

PIONEER NEWS

UL 5491

Official Organ of 2/1 and 2/2 Pioneer Battalions (A.I.F.) Associations

UL 5491



Editor:
MAX LAW

President:
FRED CALLAWAY

Hon. Secretary:
MAX HERRON

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1st MARCH, 1958

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LAUNCH PICNIC - 23rd MARCH

On Sunday, 23rd March, 1958, the Association has arranged a Launch Picnic to the beautiful beach and picnic grounds at Parsley Bay.

Following upon the success of the car trial and picnic in September, 1957, the Association has had numerous requests for a second picnic in the year, and to vary it a little from the car trial style of picnic.

HAPPY TIME FOR CHILDREN

This form of picnic is a more expensive one for the Association, but the Committee feels that by bringing the wives and children together and giving them a happy time the added expense is well worth while.

DETAILS AND STARTING TIME

The launch "Nowra" will depart at 9.45 a.m. from Stannards' Wharf, Fort Macquarie, and the fare is 5/- return per adult, children free. The launch returns to Fort Macquarie at 5 p.m. (or earlier if desired). Children will be issued with Paddle Pops, drinks, toffees and ice-cream. The Committee has arranged an excellent sports programme (published hereunder) and can guarantee a good time will be had by all.

Picnic tables have been booked on the ground for our use, and an area on the green grass adjacent to the beach roped off for the sporting events. There is a very well equipped kiosk on the ground, at which the following can be purchased: soft drinks, milk, pies, sweets, and ice-cream.

SWIMMING — BUT NO RESPONSIBILITY

A shark-proof, sandy beach enclosure is available for swimming, but no organised events are being held and the Association would like all parents to accept full responsibility for their children while swimming. There are swings,

slippery-dip, see-saws and parallel bars on the ground for the children's entertainment.

PARKING SPACE

For members coming to Fort Macquarie by car, there is ample parking space close to the wharf. As usual with our picnics, we welcome your friends and relations (yes, even ma-in-laws are allowed), so do not think it is just for Pioneers. Even if "Dad" cannot make it, you bring along the kiddies "Mum," for this is a day for you and the children.

For people with cars who cannot make the launch in time we would like to extend a welcome to come along at their leisure straight to Parsley Bay Picnic Ground.

SPORTING EVENTS

The following is the programme for the sporting events to be held after lunch. Prizes will be paid to first and second place-getters, and every child will receive a bag of sweets.

Age	Distance
Under 3	10 yards
Under 5	20 yards
Under 7	30 yards
Under 9	40 yards
Under 11	50 yards
Under 13	50 yards
Open	75 yards

Children's three-legged race.
Adults' three-legged race.
Cigarette race.
Matrons' race.
Old Buffers' race.

If time permits, other novelty events, such as scavenger hunts, etc., will be arranged.

ARE YOU COMING ?

To really make this, our first launch picnic, a success, we earnestly plead with members to notify us of your intention of attending. All arrangements to be made for the day hinge on the number of adults and children attending, so please fill in the form below and return to us as soon as possible, or phone the numbers listed at the foot of this page.

For members desirous of 'phoning, the following Committee members are eager to answer any queries and accept information regarding your attendance.

Max Herron, UL 5491; Fred Callaway, LY 7132; Tom Crossman, JX 3977; Jack Westwood, UL 3930; Doug Shearston, LY 8374; Bob Lake, XF 4696.

PROGRAMME FOR 1958

The following programme for the forthcoming year is published hereunder so that members can cut it out and keep it in a prominent position. They can then notify the Committee in good time of their intention of attending the various functions. It is also a good idea to mark these dates on your calendar at home, then "Mum" can remind you in plenty of time.

March 23rd—Launch Picnic.

April 18th—Annual Smoko and the General Meeting.

April 25th—Anzac Day March, afterwards at Sussex Hotel.

June (date to be advised)—Combined Pioneer Smoko.

September 21st—Car Trial and Picnic.
November 21st—Bi-Annual Smoko.

"Pioneer News" will be published in the following months: March, June, September, November.

ANNUAL SMOKO

FRIDAY, 18th APRIL, 1958,
at 7.30 p.m.

Held Railway Institute Hall, right at Chalmers Street Entrance to Central Railway Station.

Supper Provided. Admission 5/-.

CUT OUT

To the Hon Secretary,
2/1-2/2 PIONEER BTNS. ASSOCIATION,
3 Enoggera Road, Beverly Hills.

I will be attending by Launch. Adults.....Children.....

I will be going direct by Car. Adults.....Children.....

Name

Address

Phone No.

BI-ANNUAL SMOKO

A most enjoyable and successful evening was held at the Sussex Hotel on 22nd November. This function has been voted as the best bi-annual smoko the Association has organised to date.

There were many faces there that had not been seen since 1945, and then they were in a different type of dress and circumstances.

This is the first time a smoko has been organised in a hotel and, whereas it can be seen to be the best place and atmosphere, the Committee has learnt a great deal. Admittedly there were some mistakes. This can be expected in any first attempt, but these were noted and will be rectified in future arrangements.

We thank all members for their criticism, derogatory or otherwise, as these functions are organised for your benefit and only from your criticism can we hope to please.

ATTENDANCE NOTIFICATION NECESSARY

As we had only catered for 60 members, our main problem on the night was to accommodate the extra members who did not notify the Association of their intention of attending. It is really essential to have exact figures prior to these functions, and we feel sure all members will assist.

Everyone certainly had a grand time; so much so that the musicians did not have a chance over the babble of happy voices.

Many thanks to the numerous members who paid their subscriptions to the Secretary on the night.

VOTE OF THANKS

A very special vote of thanks to Allan "Babe" Emerson, who brought along two beautifully dressed dolls and provided the books to raffle them. The dolls were dressed by his friend, Dick Birkett, and we are very grateful to these two lads for their very fine gesture. The Association gained £9 from this raffle. Judging by the happy look on the face of the winner, Jim Gray, we would venture to say his little girl was going to be more than pleased with the bargain Dad brought home that night.

Many thanks to Charlie Vickers, who sold all the tickets, and also to "Monty" and Doug Shearston, who did a grand job at the door.

DO YOU RECOGNISE THESE NAMES ?

The following is an approximate list of those who attended, and from this list the members who were unable to attend can ascertain the friends they will meet at the next smoko. Messrs. Ronan, Law, Griffith, Hickey, Seddon, Irvine, Dodd, McInnes, Lake, Westwood, Murphy, Morrow, Dowd, Lawrence, Monahan, Bradley, O'Connor, Maxwell, Hammond, Emerson, Coleman, Egan, Horne, Bent, Callaway, Crossman, Gibson, Biggs, Kerr, Wayman, Pritchard, Chapman, Brown, Painter, Corkish, Franks, Barker, Peach, Shearston, Mostyn, Herron, Moore, Roach, Gray, Bensley, Noonan, Innes, Moxey, Graham, Booth, Williams, Kent, Hanshaw, Locane, Craig, Johnson, Cosgrove, Jardine, Pendlebury, Hyde, Woodham, Clifford, Lamb, Peak and Andrews.

COMBINED ANNUAL SMOKO OF PIONEER BATTALIONS

At the July meeting of your Association a letter was received from the 2/4 Pioneer Battalion, asking that consideration be given to a Combined Annual Smoko of Pioneer Battalions. It was agreed upon to send a delegation to meet the committee of the 2/4 Pioneer Battalion regarding this matter and report back. Consequently, on 18th October, 1957, three members of your committee attended this meeting.

The Secretary of the 2/4 Pioneer Battalion outlined the scheme whereby the 2/1, 2/2, 2/3 and 2/4 Pioneer Battalions get together in the form of an Annual Smoko, and your committee at its last meeting decided to agree to this request and again meet the 2/4 Pioneer Battalion to discuss further details. An optional date was decided upon in June of this year, of which you will be given full details in the next issue of the "Pioneer News."

LAST POST

THE LATE COL. CLAYTON E. DAVIS, D.S.O., M.C.

As announced in the last issue of the Pioneer News, Colonel Clayton E. Davis, a former C.O. of the 2/2nd Pioneer Bn., passed away at his country residence at Yalcowinna, Cooma, on Thursday, 6th November last, aged 66 years.

Colonel Davis was held in very high esteem by all who served under him, and by those who came into contact with him both in his duties and in his leisure moments.

He served in both world wars, winning the D.S.O., the Military Cross, and a Mention-in-Despatches, in the first, and commanding the 2/2nd Pioneer Bn. in Borneo in the second.

A Melbourne University graduate, he practised as a solicitor in Jerildie. At the conclusion of World War II Colonel Davis was appointed as Chairman of the Repatriation Assessment Tribunal, a position he held for ten years till his retirement earlier last year.

Colonel Davis was a well known figure at the Anzac Day marches and later at the annual Smoko, held at St. Peters following the march.

He was buried with full military honours in Cooma Cemetery.

THE LATE Mrs. SCHOMBERG

Members will be sincerely sorry to learn of the death of Mrs. Dorothy May Schomberg, wife of Noel Schomberg, on 11th December last. The late Mrs. Schomberg passed away suddenly in hospital and a wreath and card, expressing the deepest sympathy of all members of the Association was sent by the Secretary.

ATTENDING A FUNCTION ?

When you are attending functions and wish to be formally attired, support our advertiser (this page), Formal Attire Pty. Ltd., for your garment, and we can guarantee you will be more than satisfied, but don't forget to say you saw it in the "Pioneer News."

"PIONEER NEWS" FEES AND CREDENTIALS

Owing to numerous requests from members wishing to join the Association and wanting to know the fees and credentials involved, hereunder is published information which present members receiving the "Pioneer News" could pass on to any persons eligible to become members:

- (1) Any person serving with the 2/1 or 2/2 Pioneer Battalions at any time is eligible to become a member.
- (2) There is no joining fee, but a charge of 5/- per annum is made to cover the cost of "Pioneer News."

When sending a new address, please print Christian and Surname in **BLOCK** letters.

When sending a change of address, state OLD as well as NEW address.

All correspondence to be addressed to:

**THE HON. SECRETARY,
2/1-2/2 PIONEER BNS.,
ASSOCIATION,
3 ENOGGERA RD., BEVERLY HILLS.**



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ANZAC DAY ARRANGEMENTS

At the time of going to press we have not had definite notice of the "form up" place for the Anzac Day March. However, we believe it is almost certain to be the same as in recent years, namely, the Queen's Square end of Macquarie Street, on the Sydney Hospital side. If there is any alteration of this you will be directed from this point.

After the March we suggest the Sussex Hotel, on the corner of Liverpool and Sussex Streets, for refreshments. We are not shareholders in the Sussex, and in fact hardly knew of the place prior to our November Smoko, but the Licensee has promised us a certain amount of co-operation for future functions and ample bar space is available.

Remember April is the commencement of the Association's financial year and all subscriptions are due at that date, so help your Association and be a financial member. Subscription now 5/- per annum.

TREASURER RETIRES

We were very sorry to hear of the sudden illness of our Treasurer, Bob McGregor, early in December. Bob was admitted to Prince Alfred Hospital with kidney trouble and after nine weeks' treatment is now home recuperating, but his doctor has ordered him to rest on "no duties" for six months. We have it on good authority that the nurses nearly cried when Bob left the hospital, for he kept them amused at all times with his ready wit and steady stream of jokes.

Thanks are due to Bob Lake for his many endeavours to have Bob transferred to Yaralla, also to the many Pioneers who called on Bob and cheered him up, more often it was probably the other way round. Anyway, all the very best to you and your wife, Bob, and we hope to see you in the near future taking an active part in the Association as you have in the past years.

NEW TREASURER

We would like to extend a very hearty welcome to our new Treasurer, Doug Shearston, who has taken over the "books" from Bob McGregor upon his retirement owing to illness. Doug was a signaller in H.Q. Coy., and even at the picnic last September he proved his worth by giving a hand. Doug owns the Bates Shoe Store in Lakemba and handles quite a lot of figures (or should we say feet), so we have no doubt he will make a good treasurer. Many thanks to you, Doug, for helping us once again.

LAUNCH PICNIC

SUNDAY, 23rd MARCH, 1958

Launch departs Stannard's Wharf, Fort Macquarie, 9.45 a.m.

Adults 5/-. Children Free.

OUR NEWSPAPER . . .

It is agreed, I am sure, that the newspaper is the life-blood of our Association and for this reason I propose to give you some idea of how this paper is being produced at present and its future production.

The present, or should I say the previous, production was organised whereby the script was given over to an advertising agent to print and deliver to your Committee for wrapping and distribution purposes. This was done entirely free to us on the understanding that the advertising agent took all moneys for advertisements which he was responsible for obtaining.

We have been advised that the agent cannot gain the advertising that was anticipated, which resulted in an ultimatum that we pay the difference in production costs—an amount of £20—OR our paper goes out of production.

Your Secretary, as usual, was quick off the mark, and quotes were obtained for the printing of our paper in a slightly different form. From these quotations, and subsequently by a motion of your Committee, we have accepted another firm of printers to produce our paper for a total of £14 per edition, which gives us the right to accept any moneys for advertising.

We do not intend to pursue the advertising angle, except possibly on odd occasions, as a great deal of time and expense is involved, plus the fact that it is not sufficiently reliable to form a financial basis to produce a newspaper.

To produce this paper the following costs are involved:—

Printing £52 per annum

Postage £6 per annum

including incidentals such as wrappers, glue, string, etc.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION, 5/-

Our Treasurer has advised the Committee that we cannot continue this operation on our present subscription of 2/6, which was set in 1945.

INFORMATION BUREAU

The following are the Executive members of the 2/1 and 2/2 Pioneer Battalions' Association, who can be contacted by telephone when desiring information regarding the Association.

President:

FRED CALLAWAY, LY 7132

Vice-Presidents:

TOM CROSSMAN, JX 3977

JACK WESTWOOD, UL 3930.

Secretary:

MAX HERRON, UL 5491.

Treasurer:

DOUG SHEARSTON, LY 8374.

Subsequently, a "notice of motion" was presented to the President and Committee prior to their meeting of the 21st February, to the effect that the annual subscription be increased to 5/- per annum. This was adopted.

As the majority of Associations have a subscription rate ranging from 10/6 to £1/1/-, we still maintain one of the lowest subscription rates in Australia.

It is the policy of your Committee to send the newspaper to all members, financial or otherwise, and we hope to continue this practice, but it is draining our resources.

We do not ask for arrears, but as our financial year commences on Anzac Day of each year it would assist, and moreover keep the Association going, if you would forward your subscription as early as possible following this date.

F. CALLAWAY, President.

ANNUAL SMOKO

On Friday, 18th April, 1958, at 7.30 p.m., the Association will hold their Annual Smoko at the Railway Institute Hall.

The Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held prior to the Anzac Smoko. Following a short summary of the year's proceedings, the President will call upon the minutes of the last general meeting, after which will be held the election of the Committee for the following twelve months. The meeting usually takes half an hour, and then the smoko is in full swing—so all members and their friends are assured of a grand time. Help to make this a night to remember.

