Vol. II, No. 43.

Anzac Day, 1960, saw the holding of the 8th All-States Reunion of 458 Squadron. Interstate members and their wives came to Melbourne from all the mainland States except South Australia. Interstates there included Jim Holliday, Jack Lewis, Jack Carter and Barry Borge (accompanied by Pat) from Q Flight; Sam Barlow, Fred Storm, Noel Spurling, Ted Archbold, Jim and Mrs. Timms of Hay, Alf and Ethel Hammond, Eric and Dorothy Bunkman, Doug Millard, Peter Alexander, and Bill and Mrs. Chapman from S.W.; and Biff and Amy Power from Perth.

The Friday. The first person to turn it on was, admitted, Biff. He did his utmost for Friday and most of Saturday and driving from Essendon Airport into town, cars were axle deep in rainwater. However after that there was a show of traditional “458 weather” — few of any 458 functions over the past year when you think of it — been stopped by the weather.

There was the usual enthusiastic and hospitable welcome awaiting the interstate members at the Hotel Cecil. Sam Barlow and Butch Power, being first arrivals, successfully held their own with all hospitable corners.

Dancing in St. Kilda. That evening the Victorian Flight gave a Welcoming Dance in St. Kilda, a Melbourne suburb. It was very well attended and held in impressive surroundings in a large mansion now used for parties and functions. Dancing, of course, was diminished by the fact that everyone present had been to interchange with other 458ers not seen for quite a time. Father Johnny Whelan, one of the three R.A.A.F. Chaplains in the Middle East, looked in during the evening to renew friendships with 458ers who were all delighted to see him.

After the Dance was over, many a bottle was opened, back at the Cecil. Sam Barlow it was who turned it on for all when the dancing returned. It was still being turned on when this writer retired from the field at about 2.0 a.m.

Saturday. Flight delegates and the Squadron officers held the Annual 458 Conference in a sitting room at the Cecil in the morning. This is separately reported elsewhere in this issue. Plans were to go to the Races or Football in the afternoon but this was the only part of the planned programme which the rain interfered with.

In the evening Kevin Quiney and his family invited the Squadron and its families to a party at their home that evening. About 60 were expected and about 90 came. It was, said affectionately, a success. Food, drink, talk and laughter flowed. Butch Power officiated at the piano, as also did Bob MacArthur a friend of Jack Ramsay’s. Nobody could really be said to have left the party early but Butch left a little later than some of us. However when the mob piled out into their cars Butch was found to be still in the area, changing tyres. He held his own in the repartee which followed.

Golf and Athletics. The Golf competition had to be transferred, for reasons of weather, to the Paterson River Course down Port Phillip towards Frankston. John Jenkins, the long-time Victorian Treasurer, being a member, succeeded in arranging for 458 to play off the Anzac Cup Competition there. The rain held off and players went round a very attractive pine-scented country course. The winner — Arthur Green of Victoria, the Runner-up, Doug Millard from Humla in the Riverina. From the Golf course members drove on to a Picnic Ground beside the water of the Port Phillip Bay, for a Barbecue, which went off very well.

The Western Australian Trotting Cup was run during the afternoon. This was
impressive urn went, in a determined burst of speed, to Harry Ashworth who thus ranks to defend it in Adelaide in 1961. There were the usual functions in the nature of races for the children.

That evening, Arthur Green entertained squadron members at his home and Dave Pither showed them the exceedingly good series of colour slides he has taken over the years and the continent at to and from 458 Reunions.

Anzac Day

The rain didn’t come and the March started on time. Over 70 458 members marched behind Victorian President Lialle Warr and Jim Munday carrying the Banner. After the March, out to Prahran and Harry Ashworth’s plumbing business premises for the All-States Reunion itself. Harry’s workshop is on the first floor of the building and is a large room containing the various impediments of the business. It suited the numbers there and being a workshop was able to stand up to the Reunion. Harry and Ian Allison and John Bilsy organised catering and Harry, after an anxious period with a soldering iron, provided a tape recorder. On the recorder we heard, with great interest, tapes received from London—one with a series of messages and details of the London Reunion; and the other with something of a speech from Bruce McKenzie who recently went to London with the Kenya Government delegation to discuss Kenya’s future.

