Mostly, of course, from Victoria, the neighbouring State, but also a fair representation from other States. The three previous All-States Reunions, held in Sydney, Brisbane, and Melbourne in 1953, 54 and 55 have shown how successful and stimulating such ambitious functions can be and considerable interest has now been aroused, not only, among 458 members but also among ex-A.A.P., personnel generally.

NEW SOUTH WALES FLIGHT NEWS

The Christmas Party. The Social Evening held in December in the Air Force Club Rooms at George Street, Sydney was well attended and very enjoyable. Among those present, it was nice to see Les and Aine Piggott, once again attending a Squadron function.

During the evening, presentations were made to Dorothy Rankin (by Peter Alexander) and to Peter himself (by Sam Walker). Congratulations to all. A Raffl3 was held and the winner of the first prize was won by Ray Davies, whilst Ron Hills won the consolation prize.

We also discovered some hidden talent: Frank Hockey obliged with a Charleston solo.

We have received a report to hold Social Evenings more often —— we'll see what can be done!
Annual Reunion and Election of Officers. The N.S.W. Flight is holding its Reunion and Annual Election of officers on Friday March 9th at 330, George Street, Sydney. Members are requested to note this date and for anyone unable to attend, nominations for the Committee can be made by mail.

Richard Cricket Match. The Cricket match against the R.A.A.F. Station is to be played this year on Sunday 26th February. (Brian Lord and Geoff Burgess, please note). The score so far in these games is two wins each side; and the Squadron players are this year looking forward to another keen struggle. Those wishing to play should get in touch with the Team Captain Cyril Irwin at 17, Vincent Street, Canterbury, or of course, Box 5289, G.P.O. Those able to attend as supporters are invited to come along and see the Squadron team in this, as it were, "Fifth Test". We think this would be a good opportunity for Curly Wilson to come down and see us - how about it, Curly?

In this paragraph, we wish to mention that we have been advised that the Memorial Tree planted in memory of the Squadron Dead (at Richmond Station) now years ago by Pete Campbell, our President at the time, has failed to survive. We are taking a replacement tree – donated on this occasion by President Peter Alexander – with us on the 26th February and we understand that the authorities at Richmond have chosen a new site for the Squadron Tree – one nearer to the Station Chapel, which, incidentally, was not in existence when the original tree was dedicated.

The Squadron Ball. In this regard, we are just getting in early with the announcement that the Squadron Ball (our 7th Annual) is to be held at the Pickwick Club on Friday July 6th. In conclusion, we wish to acknowledge Christmas Greetings and New Year wishes from Squadron members far too numerous to list in detail. To those members, their wives and families we say many thanks and every good wish to you all.

One last plug: Don't forget the Reunion—Friday the 9th March at 330, George Street.

REPORT FROM "Q" FLIGHT. by J.E. Holliday – Secretary.

The highlight of the social whirl of "Q" Flight took place on Saturday, 3rd December, when its Annual Christmas Social was held. The venue was the A.T.C. Mess at Perry Park. It can be claimed to be the most successful yet because:

(a) there were 104 persons in attendance (being 49 couples and 6 unattached males);
(b) there was a Dance Band in attendance;
(c) everyone enjoyed themselves and showed reluctance to go home even when dawn broke through the local mist.

Of course, all the males present were not 458 hrs. The members took the opportunity to bring friends along to enjoy what has become one of the most looked-forward events in the Annual "Q" Flight programme. Despite the heat, there was always a full attendance on the dance floor and the discarding of coats and the milling about the afeet brought about the delightful exercise of dancing. The highlight of the evening was a most delicious supper, the richness of which was equalled by the plenitude.

There were the usual raffles of dressed fowls. Yours Truly remained true to his unbroken record in winning one.

The inanimate activity on the horizon is the golf day to be held about the second Sunday in March at Oxley Golf Club. This will be a purely social affair and after the good time the wives had at the Xmas Social there should be much letting off the chain.

Preparations are being made for the usual March on Anzac Day with a hog afterwards at the A.T.C. Mess.