SUPPER PROVIDED

To cover the cost of the hall and the supper a small nominal entrance fee of 5/- is charged, and the Committee would be rewarded for their year's efforts if the roll up this year was a really bumper one. Owing to the high cost of postage, no further notice will be sent to members regarding the Annual Smoko, except the usual small notice in the daily papers.

To assist the Social Secretary in his catering arrangements, a form is provided below and it would be appreciated if members would notify the Secretary if they wish to attend.

CUT OUT

To the Secretary,

2/1-2/2 PIONEER BTNS. ASSOCIATION,
3 Enoggera Road, Beverly Hills.

I will be attending the ANNUAL SMOKO with friends.

Name

Address

IN PASSING . . .

On their trip through Victoria recently Max Herron and family report having paid a visit to Bernie Reiners, at Corryong (another Sig.), and were so well treated they stayed for ten days. Can't you imagine how low the larder was at "Reiner's Hall" — Max came home half a stone heavier. Bernie sends his regards to Bob McGregor, Doug Shearston and all the boys. Max also called on Fred Scanes (D Coy. 2/1) at Cooma. Fred looked the picture of health and was most helpful in advising Max in his tour over the Snowy Mountain Scheme. Fred works at the large modern store of P. D. Murphy, of Cooma, and Max mentions meeting Allan McInnes's father, who is also with Murphy's.

In the November issue of the "News" we mentioned that Ken Wilson (2/2) wanted to join the band of Pioneers in the Assn. and we said that we would get in touch. Well, following his letter, Secretary Max Herron sent forward four back copies of the paper and a little bit of gossip. Like the flash of the "Sputnik" (we have to keep up with the times), back came a letter from Ken, complete with a welcome donation, for which we thank him, with a request. What is Bill Holmes' address? Always willing to help, so Ken was duly advised of Bill's address and we in turn feel happy to be able to help once again.

Here is the lesson! (We cannot help the little dig occasionally). Ken wrote two letters in a matter of days. How about some of our members who haven't written in years? Anyway, thanks again, Ken, and we are pleased to welcome you to the fold. Let's hear from you often, please.

In another part of this issue you will find details of the coming launch trip and picnic. By coming along you will not only meet up with some of your old friends, but will be the idol of your family for weeks after for being so thoughtful in giving them a really good day out.

Reg Sweeney's wife wrote in, saying that she enjoyed the last car outing so much that she wants space reserved for a party of eight for the picnic to come. That is really supporting your committee. If you want to be in the fun, book your numbers in NOW.

News again of Des. "Tiny" Fields, of Gundagai. As the years roll by Tiny gets bigger, brighter and better than ever. Known as the "Tank" in Gundagai, Des was for years a star in the Maher Cup rep. football team, also was a district rep. cricketer. A mighty bloke in what Des says is a mighty town.

Contact was made with Wally "Bombo" Brown and Dan Black, in far away Brewarrina, both from B Coy. 2/1. They are working as linesmen for the P.M.G. Their job entails camping many miles out in the scrub, but, having had their share of this with the Battalion, it would be no hardship to them. Both send cheerful greetings to all their old mates in the Battalion.

Getting back to the November issue again. Remember reading that John Morgan's father wrote that John was in Adelaide? Well that also brought quick results. A letter from Royal Park tells us "the latest." Firstly, we are told that it is not JOHN but Jack Morgan (although I feel sure that "John" was mentioned in the original letter, Jack), and better known to all in Don Company as "Tod" Morgan. Then Jack goes on to say that he has been absent from N.S.W. for about nine years now, 8½ of which have been spent in South Australia and six months in West Australia. His next expected visit to Sydney will be in November of this year. Let us know before you leave down there, Jack, and we will see what we can do to help you meet up with some old friends. Certainly seems that you have had your run of "outs" in one way and another, Jack, but we hope that all is not too bad now.

For our South Aussie readers, Jack is employed at Commonwealth Industrial Gases. Thanks for your welcome letter and enclosed donation, Jack Morgan.

Although we would like to have had your company on the night of the last very successful Smoko, we will, of course accept your apology for your absence, Jack Bertram. It was bad luck that you could not make it, as it was really a good night. The Committee is to be congratulated on the organisation and it is hoped that there will be another such show in the not too distant future. See you then, Jack.

Bill Robinson, still Postmastering out at West Clovelly, sent in a very short letter, but with a very nice donation enclosed so we will forgive the brevity of the epistle. Believe you have not been in the very best of health, Bill. Hope that you are o.k. now. I get a little information from one of your customers now and again so you cannot get by entirely unnoticed. Nice to hear from you, Bill, and thanks again.

Down in Sydney for the Smoko were Peter (Dick) Seddon and Jack Griffiths, from Newcastle. They soon were in the swing (or should that be "the swig") of things and seemed to be very busy catching up on those who were there. Last heard that one of them was trying to book in for the night at the pub, but cannot tell you how he got on. One thing is certain, they enjoyed themselves and quite a few of their old mates enjoyed seeing them. Don't leave it too long before you come down again, Peter and Jack.

Bill Hogan, B Coy. 2/1, made his first appearance at the Smoko held at the Sussex. It was mighty good to see you, Bill. Don't forget to come next time.

Jack Price, of Merrylands, late of A Coy. 2/1, sends greetings to all. Jack has been having a bad spin for many months with a bad back, but he hopes to be at the next turn out to meet all his old mates.

Colt Barnes asked for the address of Jim McFadden, and the Secretary was once again only too happy to oblige.

Colt offers a very sincere welcome to any Association members who are in his area to call at his home. He is at the Berembred Weir, out from Matong, and says that a visit over the weir will prove very interesting. This weir supplies the water to the whole of the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area. That is a good opportunity for anyone passing through, thanks to Colt Barnes.

Your donation was as welcome as your letter, Colt. Thanks again.

From the Secretary of the 2/2nds in Victoria we hear that Bob Conningsby is in Heidelberg Repat. Hospital and his wife was admitted to Royal Melbourne with a broken leg during Bob's internment. Hope all is well for both you and your wife by this, Bob.

It would not be Christmas without Bill Hoffman, from Kyogle, sending good wishes by telegram. I know that I have said that before, but Bill NEVER fails to remember us down here and we are making sure that he is not forgotten up there. Still waiting for that community letter from the boys up there, Bill. What about getting down to the main street and grabbing a few of them down in that modern building between Peter Bell's place of employment and Ray Smith's office? And I DO mean that popular meeting house.

I, personally, owe you a letter, Bill, and I will write soon. The photographs will be forwarded as promised, although I have not a copy of the complete set now as the negatives have "had" it.

Regards to the boys and yourself, Bill.

Ran into Jack Hyde and had a few minutes' talk recently. Of course it was in a "local" and Jack was in a hurry to get a certain train to town. After saying good bye and dashing off to get the train, he was back inside two minutes later with another glass in his hand to wait for the next one. Hasn't changed a bit, really.

Len Weyman, of Seven Hills, late of B Coy. 2/1, was another who had a good night at the Sussex. Len was a little disappointed at the roll up of the B Coy. boys. Never mind, Len, now they know what a good turn out it was they will be there in full strength next time. Many thanks for the donation to the newspaper, Len.

Very pleased to have Dick Lewis of Marion Downs Station, via Bourke, on our list once again. It appears we lost him for a time. Anyway, one of our ardent committee members came up with the address, Dick, and in return for sending you the "News" we would like to have a letter from you, telling us all about yourself and what you are doing these days. How about it? As you know, it is these letters from the members that keep the newspaper going, for without them we just could not function.

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ANZAC DAY, 1958

Despite showers of rain early Anzac morning, the roll up to the march was a good one and, although many new faces were seen, it is hoped even more will be seen again next year.

At their separate assembly points there were two hundred and thirty 2/1sts and one hundred 2/2nds.

Colonel Neal led the 2/1st, but shortly after handed over to Major Osborn. The 2/1st banner was in the capable hands of Reg Smith.

Major Robertson led the 2/2nds and their regular stalwart, Jim Field, carried the banner. The 2/2nd boys expressed pleasure in the attendance of Padre Claughton, and his support is greatly appreciated now, as it was in the war years.

QUICK MARCH!

With the jingling of medals and, as usual, a band two battalions in front and another band three battalions behind, the boys were on their way. Although many a joke was made about the step being hard to maintain, every face became solemn and heads were turned in salute as they passed the Cenotaph.

Quite a few of the boys saluted the chair belonging to the "Little Digger," the late William Morris Hughes. On the chair was his slouch hat and a sprig of rosemary.

THE BOYS ON TV

Some of the boys must be in the know, for, on crossing Castlereagh Street, Eric Baume, radio and TV commentator, gave a wave. After passing the Cenotaph four television cameras came into action and quite a number of the boys' families reported having seen them on TV.

In defiance of the early rain, 100,000 people lining the route gave the boys a rousing reception and, as in the past, many on the side were persuaded to join the ranks of the marchers.

AFTER THE MARCH

The next forming-up place was the Sussex Hotel for the 2/1st and a hall at St. Peters for the 2/2nds (details of which are published elsewhere), and many a battle was once again fought and won.

All told, it was a grand day and everyone appeared to have an enjoyable time, although it could be seen quite a few were remembering those who have departed from our midst; not only mates, for some have lost wives and relatives. It is to these we say chin up and carry on, for it is on this day, our day of Remembrance, that we drink and endeavour to be merry, but underneath it all—

"WE WILL REMEMBER THEM"

WREATH LAYING CEREMONY AT CENOTAPH

On Thursday, 24th April, at 7.40 p.m. nine members of the Association laid a wreath on the Cenotaph, Sydney.

The members marched down Martin Place from Pitt Street, halted at the Cenotaph and stood to attention for a minute's silence. The President placed the wreath on the Cenotaph and said a prayer in remembrance of our Fallen Comrades.

This ceremony was suggested by Vic. Whiteley and Charlie Vickers to the Secretary at the conclusion of the Smoko, and having only seven days' notice he could only contact fifteen members.

APOLOGIES

Owing to previous engagements, Messrs. H. Tope, J. Drummond, W. Robertson, A. McInnes, R. Lake and T. Crossman apologised for non-attendance.

Those present were Messrs. F. Callaway, J. Westwood, M. Herron, V. Whiteley, J. Field, H. Mostyn, C. Vickers, H. Montague and B. McGregor.

The Committee has decided to hold this ceremony each year, and if a good attendance is indicated they will arrange for a bugler, or perhaps a band.



The above photograph shows the President, Fred Callaway, laying the 2/1-2/2 Pioneer wreath on the Cenotaph.

—Photo and block by courtesy "Sydney Morning Herald"

DATES TO REMEMBER

- 27th JUNE—
Ladies' Auxiliary Meeting
- 22nd AUGUST—
Committee Meeting
- 21st SEPTEMBER—
Car Trial and Picnic
- 21st NOVEMBER—
Bi-Annual Smoko at the
Sussex Hotel

2/1 ANZAC RE-UNION AT SUSSEX HOTEL

After the march a Re-union was held at the Sussex Hotel and here the Committee had arranged for the members to enter early and be served with a good meal.

The licensee and her staff did a marvellous job serving sausages, meat balls, sausage rolls, salad, etc., especially in view of the fact that we had informed her only sixty members would be present and then 150 turned up.

THANKS TO THE SUSSEX

On behalf of the members, the President and Committee personally thanked the licensee and staff for their fine effort.

The saloon and lower public bar were completely filled with Pioneers, and it really turned out a grand affair for all who were present.

Because of the numerous members who voted it a good idea the Committee has decided to arrange this function each year, and, with your help and suggestions, can be vastly improved upon.

2/1st ANZAC DAY JOTTINGS

(From Our Reporter, Bob McGregor)

The "Dorrigo Demon," Fred Wheaton, flew down to Sydney for the Anzac march and a re-union with his old mates. Fred is not playing these days, says the Englishmen way back in the early fifties knocked him out of football. Judging from the size of him, couldn't see him dashing down the field like he did in the army. Good to see you again, Fred, hope you had a grand week-end.

From information received, Sid Jopson is now at Port Macquarie with the Bank of N.S.W. Hope to see you next smoko, Sid.

Who said old soldiers fade away? Such is not the case with "Bluey" Stacy (B Coy.), as "Bluey" is still playing football at Windsor. Keep it up, you may get a game against the "chooms" yet.

Peter Seddon, "Glido" Griffiths and Fred Hannon came down from Newcastle once again for the march and then joined the boys at the Sussex Hotel. Everyone was happy to see you grand fellows enjoying yourselves. They had Reveille at 2 a.m. to make the train — what time was lights out.

George Tolmie (D Coy.) was saying that Jack (Bluey) McLeod (D Coy) is now in Townsville, and quite a family man. If ever you are in Sydney, Blue, don't forget to look us up. George is now living at Yagoona and is often in the Revesby Hotel sinking a "quickie" after a hard day's work at carpentry.

We were very sorry to hear that Jack (Poppa) Mills is not enjoying the best of health at the moment and hope it won't be long before you are in there punching once again "Poppa." Best of luck from your old mates.

Before the march and after at the Sussex Hotel, Alf Carter and Doug Shearston, ably assisted by Jack Westwood and "Monty" Montague, did a grand job collecting subs for the "Pioneer News."

Bob Lake and Fred Callaway are the best door men any hotel ever had. Good work, boys.

That staunch supporter of the Association, Bill Tasker, found time to get in for the march and spend a few hours at the Sussex Hotel. Bill has a full time job these days as Manager of the Bexley R.S.L. Thanks again for the donation, Bill.

Sid Percival, Pat Murphy and Jimmy McDonald (D Coy.) were having a good chat at the Sussex about old times. Sid is doing a spot of gardening for the Council these days. Nice to see you boys again.

Up from Wollongong for the march came our old friend Nobby Clark (A Coy), and was very pleased to see his old mates once again. Nobby really enjoyed himself at the Sussex.

Had a long talk to Ray Wiseman (D Coy.) at the Sussex. Ray is a works inspector at General Motors Holdens, and from all accounts has "quite a job."

Smiler Burns, as big and as happy as ever, had a great day. Smiler is now mail sorting at the G.P.O. Keep up the good work.

It was a pleasure to have our two tramway mates, Jim McQuirk and Jimmy Gray, with us at the Sussex. Jim McQuirk is still sitting in his little box changing the points for the trains — you can't deny you're not working points, Jim.

Perce Dutton (D Coy.) came down from Orange for the march. He is now a clerk of works for Orange Council. Good to see you, Perce. Would be glad to see a crowd of Orange chaps next year.

One of the most pleasant surprises of the day was the appearance of "Three Course" Kelly. He was telling us he spent 10 years at the Woomera Rocket Range doing security work and now has a farm at Oxford Falls. Looking forward to seeing you at all future functions, Kelly.

Ivor Garnon and Jack Claypool had a great day at the Sussex, where Ivor conducted a number of sing songs.

Trevor Beckett (B Coy.) says you can always find him out at the Caringbah Hotel, around the dart board. Trevor is in the workshops at the G.P.O.