A tape was then made to send off to London. Various 458ers recorded against a background of ‘the bear talking’ but the gathering volume of sound didn’t prevent completion of a very good tape. And so to the end of another Reunion and back to present day life after a brief renewal of old associations.

The list of 458 members seen at one or another function during the weekend is as follows:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>G. Abraham</th>
<th>H. Ashworth</th>
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<td>R. Sparling</td>
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<td>M. Kernot</td>
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<td>Z. Muskman</td>
<td>R. Hassell</td>
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<td>B. Sherrah</td>
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<td>I. Highett</td>
<td>S. Cartledge</td>
<td>L. Warr</td>
<td>R. Yates</td>
<td>G. Riddoch</td>
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<td>B. Dean</td>
<td>P. Paullet</td>
<td>V. Clohsey</td>
<td>J. Fleming</td>
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<td>J. Cruttenden</td>
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<td>P. Hedgecock</td>
<td>B. Bailey</td>
<td>J. Rosenburg</td>
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New South Wales Notes

From Bob Bruce, Mt. Wilga, Hornsby, N.S.W.

Anzac Day in Sydney.

Notwithstanding the absence of the N.S.W contingent at the All-States Reunion in Melbourne some forty four Squadron members marched in Sydney on Anzac Day, 1960. Stuart Ricketts led the March, the Banner was carried by Kemp Beach, flanked by Jack McKee and Jack Baker. Junior Hawks, down for the day from Orange, came along. The Committee are currently investigating the possibility of holding an Anzac Day dinner next year after the March. This year we regathered at the Phillip Hotel for a while.

Picnic in the National Park.

Our Annual Picnic will be held on Sunday 10th July at Lane Cove National Park, No.7 site. Gifts, please note, and ensure that you make this a real family day and bring the young ones along. There will be barbecue facilities and refreshments available and if you haven’t been to a 458 Picnic before—well, make sure you don’t miss this one.

Cooma Country Convention Coming

Plenty of notice of this. It is hoped to organise a Country Reunion on the same basis as the last Canberra Reunion at Cooma over the weekend 23/25th September. It probably will be possible to organise transport to and from for anyone requiring it and Squadron members at Cooma, Harry Baines and Ralph Bailey, will be there to help us plan our itinerary for a first class weekend. These Country Reunions go a long way towards cementing 458’s solidarity. Accommodation arrangements will be made on bloc and enquiries about the weekend should be made to the Secretary. Why not plan to come along?
The Annual Assembly of the Air Force Association is to be held on 11th and 12th June, and this year 458 together with 455 Squadron are acting as joint hosts at a pre-Assembly Dinner to be held on 10th June. At this dinner Delegates, together with Presidents, Secretaries and Treasurers of branches have the opportunity of meeting each other prior to the serious business of the Conference on the following day. 450 Delegates this year are Graeme Combes, Cyril Irvin and Bob Bruce.

Sports to come.

On the golfing side, it is hoped to arrange for the President’s Cup to be played for during August. Golfers will be contacted by the Sports Committee at a later date and told the exact location.

Interstate members.

Interstate members in the shapes of Jim Holliday, Harry Jorge and Ken Brown have been in Sydney recently and were seen by some Squadron members.

THE SQUADRON PRESIDENT, BILL TAYLOR of Adelaide.

458 Squadron’s new Squadron President recently elected by the Squadron Conference in Melbourne, is also South Australian Flight President, in the well-known and liked person of “Bill” Taylor.

Bill was Flight Commander on the Squadron during the period of Rodney Mackay’s command, having joined 458 at Home. He went through with 458 until Gibraltar and was C.O. of the Falconets Detachment. Before he came to 458 he had considerable experience on Gliders with the Air Force.

Qualified as an Accountant, he turned his activities to Real Estate and he now has a very successful Real Estate business in Adelaide.

During the post-war period Bill has been Flight President for most of the time and he and his wife have been the centre and mainstay of 458’s activities. He has also been a strong supporter of Legacy. 458ers everywhere will welcome Bill’s election and wish him the happiest possible term of office.

