BIG ATTENDANCE FOR THE ALL-STATES REUNION THIS MONTH.

The numbers have continued to climb. The second list of those coming or apologising is as below. Some are coming only for the Sunday Reception or the Squadron Dinner on the Friday evening. We expect 140 to attend the Reception and the Dinner; 110 to attend the Monday events; 95 to attend the Tuesday tour; 105 to attend the Monday tour; 95 to attend the Thursday events. But we shall have to cancel bowls and golf as only 6 indicated for bowls and none for golf.

Here follows the second list: Bill and Mavis Addinall
Syd and Pat Bartram Shorty and Thora Bradshaw George Brain with
Kerry Graham Ken and June Brown Morrie & Marie Campbell
Graeme Coombes Neil & June Dean Harry and Pat Dorge
John & Moyna Dunn Arch and Glad Fell Colin Pereday
Mgsa & June Poole Bert & Isla Garland Ian & Beryl Giles
Jack & Elsie Hamilton Ken & Joanne Hinton Peg Holliday

The Victorian Flight News from Rupert Pearce.
Victorian Flight News (cont.)

Helen Laming with Val Bennett
Eric and Bridie Lloyd
Brian, Libby, May and Nigel Paroissien
Roy & Barbara Pearce
Mel & Ruth Senn
David & Judy Westgarth
Reg & Grace Hansell
Yank and Kath Martin
Vin and Mavis Clohesy

Jack and Evelyn Lewis
Bob and Pat Millar
Ron & Mary Verity
Harry & Nell Ashworth
Doug & Betty Holland
Don & Taffy Strong
Eric Lyndon
Beatrice Morkham
June Schope
Lock Simpson
Christine Smith

Apologetics. Stan Longhurst--Forbes Paulet---Wal Simpkins (now in Q'Lnd)
Gordon Nash--Neil McPhee.

Personal Events. The usual parcel has been sent to Mrs. Mona Mathews
at Holme-on-Spalding Moor.

VALE We are saddened to tell of the death of Jim Irwin at Caritas
Christi Hospice on October 15th. Jim served with 454 and 458 Sqdns
as an Instrument Fitter. We have sent our sympathy to his wife,
Doreen and their children, Beverley and Chris.

Future Event. Harry and Nell Ashworth have offered their home at
13, Harbison Drive, Dromana for a bring your own everything on Sunday

### THE BRITISH BULLETIN ###

from Norman Duke.

A small party held at Brooklands Museum on October 9th celebrated
ten years of "blood, toil and sweat" since Wellington R for Robert
was saved from Loch Ness--and commemorated the reconstruction (or as
much as can be achieved). Peter Leonard is bringing Squadron
Council a colour photograph. Sir George Edwards, who worked for
Sir Barnes Wallis in designing the airplane in the 30s, thanked
all the 'surviving' volunteers or at least those still mobile. About 80
old sweats turned up, plus wives and partners--a big family party. I
have been given (?) the job, with A.N. Other, of covering some fuselage
with linen and dope, so we can display the aircraft number and RAF
roundels. Then I guess I'll be redundant.

Joyce and I lunched with Leon Armstrong and Doreen at a favourite
watering hole---the White Horse in Westerham, Kent. This is half-way
between us. Leon is wrestling with a PC which he has inherited. He
reckons flying a Wimpy was easier. Doreen is to have a hip replacement
---we wish her well with a rapid and complete recovery.

I have fortunately made contact with an old Malta and Protville
hand after 52 years--Duggie Douglas a Flight Commander at Protville.
Shot down off the Italian Coast and POW in Stalagluft 3, he was
attending the VJ Parade in Cardiff when Harry Filley also on parade
heard him mention 458. Duggie has had no contact with the
Squadron since the war and I hope we shall be able to get together.
He tells me he was on the list for the Great Escape but his name did
not come out of the hat. Maybe that saved his life. He was one
of the "quartemasters" and responsible for bribing the guards---
among other things.

While compiling the UK Flight Nominal Roll many interesting items
have come to light. Charles Humbles recalls that when posted to
Holme-on-Spalding as an ACM Flight Mechanic he was allotted to W/C Mulholland's aircraft and also ran and tested S/Ldr Johnston's.
Due to the cold that winter, starting and running the Pratt and Whitney
engines was very difficult. He says --- "to show my confidence in
"the aircraft I flew a number of night flying tests with them and
"with Keith Moore, John McKellar and Keith Campbell. Later Shorty
"Wilson and M. White arrived and joined the crew. We worked very hard
"in very cold conditions and maintained 100% serviceability."

We send Greetings to one and all from UK Flight for Xmas and for a
Happy and Peaceful New Year. Norm.

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SANDGROPERS SAY......from Ted. Jewell.

This is one of the times when there is very little news from W.A. Flight. We have been asked by the R.S.L. to participate in a flag and banner parade on the 11th November at the Perth Entertainment Centre. Only flag-bearers will march, but after there will be a band concert for the public during the night.

In December we will have our usual Xmas luncheon at the Freeway Motel, South Perth. It is always a very popular get-together with a good roll-up.

Wishing all Squadron members a merry Xmas and Happy New Year from W.A. Flight. Ted Jewell.

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Q.FLIGHT NEWS, from Jack Lewis.

On the news front, very quiet. There will be a very good attendance from Q'ld at the Reunion in Melbourne in November. We will look forward to a great week.