Bruce Smith (H.Q. Coy.) was seen moving around the Sussex saying hello to his friends. Bruce is a very keen fisherman and has his own boat.

Our Secretary, Max Herron, played the part of host at the Sussex to his father-in-law (Bill Roper 1st Bn.), brother-in-law (Ken Roper, Field Workshops), and brother, Bruce (Mechanical Engineers), and a good time was had by all. (Father-in-law was heard to say that "these Pioneers will do me.")

Bob Lake also brought along his father (a First War Digger) to meet the boys. Early in the afternoon Bob and Dad went off to the Cricket Ground to see their team, Manly, defeat Newtown, and returned to the Sussex after the match two very pleased Manly-ites.

Bill Broad (C Coy.) came down from Trangie. (I think he sprained a few fingers with his hand-shake). Come again, Bill.

Had a talk to Jack Lloyd at the Sussex. He is still working on the wharves and says if any of the boys wish to contact him he can be reached at FX 8346. Hope you got Eric (Bombo) Reynolds home safely, Jack.

Have it on good authority that Ray Horne entertained Fred Wheaton at his Club on Anzac night. Hope you made sure, Ray, that Fred caught the 'plane back to Dorrigo in time.

Harry Mostyn and Scottie Burns were together at the Sussex and in the evening Harry invited Scottie out to Beverly Hills to meet the wife and look at the TV. When they finally arrived home, what with Harry finding it hard to talk (too much jungle juice), and Scottie with his rich Scotch accent, Mrs. Mostyn for a while thought she was acting as hostess to the League of Nations.

Pat McKeig was quite thrilled to have brother Claude with him at the Sussex and they were both in the best of health and spirits. It is really good to see you after all these years, Claude, and we would be pleased to see you at all our functions in future.

THANKS FOR DONATIONS

We are deeply grateful to Broadhead and Barcham, Grocers and Wine Merchants, for their generous donation of cheese for our Smoko.

Many thanks also to Swift's Aust. Ltd. for their generous donation of groceries to our Picnic.

2/1-2/2 PIONEER BATTALIONS' ASSN. LADIES' AUXILIARY

On Friday, 27th June, at 8 p.m., the first General Meeting of the Ladies' Auxiliary will be held in the "Blue Room" of the Returned Soldiers' Club of N.S.W., Elizabeth Street (between Liverpool and Bathurst Streets). All wives and relatives of members are very cordially invited to attend.

The prime movers behind this meeting are Mrs. Daisy Mostyn and Mrs. Marge Holmes, who, on the return journey by launch from the picnic on 23rd March, collected the names and addresses of twenty-two ladies who would be willing to attend the meeting.

BLESSING AND SUPPORT TO LADIES

The President and Secretary of the parent Association have been invited to attend and conduct the meeting. At their meeting on 23rd May the Committee considered the formation of the Ladies' Auxiliary an excellent move, and Committeeman H. Montague moved a motion "that we give the ladies our blessing and full support in their venture, which was all the more commendable because of no prompting from the Association."

Do come along, ladies, and give the Auxiliary your support—it would be very greatly appreciated. Remember, Friday, 27th June, at 8 p.m.

Secretary's Report

This issue of the "Pioneer News" will appear slightly different from previous issues because our Editor, Max Law, was called to Adelaide on unexpected business in March and expects to be there at least another two or three weeks.

The work of compiling this Anzac issue has fallen to Committeemen Bob McGregor, Allan McInnes, Alf Carter and myself. Fortunately, our work has been made ever so much easier by the numerous letters received, plus the co-operation of the members to impart news at the recent functions.

THANKS TO MAX LAW

I would like to join with the Committee in unanimous praise of the excellent work Max Law has performed in producing past editions and, because of this, the recently elected reporters and myself are determined to keep the "News" flowing. For these reasons the Committee has elected me to the position of Joint Editor with Max, and I know the members will help even more and make this, our very own newspaper, a bigger, better and brighter one.

At this stage I would like to say thank you to someone behind the scenes who, in the past three months since the last issue, has typed dozens of letters, agenda forms, minutes, nine hundred address wrappers and all the copy for this edition, and that is my wife—I know all Pioneers will join me in a hearty thanks.

The response to our increased subscription has been excellent, and if the present intake continues we will certainly have a record year.

Max Herrón, Secretary.

2/2 ANZAC RE-UNION AT ST. PETERS

(By Our 2/2 Reporter, Allan McInnes)

After the march about 45 members of the 2/2nds made their way to the usual rendezvous at Ricketty Street to enjoy another fabulous day put on by the hard work and organisation of a few of the boys, and all present were unanimous in their appreciation.

A resolution was passed extending good wishes to the 2/1 - 2/2 Pioneer Association, and inviting any member who may desire to attend this function next Anzac Day a very cordial welcome. They can be assured of a good day.

Absence of several regular visitors was noted, and Lt.-Col. Clayton Davis was one who had passed on but was not forgotten at this small function.

NEW FACES

New members attending this year included Tom Reynolds, Pat Egan, Joe Mitchell, Jim Field, Bill Barnes, Bob Lee, Jack Neville, Bill Simpson, Ken Wilson, Kev Neville, Fred Bellingham, Jack Henderson and Clive Maddrell.

It is noted that, of these, Pat Egan attended from Canberra and Bill Barnes from Albury and it is a pleasure to see the country boys along. Last year's country visitors included Vince Diggs, from Coonamble, Harry and Podge Sullivan from Dubbo, and Wally Beard from Collarenebri.

Seen in Sydney recently was Speed Gordon, of Warren, who tells that Bill Norris and Bonnie Fowler are still fit and well and all three are members of the local bowling club.

Roy Leadbeater, from Lismore, has recently spent a few days in Sydney on his way home from Victoria. Roy looks lean and fit and still earns his living cutting cane.

Mick Bye, a stalwart of the Battalion, was recently down to a specialist and has got a clean bill of health. Mick tells that his brother, a jockey from the north-west, was riding at a meeting on the Queensland border a while back. When the jockeys' names went up he was approached by another jockey and was asked if he was Mick Bye. Upon replying that it was his brother, he was informed that the other jockey was Tich Watson, an old C Coy. boy—and we understand they rode the programme.

Congratulations to Cappy Christian, who was M.C. at Ricketty Street on Anzac Day. Cappy did a wonderful job and kept everyone happy and laughing. He had able support from Dick Kennywell, Ken Ashton, Horrie Sedger and Tom Reynolds.

Doing a good job for the local boys at North Ryde is Billy Holmes. Bill has started a boys' club and is running it most successfully—in fact, the waiting list is very big. Bill is Bert's big brother.

2/2 NEWS FROM VICTORIA

By Courtesy "Pioneer Despatch"

Joe Hancy having reached the age of 65 last February, retired from his civil job with the Ordnance Department at formed in 1940, Joe was appointed the R.Q.M.S. and held that appointment for two years.

Following upon his retirement, he was admitted to the Repat. Hospital at Heidelberg for an operation on his hand as a result of a wound in the First War.

One of the old "C" Company identities, Tom Aggett is residing at Geelong, where he is a guard on the Railways. Another Geelong member is Lou Knight, who is a prominent taxi driver in that city.

The following members have also spent periods at Heidelberg recently: Bill Griffiths, with his leg complaint from wounds received in Syria; Colin Sutton, with his old head trouble; and George Smart, who hopes to be discharged very soon.

While in W.A. recently, Mrs. Garvin ran into Bob Hutchinson, who is on the staff of Hollywood Hospital. Paddy Maynard is an inmate of the same hospital, and both these boys send greetings to all Pioneers.

Aub Smith, of Loch, sustained a nasty accident recently and lost the sight of his left eye.

Bill Rodie, who is now a Major in the P.M.F., was reported in Melbourne for a few days recently.

Bob Conningsby has been an inmate at Heidelberg since Christmas and his wife, who suffered a broken leg last year, is still laid up with a plaster cast.

Two more members scored in Tatts—J. Ruddell scored fifth prize and B. Dunn collected third prize.

THE GENERAL MEETING AND SMOKO

The Annual General Meeting of the Association was held at the Railway Institute on Friday, 18th April, 1958, at 8 p.m.

The meeting was opened by Mr. Fred Callaway (President), and, for the information of members who were unable to attend, the minutes are as follow:

Attendance: There was an attendance of approximately 95 members.

Apologies: Apologies were received from Messrs. P. Penrose, J. Williams, G. Nicholls, W. Jollie and W. Hoffman. (All these members wished to be remembered to their mates at the Smoko.) Adopted on a motion by J. Westwood, seconded by R. McGregor.

Minutes: The minutes of the previous General Meeting were read and adopted on a motion by A. Ronan, seconded by P. Murphy.

Financial Statement: The Treasurer, Doug Shearston, read the balance sheet, showing a credit balance of £168/7/4 in General Fund and £47/14/4 in "Pioneer News" Account. Moved on a motion by D. Shearston and seconded by R. McGregor. The President thanked the Treasurer and our Auditor, Arthur Watson, for the detailed manner in which the balance sheet had been prepared.

President's Address: The President extended to our dear friend and Patron, Mrs. L. O'Malley Wood, hearty thanks in accepting our invitation to attend the meeting. Carried by acclamation.

He then gave a brief outline of the past year's activities and thanked the retiring Committee for their earnest support, and felt sure that each year would be an even better one for the Association.

... AND THEN THE SMOKO

The highlight of the Smoko was the presence of our beloved Patron, Mrs. L. O'Malley Wood. Looking in the best of health, she seemed to be thoroughly enjoying the conversations with "her boys."

In her speech to the members Mrs. O'Malley Wood said she is still working for the Association, as on numerous occasions members and their wives still approach her for aid, and she is proud and happy to help them. She went on to say that "often my children have said that the Pioneers are my third child."

The members really excelled themselves in making her welcome and, on departure, sang a few songs in really good army style.

Major Frank Allan spoke in response, and said we are very fortunate to have such a fine, sincere person as Mrs. O'Malley Wood working for the Association. It is essential we encourage and help in all her requests, especially in a new project she is about to embark upon. Major Allan said he was very sorry to see such a poor roll up of officers at the Smoko, but hoped they would rectify this by attending future functions this year.

POOR ATTENDANCE

Although it meant extra work, the Committee arranged for keg beer, in the hope of attracting a larger crowd,

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Patron: Mrs. L. O'Malley Wood was elected unopposed on a motion by M. Herron and seconded by J. Field. Carried by acclamation.

President: The Senior Vice-President, Mr. T. Crossman, occupied the chair at this juncture and, on calling for nominations, Mr. F. Callaway was elected unopposed on a motion by R. McGregor, seconded by V. Whiteley.

Carried by acclamation.

Committee: It was moved that the existing Committee be elected for the ensuing year, with the addition of five members. Moved on a motion by M. Herron, that a member not attending three consecutive meetings, without an apology, be struck from the list of the Committee. Seconded by P. Murphy.

General Business: Moved on a motion by J. Bertram, that the Executive and Committee be thanked for their wonderful effort for the past year. Seconded by V. Petrich.

Closure: There being no further business, the meeting was closed by the President at 8.30 p.m.

COMMITTEE FOR 1958

Messrs. B. Holmes, R. Lawrence, A. Carter, H. Montague, T. Crossman, V. Whiteley, R. Lake, R. Smith, M. Law, C. Vickers, J. Westwood, M. Herron, R. McGregor, J. Henderson, B. Moore, C. Johnson, R. Jardine, A. Ronan, H. Mostyn, D. Shearston, A. McInnes, J. Oliffe, J. Bertram, R. Harris and J. Field.

and with such a warm night thought they could not miss. But once again the attendance was only 95 members—twenty of these being Committee men.

Anyway, all those in attendance had a good time, and many thanks to all members who paid their "Pioneer News" subscriptions. If you were unable to attend, come along to the Bi-Annual Smoko at the Sussex Hotel on Friday, 21st November, 1958, at 7.30 p.m.

ANZAC SMOKO NEWS

(By Our Reporter, Bob McGregor)

The catering boys at the Smoko did a marvellous job preparing the food for supper, led by Bert Holmes, assisted by Bob Lake, Vic. Whiteley, Joe Westwood and Tom Crossman—Lake doing all the talking, Whiteley all the eating.

"Monty" Montague was on the job as usual, collecting entrance money at the door and writing out identification cards. With his infectious smile, how could any one resist him.

Our President, Fred Callaway, arrived back from Cooma on the day of the Anzac Smoko. Nice timing, Fred.

Very pleased to see Pat Murphy (D Coy.) at the Smoko. He now has the job his father used to have, caretaker of a building near the Hotel Sydney. Brother Bill is also doing well. On Easter Saturday Pat mentioned he met Frank Burke (also of D Coy.), down from Barmedman on a holiday, and Frank wished to be remembered to all the D Coy. boys. Pat says anyone wishing to see Barney Stevens can do so at any meeting of the Harold Park trots.

Had a long talk to Tommy Crick (B Coy.) Tom is just the same as ever, always laughing. Nice to see you again, Mustapha.

Reg. Smith was saying his wife had a new novel idea for the identification ribbons for our next picnic. Thanks, Mrs. Smith.

I noticed Ray Hill and Charlie Johnson had quite a team around them, including H. Mostyn, J. Maxwell, P. Murphy, P. Craig and myself. All seemed to be enjoying themselves.

Very nice to see Allan McInnes, Jim Field, Ray Harris and their mates of the 2/2 Pioneers at the Smoko. We now have additional 2/2 chaps on the Committee. Nice going, chaps.

Hillary Ray Lester (B Coy.) is well and still working at the Repat., where you can also find Gordon Walsh.

Harry O'Brien, Ray Lawrence and Alf Carter did an excellent job serving the beer. Nice to see Alf looking so well after his long service holiday. Alf had Bombo Brown as a travelling companion and went all over the west and north-west of N.S.W. They had a few days with Tiny Fields.

Noticed that quite a few members were interested in trying their luck at the roulette wheel, very ably run by Bert Holmes and Tom Crossman.

Very pleased to see Jimmy Rhodes, from Cowra, down for the Smoko. He flew down and says he will be down again next year. Jim isn't playing football now, but is doing a bit of coaching with the locals.

Many thanks to Joe Westwood for arranging the beer for the night, and it was noticed that he was quite an expert at handling the kegs.

Pat Walsh (B Coy.) was in the highest of spirits. He was leader of many a sing-song during the night. Good to see you, Blue.

We are extremely grateful to Charlie Johnson for his donation of the two photos of Mrs. O'Malley Wood and the boys.

President's Report . . .

Anzac Day marked the end of our last year and the commencement of a new one.

At our Annual General Meeting, prior to Anzac Day, all members of the Committee stood down from their positions of office whilst a new Committee was re-elected. This marked the culmination of a very successful year. Possibly the results of this year are not fully felt by the members generally, but a continuance of the work performed by your old Committee will, undoubtedly, lead to a more successful and stronger Association. Too much praise cannot be given to your old Committee, and the only thanks they require is your support.