Bill writes:

“I am very proud to have been appointed Federal President and will do my best to assist in every way.

“I feel that if we remember that our very being originated through comradeship and service, and if we continue to seek to help our fellowmen, in particular our squadron chaps and their dependents, then the 458 wartime spirit will last for a long time. Monuments and the laying of wreaths have their proper place in the scheme of things but in addition to this I feel that our duty lies in perpetuities. It is as well to remember that this spirit in wartime endowed in perpetuity 458’s own cot in the Plastic Surgery Hospital in East Grinstead, England.

“Personally, I do not mind what form of service is undertaken and it is very pleasing to see that the New South Wales Flight is becoming so interested in Civil Defence.

“One of the remarkable things about our post-war activities is that it would be quite impossible for any member to go interstate without being made very welcome wherever he might go.

“We in South Australia would be unhappy to think that any of our chaps would be in or pass through our city without giving us the opportunity to say him a beer and hear his news.”

PERSONALITIES.

PADRE DON DAVIES will be consecrated as a Bishop in the Church of England Cathedral in Sydney on Tuesday June 7th. Arrangements have been made for a substantial party of Middle East Squadron airmen to be at the service and 458 will be well represented.

Jack Argall is flying Fokker Friendships for Airlines of New South Wales;
Personalities (cont.)

LOFFY BRACKEN
is a Navigation Officer with Qantas. We understand he has been flying
Boeing's on the U.S.A. run;

GRUPE WRIGHT
having disposed of his milk business now drives a taxi; in Sydney;

BOBT REYNOLDS
who is a draughtsman with S.T.C. in Sydney, lives in Eastwood. Has three
daughters. Reports that he has recently seen Harley (Harpo) Marx;

TIM MOORE
is now with C.I.G., Sydney in the Advertising Section;

GEORGE BRAUN
of Brunswick, N.S.W., was at the Melbourne All-States Reunion. Denies the
statement (in the Squadron History) that 'before long his (bridge) pupils
were beating him'. Says (we quote) that he is 'Nucking on the farm as
'normal'. Is Secretary of the local Golf course;

DOUG MILLINGS
after many distinguished years of service with the R.A.A.F., has retired,
and now works with the Melbourne Stock Exchange. He brought his very pretty
daughter to some of the All-States Reunion functions;

JIM TIMMS
made a welcome first post-war appearance with the Squadron in Melbourne.
He lives in Bay, N.S.W., where he works with Fords in the Engineering Dept.;

DEW ANDERSON
also of Bay, has a property there where he is introducing a new irrigation
system. He and his wife have, we gather, 5 boys and 2 girls;

BAROLD (CURLY) YOUNG
is a piecegoods importer in Melbourne. Has new home in East
Bentleigh. Has two daughters, I son;

FRANK MACLEOD
of Port Pirie, is now a Squadron Leader in the R.A.A.F. He was George
Cowie's Navigator;

LUC BOYER
is carrying livestock on the Melbourne-Kyneton run. Has 3 boys, 2 girls;

RUN ROSS
has settled down in Melbourne after his move from Brisbane, and is living
in Mt. Waverley. Sends regards to C. Flight;

ANOTHER GREEN
has a new factory in Melbourne, which he is now having to extend. Arthur
and Mrs. Green's hospitality is one of the things which make a 458 visit
to Melbourne so enjoyable;

IAN ELLIS
is school-teaching in Geelong.

ALAN ATTRETON
and his family are now living in Rockingham (66, Dawson Road). Alan is
Supervisor-airspraying (Helicopters) for the Central Division of Ansett-
A.N.A. Also has some stock on a farm. He is now a fully-qualified pilot;

BOB SHERMAN
is now engaged in the new Wool Futures business; lives in Melbourne;

GEORGE ZIMMICK
farming near Ballarat; sends hi regards to Maca;

GRATY ABRAHAM
is still working with the Department of Air in Melbourne;

IAN MULGREY
who works with the Bank of New South Wales in Melbourne, is a Group Scout
master. Sends regards to Judy Garland; Expect to travel northwards on
holidays soon;

JACK FLEMINI
is a Flight Engineer with A.N.A. wants to be remembered to Jack Nicholls;