458 IN BRITAIN. Geo Armstrong has advised us that the U.K. Flight is to hold its Annual Reunion on February 23rd. We shall look forward keenly to news of it. "Johnnie" Johnston, the U.K. President, has conducted preliminary negotiations for the weaving of material for a 458 Squadron Tie in England. To have seen the design, based on the Winged Torpedo, and like it very much. Plans and proposals will, no doubt, be put before the Adelaide Conference for a decision.
Popular and well-known N.S.W. 458er Alf "Slappy" Hammond has recently spent a holiday travelling through Victoria to Adelaide with his family. He met many 458ers. He writes to us:--

"Called at Sandagai and met Len Adams, who is doing very well in the Garage business. He also owns real estate at Sandagai, and a garage and holiday flats at Darrill Lakes. He would like it mentioned that he has a labour shortage in his workshop if any 458er is interested."

Then we went via Shepparton and Bendigo to Melbourne, where we settled at Grassacres Caravan Park, Springvale. Called at St. Kilda and voice Yank Martin out of bed at 11 a.m. He is in the same old Yank Martin of Squadron days. He was our guide and showed us everything of importance in Melbourne, not forgetting Young and Jacksons. You couldn't have a better guide. Met Horn Cugley who is Foreman-mechanic at Atlas Motor Auctions. He is building a home at Colac. Went to see Jim Munday at his Warehouse. He looked impressive behind his desk, with Managing Director on the office door. It was only a matter of minutes before we, Yank, Jim, Norm and self were having a nosh up together at a local saloon. Had lunch with Jim at the Hardware Club, where Yank seemed up to more hair-raising experiences.

Then, on to Maryvale, via Ararat and Ballarat. There, after getting the information from the local milkman, we located the Excello. After a chat with Mrs. Johnny and her two children (she admires the Squadron News very much and whoever calls she feels she knows them at once from the News), we called at Johnny's bicycle shop and then much nattering about 458 days. Johnny looks very fit and is doing well.

Then on to Adelaide via Mt. Lofty and eventually found Bill Taylor. The telephone started ringing and in a matter of minutes I found myself in a saloon and around me were Ron Badger, Mal Priest, Bob Drinan and Bill Taylor. Then Ron Badger made us adjourn to his Motor Bike Shop nearby. After several more ales and many more experiences narrated we had to say Good Night. Rang Sid Bartram but he was playing bowls so I missed him.

Went to Victor Harbour and on our way called on Jack Parkin. Jack has a mixed farm and looking fit as a country squatter. Called at Lofty Trevorth's home and met his good wife, Mother and many children, where once again the Squadron News was mentioned, that although never having met you (the Editor) they feel they know you. After more West End beer and many more experiences told, Jack Parkin and family arrived to spend the day with the Trevorths. Lofty told me he is now a Customs Officer, having sold his taxi and hire-car, and was quite happy in the Service. He also plays the piano accordion and wanted to put on a "Do" that night to show us how good he was, but until nearly late time would not allow.

Then on to Mildura, where that day, I intended to do 300 miles, but after meeting Roger Rodwell, his good wife and family, it was impossible, and they wouldn't hear of our leaving that day. Roger has a Fruit block at Horsham. Citrus and Citrus Fruits, and doing well.

Roger hasn't changed since Squadron days. After sampling many grapes, the local came into view, and many more experiences were related.

That night both families went sailing, including Roger and myself, how I don't know, but much fun was had by us all.

I passed on Bob Drinan's message to Roger Rodwell—"Remember Rowe?" I must also recall that Bob Drinan insisted on handing me the cheque towards to buy Bob Lyon's a drink when I got back to Sydney.

On our way, once again, to Robinvale where we met Dave Firth and Ken Cupper, who both have fruit Settlement blocks, grapes and citrus fruit, and their properties adjoin.

We had lunch with the Firths and felt most honored, as the meal was fit for Royalty. Thanks again to Mrs. Firth who is a charming hostess. Dave has a very nice family. His son works with Dave.