I was very pleased and appreciate the action of the members at the General Meeting in re-electing me as President; but, moreover, I was pleased to see that the active members of the old Committee were re-elected also, plus an additional few new members.

To these new members I extend congratulations, and all that I ask is that you attend the Committee meetings—the old Committee will soon knock you into shape.

The support that the Committee asks as a reward for their services is:—

- (1) Attend functions when arranged.
- (2) Drop a line to the Secretary. Tell him what you are doing, news of other members; do you like the type of functions arranged or would you like something different, if so please state your views. This all makes news for our paper. There is always someone, somewhere in our Association who wants to know what YOU are doing and where you are.

On behalf of the Committee, I wish to extend a happy, prosperous and successful year to all Association members.

—FRED CALLAWAY

OFFICE BEARERS FOR 1958

The following are your officers for the ensuing year:—

Patron: Mrs. L. O'Malley Wood.
 President: Fred Callaway. LY 7132.
 Vice-Presidents: Tom Crossman and Jack Westwood.
 Secretary: Max Herron. UL 5491.
 Treasurer: Doug Shearston.
 Social Secretary: Jack Westwood. UL 3930.
 Assistant Social Sec.: Bert Holmes.
 Joint Editors: Max Law and Max Herron.
 Publicity Officer: "Monty" Montague.
 Auditor: Arthur Watson.
 Pioneer News Reporters, 2/1sts, Bob McGregor, Joe Oliffe, Alf Carter; 2/2nds, Allan McInnes (XM 6292), Jim Field (UB 2763) and Jack Henderson.

The phone numbers are included for the use of members who may wish to make personal contact and impart news of any kind, or who are desirous of obtaining information.

SUGGESTION BOX

We welcome suggestions from members at all times, and it is for that reason we have commenced this article. They will not be filed away and forgotten, but thrashed out at our Committee meetings.

As far as possible, the answer will be published with the suggestion; if not, then in the succeeding issue of the "News."

PERCE DUTTON, from Orange, suggests the most favoured night for a smoko is Saturday night. He considers this would give country members a better chance of attending, as they would not lose time from work by departing on Friday night and returning on Sunday.

COMMITTEE'S REPLY

At their meeting on 23rd May the present Committee decided to abandon the smoko for 1959 owing to the poor attendance at the last one, and to concentrate on a re-union at the Sussex Hotel after the Anzac March. Being on a Saturday, this should give country members an excellent opportunity to attend. As Anzac Day falls on a Monday in 1960, perhaps a smoko could be arranged for the Saturday night previous, but this would have to be dealt with by the new Committee elected in 1959.

Thank you for the suggestion, Perce, and we hope to hear from you more often now that you are our Orange district delegate.

BILL HOFFMAN, of Kyogle, suggests we publish as many as possible of members' names and addresses in each issue of the "Pioneer News." To quote Bill: "By so doing, all those receiving the paper would learn in time where their mates were and it would be possible for them to contact each other if they so desire."

COMMITTEE'S REPLY

At their meeting on 23rd May, the Committee discussed this suggestion and decided they would be taking a risk in publishing members' names and addresses because of the following reasons:—

- (1) Members may object because of private reasons.
- (2) If the lists fell into the hands of some firms they could circularise their products to our members, thereby causing annoyance.
- (3) Continual change of addresses would result in printed lists being inaccurate.

At the same time, the Committee would like to thank you for your suggestion, Bill, and following upon your letter have decided to set up a service to members whereby they can write to the Secretary and find out the address of any member they may desire to contact. They have instructed the Editor to place this in the form of an advertisement in every issue of the "News."

However, your suggestion has brought to our notice the possibility of publishing the old platoon rolls, which may be of interest to members. At the march, Ken Stuart offered to send in his platoon roll book and there may be other officers who could assist in this regard.

Mrs. Elsie Lincoln, widow of the late Tom Lincoln, wrote a very nice letter to the President and suggested that a Pioneer flag be flown at the Northern Suburbs Crematorium, where some of our boys lay at rest. Alternatively, Mrs. Lincoln suggested that widows and relatives be permitted to march with the boys at wreath-laying ceremony on Anzac Eve.

COMMITTEE'S REPLY

At a meeting on 23rd May, the Committee fully discussed your proposals, Mrs. Lincoln, and hereunder is their reply:

- (1) As there are Pioneers at rest in four other crematoriums in Sydney and many cemeteries throughout the country, the Committee have decided it best not to set a precedent in this type of venture.
- (2) Your alternative suggestion meets with the full approval of the Committee and all arrangements will be made to have the widows and relatives of our boys who have passed on at our wreath-laying ceremony.

Many thanks for your letter, Mrs. Lincoln, and we hope our reply meets with your approval.

TO MR. AND MRS. MAX LAW ... A DAUGHTER

LAW (nee Oldfield).—May 26th, at St. Margaret's, Darlinghurst, to Joyce and Max—a daughter (Karen Lesley).

Hearty congratulations to you and your wife, Max, on the arrival of your daughter and all Pioneers join in wishing you and yours the very best for the future.

SERVICE TO MEMBERS

- (1) Any member desirous of obtaining the address of a particular member can write to the Secretary, who is only too willing to furnish details.
- (2) The Committee would like the names and addresses of Sydney members who would be willing to accommodate country members over the Anzac period. They feel many more country members would attend the Anzac Day function if they could stay in the friendly surroundings of a private home. If you can help, please write to the Secretary.

LADIES!

LADIES!

FIRST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING LADIES' AUXILIARY

Friday, 27th June, at 8 p.m.
 Returned Soldiers' Club, Elizabeth St., Sydney

ANNUAL PICNIC AT PARSLEY BAY

On Sunday, 23rd March, the Association held their Annual Picnic at Parsley Bay Picnic Grounds and, as always with Pioneer functions, the weather was perfect.

For this occasion transport was by launch, and with a capacity crowd of 144 adults and children the skipper, Bill Stannard and his assistant gave their passengers a glorious cruise around the foreshores of the harbour on the way to Parsley Bay. Not only children but adults, too, were thrilled with the close proximity to the warships, cruisers and destroyers, and many a sigh went up at the beautiful homes one could see when sailing close to the shore.

SPORTING EVENTS

On arrival at the ground, swimming and eating were the order of the day. With both children and adults participating the Committee produced an excellent programme and the President, Fred Callaway, gave a running commentary per the medium of a megaphone.

With Bob Lake and "Monty" Montague as starters, the kids were put through their paces in the art of getting off the mark. At the finishing line Doug Shearston and Max Herron were the judges, with Bert Holmes and Vic. Whiteley handing out prizes and a bag of sweets to each child. Tom Crossman excelled once again in recording the names of the winners, which are published on this page.

FREE ISSUE OF SWEETS, DRINKS, ETC.

During the events the children were issued with Paddle Pops, toffees and drinks under the capable hands of Joe Westwood, Harry and Daisy Mostyn.

PRESIDENT'S THANKS

The President, Fred Callaway, extends his sincere thanks firstly to the members, families and friends for their attendance and, secondly, to the Committee who co-operated and made the day a most successful one.

He would like to personally thank the following for their efforts:—

DONATIONS OF SWEETS: Mesdames Peg Whiteley, Daisy Mostyn, Peg Herron, Joan Lake, Roma Shearston (plus a few ladies who left a donation but no name). **RIBBONS:** An excellent job by Joan and Reg. Smith. **TRUCK:** Carrying of all equipment was executed by Wally Westwood. **BEER DONATION:** Jack Harvey, winner of the guessing competition, donated same back to the Committee. (They certainly enjoyed that drink on the homeward journey by launch, Jack).

Also, many thanks to those members who kept the Treasurer busy writing out subscription receipts.

DAY'S FINALE

To wind up a glorious day, the launch departed early and went in the opposite direction, via Middle Harbour and Balmoral, where the skipper pulled in alongside the submarine "Telemachus," giving every passenger a bird's eye view. Community singing on the launch was led by "sopranos" Bob Lake and Vic. Whiteley, with the sweet voices of the children in the background.

As the launch neared the wharf the Social Secretary, Bert Holmes, thanked all members for the fine attendance. In reply, Harry Cookson thanked the Social Secretary and Committee for the grand day they had provided, so, if you were unfortunate in not attending, make it a date for March, 1959, for this is to be our Annual Picnic.

ROLL CALL

To mention a few of our members who were present with families:

Jim Gray, Joe Oliffe, Tom Crick, "Bimbo" Bell, Darcy Pritchard, Harry Cookson, Jon Mark, Bill Clark, Charlie Johnson, Ray Hill, Eric Reynolds, Jack Bertram, Bob McGregor, Pat Noonan, Vince Petrich, Max Law, Ray Horne, Austie Ronan, Jack Harvey, "Taffy" and Des Lawrence, J. Bellingham and, of course, a lot more too numerous to mention.

Adults Three-Legged:

Ladies—

- (1) Grace Kennedy
- (2) Edna Currie

Men—

- (1) Jack Harvey
- (2) Brian Taylor

Adults Cigarette Race:

- (1) Doug. Shearston
- (2) Wally Westwood

Ladies' Open:

- (1) Joy Harvey
- (2) Doreen Riley

Men's Open:

- Heat 1—(1) Brian Taylor
- Heat 2—(1) Ken Henstock
- Heat 3—(1) Wally Westwood

Throwing the Rolling Pin:

- (1) Edna Currie

Mixed Shoes Race:

- Ladies—(1) Heather Gale
- Men —(1) Max Herron

Children's Three-Legged:

- (1) Eileen and Gail Lake
- (2) Kathleen and Pauline Johnson

Children's Stick and Balloon Race:

- (1) Lorraine Ryan
- (2) Trevor Shearston

Children's Marble Picking Race:

- Girls—(1) Susan Currie
- (2) Leone Hill
- Boys—(1) David Herron
- (2) Greg Oliffe

GUESSING COMPETITION

The winner of the grocery hamper donated by Swifts was Charlie Johnson, with ticket C41.

"PIONEER NEWS" FEES AND CREDENTIALS

Owing to numerous requests from members wishing to join the Association and wanting to know the fees and credentials involved, hereunder is published information which present members receiving the "Pioneer News" could pass on to any person eligible to become members:

- (1) Any person serving with the 2/1 or 2/2 Pioneer Battalions at any time is eligible to become a member.
- (2) There is no joining fee, but a charge of 5/- per annum is made to cover the cost of "Pioneer News."

When sending a new address, please print Christian and Surname in **BLOCK** letters.

When sending a change of address, state OLD as well as NEW address.

All correspondence to be addressed to:

THE HON. SECRETARY

2/1-2/2 PIONEER BNS.

ASSOCIATION,

3 ENOGGERA RD., BEVERLY HILLS

CAR TRIAL AND PICNIC

SUNDAY, 21st SEPTEMBER, 1958

Bus transport arranged from Strathfield Station

WINNERS OF ATHLETIC EVENTS

AGE	EVENT	PLACE	GIRL	BOY
Under 3	Tableland Toddle	1st	Linda McGregor	
		2nd	John Dulihtany	
Under 5	Moresby Meander	1st	Marie Bellingham	Kim Pritchard
		2nd	Janette Bertram	Martin Callaway
Under 7	Tobruk Trot	1st	Shirley Riley	Billy Lake
		2nd	Linda Burns	Larry Crick
Under 9	Greta Gallop (2 girls' heats)	1st	Susan Fernleigh	John Bellingham
		2nd	Leonie Hill	Robert Mostyn
		1st	Jill McGregor	
		2nd	Kerry Shearston	
Under 11	Borneo Bounce (2 girls' heats)	1st	Kathie Grant	Chris. Whiteley
		2nd	Carol Russell	Alan Jones
		1st	Susan Currie	
		2nd	Margaret Lear	
Under 13	Morotai Marathon	1st	Heather Gales	John Mostyn
		2nd	Jean Jones	Michael Gray
Open	Dubbo Dash (2 girls' heats)	1st	Jill McGregor	Michael Gray
		2nd	Susan Currie	John Mostyn
		1st	Heather Gales	
		2nd	Carolyn Lear	

Visit To Sydney

On a recent visit of two days to Sydney, Stewart Haldane (2/2) was anxious to meet up with a few of the boys and the Secretary was able to assist him. Stewart, who is in the boot trade and resides at Preston, Melbourne, is at present on thirteen weeks' long service leave.

Accompanied by his wife, they flew from Melbourne to Coolangatta, and then took a Pioneer tour to Cairns. At Cairns, they embarked on the S.S. Manooora for the homeward journey, calling at Brisbane and Sydney. We were very pleased to hear from you, Stewart, and would like to have further details of your holiday if you find time in the future.

Secretary's note: On the chance of picking up Pioneer news I visited the "Manooora," but missed Stewart by 30 minutes. On seeing this fine ship it brought back happy memories, for, as many Pioneers will remember, we embarked on her at Balikpapan and departed 1730 hours on Sunday, 4th November, 1945, bound for good old Aussie.

The trip was like a pleasure cruise, coming down through the Whitsunday Passage, past Cooktown, Cairns and Day Dream Island. We berthed at Brisbane 1230 hours on Wednesday, 14th November, and thence by train to Sydney, arriving 1400 hours 16th November — yes, the sight of that ship brought back sweet memories, so thanks once again, Stewart).

THANKS TO 2/3 PIONEERS

The Secretary of the 2/3 Pioneers, Monty Perry, was most helpful in supplying all details regarding their wreath-laying ceremony to our Secretary. Because of this, we were able to make the necessary arrangements for our ceremony in two days, whereas the official procedure takes three weeks.

We now exchange newspapers, and Monty suggests a meeting in the future to exchange different ideas on diggers' subjects in general.

Many thanks for your co-operation, Monty, and we are pleased to hear you are a distant cousin of one of our boys, Joe White.

MISSING PERSONS BUREAU

The following list of names have been compiled from "Pioneer News" wrappers returned by the Dead Letter Office.

These members have, no doubt, moved on and neglected to notify us of their new address.

As the Association is, at all times endeavouring to build up the membership, all members are asked to help, by writing to the Secretary any information as to the whereabouts of the following members:

R. Frazer, L. Kieble, C. F. Kerr, C. G. Lloyd, Col. J. Lang, F. Creighton, P. Collins, D. Crawford, H. Dalton, N. Egan, J. Evans, H. E. Riley, R. Skiene, G. E. Sheen, J. H. Clarke, N. E. Cooper, J. Dolaghan, D. McPherson, W. Nicholls and P. Peile.

When sending a new address, please state old address of member.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

R.S.L. BOARD ROOM
ON FRIDAY, 22nd AUGUST, 1958

NEWS FROM KYOGLE

So as to promote more news, we have elected various members as district delegates and No. 1 with his news is very keen supporter, Bill Hoffman, who covers the Kyogle district.

For the information of new members, Bill Hoffman is employed by Kyogle Shire Council, as the baths manager. The pool is situated in Kyogle Road, and most of Bill's time is taken up in swimming club activities, teaching swimming and coaching members. Each year he goes on a well-earned holiday to South Molle Island, north of Mackay, Queensland. Bill is continuously apologising for non-attendance at our functions, as work keeps him extremely busy, but one day he hopes to make it.