LLOYD SIMMONS
was an unexpected attendee at the Melbourne functions. Has recently sold
his W.A. property and moved near his wife's family in Ballarat, where he is
fitting. Is thinking of returning to the West;

N.S. MORGANS
is Secretary of the Royal Automobile Club of Victoria;

VINCENZI
is with the Victorian Railways at Yallourn. Tells us that his local
library has the 458 History on its shelves;

FORBUSS PAULS
another to take us pleasantly by surprise in Melbourne was Forbush, down from
Albury. He is Truck Service Supervisor for Riverina Implements, Agent for
International Harvester. Has a small son. Sends remembrance to Ted
Wheeler, Athol Perry, Ross Burgess, and to Ross Purcell;

MURR JOHNSON
has a motor repair business in Albury;

TED KENYON
still in Ballarat, with a garage. Regards to Sammy Penhall and to

TOM MAUDE
who is, of course, in Canada. Or so we believe; we do not know for sure if
the News reaches him. It does not come back per Dead Letter Office, but
neither does Tony, that leading light of the Radar Section, give any sign of
life;

ELIZAB THEAN
was at the Melbourne Reunion, his return to Tarawee having been held up by
lack of shipping. We were glad to hear that Linda is much better in health;

BOB SMITH
ex-Halma aircrrew, is now with T.V., in Melbourne. Lives in Moorabbin;

ROB YATES
tells us he is married with a daughter; has recently built a house. Is
school teaching—at Baywater Boys Home, where both the inmates and the
discipline are tough.
The Squadron’s Annual Conference was held on the Saturday morning of the Anzac weekend, with Squadron President Jim Munday in the Chair. Among the gallery listening to proceedings was Mr. Bertram, father of the late Dick Bertram, who was a delegate for South Australia at many previous Conferences. After hearing reports from the Squadron officers and from each Flight, the Conference considered a lengthy agenda.

**Civil Defence:**

After noting some activity by the N.S.W. Flight in Civil Defence, the Conference reiterated that the Flights should honour their pledges to support Civil Defence.

**Badges for Associate members:**

At the urging of W.A. Delegate Dutch Power, the Conference decided that Squadron Council should take urgent steps to obtain a badge for Associate members. It was generally proposed to have a badge like the 458 lapel badge but with a small A in red lettering at the base. Conference declined to lay down uniform rights for Associates but left that to the Flights. However, Associates are not allowed to have the 458 badge. Delegates generally expressed satisfaction with the present form of the 458 lapel badge.

**The 458 History:**

The Conference, on the motion of Q. Flight, expressed its appreciation of the author of “We Find and Destroy” and those who had helped in its publication. The Squadron Secretary said that, among others, he wanted to mention the names of Bill Carr, Graham Coombes, Bill Taylor, Sam Barlow, Jim Holliday, Allan Walker, Dicky Rockwell, Frank Ward, and Fred Strom as being prominent in the production of the History.

**Clubrooms for 458:**

The Squadron Secretary moved a motion that each Flight Committee report to the next Conference on what it had done towards providing club rooms or a headquarters for their members. He said that where 458’s own club could not be obtained, then all members in a city might be encouraged to join the same existing club where they could meet often without formal functions being arranged. Jim Holliday said Q. Flight was considering building its own Bowls club.

**Life Membership to remain:**

Queensland moved recision of the clauses of the Constitution, inserted last year in Brisbane, providing for life membership. They said it was a meaningless honour as all 458ers were life members of 458; they suggested a more tangible honour, a medal. After debate, the motion, and also a W.A. amendment for a certificate of merit, were defeated by large majorities.

**Bringing Out Britons:**

Q. Flight delegates moved that all Flights honour their pledge to bring out a Briton. They said they had recently brought a British family to Brisbane without difficulty. Other Flights expressed difficulties in providing accommodation. After debate the motion was carried by 7 votes to 6. Supporters were Queensland, 2 U.K. 2, W.A. 2, and the Squadron Treasurer. “No” voters were Victoria 2, N.S.W. 2, S.A. 2. The Squadron Vice President and Secretary both abstained.

