Q.FLIGHT NEWS. from Jim.Holliday.

The number of members registering for the Interstate Reunion, 29th July to 3rd August is steadily mounting. It seems there will be a good attendance, as usual. It's the pattern that 458ers rally at our reunions. Week by week the programme is being refined and the honing will continue till the last minute. Costs are also being refined consistent with quality. We are now able to give costs. Some are final; others within a few cents. The following prices are per person.


If you have mislaid the Registration Form included with the last News, simply write to Jim.Holliday, 43 Stella Street, Holland Park, 4131, advising the dates for which you want accommodation at Greenmount Beach Resort, Coolangatta, and include $50 deposit per person. If you have or will be making other arrangements for accommodation, please advise that you are coming.

FINALITY is scheduled to be reached by 31st May--but PLEASE advise early.

Sick List. Tony Stone has been back in hospital for treatment for a liver complaint. Jack Lewis has had a second operation on his hands to free a contracted tendon. 458's best wishes to them for speedy return to best health.

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ANZAC DAY IN SYDNEY. Will members please assemble for the March by 9.30 and attend the Annual Reunion and General Meeting thereafter at the Great Southern **

SANDGROUTERS SAY........... from Bill Clues.

No, we haven't sacked our scriba, Ted is having a rest this issue. And now I sit me down to write, I understand why. What's to write about?

Firstly, the BBQ held at Ted and Elsie's home in Mandurah. Usually we hold this function on the Sunday of the Australia Day weekend, but we decided on Ted's suggestion to depart from the usual and make it the following Sunday. Good thinking, Ted.
Sandorupers Say (cont.) Mendurah was crowded for the long week end and traffic took up to an hour to travel about 3 kilom through the town. Our week end was delightful weather at its best—not that it isn’t always that way.

A very good roll-up of 33 attended. It was good to see Syd Basker and Hensell Hemry, both looking well and enjoying a beer or two with Kingston Nobbs and his wife, Elsie. Nobby tells me he is off up the North again as soon as the weather cools down a bit. He and Elsie do a little prospecting on the Murchison Goldfields.

Charlie Davis, Henry Etherton and their wives, Betty and Vera, were enjoying lunch together. Charlie has shed a bit of weight lately, been dieting, tells me he feels great. Keep up the good work, Betty, you can’t diet without a helpful wife behind you. I know, I’ve tried. Ray Turley has had a little heart trouble recently. Ballooning of the arteries I believe. Says he feels fine and is doing quite a bit of walking for exercise.

Once again, good company, good food, and a good day was had by all. Our thanks to Ted and Elsie for the use of your home once again.

Anzac Day. This is our next function for W.A. Flight. I will be laying the wreath at the Dawn Service, the wreath will be made by Vera Etherton, who has been doing it for the last few years and a very good job she does. Thanks very much for your assistance, Vera. All members who are feeling fit to march are asked to fall in behind our banner, in Irwin Street. Please make the effort and let’s have a good roll up of 458 members. As the years go by we see fewer members behind the Banner. I realise that age and ill health is catching up with a few of us, but there must be a lot who, with just a little effort, could join us on this day of Remembrance. But whether you march or not, members and their wives are welcome to join us at the Hyde Park Hotel for lunch. There, tables to seat approx 40 people have been reserved from 12-30 onwards.

BARBECUE WITH STAN AND JEAN HONCHURST. N.S.W. members and wives are notified that there will be a 458 lunchtime barbecue (12.00 onwards) at the Longhurst residence—29, Beattie Avenue, Ryde—on Sunday March 31st. If you are coming to join us please ring Stan (80 4902) or Eric Hunkman (451 0824). Bring your own wine and meat please. Be in this for another great 458 occasion.

VICTORIAN VIEWS From Stan Tarczynski.

The Annual Prize giving Parade of No.2 Air Training Corps was held at the Preston Drill Hall on Friday November 30th, 1984. 458 ranks were slightly depleted as only Jack Fleming and Ern Laming were available. Unfortunately, the cadet who won the 458 award of a copy of "We Find and Destroy" had already been awarded a copy in a previous year but with a bit of swapping around it came to a happy ending.

Because of the distance to St. Leonards (the other side of Geelong) from Melbourne, the Xmas B.E.O. was held (on Sunday December 2nd) at Ken and Beat Morkman’s place at East Burwood. Besides, we are all scarred of .45. Thank goodness there is a new breezy out by Abbot—sans with .09 content. Also in attendance were Cal and Yvonne Hutchinson, Mick and Mavis Singe, and the day after the Federal Elections, we had a happy Yank and Keith Martin, a departed Ron and Joan Russell, a golfing mate of Tarz, Peter McDonald, and Elsie Timms.

Val Bill Matthews. The stentor from Holme-on-Spalding Moor died suddenly on July 27th from a heart attack—although he had had a heart problem for several months. Ern Laming received a letter from Mone which she wrote on November 9th. Indicating that she would not be writing to anyone else. For the information of all members, the usual Xmas hamper was forwarded in the normal manner.