The following are extracts from Bill's letter, with news of ex-members of the 2/1st residing in the Kyogle area.

Jack Shearman is a successful dairy farmer, and very prominent member of local rifle club. Jack came 3rd in Queen's Shoot at Brisbane last year and won at Tuncester Range, Lismore, during Easter, against the best shots on the North Coast.

Jim Hall and Fred Blanch are also very successful dairy farmers.

Leo Ferris (ex-Signals Officer) is a sawmill owner and has a grazing property at Lynch's Creek.

Peter Bell is employed at the well-known firm of Junors Pty. Ltd., Kyogle. Peter is very prominent in R.S.L. affairs and since his discharge has been the local R.S.L. Welfare Officer, visiting local hospital nightly. He is also a keen bowler and is playing Pennants at the present time.

Brian Jackson is the head storeman at the Kyogle Post Office. A keen bowler, Brian is also playing Pennants.

Ray Blanch is foreman at the Ford garage in Main Street and is doing very well.

Cecil Blanch is also employed in a Kyogle garage as a motor mechanic and spray painter, and is a very keen gardener.

Jack (Banjo) Martin, Jack McMahon and Alwyn (Allan) Black are all employees of the Kyogle Shire Council. We were very sorry to hear of the recent death of Alwyn's wife after a lengthy illness.

Bruce McNaughton is a senior employee with the Tick Department at Kyogle, but may shortly be moving to Grafton. Bruce is very interested in the affairs of the local pipe band.

Jack Boyd is to be found these days managing a grazing property at Old Koreelah.

Ray Smith is with a firm of auctioneers in Main Street and is very active in the work of Legacy.

Harold Buckland is a driver for the Public Works Department at Lismore.

Tom Welsh, late of Kyogle, is now working at the Mt. Isa Mines, in Queensland.

Jack (Lofty) Buchanan is employed by Casino Municipal Council.

2/1-2/2 AND 2/4 PIONEER SMOKO

Owing to poor attendance at Smokos recently, both Associations have agreed it would be in the best interest of members to postpone this venture until a more opportune time. Possibly when the TV craze has worn off the attendance at our night functions may improve.

ATEENI FILOOSH

The annual subscription to the "Pioneer News" was due on 1st April and, as it is only 5/-, we feel sure that every member will make an extra effort to send it along.

At the recent Anzac functions the members present made a good response, but considering that we have nine hundred names on our mailing list, it appears that quite a lot of country members are unfinancial.

Although a letter with the subscription would be very welcome, we understand the exertion required to get round to it and for this reason we have prepared the cut out form below. So now all you have to do is write out a cheque, money order or postal note, fill in the form, and drop both in an envelope to be posted.

OUT OUT

To the Secretary,
2/1-2/2 Pioneer Battalions' Association,
3 Enoggera Road, Beverly Hills.

Please find enclosed my—Cheque—Postal Note—Money Order for the amount of being my subscription to the "Pioneer News" for 1958.

NAME

ADDRESS

IN PASSING...

George Nicholls, from Swan Hill (Vic.), sent his apologies for being unable to attend the Smoko. However, George sent along his welcome subscription and regards to any that remember him. He also passed on his congratulations to the Executive and Committee for their sterling efforts in their management of the Association. Thanks, George, your remarks were very much appreciated, and we are pleased to hear you enjoy the regular news of Battalion members.

Many thanks to Alf Carter for his generous donation to the picnic. Sorry you could not make it, Alf, you really missed a very good day.

In a letter from C. R. (Joe) Williams, of Belfield, we learn that our old pal Jack Wilkie is now out of hospital and doing well. As a matter of fact, Joe mentions he has been well enough to go to the races (and backed a couple of winners, too). Thank you for the news, Joe, also for your donation to the "News."

Peter Craig recently returned from Moree and Inverell and while in Moree had run into Darcy Chapman, who is a Shire Councillor and a very keen fisherman. While in Inverell, Peter met Lloyd Jones and they had a most enjoyable evening at the local R.S.L. Jimmy Lamont was also at the club, so a good time was had by all. Lloyd and Jimmy can be contacted at the R.S.L. Inverell. On another of his shearing shed travels Peter met Max Dicken (D Coy., 2/2), who is manager of a property at Walgett. We are only too pleased to place max's name on our mailing list.

Hec Page, of Beecroft, is desirous of contacting any members residing in the area around Inverell, Bundarra, Bingara and Warialda. We have only two names on our lists, but perhaps some members could assist by notifying us of any Pioneers living in these districts. Thanks for your generous donation, Hec, and, as you say, it is better late than never.

From Brisbane comes a newsy letter and cheque from Phil Cramsie. Thank you for the donation, Phil, it was very welcome. In his travels Phil mentions having again met Tom Welsh (ex H.Q. Coy., 2/1), who is an organiser for the A.W.U. in Mt. Isa (Tom sends his regards to all the boys.). Phil also met up with Vic. King (C. Coy. 2/1), who is working in the Post Office at Toowoong in Brisbane. Your good wishes for the march and smoko were appreciated, and I can assure you a good time was had by all.

From our "News" reporter, Alf Carter, we have received the following items of interest.

Harry O'Brien (B Coy. 2/1), now of Kurnell, was a welcome visitor to the Smoko. Recovered from a serious illness, Harry enjoyed his evening with the boys.

Nev Hall (B Coy. 2/1) made one of his rare appearances at the Smoko. It was grand to see you, Nev, we hope you can make the next one.

"Frosty" McLean (D Coy. 2/1) was again contacted and is now a welcome addition to the membership of this Association.

Len Weyman (B Coy. 2/1), of Seven Hills, was highly amused at the march because of the fact that we "accidentally" collected subs. for the "News" from several 2/1 Machine Gunners. Must be a mighty fine newspaper, Len, or was it the salesmanship?

Change of address noted for Perce Penrose, of Kogarah, and sorry you were unable to attend the Smoko. Thank you for your cheque and good wishes, Perce.

Donations are acknowledged from Clarrie Pakes, Wal Roberts, Gus Daly and Geoff Wilson. Only very short letters, but nonetheless welcome. Thanks again.

Wally Coe (B Coy. 2/2), of Cooks Hill, Newcastle, sent along his subscription, too, with an apology for being unable to attend the picnic. Nice to hear from you again, Wal.

In a letter from Adelaide, Max Law mentions that he had met Ernie Hayden, and together they called on Brian Allman. Ernie had not seen Brian for several years, so it was a nice quiet re-union. Ernie is a W.O. in the Permanent Army. Max also met Mick Dwyer, a meat inspector from Sydney, who has been in Adelaide for the last eight months. They are all having a night out in the near future — their own re-union.

Welcome to Bill Hutchinson as a new member. We hear that you are doing a mighty good job as a postman around Brighton-le-Sands, Bill. You always were keen on route marching.

At a recent function at Beverly Hills North School, the sweet and drink stall was staffed by seven ladies, four of whom were wives of Pioneers. They were Mrs. John Lee and Mrs. Hartley Whibley (wives of 2/3 Pioneers), and Mrs. D. Shearston and Mrs. M. Herron (wives of 2/1 Pioneers), which is not a bad average.

Jack Harvey, of Kogarah, was another to answer re the picnic and mentioned that at long last he would be able to attend a function with his wife and family. Jack works shift work with the Electricity Commission and finds it hard to strike a turn-out in his time off. Glad you could make it, Jack, and thank you for your donation.

Quite a long and interesting letter from Bill Jollie (B.H.Q. 2/1). Bill is with the Rural Bank and now has his own branch at Hillston. In his letter, Bill mentions that he has done a fair bit of travelling around in the last two or three years on relieving duties, and wherever he goes he has met someone from the old Battalion. In Cooma he

ran into Fred Ness; met Eddie Payne and Big Kearney at Albury; Bob Williams at Boorowa; and in Hillston he had a high time in renewing acquaintances with George Nicholls. George often comes that way as, at the present time, he is in charge of three shearing sheds for his employers, Grazcos. I have placed Bob Williams's name on the mailing list, Bill, and he will receive copies regularly in future. Your new address has also been noted, Bill, and many thanks for your newsy letter.

From our district delegate at Newcastle, Jack Griffiths, came news of the death of "Parkie" Skehan. (See details Last Post). Through his connection with the band, "Parkie" would probably be one of the best known of the original members of the 2/1sts. Unfortunately, very few of the Newcastle boys knew about it, and Jack mentions that he was the only one present at the chapel. He met Barry Skehan and asked him to pass on the sympathy of the Association to his mother. At a recent Rats of Tobruk meeting in Newcastle Jack met Merv Phipps (2/1), who is now living in Cardiff. I would appreciate his address later, Jack, for our mailing list. Glad you had an excellent day in Sydney on Anzac Day and that you arrived home safely, if not very surely. Many thanks for your letter and for your good wishes to my wife and myself.

Mrs. Elsie Lincoln is eager to contact Bill Steers, last heard of at Swansea, but had mentioned a probable move to Cairns. If anyone knows his whereabouts, please write to the Association.

Lost on Anzac Day — one hat and raincoat. Arthur Bannister arrived home without his, and if anyone found them please let us know. They may have been left at the Sussex.

From Victoria comes a long, newsy letter from Bernie Reiners (Sigs.), and apologises for being unable to come over for Anzac Day. Bern hopes to be over here for holidays next March, and the Herron family plan to go along, too. At the moment, Max is trying to entice Bern to Port Macquarie. (By the way, Bern, don't forget that Les Denham is the steward at the local R.S.L.).

LAST POST

It is with sincere regret that we record the passing of two former members of the 2/1 Pioneer Battalion.

Patrick Joseph ("Parkie") Skehan passed away on Sunday, 27th April. "Parkie" had been ill for some time in St. George Hospital, Kogarah. His funeral took place on 29th April, in the Catholic Cemetery at Sandgate, Newcastle.

Mr. H. Montague reports the passing of Albert Murray Stewart, of Chullora, on Friday, 14th March.

It is also with regret that we learn of the death of Mrs. Dobson, wife of Mick Dobson.

The very sincere sympathy of the Association is extended to the relatives of our former members, and to you, Mick, on the loss of your dear wife.

PIONEER NEWS

UL 5491

Official Organ of 2/1 and 2/2 Pioneer Battalions (A.I.F.) Associations

UL 5491

Hon. Secretary:
MAX HERRON

Editors:
MAX LAW and MAX HERRON

President:
FRED CALLAWAY

Registered at the G.P.O., Sydney for Transmission by Post as a Periodical

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BUS AND CAR TRIAL PICNIC

On Sunday, 21st September, the Association will hold their Third Annual Bus and Car Trial Picnic, and a cordial invitation is extended to all members and friends to attend.

It is not a reliability trial or an event to abuse cars and obtain high speeds, but one which the average person, with no previous knowledge of trials, can win. Really it is a family outing, with a list of straight-forward questions to make the trip more interesting.

The drive of approximately 30 miles is through pleasant country scenery to a secret picnic ground, known only to the Social Secretary and his four committee members.

A considerable amount of work goes on behind the scenes to make a car trial possible. Five surveys of the route were necessary and miles of paperwork prepared, but the voluntary band of committeemen only ask for a good roll up as a reward for their services.

INTERESTING QUESTIONS

For the convenience of members, bus transport has been arranged to pick up passengers at Beverly Hills, Wiley Park and Strathfield. As the bus is scheduled to start from Peakhurst, these are the only pick-up points permissible. Whether travelling by car or bus, members will be issued a set of instruction sheets on the proposed route to the picnic grounds. These will contain a series of interesting questions relating to objects along the route, and points will be allotted for correct answers. Everyone is assured of a grand time.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- 21st SEPTEMBER—
Car Trial and Picnic
- 26th SEPTEMBER—
Extraordinary General Meeting
- 24th OCTOBER—
Social Nite—Feminist Club
- 31st OCTOBER—
Committee Meeting
- 21st NOVEMBER—
Bi-Annual Smoko at the Sussex Hotel

SIMPLER QUESTIONS

Car entrants will be given ample time to answer the questions and cover the distance in a leisurely manner, for the Social Committee have arranged much simpler questions and the route more straight-forward, with no by-passing from the main road.

Members who can only attend in the afternoon may ring UL 5491 and the Secretary will furnish the necessary information.

EXCELLENT FACILITIES

On arrival at the picnic ground, members are assured of the following facilities:—

1. A shop at which all goods, such as cakes, biscuits, fruits, sweets, ice-cream and drinks, may be purchased.
2. Excellent toilet facilities.
3. Ample parking space right in the grounds.
4. Safe river swimming.
5. Large area for sporting activities such as badminton, tennis, cricket.

FREE ISSUE

All children will receive a free issue of Paddle Pops, sweets and drinks, and a chance of winning prizes in the sporting events, which are as follow:—

	Girls	Boys
3 years and under	10 yds.	10 yds.
4-5 years	20 yds.	20 yds.
6-7 years	30 yds.	30 yds.
8-9 years	40 yds.	40 yds.
10-11 years	50 yds.	50 yds.
12-14 years	75 yds.	75 yds.

And many novelty races for both the young and old.

BUS TRIAL ENTRANTS

Bus passengers may embark on the bus at the following points at the times stated:—

1. BEVERLY HILLS STATION. King Georges Road (north side), at 9.30 a.m.
2. WILEY PARK STATION. Wiley's Avenue (north side), at 9.45 a.m.
3. STRATHFIELD STATION. Cooper Street (Parramatta Road side of railway station), at 10 a.m.

The times stated are departure times, so members wishing to join the bus at these points are advised to be there fifteen minutes prior to departure. The hiring cost of the bus is approximately £25 and the Committee has decided to charge a fare of 5/- per adult. As this is a day for the children, they will be carried free of charge.

CAR TRIAL ENTRANTS

Cars are to leave Cooper Street, on the Parramatta Road side of Strathfield Station (same position as last year), commencing at 9.15 a.m., and thence at two-minute intervals.

NO FURTHER NOTIFICATION

Members desiring further information may ring any or the committeemen listed below, or write to the Secretary. Owing to the high cost of postage to all members, this is the only form of notice regarding the picnic to be sent.

In case of inclement weather, the picnic will be postponed to Sunday, 28th September.

INFORMATION DESIRED

To facilitate transport and catering details, the Committee would appreciate notification of attendance, plus the following information:

Car Entrants: Name, number of adults and children, car registration number, and approximate arrival time at Cooper Street.

Bus Entrants: Name, number of adults and children.

When sending information by mail, please address all correspondence to:

The Hon Secretary,
2/1-2/2 Pioneer Btns. Association,
3 Enoggera Road,

BEVERLY HILLS

Please 'phone any of the following Committeemen and they will be only too pleased to record your information.

Max Herron UL 5491
Jack Westwood UL 3930
Bert Holmes JY 8844
Fred Callaway LY 7132
Tom Crossman JX 3977
Doug Shearston LY 8374
Bob Lake XJ 4696

LADIES' AUXILIARY

The Ladies' Auxiliary was formed on the 27th June, 1958, at a General Meeting held at the R.S.L. Club, Elizabeth Street, Sydney. Despite the very bad night, it was pleasing to see 15 ladies in attendance.