**Delegates to vote as instructed:**

Conference amended the Constitution to provide that Flight delegates had an obligation to vote as their Flights instructed them not as they pleased. This was carried by 6 votes (Queensland, Victoria, W.A. and S.A. 2 each) to 4 (N.S.W. 2, Vice President, Treasurer).

**The next Reunion:**

After the Squadron Secretary had tried to interest delegates in a Conference in Hobart, it was decided to go to Adelaide in 1961. W.A. mentioned that they would have the 1962 Reunion but possibly in September, not April.

**Elections:**

After electing Bill Taylor of Adelaide as the next Squadron President, the two Vice Presidents chosen were Sam Barlow and Jim Munday. Eric Munkman was re-elected as 458 Squadron Treasurer after he had informed Conference that he would not be able to go to Adelaide in 1961. Peter Alexander was re-appointed as Squadron Secretary. In accepting he said that while various kindnesses shown to him made it harder the say, he must advise Conference that next year he would not be a candidate for re-election as Squadron Secretary, for personal reasons.

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**Q. Flight News:**

from Jim Holliday, 43, Stella St., Holland Park, Brisbane.

**Anzac Day in Brisbane:**

Anzac Day was quieter than in most previous years. However, quite a good number of members and Associates marched behind the Banner, which
Q.Flight News (cont.)

year was carried by Eric Lloyd. "Johnny" Johnston led the Q.Flight Contingent. Bernie McLaughlin, suffering from a slipped disc, saw the parade from the balcony of the Johnstone Club and declared without bias that 456 was the smartest contingent of them all.

After the march Q.Flight adjourned to the A.T.C. Mess for refreshment and joined other ex-R.A.A.F. in celebrating Anzac Day in the traditional manner.

Q.Flight drew its raffles for an electric fry pan and toaster, won by J. Cuthbert, a friend of Bernie McLaughlin and N. Clarke, an acquaintance of Bob Colen.

In the absence of our President Jack Lewis and yours truly at the Melbourne All-States Reunion, sterling work was done by Len Macdonell, Charlie Warren and Ned Kelly.

To Victoria.

On behalf of Q.Flight members who attended the Reunion in Melbourne, (Harry Dorge and Jack Carter were also there), thanks are extended to the Victorian Flight for its hospitality and splendid organisation. As far as Queensland is concerned, it was a very successful Reunion.

Victorian Queenslanders.

Queenslanders will be pleased to know that Ron Russell and Tony Stone are well and happy in their new positions in Melbourne and send their greetings to all in Q.Flight.

The Brisbane Scene.

Since our last despatch, we have had visits to Brisbane by Erle Eatherington and Frank Crowley. Erle looks the picture of health, a real bronze Anzac, beautifully tailored in spotlessly white overalls, his official uniform on the tourist launch which conveyed many of our southern visitors from Cairns to the islands in the Barrier Reef. Frank Crowley is permanently stationed on Hayman Island and likes the life immensely.

We have also heard from Cyril Webb in Mackay and Stan Parker from Ayr. Both are as fit as fiddles and send greetings to all 456 members.

Britons Brought Out.

One of the most important events for Q.Flight was the welcoming of its migrant family from Great Britain. Our migrant in Denis Cleary with wife and family of three, Denis arrived with the ground staff of the R.A.A.F. for 12 years, and spent 3½ years as a P.O.W. in Malaya. He is now working at his trade of bricklayer and is thoroughly settled in Queensland. The consensus of opinion of those who met him is that he will be a good Australian. The thanks of Q.Flight is extended to W.A. Flight and N.S.W. Flight for meeting the Cleary family at Perth and Sydney respectively.

Next Function.

For Q.Flight will be the Winter Social—to be held at the A.T.C. Mess on Saturday 25th June.

Many Greetings.

Many personal greetings were given to Q.Flight members at the All-States Reunion to convey to friends in Queensland. Bill Bailey sends greetings to Terry Bullins. Bill Chapman sends regards to Gordon Postle. George Riddoch sends particular greetings to George Connors and Bob Hall. Bob Sherrah sends greetings to R.D. Wallace and Hispy Dean conveys his warmest regards to Johnny. Ian Riglet enquired after Bert Garland and hopes to see him in July. Lloyd Stephenson tells us about Bill Snowden and desires to let Bill know he is doing very well. Bob McKenna sends greetings to Frank Wilke, Kenny Cahill, Hassa Poole, and Dicky Bird, also to Ruth and Len Macdonell.