After lunch, the Cuppers arrived with their two sons and Ken with his arm full—Victorian Bitter. I think it was. It was very nice too to meet Mr. Cupper. Lots more talk about the old Squadron days over a bottle or two. Also, once again the Squadron News was mentioned at Robinvale and Horsham, how much it was appreciated, and how they all look forward to receiving the next copy.

All the good wishes admit to reading the News first.

Dave Firth has a message for Sam Baker that the parcel (a Cup I think, like the Arickle Trophy) was eventually returned to Tom Lurbers via Arthur Green from Melbourne, with a few hundred miles extra on.

Dave Firth and Ken Cupper are both most interested in the proposed Reunion in Newcastle, and would like all the details as soon as possible.

All the people I have mentioned would like to be remembered to their old friends of 458 Squadron.

And so, back to Sydney via the Narrooy Valley Highway, and home. Wonderful time!!!

Regards,

Slappy.
THE Projected Newcastle Reunion. We are not yet in a position to announce details of the projected Newcastle Reunion but sincerely hope we can do so before much longer.

Talking of Country Reunions, we have noticed that there are quite a lot of 458ers in the Cairns area now...??????

THE SQUADRON HISTORY. The writing of the first draft of the History is complete.

However, we could use a lot more ‘Personal Interest’ stories than we have got. If you know a story of Squadron life which should go in, send it to us and if it isn’t already in, we’re almost sure to use it. Don’t worry about the laws of libel—we’ll take care of that! This could be your last opportunity to make sure the History has all the things it should have. So, take up your pen to-night and drop the Squadron Historian a line at Box 5289, G.P.O., Sydney, N.S.W.

The ball is at your feet.

ANNUAL SUBS and ANNUAL FEES. A gentle reminder may not come amiss here. Annual Sub. to 458 Squadron News is 5/- payable to your Flight Secretary, or direct to the Editor who will adjust finances with the Flight. Also, if your Flight asks you for an Annual sub towards 458 activities, how about coming good with it?

Addresses of Flight Secretaries:

N.S.W. Allan Walker, Box 5289, G.P.O., Sydney;
Victoria Arthur Green, 57 Woodlands Avenue, Pascoe Vale South, Victoria;
South Aust. John Ringwood, 290 Beaumont Road, Beaumont, South Australia;
Queensland Jim Holliday, 43 Stalls Street, Holland Park, Brisbane, Queensland;
Western Aust. A. Power, 145 Goldcliff Street, Scarborough, Western Australia;

PERSONALITIES.

Geoff Birtwhistle is now permanently stationed in Sydney with Qantas;
Hal Coffill has been ill. Our good wishes to you, Hal;
Jock McGowan has a new job in Sydney, connected with the sale of cellulose bags;
Bert Evanscroft is Deputy Superintendent for Shell at Port Vincent, South Australia;
Peter Alexander: to Rita and Peter, a daughter (Julie Caroline);
Bob McKay: Dad and Endy and their four girls have recently paid a visit to Sydney to see their family. Q Flight hopes to see them in Brisbane;
Grace Coombes has moved from Warwick Farm to Chatswood, Sydney;
Reg ‘Box’ Ranchell. While paying a visit to Concord Repatriation Hospital a party of N.S.W. 458ers found Reg there with a knee injury. He is progressing and we expect to see him at the forthcoming Sydney Reunion;
Frank Eighy is in charge of a Radar Station in Leicestershire, England;
Harry Bishop is working with a Mine Firm in London. He frequently visits Spain to taste the Sherry for them, or so we are told;
Ken Rosen is running an Air Charter Service in Western N.S.W.;
Dave Benson Inglis is now Safety Officer with Qantas in Sydney;
Horrie Campbell is dairy farming at Tintenbar in N.S.W.;
Freddie Strong has been posted to Narrabri in N.S.W. by the Education Dept;
Owen Crompton who has been ill was a welcome returnee to the 458 Cricket team recently;
S. Cook is now at Augustina, S.A.;
Neel Moody is with the Zinc Corporation at Broken Hill;
Rose Burgess has recently been living in Sydney, doing an Inspector’s course with the Dept. of Labour and Industry;
Les and Ena Piggott were at the recent N.S.W. Social. They have an adopted baby son;
Frank Crowley sends his regards to all 458 from Cairns; Christmas Greetings also came to Q Flight from Jim Plunkett of Cairns and from Gordon Postle;
Port Gordon sends personal greetings to Ian Higlett, to which Jim Holliday adds his own. ‘Johnny’ Johnston also sent Christmas Greetings to Q Flight from No. 64 Group Reserve Centre, Suffolks, England.