Our grateful thanks go to Fred Callaway and Max Herron, President and Secretary respectively of the parent organisation, who honoured us with their presence to guide us on our way for future meetings. Our thanks are also given to Mrs. Herron, who toiled at the typewriter typing the Constitution of the Auxiliary.

Mrs. O'Malley Wood was elected Patron; Mrs. D. Mostyn, President; Mrs. M. Holmes, Vice-President; Mrs. D. Sweeney, Secretary; Mrs. I. Johnson, Treasurer; Mrs. E. J. Reynolds, Social Secretary; Mrs. J. Smith, Publicity Officer.

Briefly, the aims and objects of the Ladies' Auxiliary are to provide an opportunity for members of the 2/1 - 2/2 Pioneer Battalions to meet at various functions, renew their comradeship and to give pleasure to the wives and children of the members. The Auxiliary is non-political and non-sectarian. Wives and next-of-kin of members are eligible for membership, which is 5/- per year.

SOCIAL EVENING AT THE FEMINIST CLUB

A Social Night for members and their friends is to be held at the Feminist Club, 77 King Street, Sydney, on Friday, 24th October, at 7.45 p.m. A charge of 7/6 per head will be made, and the Ladies' Auxiliary are supplying the supper. Bring your own liquor refreshments. Dancing and other entertainment.

Please come along and make it a happy night for all. Dress informal. For reservations, contact the Social Secretary, Mrs. Reynolds, FX 5693.

JOAN SMITH,
Publicity Officer, FJ 6946

ARTHUR SPILLANE

The following cutting from the Sydney "Sun" was recently sent in by our reporter, Bob McGregor.

"Arthur Spillane, a former South Sydney Rugby League star, is now building up a reputation in bowls. Arthur played League for N.S.W. against England in 1932. His rival full back was the famous Jim Sullivan. His teammates included Dave Brown, the late Ray Morris, Paddy Maher and other stars.

Arthur now plays bowls at Maroubra R.S.L. and won the cock-o-the-walk trophy last year. He is in a rink comprising Bill Parsons, Ewen Cameron and Alan Crawford. Arthur and Alan Crawford should be a top combination."

2/1 Pioneers will remember Arthur and the many thrilling games of football he played and won for them.

CAR TRIAL AND PICNIC

SUNDAY, 21st SEPTEMBER, 1958

Bus transport arranged from Strathfield Station

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

On Friday, 26th September, 1958, at 7.30 p.m., in the Blue Room of the Returned Soldiers' Club, Elizabeth Street, Sydney, an Extraordinary General Meeting has been convened for the purpose of amending the Constitution.

These are recommended by the Executive and Committee because the present Constitution, drafted in 1946, contains many out of date clauses.

A notice of motion, to amend the Constitution was placed before the Committee at a meeting on Friday, 22nd August, and, on acceptance, it was proposed that these amendments be presented to an Extraordinary General Meeting on 26th September.

No further notification will be sent and all members are invited to come along.

Liquor available. Supper provided.

PLATOON ROLLS

Mortars S—, S—, S— Pltn.

In the next issue we will publish the mortar platoon roll, which Ken Stuart kindly sent along. Many of the addresses are new to us, and we will shortly find out if they are obsolete or not. Many thanks, Ken, for your fine effort in typing out those six sheets of names and addresses.

Your effort should be an example for others to follow—so how about it, platoon commanders?

● SUGGESTION BOX

Combined Services Centre

As usual, Alf Carter, in his endeavour to provide accommodation for our country members, sends in the following cutting, taken from the "Daily Mirror," 9th June, 1958.

"In a few weeks the Combined Services Centre will open new premises at 34 Macleay Street, Sydney. Ex-servicemen and servicemen can sleep here in one of the 70 beds with inner spring mattresses, obtain a free breakfast, use the lounge, showers and laundry, obtain advice and information and receive messages and mail—all for 7/- a day or 35/- a week.

Ex Warrant Officer Hilder is the director, and standing behind him is a group of Sydney businessmen and the benevolent patronage of the Army, which has donated £500 bed money to the new premises."

Following upon Alf's suggestion, the Committee has decided to make further inquiries, and will make a report in the next issue.

LAST POST

We are indebted to "Reveille," August, 1958, for notification of the passing of two former members of the 2/1 Pioneers.

NX 32281, M. D. Culhane.

NX 29947, Sgt. J. J. Lamont.

To their families we extend our very sincere sympathy.

We also extend our deepest sympathy to Jack Westwood and his family in the sad loss of his brother, Victor, on the 11th August.

NEWS JOTTINGS

(By our Reporter, Alf Carter)

DAVE AUSTIN, B Coy. 2/1, is about again, reasonably fit, after a prolonged illness. Dave is with Tooheys these days, and reckons it's the "vitamins" that pulls one through these upsets.

Met up with DANNY SPROUSTER, A Coy. 2/1, a short while ago. After a hard struggle over the years, Danny and family are now happily settled in a new home at Dundas. Good luck, Dan, you deserve it.

MICK DOBSON, B Coy. 2/1, would like to thank everyone for their kindness in his recent sad bereavement.

LAURIE FITZHENRY, a committee-man of this Association for years, is now deeply interested in Union affairs on the Sydney waterfront and sends greetings to all his mates in B Coy. 2/1.

One of the originals of B Coy. 2/1, CLIFF BARRATT, now of Chatswood and the P.M.G. Department, sends best wishes to all the boys too, especially the old "Kyogle chaps."

JACK EVANS has been located at last, and his address noted for future issues of the "News." Nice to hear of you again, Jack.

Also met ALAN STUTCHBURY, late of B Coy. 2/1, now a signwriter and doing well with his own business at Hornsby. Alan's brother, Frank, is still in the army after all these years. Must like it, Frank.

CLARRIE PAKES, one time cheerful and obliging Q.M.S. of B Coy. 2/1, is a popular figure on the Sydney waterfront. Clarrie wishes to be remembered to all his old friends in the battalion.

By Our Reporter "Monty" Montague

In response to many inquiries about old Jim Edwards ("Pop Eye"), it is with pleasure we announce the old "War Horse" is getting along nicely after a pretty rough trot with his health. There was, and is, not a gathering of Pioneers who, in recalling past events, did not bring him in somewhere along the line. All join in wishing him good health.

Like the proverbial bad penny, "Bing" Pendlebury has turned up again and is living out Strathfield way. Ex "A" Coy. originals will recall the cafe Tom Carr managed, assisted by "Bing" and his brother, Tom. The only difference between that cookhouse and Wirth's Circus was that at Wirth's you paid the entrance fee, got a seat, bought a programme and knew what to expect, but when Tom and his two offsidiers put on their usual acts it put the circus to shame for laughter and unexpected thrills and sensations. "Bing" has had rather a long stay at Concord Repatriation Hospital, but is up and about once again. All hope to see him in the very near future.

FROM THE MAILBAG...

The response to our last magazine was very good, as far as our mail is concerned. The country boys are well to the front once more with plenty of news. Let's look at their letters first.

We can dash up to Scone, on the New England Highway, to answer a newsy one from Ken Newling.

Firstly, Ken, a grateful "thank you" for your donation, which has been put into the right bank account. Also a words of thanks for your remarks as to how much you enjoy the "News." It is nice to hear an occasional word like that, as it lets your editors know what you really think and it gives them a little more encouragement to try and do better next time.

For the benefit of travellers passing through, Ken is the Foreman at the Ford Garage, and suggests that if he can help out with mechanical troubles or a dry throat, he is the man for the job. It seems that Lofty Barlow knows the garage, as he and the family called in there recently on their way out west.

Ken mentions that Col Charker has now staked a claim in the district by buying a nice cottage and getting himself a position as gardener at the local hospital. (We have noted your address, Col, and you will receive your issues of the "News" in future.)

Thanks again, Ken. Nice to hear from you and don't be too long getting around to it again.

Let's whip across the Nullabor and see what happens in one of the nicest cities in the country.

S. Abercrombie ("Sid," if I remember correctly) dropped a note from a very nice suburb in Perth (Mosman Park) with a very acceptable donation, and states that he only wishes that he could shorten the distance and get over to some of our Sydney "dos" occasionally. But he does mention that it is a consolation to read of the activities in his copy of our magazine.

Let's hope that you can manage the trip some day in the not too distant future, Sid, and we will assure you of a good welcome.

Thanks for remembering us.

(By the way, do you ever get down to Kattanning and see George Hobley and his brother Dick? They seem to have gone all quiet on us of late—no word in ages.)

A bit closer to home this time, and we say "thanks again" to Billy Mace, at Gosford. Bill says that he should send another donation, as every time he gets the "News" a line is good for a smile. Well, that is a nice way of putting it.

If any of you fellas want to see a good show at the Erina Drive-In Theatre give Bill a call, as he is the caretaker there. And if you are thirsty, there will always be one in the 'frige for you at his home in Terrigal Road, Erina.

Another Pioneer in the garage business is Locky McLachland, at West Gosford. Bill tells us that Locky is President of the local Lions Club.

Thanks for your interest once again, Bill. Kindest regards to your wife and family.

Charlie Boyd keeps the record of the country blokes good by coming in on a line from Weedallion, near Young, and enclosing a donation, for which we thank you. Charlie is on a Soldier Settlement block (has been for ten years), and he mentions that Jim Bailey is also on a block in the same district, while Big Charters is on another block at Cobarr. Charlie also tells us that Frank Gravenmaker, who was Pay Sergeant in B Company, is now a taxi driver at Grenfell.

In closing, Charlie says how pleased he is to read of the doings of the other boys, and notes with pleasure that Bert Holmes and Alf Carter are still soldiering on with the committee.

Down around Leeton we here from Phil Mahy, who wrote a really newsy letter of three pages. (How about some of you other chaps trying to copy his example?) It seems that Phil was coerced into this by the local barber, who asks him on every visit if he has written to us yet, until finally Phil sat down and certainly made up for lost time. Of course, we have to mention that the barber is interested, as he was also a member of the old 12 Platoon in B Company (2/1) — none other than Mick Roberts.

We will take Phil's family life first (if he does not mind). He is a really settled down family man with three daughters and mentions, for that very reason, he does not get to the club as often as he used to. However, he made quite a good effort at getting around amongst the boys in the area and has the following information about them.

JACK PURCELL drew a sheep farm on Kooba Estate, is married and has a very fine daughter. Doesn't get to Leeton as much as before, as there is a half-way house between the farm and the town.

JERRY PAINTER works on the water branch of the local council. Believe he is a good cook, also.

LES GAVEL is a linesman on the local P.M.G., and looks very fit.

KEITH FITZSIMMONS drew a rice and sheep farm and doing quite nicely. Ready for shearing and very happy with the expected results.

And now for Mick Roberts, who penned a few lines at the bottom of Phil's epic.

He was recently in West Wyalong and saw John Douglas, who asked "Where is Baldy?" (We don't know either.)

Mick has a hairdressing saloon in Pine Avenue, Leeton, and invites any visitors to call in on him at any time, as he can introduce them to the local Golf or Soldiers' Clubs.

He states that he hopes to get down to Sydney next Anzac Day with Phil Mahy, and if he does they will make up for lost time.

Well, old boys, thanks for your excellent efforts. We only hope that it encourages others to take the step and get the pen and paper out.

We are very grateful to you both, also your welcome donations. Regards to the whole gang in the area. (What happened to Andy Collins?)

Before we go any further, when writing please include your *Christian* name instead of just initials. As we have said before, it often strains the memory trying to get the correct name, and we don't like to be formal. Thanks.

From North Lambton a short note and donation from "J." Hickey. That should be "Jack," shouldn't it? I hope so. Your change of address has been noted and thanks for letting us know, also your kind remarks about our efforts. Hope that all is well with you.

I feel sure that we have said this before, but for this regular correspondent we say it again: "It would not be a full paper without a letter from Mick Eye, at Walgett." Thanks again for your very good effort, Mick. It is up to its usual high standard. You must be well in front with your donations now, but we thank you just as sincerely as ever.

As we said earlier, we only wish that you fellows COULD get down here more often and take part in some of these social activities. We certainly seem to be attracting more of the boys as the years roll on and it is nice to see.

Mick tells us that Max Dickens is still managing the next-door property to him and that Bob Molyneux is still around Lightning Ridge, doing a bit of opal prospecting (and, it seems, not doing too badly as a pastime.) Danny Black is around the area, too, being with the P.M.G. at Brewarrina, although lately he has been about 120 miles west of Bourke on the Paroo River. (That surely must be past the "black stump.")

Give them all of our regards, Mick, although they will read it in the paper themselves.

Mick also mentions that he put 4,000 sheep through the shearers this season and went to Newcastle for the sale, although he did not meet up with anyone.

Thank you for your efforts once again, Mick, and keep up the good work. Without regular correspondents such as yourself and a few others there would not be any paper.

Ernie Lunn, the stock and station agent at Carinda gave us a few items of interest, along with a welcome donation.

Ernie mentions that Wally Baird is on a property out west, but Ernie does not see him very much, "although we are only a hundred or so miles apart."

Often sees Vince Diggs in Coonamble and Bonnie Fowler at Warren.

Once more—an invitation in the true country style. Anyone passing through Carinda is assured of a warm welcome from Ernie, who says that he can show visitors where to fish and shoot, and guarantee results.

Thanks, Ernie Lunn, for your letter and cheque.

BI-ANNUAL SMOKO
FRIDAY, 21st NOVEMBER, at 7.30 p.m.
At the Sussex Hotel

FROM THE MAILBAG . . .

While we think of it. If any reader meets any old members of the units, do not forget to ask them if they are in receipt of the "News." If they are not hearing from us, get their address and let us know so as we can send them a paper. Make it a habit to ask, make it a habit to tell us, and we will make it a habit to see that they are in receipt of all future communications.

One who has not fared quite so well recently is Peter Craig, who had a spin out of work, but now, fortunately, is employed in a shearing shed and writes from Rowena. Thanks for the donation, Peter.

Peter wrote that he met D'Arcy Chapman in Moree a few weeks ago, and also met Bruce Harris, from Queensland, who was in A Company. We haven't heard from him yet, Peter, but thanks for the thought in giving him our address. Hope luck goes with you from now on Peter, and thanks again for your welcome letter.

From Comboyne comes a letter from A. K. Stone, in which he encloses subscriptions for himself and the following members: W.O. Kelly (2/1), D. R. Murray (2/2) and Norm Phillips (2/2). Thanks for your effort "A.K.," and your praise of our work and the "Pioneer News" is very gratifying. We would be very pleased to hear from any of the boys you may contact, so just give them a hint when you next see them.

So much for the country letters. Now for the local boys and their mail . . . and so ends the letters from the local boys. It seems that there must be a bit of writer's cramp around, as there just was not any mail from anyone within 40 miles of the G.P.O.