President Jack Lewis wants to convey his personal thanks to the many old friends he met for the first time since service days and trusts the opportunity will soon arise to meet again.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letters to the Editor.

From Mrs. Brid E. O'Keay, Freshwater, North Queensland.

Dad has just despatched an envelope addressed for 3 months, believes it or not so I am writing. We are still having ups and downs but Dad is confident it will be a good year for us.

Our plans are uncertain—sometimes we feel we'd like to stay on here, having made friends and become part of the community here. Freshwater is an outer suburb of Sydney, six miles from the city, surrounded by beautiful hills and sand fields. At other times we are not so sure, so who knows?

Though we don't get to writing so often, we often think of the happy days we had with the 456 boys and their families. For reference of the News, Dad would like to say a special 'bulls' to Geoff Burgess and Tony Harris, Bob Bruce, Jack Macdonald, Pat Mc Culloch,
Correspondence (cont.)
Eric Mumman and Bill Plentje. There are a couple of others he speaks of with affection but I can't think of the names and if I don't get this off now, it may stay another 8 months! Our best wishes always to the 458 Club.

End McKay

From Lofty Prowartha, Adelaide, S.A.

Dear Peter,

Back again at the salmines after a month's holiday in West Aus., and believe me, I am already missing from 'Croweeetor strangulation' (Puke shut at six; no lottery; no Sunday sports). We are still allowed to breathe though.

May, the kids, and I had a wonderful time and travelled there and back by train. How is that W.A. train from Kalgoorlie? Have you ever ridden a camel?

About a dozen of the W.A. members and their wives met the train at Perth, not forgetting a few of May's relatives (about 60 of 'em). The railway officials must have thought that Hill 948 had returned.

Had a large reunion at the in-laws' home where 458 were once again in the fore. Sixteen members and their families turned up and it was great to have a yarn again after so many years. Present were: Rhingi Stewart, Jack Rieseley, Henry Etherton, Rudi Carpenter, Ron Geddes, Ron Carnaway, Al Wheat, Ray Turley, Jack O'Connor, Digger Watts, Charlie Davis, Tim Dale, Jim Palmer and Ann. Scholar.

Spent an evening with Ann. Scholar and Al. Wheat at Burch Power's home. I have a feeling that they were pleased to see us go about 5.00 a.m.

Visited Rockingham as guests of Rhingi and Val. On the way back to Adelaide saw Charlie Davis and his wife at Northam. Same old Charlie. A bit fatter perhaps. (No perhaps about it—Editor).

Trusting all are well, best regards.

Lofty

From Les Cook, Midland Bank House, Pateley Bridge, Harrogate, Yorkshire.

Dear Peter,

It is some months now since I received the book and I read it at the first opportunity. It certainly gave me enormous pleasure and a feeling of pride at being associated with the Squadron. Although my two years with 458 were a short spell compared with some of the 'boys', I like to think that they were the most important years. Indeed, they were the two happiest years of my service— even if we did have our grousers and grumbles.

My address above is brand new, in fact I haven't moved in yet. I was appointed 2nd officer of our branch here as from lst January.

Unfortunately I still have not been able to attend any Reunions since our 'Tree-planting ceremony'. For that reason I take particular pleasure in reading the Squadron News. I was pleased to see reference in the August issue to Bruce Barrett—Nav.Officer with whom I worked (or should I say 'occupied my time'). Do you remember what a repertoire of 'Barrack Room' ballads he had? What will it be like after an extra 15 years service!! I should give a lot to have a second with him again.

Now Harry Wise has returned from Ausia, I am looking forward to a Reunion this summer. With very best wishes to all my old cobs.

Most sincerely, Les. Cook

From Johnny Excell, S.S. Swinport Road, Murray Bridge, S.A.