Several weeks back Mick Singe rang me to report that he had heard from Mick Hunter who was at 34 Rundell Street, Ararat, with a request that he send a cheerio in the next News to Tex Hansell and Val Archbold. So, to relate, Mick Hunter passed away on February 1st—he was 66 years of age. (Members will recall Mick who was a fitter on 458, and one of the men who through their long service with 458 made the Squadron what it was then and what it has since remained—In Shakespearean terms, a Band of Brothers.)

Anzac Day. To all members around Melbourne, this is a message that we should like to see you on Anzac Day. If you can march, the R.A.A.F. will congregate in Swanston Street, past Bourke Street to Little Bourke Street, where you will see our Banner. The Annual Reunion takes place immediately after the March, at the Melbourne Bowling Club in Union Street, Windsor.

CORRESPONDENCE: Letters to the Editor.

From Fred McKay, Unit 40 Hawkesbury Village, Chapel Street, Richmond, 2753, N.S.W.

Dear Peter, I read the Squadron News from cover to cover and congratulate you on the results of your own assiduous work. It is clear to me where the continuing
Correspondence (cont.)
collection work, etc. is done. I also think our new Masthead is good. When you get the chance please give my regards to Stan, Tarczynski, Eric Munkman—and the whole mob. So many memories are revived as I read the names in each Flight—but there are so many names I could not now give faces to!

Cheers to you all, aer, Fred. McKay.

( Editor. The Very Rev. Fred McKay, formerly Moderator-General of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, Moderator of N.S.W. Outback Padra and for us particularly, RAAF Padra in the Mediterranean, now lives with Meg, his wife, at Hawkesbury Village near historic Richmond, 60 miles west of Sydney where early immigrants grew crops along the Hawkesbury River. It is a new red-brick village in the old colonial style. Fred and Meg look west to the Blue Mountains and keep up their connections with the Church and Flying Doctor. They are ardent train travellers. Fred says "we rejoice in the goodness of God which follows us all our days!)  

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From Mrs. Patricia Teubert (nee Pedersen), 6, River St., Murray Bridge, S.A., 5253.

Dear Sir,........we wish to order 2 458 Sqn plaques and 2 lapel badges........My father, Snow Pedersen, was with your Squadron in the Middle East and Gibraltar. In November it will be the Anniversary of his home-coming and my husband and I wish to give him the plaque and badge as a gift. We also want a plaque and badge for our home too. I am very proud of my father and he often shares his memories of his Squadron with us. Bill Hurford, from Victoria, was my Father's Navigator. My sister and I know him as Uncle Bill as we have met him several times over the years and he has become a good family friend although visits are few and far between. Dad always passes on the Squadron News for us to read and we always enjoy reading about his old friends and acquaintances.

Please keep up the good work! It is important to remember the past—our future depends so much on it. To all your members I say "Thank You". My life to-day would not be what it is, if it were not for people like you.

Sincere and warmest regards, Patricia Teubert.

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From Col. Fereaday, 49 Caranderrk Street, Reid, A.C.T., 2601.

Dear Peter,........I am looking forward to the All-States Reunion at Coolangatta/Tweed Heads........A few days ago Jim Whitten rang to say that Len Teale was in Canberra with his show "The Quiet Achievers" at the Playhouse. He suggested that we three should have lunch together which we did. It was good meeting Len whose face I knew very well from the long-running T.V. show HOMICIDE in which he was, of course, the detective sergeant. We enjoyed the meal. Len mentioned that he was very sorry his contact with 458 had fallen away as his work took him to all parts of Australia but he was very keen indeed to keep in touch. I enclose his card as he would greatly appreciate receiving the Squadron News. I want to Len's show last night and greatly appreciated Len's sincere presentation of works and speeches of great Australians.

I was most interested in reading Al Wheat's account of a Wellington re-visited. As Al mentioned things we took for granted in our hayday—like climbing over the Mainaper =now clearly present problems. I would be most embarrassed to try to cross the Mainaper now and find myself stuck halfway!

My trip to the Commonwealth Wartime Aircraft Reunion in Winnipeg during September 1984, went very well indeed and it was made all the better by meeting fellow Squadron members, particularly Joe Elliott, and Canadians Bryan Quinnan and Mick Reid who I spent a lot of time with. A group of 88 Canadians will be visiting NZ and Australia in March on a tour and they will be in Canberra. The local RAAF Association branch—in which I am involved is presenting the Group with a plaque to commemorate the visit and will be inviting the Group to a general Get-together at the RSL Club, Canberra City. After leaving Winnipeg I had a brief stay in Britain where I met up with Jim Craft, for the first time since the war, and his wife, Jim looks just the same and is now retired from the Customs service. They have a lovely home in Southport, near Liverpool. Then I went on through France and Italy, to stay for a few days at Alghero, Sardinia.

The hotel there—the Las Tronas—was the castle-like building we knew so well at Alghero. There are now many hotels in Alghero to take advantage of the clear water and unspoiled beaches. Near the Bombera beach and close to where the Squadron camped is a huge hotel under construction. Leaving aside developments, Sardinia seems much the same as we knew it—quiet, out of the mainstream, but pleasant and a good place for a holiday..............

yours sincerely, Colin Fereaday.

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