But perhaps next time.

Donations are acknowledged from Les. Nicholls, Athol Roberts, H. Egan and Les. Gavel. Your subs. were very much appreciated, chaps, but how about dropping us a line for the next issue, with some news.

Getting away from the mailbag for a while, we would like to mention the excellent effort put up by Bill Robertson 2/2, on Anzac Day. With a little box for encouragement and a pen and paper, he collected some very nice subscriptions to the Association, as well as quite a few names of old Pioneers who had forgotten to advise of their change of address at some time or other, others who had not been in contact before, and a few who had not been able to be present at our gatherings for some time. Thanks, Bill, for your efforts—they did not go unnoticed.

Heard on the grapevine: Vic. Horder, who was C.S.M. of A Coy. 2/1, has been promoted from Gaol Recorder at Long Bay Penitentiary to the Superintendent of Dubbo Gaol. Congratulations and best wishes from all the boys, Vic.

Here is your chance to catch up on a Smoko if you were unfortunate to miss the last one. You will find the full details in next issue, but we must remind you every chance that we get. It's down at the Sussex Hotel again, as this seems to have proved a most popular place for such an evening.

Remember . . .

FRIDAY, 21st NOVEMBER, 1958

Lower Bar of the Sussex — at 8 p.m.
Only 5/- per head admission (and you may bring along your friends)

See You There!

Don't forget the Car Trial and Picnic

SUNDAY, 21st SEPTEMBER, 1958

A wonderful day out for the whole family. (And, again, bring your friends.)

Harry Mostyn happened to meet up with Harry Corby in a local train recently, and it appears they had a chat. So much so, that Harry C. gave Harry M. a most welcome donation to the funds. Thanks, Harry Corby, for your thought, and to Harry Mostyn for collecting it.

President Fred Callaway also met up with Ron Egan at a party, resulting in another generous donation to funds. (You can see that there isn't much hope once you meet up with and fall into the clutches of a committeeman). Thanks, Ron.

Thanks go to Mrs. M. Wood for sending along a welcome donation on behalf of George Wood and Bill Henry.

We welcome Johnny Wheeler to the Association, and although we are only in receipt of his address, we feel sure you will be able to put a few words on paper and tell us of your experiences. So, how about it, John.

"PIONEER NEWS" FEES AND CREDENTIALS

Owing to numerous requests from members wishing to join the Association and wanting to know the fees and credentials involved, hereunder is published information which present members receiving the "Pioneer News" could pass on to any person eligible to become members:

- (1) Any person serving with the 2/1 or 2/2 Pioneer Battalions at any time is eligible to become a member.
- (2) There is no joining fee, but a charge of 5/- per annum is made to cover the cost of "Pioneer News."

When sending a new address, please print Christian and Surname in **BLOCK** letters.

When sending a change of address, state **OLD** as well as **NEW** address.

All correspondence to be addressed to:

THE HON. SECRETARY
2/1-2/2 PIONEER BNS.
ASSOCIATION,
3 ENOGGERA RD., BEVERLY HILLS

EXTRACT FROM THE "DUBBO LIBERAL"

Tuesday, 10th September, 1940

Responding to a speech of welcome from the Mayor of Dubbo, Colonel MacGillcuddy said . . .

"We, as members of the 2/1 Pioneer Battalion are very proud indeed of the reputation of the battalion. The men of the battalion will take action if there is an evidence of activity that does not reflect on its credit. Anything else will come to me for treatment."

The colonel said he appreciated the warmth of the reception. He wanted to say that the men who had marched into Dubbo this morning were of a type of which any Australian family could be proud.

"I know the people of Dubbo will be sensible enough to appreciate that if they are going to have soldiers here who ultimately will grapple with the problem facing us at present, they must have men who are men in every sense of the word. We are tough men, and we are going to be tougher by the time Fritz meets us."

The Colonel added that there was in the battalion one whom they all liked tremendously, and one who had a very proud record in the last war—Major N. Neal. When he left Dubbo he was a schoolboy, and his last report said he was a "good little boy."

"As a tribute to him and to Dubbo, I am standing down to-day and he will take the battalion through the town and take the salute," he added amid applause.

He gave an assurance, without fear of contradiction, that the time would arrive when Dubbo would have reason to be proud of the record of the battalion.

Major Neal was introduced by the Mayor, who said they had occupied the same school form together. The Mayor said it was a distinct honour that he should return to Dubbo to lead the march of the Pioneers, and he emphasised the changes that had marked his 35 years of absence. He told the gathering that doubtless it could appreciate that he was "feeling the occasion a bit."

The troops having disposed of the meal, formed their ranks in Victoria Park before entering on the most striking military spectacle ever known in Dubbo.

EDITOR'S NOTE.—This extract, sent in by one of our keen supporters, Vic Whiteley, is really a move in the right direction towards publishing some of the history of this famous battalion of ours, and we plead with more members to send in articles dealing with the history of the battalion, so that we may publish them.

Quite a lot of members joining the battalion latterly will find these extracts of particular interest.

SOCIAL EVENING

FRIDAY, 24th OCTOBER, at 7.45 p.m.
At The Feminist Club
77 King Street, Sydney

PIONEER NEWS

UL 5491

Official Organ of 2/1 and 2/2 Pioneer Battalions (A.I.F.) Associations

UL 5491

Hon. Secretary:
MAX HERRON

Editors:
MAX LAW and MAX HERRON

President:
FRED CALLAWAY

Registered at the G.P.O., Sydney for Transmission by Post as a Periodical

Vol. 3. No. 4

1st NOVEMBER, 1958

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CAR AND BUS TRIAL PICNIC

On Sunday, 21st September, the Association held their Third Annual Car and Bus Trial Picnic and, considering the weather was not up to the usual Pioneer outings, the roll up was a good one.

Twenty-four cars left the starting line under the control of Fred Callaway and Jack Westwood. The bus, with Vic. Whiteley in charge, started from Peakhurst, picking up passengers en route, and on departing from Strathfield was packed—in fact six of the members had to stand.

Question sheets were issued to both car and bus passengers and this time they were made simpler in an endeavour to make them more interesting. One question stumped everyone. On the surface it appeared quite simple, for we only asked for the total mileages on a signpost—but everyone forgot to look on the rear of the post.

The destination was Caddie Picnic Ground, which is just past Pitt Town on the road to Wiseman's Ferry. It is situated on the banks of the Hawkesbury River, and on a nice sunny day a more delightful spot would be hard to find.

After lunch the children were handed a free issue of toffees, Paddle Pops and drinks, and then commenced their sporting events. Luckily the rain held off until the finish of these events, but as the ladies were "throwing the rolling pin" the rain came down quite heavily, and the Committee reluctantly had to abandon the remainder of the programme.

VOTE OF THANKS

The Social Secretary, Jack Westwood, would like to thank the 200 adults and children for their attendance and for the fine co-operation displayed at all times. He would also like to thank the ladies of the Auxiliary for their donations of sweets, etc., and for their assistance on the day. Last, but by no means least, many thanks to the Committeemen who assisted, not only on the day, but also prior to the picnic.

IDEAS FOR 1959

The Social Secretary is anxious to hear from members with suggestions to improve this type of picnic, so next time you are on an outing which, in your opinion, would make a good picnic area—kiosk, running field, shelter shed, etc.—write and let us know so we can investigate its possibilities.

CAR AND BUS TRIAL WINNERS

CAR: Dead heat 1st, No. 7, W. Westwood and No. 10, A. Maloney, 10 points lost; Dead heat 2nd, No. 17, A. Watson and No. 8, K. Henstock, 15 points lost.

BUS: Dead heat 1st, Carol and Dianne Vickers, 15 points lost.

GUESSING COMPETITIONS

The winner of the grocery hamper kindly donated by Swifts, and arranged by our Committeeman Bob Lake, was won by Mrs. A. Green. The dozen bottles of beer was won by Ray Dwyer.

WINNERS OF ATHELETIC EVENTS

AGE	DISTANCE	PLACE	GIRL	BOY
3 years and under	10 yds.	1	Janice Henderson	Bruce Montague
		2	Julie Burns	Martin Callaway
4 to 5 years	20 yds.	1	Lee Pierce	Noel Green
		2	Janette Bertram	Chris. Jorgenson
6 to 7 years	30 yds.	1	Lella Carrol	John Peak
		2	Linda Burns	Garry Henderson
8 to 9 years	40 yds.	1	Susan Gray	Ron Butler
		2	Denise Jorgenson	Trevor Callaway
10 to 11 years	50 yds.	1	Jill McGregor	Trevor Henderson
		2	Susan Currie	Harry Levett
12 to 14 years	75 yds.	1	Dianne Vickers	Robert Saunders
		2	Pam Butler	Michael Gray

Toddlers 1 Judith Jorgensen; 2 Patricia Henderson

Adults Cigarette Race (1) R. Lake; (2) T. Westwood

Throwing Rolling Pin (1) Mrs. G. Lowe

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

Thirty-one members attended the General Meeting held at the R.S.L. Club on Friday, 26th September, for the purpose of altering the outdated Constitution.

With the valued assistance of our Auditor, Arthur Watson, the Executive had spent many hours preparing the amendment to the Constitution and it is to their credit that the General Meeting adopted all amendment and added only one.

It was moved by the meeting that a vote of thanks be sent to Arthur Watson for his services to the Association in this matter. The meeting also praised the President, Fred Callaway, and his Executive, for producing the new Constitution.

After the serious business, members settled down to a nice supper and, of course, a few jugs of the amber fluid.

Any member desirous of obtaining a copy of the Constitution can do so by writing to the Secretary.

— ☆ —

LAST POST

We regret to have to advise that in a letter from Doug Watson, at Bellambi, the news of the passing of Les Wylie was recorded.

Les passed away in Wollongong Hospital on August 11th last after an illness of some ten months, following an accident. He was an ex-member of H.Q. Company.

The funeral was attended by Doug Watson and Dick "Snowy" Folkes. The sincere sympathy of the Association is extended to his family.

— ☆ —

We are indebted to "Reveille," September, 1958, for notification of the passing of a former member of the 2/1 Pioneers.

NX17988. Pte. F. W. McRae.

On behalf of the Association, we extend to his family our deepest sympathy.

The Editors, Executive and Committee of the 2/1st and 2/2nd Pioneer Bns. would like to take this opportunity of wishing all members, their wives and families

A MERRY CHRISTMAS

AND A

HAPPY NEW YEAR

BI-ANNUAL SMOKO

The Association have arranged a Bi-Annual Smoko on Friday, 21st November, at 7.30 p.m., in the lower bar of the Sussex Hotel, corner of Liverpool and Sussex Streets, Sydney.

Following upon the outstanding success of the 1957 Bi-Annual Smoko the Committee has decided to hold a similar function this year. The saloon bar will be closed off for our members and friends, with drinks at ruling prices. There is a small charge of 5/- to cover the cost of supper, which consists of sausage rolls, pasties, sandwiches, biscuits and cheese.

BRING YOUR FRIENDS!

Make up a party with your friends and come along and enjoy yourself, at the same time seeing some of your old mates. Be early, as under licensing laws no member can be admitted after 10 p.m.

Members and friends desirous of attending this function can help the Committee in catering arrangements by ringing the Social Secretary, UL 3930, or Secretary, UL 5491, and state the number in party.

NEWS JOTTINGS

(By Our Reporter, Alf Carter)

Doing my usual work for the paper company around the waterfront. I am bound sooner or later to strike some of the boys who may be working there, so it was no surprise when I ran into CHARLIE SMIDT, "B" Coy., 2/1, late of Grafton, now of Belmore. Charlie would like to be remembered to all his old mates of 12 Platoon and particularly "Bluey" Reed and "Slim" Hayes, of Newcastle.

— ☆ —

TOMMY HUGO "C" Coy., 2/1, now of Surry Hills, was another I was most happy to meet. Tom, bigger, brighter, and just as happy as in the bad days, says he can be found any afternoon in Martin's Corner, at the corner of Crown and Campbell Streets, Surry Hills. It sounds like a place that serves the cup that cheers.

— ☆ —

"SAILOR" HALL, "A" Coy. 2/1, sends his best wishes to all the boys. Cheerio to you too, "Sailor."

— ☆ —

A mention here of RAY LAWRENCE, H.Q. Coy., 2/1. A Committeeman for many years, Ray is keen and reliable and always ready to do a good job. We could do with more, many more, like "Big Joe."

— ☆ —

JACK CLARKE, H.Q. Coy., 2/1, now of Waverley and Tooths, is another who refuses to bow to Father Time. "Big Jack" has not altered one bit through the years, and says cheerio to all his old mates.

— ☆ —

Met H. "SNOWY" LLOYD, 2/1, in Parramatta, and he wished to be remembered to the boys. "Snowy" has just moved into a lovely new home, so our congratulations and best wishes for the future.

FORMING UP PLACE . . .

SUSSEX HOTEL (Lower Bar)

Corner Sussex and Liverpool Streets,
Sydney

Starting Time, 7.30 p.m.

D-DAY, FRIDAY, 21st NOVEMBER
Personnel required for this Duty
EVERYONE

Under the Command of Your Committee
BE THERE!

Ring UL 5491 or UL 3930 for Further
Particulars

2/2nd NEWS FROM VICTORIA

By Courtesy, Editor "Pioneer Despatch"

Bill Muir reports that while in Mildura he ran into a number of the boys. Eddie Morey is quite fit and had a record season with the dried fruit on his block at Red Cliffs.

Also met "Rajah" Vale in Red Cliffs. He was passing through back to Melbourne.

Took a drive over to Robinvale and visited Peter McIntosh. He seemed quite well and was very cheerful after also having a record season on his block.

At the trots in Mildura I met Percy Hoyle, Jack Benfield (who is doing well in a plastering business) and Jim Wood. Also Larry Rivett, who is married and quite well, and managing a rabbit freezing plant at Cooma, N.S.W.

At Repat. I met Charles Warburton and Pat McCallum, who were in for a check-up.

Recent inmates of hospital are: Tom Hulse, Mick Webster, H. David, G. Anderson, G. Marquis, R. Quirk, D. Jackman, R. Conningsby, Norm Gray, J. Nicholls, C. Lott, Bill Boyd, Bert Williamson, Peter Stephenson, Len Collins, H. King, Mrs. V. Fraser and Mrs. G. Tomlin.

— ☆ —

Gordon Richards has been lured from his country seat in the wilds of N.S.W. and is now living in Melbourne.

— ☆ —

Cliff Marles was in St. Vincent's Hospital with two broken arms and a broken leg as the result of being hit by a car. The rest of him seemed pretty fit when visited in hospital. All best wishes for a speedy recovery, Cliff.

— ☆ —

Congratulations to Ray Meagher, who again successfully contested the recent State elections. Rex Campbell, who is a member of the Altona Council, unsuccessfully contested the State elections.

— ☆ —

Reg Goodman reports that ex-Signaller Hughie Johnstone, of Headquarters Company, who is employed by the Taxation Department, has just received 4½ months' long-service leave, and on Saturday, 28th June, he sailed on the s.s. "Orontes" for England to visit his relatives.