Dear Peter,

They informed me that Burch Power would be going to Melbourne for Anzac Day, so I went down to the Express to see him but I didn't contact him, so he must have gone through on a different night. Would you mention the fact that I was disappointed in not seeing him after so many years. But I hope to have better luck next time; if anyone is ever coming this way I would only be too pleased to see them. By the way, my business is not registered in my name but as Brook's Cycle Depot, Bridge Street, so if any body happens to be motoring through that will help them to find me.

Yours sincerely, John Excell.

1961 ANZAC REUNION WILL BE IN ADELAIDE. NOW IS THE TIME TO START PLANNING TO BE IN IT.
Since our last Report.

The S.A.Flight has had quite a successful time since last reporting to you, the main activities being centred round Anzac Day.

That day started with the laying of a wreath by Ken Russell's father, at the War Memorial, at dawn. As Ken lost his only brother in air activities over Europe it seemed very fitting that his father, who was on a visit from Brisbane, should be the person selected to lay the wreath. Three dawn services have to be experienced to be fully appreciated.

The second part of our day was the laying of a wreath at our dedicated tree at the West Beach airport. On this occasion we combined with fellows from other Squadrons, namely R.S.465, 466, and R.A.A.F., Malaya, all having their own trees. There were over 100 present and the ceremony was televised. Howard Bertram, the twelve-year-old son of Nick, laid our wreath. Padre Shepherd officiated—our thanks to him for his valued help.

The Adelaide March.

It went splendidly. 458 had 22 marching. We do admit to a few ring-ins who seemed pleased to be with us as we were to have them. T.V. was again used but, as yet, none of us have been offered contracts from Hollywood. Jack gave the Squadron quite a write-up, including a plug for "We Find and Destroy".

Lunchtime.

We combined with 455 this year. Considerable quantities of ale were consumed, and we did hear a few new stories. We had apologies from Ian Showell (Renmark), Bert Ravenscroft (Gladstone), Bud Murdoch (Crystal Brook), and Col. Bowley (Pirie). We were particularly glad to see Jim Perry but badly missed Jack Thredgold (Kingston) and Geoff Ruan (Redcreek). I think its the first time Jack Thredgold has missed. What's the matter, Jack?

Elections.

Festivities were halted for a brief period during which we held a General Meeting. Results:—Bill Taylor, President; Flash Thomas, Treasurer; and Arm. Scholar, Secretary. Lofty Trewarthra retired after three years sterling service as Flight President, for which we thank him. A poster pot was presented to Flash Thomas for his years of service as Treasurer, but he doubted this in any way entitled him to give up the job.

All-States Reunion.

We are all delighted to see in Adelaide and promise a first-class time for all who will be able to come. Mark it up in your diaries, fellow airmen.

The Passing Show.

Dick Bealey from Sydney, televising the Golf Championship. He made it his business to see Buck Pederson, his old skipper. Johnny Rosenberg flew in and saw Brian Woodhead. Butch Power and his wife were met and shown over Adelaide by our Johnny Ben.

BRITISH BRIEF.

We had the Squadron Secretary's cable and were able to see Squadron migrant Denis Cleary and family off at St. Pancras Station. Mrs. Cleary was piaing Mr. Cleary over the news when Mick Ruson and Harry Bishop arrived but it was 8 minutes off departure time before he was located.

The Colossus.

It long last we have been able to meet Bruce McKenzie. We met at the Air Force Club in Piccadilly and not only was Bruce McKenzie there but Alan McKay and Norman Duke. Apparently Alan has been in Canada for the past eleven years. We had a very enjoyable evening. We went along to Kenya House on the Friday afterwards and made a tape for despatch to Australia. Incidentally Bruce hopes to make it to Australia next Easter.

Pen-Great Club.

I have written to the East Grinstead Hospital for a photograph of the Plaque over the bed which our Squadron endowed. I am wondering if this will be of any use for the (Canberra) War Museum? (Editor: Yes, I think it might.)

We are also hoping to make up a party to visit the hospital during the coming summer.

Reunion Planned.

I have been in contact with Harry Wise, on his return from South Australia, and he is hoping to make our Reunion Dinner on April 30th. Plans are well in hand for our Anzac Day celebrations, the laying of the wreath at the Genetophyte Service in Westminster Abbey; the tea party at Australia House, with our Reunion Dinner on the following Saturday.