Christmas Greetings. The Editor acknowledges with much appreciation Christmas Greetings from the following members and their families: Gordon Orchard, ‘Johnnie’ Johnston, Owen Crompton, Neil Priest, Dad McKay, Tony Harris, Jim Holliday, Laurie Crowley, Allan Walker, Eric Rankin, Peter Campbell, Geoff Burgess, Al Heath, Graeme Coombes, Bob Osborne, Stan Parker, Wal Clarke, Jim Palmer, Ken Mercer, Alan Piggott, Ross Burgess.
SPICE THE MAINBRACE – OR SYDNEY TO HOBART IN FIVE DAYS

"Let go for'ard", "Let go aft", "Release the topping lift", "Take in the slack on the main" – these were new words of command I learnt during the five days we took to Hobart.

We left Sydney in fine weather and joined the fleet in the harbour. The start was a magnificent sight and it was a thrill to be beating down the harbour with the bows cutting the water, the sails full and everyone on deck to watch the contestants tack out the Heads.

When outside, we began to take stock of the situation and met our fellow travellers. We were thirteen on the motor yacht "Lauriana", a 70 foot luxury craft owned by Sydney builder, Jim Samson, an ex-RAAF type. Our crew comprised a University lecturer, a motor salesman, a dentist, a manufacturer, a photographer, an ex-sailor as cook, an engineer, a business man, a Qantas radio operator and myself. Cruising down the coast on Boxing Day, it wasn't long before the yachts began to spread out. The big ones – Kurrawa, Solo, Evan, and Deffy were close inshore, the others further out looking for good winds. By the end of the first day we had settled in, knew each other and were enjoying the job of learning how to handle a big yacht beating southwards into headwinds.

For the radio cover we were to provide I had installed a Collins ART.13 transmitter and BC.346 receiver for contact with the yachts and for our broadcasts back to Sydney via 7OC. We had three schedules a day with the yachts at 0300, 1330 and 1930 and broadcasts at 10 a.m., 3 p.m. and 9 p.m. After passing through two or three rain squalls on Boxing Day, we then sailed in overcast weather against headwinds. During the day and night we often sighted yachts on the horizon and by using our motor, we were able to catch them up and identify them. In this way we were able to keep track of those craft not equipped with radio. After the first day we pushed ahead of the fleet to reach Montague Island well in front and spent a couple of hours preparing lines for some fishing. When we were aboard of Montague, "Kyn Marie" of St. Kilda, Melbourne, called us up on R/T and came alongside with a dozen or more beautiful "Kingsies". We put the lines away – we had our fish. Each morning the "house flag", a yellow painting on blue background, was hoisted and the bar was open. As a reward of the day was appointed and we retired to the cockpit for a small session. The "White" was well stocked as we put 16 or so on board before starting out. We kept our radio schedules all right and plotted the positions of each yacht on special charts from which I compiled my summary for broadcasting. However during our trip south severe electrical storms washed out R/T and we had to resort to 2 or 300 groups on the key. Sending was easy but when 070 came back, I found old RAAF procedure wasn't much use, however we had a mixture of Q and X signals plus a little plain language.