(Continued on Page 4)

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sirs,

Many thanks for "Pioneer News" of 1st September and a small cheque is enclosed herewith to keep the wheels turning.

I notice that my old friend Vic Horder has gone back to Dubbo, as Gaol Superintendent. Congratulations Vic, on your promotion, and it is good to know that one has a friend at Court. This news prompts me to ask if you remember some of our happiest and funniest army days in Dubbo Camp? You might even have a look at the old spot, perhaps living again (in retrospect, of course) that bright, early morning roll-call when Little Tich, our ex-jockey Sapper, staggered on to parade with a bottle of plonk sticking out of his giggle suit and his cobbles holding him up to prevent him falling flat on his face.

Vic, the C.S.M., of course, took immediate disciplinary action by relieving the said sapper of his burden and putting him under open arrest. For want of something to do with the bottle, whilst he said "Company, Shun." etc., Vic decided to take it promptly to the Orderly Room as Exhibit A. However, on the way thereto he thought it might be a good idea to take out the cork and have a swig — behind a hut of course, and out of sight of the boys on parade, but he was a bit premature in this and forgot to get behind the hut, and the next thing he knew was a cheer from the Company on parade — and was poor old Vic's face red?

Incidentally, the bottle in question finished up in the Orderly Room, of course, but by the time the accused came up before the Beak it was bone-dry, as in the meantime we had all had a "snort."

I was "A" Company Q.M.S. in those days, and Little Tich, who was a jockey by profession, took size 4 in army boots, which meant that we had to indent them especially from Sydney. Up they came in due course, each one stamped 1914 on the sole and as good as the day they were made 25 years before.

Dubbo was a happy camp, and Dubbo people still have a soft spot for the 2/1st and we for them. Our reputation preceded us and the Dubbo girls thought they were all going to be murdered in their sleep by the wild men from Greta.

However, they were agreeably disillusioned, and no battalion had firmer friends when we marched out of that pleasant western town.

The sight of your name revived all this, Vic. I would also like to send regards to Bill Henry.

Yours very truly,

Fergus "Robbie" Robertson.

(Editor's Note: In the September issue of "Reveille" an article appeared on Vic's promotion as an officer of the Prisons Dept. For the past seven years, Vic occupied the position of Gaol Recorder at Darlinghurst Criminal Courts, and his promotion has now taken him to his new job as Officer-in-Charge of Dubbo Gaol. At his farewell presentation it was mentioned that Vic had done "a mighty job" and had been kind and helpful on all occasions.)

FROM THE MAIL BAG . . .

It's the country boys to the fore again, with the majority of letters.

We all remember Bob Fogarty, of course. Well Bob is in the Nundle district and doesn't seem to get down to the Sydney district very often. Appears that Bob has the intention BUT . . . and to prove that he really intended to get to a Sydney Anzac March, he points out that last year he got as far as Scone but the beer was pretty good up there. So good, in fact, that Bob got home two days later, as he says, "still full!"

Bob often runs into Colonel Adrian Buckley up in Tamworth and one time helped the Colonel fight bush fires.

An old "C" Company identity, Ivo Evans called on Bob not so long ago but Bob says that apart from knowing that Ivo came from Sydney, he doesn't know his present address as he lost it.

In closing, Bob mentions that he would like to catch up with Lofty Broad, Ted Williams, Nev Hall, Alf Carter, Harry O'Brien and dozens of others. He also asks for news of Harry Olde, Mick Punton, or Freddie Brooks.

Well, Robert old boy, thank you very much for your very interesting letter. Don't be too long letting us hear from you again. Thanks for the enclosed photograph of the boys of 15 Platoon "C" Company, taken on the eve of departure from Greta. It certainly is interesting to have a look at the young faces of those days. Thanks again, Bob.

— ☆ —

Bill Hood has migrated closer to the big smoke and is now down at the Commonwealth Bank at Port Kembla, after 11 years in various inland towns, the last being Broken Hill. It appears from the letter that Bill had a few drops with some of the Sydney boys on his way through and is mentioned in a couple of other letters in the mailbag. It seems that Bill met up with Allen McInnes, Frank Cheal, Jack Howie, Bill Lewis and Tiny Harrison and as stated, they had a few "quickies."

Since being in Port Kembla, Bill has met up with well-known identity Alan Smith, ex-R.S.M. of the 2/1st, who passed the "News" to Bill. At the local R.S.L., Bill has also caught up with Straub Dale, Tiny Thirby and Pat McTighe. Well, at least you are among some very good friends there Bill. Regards to all down there. Better send the contingent up for the Smoko next month.

Thanks for your letter and your very kind remarks. Hope to see you up here soon.

— ☆ —

Only a short note from Vic Horder—thanks for your very welcome donation. We are glad to know that you still like reading our "News" paper. All the best, Vic.

— ☆ —

Let us drop into the Sydney area for a minute or two and give some space to a very old friend of "B" Company, 2/1st, and we mean John "Poppa" Mills. Unfortunately, Poppa is out at the Repatriation Hospital at Concord in Ward 19, and has had a rough trot.

However, his letter is very cheerful and he says that he hopes to make it

to the Sussex next month for the Smoko. Well let me tell you, Poppa, if you can turn up at the Smoko, I feel sure that you will have the greatest welcome that anyone has had in a long time.

We will look forward to seeing you. From Melbourne, we heard from Colonel Geoff Graham, who was doing a spot of duty there at the time. Colonel Graham has once again accepted the offer of the Committee to act as adviser to the Association for a further 12 months, and for this we thank you sincerely, sir.

May we add that the Colonel was instrumental in being able to expedite the acceptance of death as being due to war service of one of our recently deceased members. It is in this and similar ways that Colonel Graham is able to continue helping members of our battalions and is always willing to offer advice and help to anyone who may have a query in respect to Repatriation matters and pensions.

Thank you once again, Colonel Geoff, and we also thank you for fining yourself for "failure to send in your regular donation to the Association coffers." The fine has been well received and found its way to the right place. Although, I don't think that you are too far behind somehow. But thanks anyway.

— ☆ —

From Claude Knight up at Umina, near Woy Woy, a very nice donation and a para pointing out that he lives at Umina and not Erina as we had noted. Still, as long as you received the "News" regularly, that is the main thing. We have corrected the error now, Claude, so there will be no more delays. Thanks for the letter and the enclosed.

— ☆ —

Tamworth is our next port of call, with a letter from Ted Carter. We have to apologise for the fact that the letter was sent in August, but arrived too late for the last issue. But we still would not forget it.

Ted has moved from Turramurra, Sydney, to Tamworth, although the move actually took place some 12 months ago. Seems that according to his wife and family, the country life is THE life.

I guess that you will have a lot of Pioneers agree with you on that point, Ted. Thanks for the letter, and we look forward to hearing from you again.

— ☆ —

Keen readers will have noted the fact that our mailbag was very light regarding "local" mail in the last issue. We mentioned that all the letters came from the country. Well, one who took it in good part and rose to the occasion was Bill Lewis out at Carlton, a Sydney suburb.

Bill took time off to tell us that he had "got the message" and agreed that without mail, there would be no "Pioneer News." And may we add that Bill made up for lost time with a very informative letter. He mentions the fact that Bill Hood passed through Sydney and he was in the welcoming committee, but he goes a stage further than Bill Hood did. He mentions the fact that Bill Hood was an accountant at his last branch, but is now manager at Port Kembla, and that calls for congratulations all round.

Bill Lewis goes on to say that Jack Lawrie was down for a couple of weeks in at Concord Repat., but is now back in New Lambton, Newcastle. While a patient, Jack had a visit from Don Linton who is on the staff at the hospital.

More news is the fact that Gordon Sheen wrote to Bill from London. Gordon appears to be having a good time and will be away for twelve more months yet.

In closing his letter, Bill asks if anyone knows the whereabouts of Jim Crew (2/2), last heard of in the Kalgoorlie-Coolgardie (West Aust.) area. Can anybody help? If so, write to us and we will publish the news as we know that a lot of 2/2nds would like to hear of Jim.

Thanks for the fine effort and donation, Bill. Keep up the good work on behalf of the local boys.

— ☆ —

From Corryong, Vic., comes a newsy letter from Bernie Reiners and a very welcome donation to the "News." Bern mentions he had been for a trip on the Alpine Way as far as Dead Horse Gap recently, and had to drive through nearly a foot of snow to get there. (The Alpine Way connects Corryong with Cooma in the Snowy Mountains). In closing, Bern sent his kindest regards to all the boys.

— ☆ —

Don't forget the Smoko on the 21st November at the Sussex Hotel, corner Sussex and Liverpool Streets, Sydney. Remember 7.30 with any of your friends who may wish to join us for the evening. Admission only 5/- per head. Beer at bar prices. Supper provided. What more could you want. If you have not attended similar functions in the past, come along this time and see what you have been missing. You will be along to every future one after this one, as it will be just so good. See you there.

— ☆ —

John Wheeler, over at Cremorne, dropped a welcome few lines with a query. We quote . . . "Is the Monty Montague we meet at Sussex Inlet every year the same Monty mentioned in 'Pioneer News'? He catches a lot of fish, particularly blackfish, and is a very nice chap."

Well John, the description fits our Monty rather well, but we cannot tell you for sure. However, I am sure you are going along to the Feminist Club to the Ladies' Auxiliary Social Evening. I am sure you will see for yourself as I think Monty will be there. It's good to hear from you, John. Thanks for the letter and donation.

— ☆ —

Well fella's that cleans out the mailbag for this time. Let's see if you can fill it following receipt of this issue. We like hearing from you, but above all, your mates like to know where you are and what you are doing, who you have seen and anything else that you can talk about. And don't forget to support the functions put on by your hard-working Committee if you can. See you at the Smoko.

IN PASSING

There was quite a scramble at the Picnic when the ladies lined up to throw the rolling pin, and many husbands dashed off to move their cars away from the target area. Perhaps the thought of the President's teapot as prize spurred the ladies on to greater effort — or what was left of the teapot. Fred had left it against his rear wheel after lunch, and when Aileen was moving the car she drove over it.

To Des Field, of Gundagi, a cheerio and many thanks for the donation to the "News." How about dropping us a line for the next issue, with some news.

No letter but a welcome donation from K. J. Wilson, of North Sydney. Thanks for the thought. Hope that you like the "News."

Your Committee are arranging their Second Annual Picnic for Sunday, 15th March, 1959, so mark this date in your diary. Further details will be furnished in the next issue of the "News."

2/2 PIONEER NEWS

On 24th June a farewell party was given to Hughie at the residence of his old pal, ex-Sig. Reg. Goodman, Springvale, and a very pleasant evening was spent. Those present were ex-Sig. Ron Sarkies, Sig. Col. Hamley, Dr. Bill Brackley, Sgt. Bob Hopkins, Jack Hocking, Driver Jim Brown, H.Q. Company, and Alex Haig, of "A" Company. They all wished Hughie bon voyage.

— ☆ —

Tom McNaughton wishes to get in touch with Doug Nix and Jack Foley. If any member can help Tom in this regard would he please contact the Secretary.

NEWS JOTTINGS

(By Our Reporter, "Monty" Montague)

Crossing the Clarence River recently from Maclean to Harwood Island by punt, I met ALEX CAMERON who is employed on this ferry. He was in "A" then late "C" Coy., of the original Pioneers and a greater pal was hard to recall, his cheerful personality always remembered. We had quite a long chat and many old faces and places were revived. However, he particularly requests that any Pioneers visiting, or passing through Maclean call and see him as he would be only too happy to see them again. During conversation, I spoke about our newspaper and he told me TOM BUCKLAND had been kindly forwarding one on to him. I assured him that a copy would be sent to him direct, thanks to our very efficient Secretary, Max Herron, and he would be enrolled as a subscriber.

— ☆ —

I tried several times to see TOM "BEDE" LOY, but was unsuccessful. Tom is employed at the Harwood Sugar Mills and they are very busy just now with the seasonal crushing. It would appear that the employees work very long shifts whilst the rush period is on, so this is the reason I could not see him. However, Mrs. Loy made me very welcome and assured me that Tom, like herself, greatly appreciates the "Pioneer News." Our old pal still loves his jug, from all accounts, and drinks our jolly good health so often that we should all live over the century mark.

— ☆ —

I also met ARTHUR SMIDT, who was with brother Leslie in "C" Coy., and is now a baker in Maclean. He gave me to understand that young Les is now in Sydney and will try and get him to contact us. Arthur wishes to be re-

membered to all of the old brigade and any Pioneers visiting Maclean are assured of a royal welcome.

— ☆ —

In response to many enquiries about another old identity HARRY DUCKWORTH, I went to his brother Bob's place at Harwood seeking information. Hospitality and a real welcome was given me when I explained the reason for my visit. Mr. and Mrs. Duckworth even asked me to spend a few days as their guest, which I had to decline with regret. However, I was informed Harry is working on the Warragamba Dam, so enquiries will be made there for him.

— ☆ —

Before leaving Harwood Island, I paid a visit to the very beautiful Memorial Park built by the local citizens in remembrance of the men who paid the supreme sacrifice during the 1939-45 War. On the Honour Roll appears two names that will never be forgotten by us — GEORGE DUCKWORTH and TEDDY DAY — and on behalf of the Association I paid my respects.

— ☆ —

In concluding, my sincere thanks and appreciation are again expressed to the boys of Maclean, the numerous people I met through them, for making my vacation one of the happiest ever.

SERVICE TO MEMBERS

Your Committee have arranged for dates of our functions to be published in the Branch notices of "Reveille." This is another service to our members to keep them informed of our progressive Association.

POSITION WANTED

2/1 Pioneer, aged 50 years, needs job as general hand or labourer. Contact the Secretary.

GENERAL ACCOUNT — BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st MARCH, 1958

	£	s	d		£	s	d
Accumulated Funds at at 1/4/57	109	6	2	Cash at Bank	168	7	4
Plus Excess of Income over Expenditure for year as above	59	1	2				
	£168	7	4		£168	7	4

"PIONEER NEWS" ACCOUNT — STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE FOR TWO MONTHS ENDED 31st MARCH, 1958

EXPENDITURE	£	s	d	INCOME	£	s	d
By Newspaper Printing, February Edition	13	15	0	To Subscriptions	2	10	0
				„ Balance being Excess of Expenditure over Income carried forward to Balance Sheet	11	5	0
	£13	15	0		£13	15	0

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st MARCH, 1958

	£	s	d		£	s	d
Accumulated Funds at at 1/4/1957	58	19	4	Cash at Bank	47	14	4
Deduct Excess of Expenditure over Income for period as above	11	5	0				
	£47	14	4		£47	14	4

AUDITOR'S REPORT

I report that I have examined the books of the 2/1-2/2 Pioneer Battalions Association for the year ended 31st March, 1958. I have obtained all the information and explanations I have required. In my opinion the foregoing Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of affairs of the Association, according to information supplied to me.

A. WATSON, A.A.S.A., Auditor