Hilda Wilks has suffered a lot of stress and strain these past months; we wish to convey that we are thinking of her. Hilda now has Frank in a permanent care home. She wishes to send her regards to all at the coming reunion. Good health to all---Jack Lewis.

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CROWEATERS CHINWAG. from Ted Creighton.

Following the Feathers luncheon and with the approach of the All States Reunion, Flight activities have been in recess. Our AGM and pre-Christmas get-together is scheduled after the deadline for this issue, so there is little Flight news to report.

Have had a request from an SA navy bloke, Jerry Boettcher asking for news of a 458 Queenslander Max Johnson. Can anyone help me to bring him up to date?

Have contacted a few blokes that have been on the Sick List: am happy to report that they all seem able to raise a grin. Fin Mitchell and Peter Thom after their hospital visits are moving along steadily. Ian Sorell after a bit of a set-back seems to have settled well out at the War Vets Home, and his biggest worry probably is whether or not the Sturt Football Club will remain an entity in the SANFL.

The Flight extends to 458ers everywhere our very warm and sincere SEASONAL GREETINGS.

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THE CORNSTALK COMMUNICATION. from Jock McGowen.

Not a lot of news for this issue, but I guess there will still be plenty to talk about in Victoria, and from what we hear the numbers are growing well and it certainly looks like being a good event for all the usual reunion activities, drinking, talking, drinking, talking and so on.

Noel Walter has received a couple of letters from various Squadron personalities and I will give details as follows:

Firstly, a letter from Vin Clohesy; he seems to be doing more travelling than he ever did on the Squadron and reports he will be in Hamilton, Victoria for his 80th Birthday—Happy Birthday, Vin, from us all. Vin met up with Theo Ravenscroft in Longreach, Queensland. Theo says he does not expect to make the reunion. But Vin says he will. Great! The next note was from Tom Ridgeway, who had four bi-passes in May. He is now making a good recovery. Tom is now a bright 77 year old and looks forward to a great Christmas.

A letter from Gerry Cull who was made a member of our 458 branch of the RAAF Association. He had found himself without a Unit and requested permission to join up with 458. This was agreed at a Committee meeting. Welcome to 458, Gerry.

A letter from Ted Creighton regarding Peter Thom. Peter is O.K. and
The Cornstalk Communication (cont.) sends his best wishes to the boys:
Ted also mentioned Bill Taylor who is reaching his mid eighties and
according to Ted retains a good sense of humour. Best wishes,Bill,
from all of us.

Eric Munkman and Noel Walter on behalf of 458 laid a wreath at the
Cenotaph on 15th September for the Battle of Britain memories.
On Sunday 17th both Eric and Noel attended the Battle of Britain
Church Service at St. Stephens Uniting Church.

Eric Munkman received a 'phone call the other day from one of the
other members of the U.K.pilgrimage for the 50th Anniversary--from
Lindsay Broom. Lindsay gave a talk at the Port Pirie branch of the
RAAF Association on that pilgrimage to UK,France, the Middle East,etc.
After the talk Lindsay was approached by a chap who said he left
Australia with Eric in 1941 and returned with him in 1945--none
other than Junior Davies of the 458 Transport Section. Great to
hear of you,Junior. You have been missing for years now:we will
have to remedy that.

We hear Bill Fiddes has had a gallstones operation, but is doing well
and still hopes to make Melbourne.

NSW Flight held another TAFE lunch on November 3rd—with 31 in
attendance. As always a good 458 occasion. The Beef Wellington
turned out to be Beef Lamb. A tribute to Ernie Laming??

Hope to see a lot of you in Melbourne. Safe travelling and
somebody has to win the Cup Sweep! Again,good luck! Jock.

N.S.W. Cup results: 1st - Stan Longhurst, 2nd - Bill Hull, 3rd - Sam Barlow

THE LATEST ON THE REPATRIATION SCENE.

Australia's Repatriation law--of great continuing importance to
her ex-servicemen and women, and their widows, continues to
be scrutinised and subjected to possible changes--few of which
seem intended to help.

However, some at least are intended to help. After considerable
pushing by ourselves, the Department has recognised the urgent need
of adequate facilities for the chronically sick Aged Veteran--
particularly those with Senile Dementia (Alzthimers). An elaborate
glossy-covered plan was published recently with acknowledgements
of the needs and provision of finance. We still look for some
more "nuts and bolts" to fulfill the words. We also press on
quite another area for improved Rehabilitation for the younger
veterans of the Gulf, Rwanda, etc--so that they get not only
medical rehab but job retraining and job search help. So that
they are not turned into people paid some money each fortnight
to stay disabled--as has tended to happen in recent times. There
more, much more, remains to be done. Incidentally we are told on
high authority that of the (small number of) Australians in Rwanda,
over 40% are diagnosed as having PTSD (Post-traumatic stress
disorder).

The first appeal against a Statement of Principle by the Repatriation
Medical Authority is to be heard next week. Peter Alexander is
presenting to SMERK (the Specialist Medical Review Tribunal) the
case for recognising wartime smoking as a cause for Prostate
cancer.

The Administrative Review Council has looked at various Merit
Review Tribunals (including the Veterans Review Board). It is
recommending to the Government among other things a) that the
VRB be taken up by (in effect) the Administrative Appeals Tribunal
(yes, there are lots of Tribunals!) and b) that lawyers be permitted
to appear in all Tribunals. The ex-service community (AVADSC)
will need to look sharply at all this.

Now the Australia Remembers year is concluding, we are asking the
Government to issue a formal Statement setting out Australia's
Commitment to those who served it at war, and their widows.

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