Things were fairly quiet for a few days and our daily routine didn't vary much. We often saw sharks and schools of porpoises and land occasionally. The trip across the Bass Strait was reasonably calm. There was a heavy swell and "Lauriana" rolled a lot but it wasn't too bad. We had a good deal of rain and believe me, it can be cold at night at the head with wind and spray lashing you. Friday morning dawned bright and sunny and found us in the lee of Schouten Island off Tasman. We dropped anchor and out came the fishing lines again. In about 15 or 20 feet of water we set our lines with fresh meat as bait. Within an hour we had between 40 and 50 beautiful flathead on the deck. Healey landed the first fish and was well on the way to winning a sweep for the most fish when skipper Jimmy Samson said "We're in for a blow boys, let's get out of here". We did but just as we left Schouten, a yacht called "Lullaby" called us and as we had all sails set, we had to turn them in and turn about. We found "Lullaby" and the crew kindly presented us with 30 or more beautiful "crays". Just as we took them on board we noticed four or five yachts, sportsmen flying, heading south. We hoisted sail again and set out after them. Then the blow struck and throughout the day and night we forged ahead in rough seas. The sky was dark and the rain set in. We couldn't see the Tasman Light and it was dangerous to enter Storm Bay as we ran the risk of collision with the competing yachts. We rode out the storm and at about 4 a.m. made our way to the Iron Port at the mouth of the Derwent. By now the wind had dropped and we used our motor to get to Constitution Dock. Already there were "Even" and "Kurrawa". During the day thousands of people came down to watch the yachts arrive. As soon as we docked we took on board a couple of dozen "Cascade", broke out the cooked "crays" and after scraping off five days' board, we set about meeting our fellow yachtsmen. The celebrations went far into the next day and Hobart made us welcome.

It was a wonderful trip – I'd go again – and -- I wasn't seasick.
From **Ken (Chico) Horrox**, Ringrose House, Godalming, Surrey, England:

Dear Peter, hope everything is O.K. Did you have a good Christmas, plenty of grog and the like? What do you have for Christmas Dinner out there, Kangaroo Outlet or Jabutic Pie?

I've just heard from Jim Purry and his wife who are both well. Jim now plays the Trumpet in a dance band. So don't be surprised if you begin to hear funny noises—it's only Jim either playing the Lost chord or finding it! 

.........

I am still trying my utmost to win my fortune in the Football Pools but so far have only managed a few pounds up to yet but when I do get the Jackpot, be prepared for a visit from yours truly. I got the Monthly News Letter still and find it very interesting. Business is still very prosperous and improving...... Still keeping your hand in at Bridge, Peter? I almost forgot how to play.... yours very sincerely, Ken.

From **Dick Watson**, Djokarta Raya, Indonesia:

Dear Peter, sorry to be late with my Christmas Greetings.....but despite the intense the greetings are just as sincerely meant and I am sure that 458 will go on to bigger, brighter and more "liquid" affairs in 1956. I do appreciate the "News" and read it with great interest from beginning to end. Life up here is most interesting despite the problems which occur in the smooth running of one's business. The Australian papers report rather extensively on Indonesian Affairs but I regret to say, not very accurately.

I hope to be in Australia during 1956 and will definitely take the opportunity of contacting you and the 458 boys. All the best...

Sincerely, Dick Watson.

From **Guy Johnston**, Rectory Cottages, Bolton Percy, Yorkshire, England:

Dear Editor,

Firstly, say I say Thank you for all the 458 sqn News you have sent to me. It gives great pleasure to read all the news and to hear what other 458ers are doing. As yet I have not been able to attend the Reunions we have had over here but hope to one of those days. Ex-Sgt L. Cook—he was a Compass Swinger—he lives at Pontefract, 15 miles away and we have not at our homes and spend enjoyable times together. He has two boys, 4 years and 1 year and I have two boys, 6 years and 5 years. Enclosed are two postcards of the Memorial that was unveiled recently to all members of Commonwealth crews who died while serving in this area. I was not at Holme-on-Spalding Moor when 458 was there (I joined you at Pratville)—but there are the names of the men who died, printed in the book which was compiled with the Memorial (in York Minster—Ed.). If anyone would like details, or these cards, I would willingly let you have some. Once each year, I have to visit Holme, and the graves of members of the R.A.F.P there are very well kept. I don't know if this news can be passed on to any relatives but it is just a thought—later there is to be a booklet issued giving details about the Memorial—would you like one sending? When I went to the Minster—especially to see if 458 were on, the book of names, which is kept in a locked glass case, was open showing 458’s men’s names—quite a coincidence!! I would be pleased to hear from Ossie Richardson, Look Simpson, Bill Roman or Rod Kelly. All the best, yours sincerely, Guy Johnston.

From **John Randy**, 22, Ladlow Avenue, Luton, Bedfordshire, England:

Dear Peter, I am pleased to receive the Issues of Squadron News from time to time, and it occurs to me that I owe you a further subscription. If you will kindly let me know how much is due, I would be pleased to make arrangements for the appropriate readiness to be forwarded. I hope it will be possible to obtain a copy of the Squadron History when this is published.....I believe some reference has been made in the past to a book being available. I would be pleased to have details.

You will be interested to know that I met Geoff Barrett recently on the occasion of the 461st Reunion. He is quite fit and still working for W.A. Gilby, the Wine and Spirit people...... With very kind regards,

John Randy.
UNITED KINGDOM MEMBERS and the SQUADRON NEWS.

With effect from this issue, the News will be sent from Australia in bulk to the U.K. and distributed there by the Flight Officers. Therefore, any U.K. member who wants to ensure getting the News should make sure that the U.K. Secretary has his address, and also that the U.K. Flight is financially in a position to supply it to him. In fact, Annual Sub. For the News (£5) should be sent now to the U.K. Treasurer, Geo. Armstrong—47, Rutland Road, Hanstholm, London, E. II., England.

TRANSLATION TO MARRAHI.

Long-time member of the N.S.W. Committee, Freddie Strom, who has recently completed his qualifications as a School Teacher, and as a consequence become at the back and call of the N.S.W. Education Dept., has been sent to cope with the angels of Marrahi. He will be there for at least a year. He cannot let him depart from Sydney without recalling his loyal and determined support for 458, particularly as a member of the Photographic sub-committee—and also, something by no means to be forgotten, as a delegate to the Anzac Squadron Conference in Melbourne last year. Good luck, Freddie!

OUR GRANDPA.

To N.S.W. Past-President ALAN PIGGOTT and KITTY, whose first grandchild was born this month 458's heartiest congratulations. The baby, a small girl, is to be called Deborah Sue.

CRICKET NOTES.

by "RUN-TO-COVER."

458 are playing this year under the captaincy of Cy. Irwin. He had to be conscripted to the job but, having taken it on, has made a considerable success of it, proving to be, as expected, as shrewd as he is firm. The team has played four games so far this season with at least a couple more to come. What have the noticeable features of the season been, so far? Things which come to mind are the continued display of cricket ability of Eric Echlin and the greater success of Allan Walker with the bat. Eric, a bowler of In-swing, has been if anything more hostile and more accurate this year than before; he has also shown ability with the bat which was always a sound field at second slip. Allan Walker's ability as an attacking batsman we have always known; this season he has had better luck and has managed to get going and make the runs that are in him. Another noticeable thing this season is the extent to which it has been necessary to ring-in to get an XI. However on the credit side, 458 has been strengthened by the arrival of Bruce Milner, a useful bat and medium-paced bowler and a particularly good slip field. Results of matches to date:

October 16th. 458 Squadron defeated the Air Force Club by 10 runs at Centennial Park; November 6th. 458 Squadron defeated the Australian Broadcasting Commission by 57 runs at Birchgrove Oval; Scores below.
November 13th 458 Squadron defeated the C. Le Salle Old Boys by 41 runs at the Entrance;
February 5th. A.C. Industries XI defeated a Combined XI, including 458 players by 15 runs at the Entrance.

Australian Broadcasting Commission 458 Squadron
Christopher b. Matheson 9 A. J. Walker b. Robson
D. Robson b. Matheson 9 G. U. Hutt, Retired
P. Hodgrove b. Taylor 4 H. Nagle b. Taylor
J. Williams c. U. Hutt b. Matheson 0 W. H. Mann, Retired
R. Taylor c. Walker b. Davies 0 W. Matheson Retired
B. White Not out 2 B. Davies c. Bennett b. White
R. Paye b. Milner 4 P. Paye Not out
Sandries 9 Sandries

5 95
152

The A.C.C.'s opening pair put on 55 which was an impressive start; thereafter some accurate off-spin bowling restricted their total to 95. For 458 Allan Walker batted extremely well. A six into the Grandstand will be long remembered. George U. Hutt, going in at a critical time kept out the very fast opening bowler with skill and determination.
Recent activities have been limited by the festive season to a Committee meeting and the Christmas Dinner, which was held at the Hardware Club on December 19th. That night was a gala event. The idea for the night was to have a dinner at the Golf Club, which was attended by a number of the crew. All in all it was a very interesting talk on aircraft of the near future. In addition to our usual fare it was nice to have Roy Rabone, Ernie Bradshaw, Ken Brown and Phil Bennett (who had been posted missing for over a year). Welcome back, Bennie! It was an enjoyable evening. We in Victoria are gearing up for the Anzac "bo" in Adelaide. During Christmas I met Bill Taylor, Brian Woodhead and Bruce Thomas of the S.A. Committee and discussed arrangements and I am sure anyone who makes the trip will come back with happy memories. Victoria is going in force—25 is the known figure to date.

A few personal items to close:
"Flinders" Ron Redpath has married recently. To Ron and Mrs. Redpath we wish the very best.
Lisle Marr and Bruce Dean have further enhanced our prospects of retaining the Anzac Cup, when they finished 1st and 2nd in the G.J. Coles Long Markers' Handicap recently at Ivanhoe.

Hoping to see you all in Adelaide.

**SPORTS PROGRAMME in N.S.W.**

Cy. Irwin, on behalf of the N.S.W. Sports sub-Committee has arranged the following programme for the coming months:

February 26th

Cricket—R.A.A.F., Richmond.

May 6th

Golf—Monash Club, Marrickville

March 19th

Cricket—Brodgove Oval.

May 27th

Golf—Campbelltown

March 23rd

Cricket—Randwick Racecourse.

June 10th

Golf—to be arranged

April 8th

Golf—Campbelltown

July 6th

Annual Squadron Ball—Pickwick Club.

It is proposed that the Richmond game should also be something of an excursion and members will, it is hoped, come along even if they aren't playing cricket.

**SQUADRON HISTORY DUST COVER DESIGN: COMPETITION.**

By decision of the Squadron Conference a Competition is to be held among 458 members for the design of the Dust Cover for the Squadron History. Entry Form is below and it is hoped as many members as possible will enter. The Design will include the title "We Fight and Destroy". Prize: a free copy of the History when published.

**APPROVED BY THE EDITOR (P.C. Alexander)**

Box 5289, G.P.O., Sydney, N.S.W., Australia.

To the Squadron Secretary,

Box 5289, G.P.O., Sydney, N.S.W.

I desire to enter the attached design in the Competition for the Dust Cover of the Squadron History. I understand that the winner will receive a free copy of the History when it is published. Winning entry, or any entry not necessarily used. Copyright in the winning entry to belong to the 458 Squadron Council.

NAME: ...........................................

ADDRESS: ...........................................

...........................................

TO THE EDITOR,

458 Squadron News,

Box 5289, G.P.O., Sydney, N.S.W., Australia.

Hereewith enclosed please find my annual subscription of 5/- for 458 Squadron News for the year 1956. I understand that you will make the necessary adjustments with my Flight Secretary and notify him that I am financial for 1956.

NAME: ...........................................

ADDRESS: ...........................................

...........................................

COUNTRY OR STATE: ...............................

For Office use: Noted in records........ Flight notified.........................