

PIONEER NEWS

UL 5491

Official Organ of 2/1 and 2/2 PIONEER BATTALIONS ASSOCIATION

UL 5491

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ALLAN McINNES

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2/1-2/2 ANZAC FUNCTIONS ANZAC DAY REUNION

This is the last call to parade for the bumper 50th anniversary of the original landing at Gallipoli.

Because Anzac Day is on Sunday and the following day a public holiday, the committee is expecting the biggest roll up ever. So, fellow members, reward these committeemen for their hard work with your presence.

For this occasion the Railways have granted free transport to all ex-servicemen to attend this march. For the benefit of all members, you must apply to your local R.S.L. or Services Club, and they will supply the authorisation papers to present to your railway station.

WREATH LAYING CEREMONY, SATURDAY, 24th APRIL (2/1 and 2/2)

As is customary each year, the 2/1 and 2/2 and Ladies' Auxiliary will lay wreaths at the Cenotaph. The committee would like to see as many members as possible from both units turn up for this very important ceremony.

Forming-up point is outside the Association Rooms, 19 Hunter Street, Sydney, at 7 p.m. The march commences from the corner of Pitt and Hunter Streets, at 7.20 p.m.

Each year the roll call for the Wreath Laying gets bigger, but this year we would like to see still more. What about it, boys.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, SATURDAY, 24th APRIL, AT 8 P.M.

After the Wreath Laying Ceremony, a cordial invitation is extended to all members of 2/1 and 2/2 to attend the Annual General Meeting of YOUR association, to be held in the R.S.L. Club Blue Room, Elizabeth Street, Sydney, at 8 pm.

ANZAC DAY MARCH AND REUNION, SUNDAY, 25th APRIL

Forming-up point for the 2/1st is in Phillip Street, between Martin Place and King Street, facing north to Circular Quay.

Forming-up point for the 2/2nd is in Macquarie Street, facing north, head on Martin Place.

This information was supplied on March 18 by the R.S.L., but we would suggest that each member make inquiries on the day as to the exact spot.

Immediately after the march—and we would like to see every marcher finish at the Domain—the 2/1 will adjourn to the Harry Burland Community Hall, 218-222 King Street, Newtown, where a hot meal will be provided by the association. Both 2/1 and 2/2 are cordially invited to partake.

For the 2/2nds, there will be the usual reunion at St. Peters.

Medals are to be worn at the Wreath Laying Ceremony and the Anzac Day March.

ANZAC WEEK-END ACCOMMODATION

Any member desirous of obtaining accommodation for himself only may contact the following without delay: Wal. Page, 16 Boundary Road, Mortdale; Bob Lake, 43 Amourin Street, Brookvale; or Bob McGregor, 120 Glamis Street, Kingsgrove.

Now, this is no ordinary Anzac Day, it's the 50th Anniversary—so let's make it one "never to be forgotten."

"Lest We Forget"

WALLY "DESSO" PAGE, Publicity Officer.

The Committee has now finalised all arrangements for the 2/1-2/2 Anzac Day Reunion, and has pleasure in publishing these below.

Owing to the hotels being closed, the Committee, at great expense, has hired a spacious hall at Newtown and has also hired professional caterers and barmen.

The Reunion and Dinner is to be held at the Harry Burland Community Hall, 218-222 King Street, Newtown. This hall is opposite the Shakespeare Hotel, which is on the corner of Hordern and King Streets.

To get there from the March, you may choose your means of transport from the following:

- By taxi.
- By bus, Nos. 422, 423, 426 or 448 from Railway Square.
- By train from Circular Quay, St. James or Museum.

Trains leave at 20-minute intervals (17, 37 and 57 past the hour) and on arrival at Newtown Station, you proceed along King Street, back towards Central for five minutes. (Trains for preference, because of easy access after the March).

We would advise country members to attach themselves to their city friends who would lead the way.

FREE SIT-DOWN DINNER

The Dinner will be served at 12.30 p.m., and is to be free. Beer will be charged for by the jug. Soft drinks will also be on sale.

An afternoon snack will also be served free by the Association.

As you can see, everything has been done to make this function a happy one for the members, and all the Social Secretary, Jack Westwood, asks in return for his hard work, is a good roll-up.

SEE YOU AT THE HARRY BURLAND HALL, 218-222 KING STREET, NEWTOWN, OPPOSITE SHAKESPEARE HOTEL, ON ANZAC DAY, SUNDAY, 25th APRIL, 1965, AT 12 O'CLOCK

1964 SMOKO AT THE CASTLEREAGH

The Smoko held at the Castlereagh Hotel on Friday, 20th November, 1964, was, as usual a complete success as far as all who attended were concerned. The attendance on the night was approximately 70 members and friends—not so bad, but to us of the committee we really think it could be vastly improved.

On this night I must confess that a complete roll of the attendance on this occasion was neglected. Sorry, but it completely slipped my mind. However, Alf Carter's notes would most likely cover almost everyone, but the editors never in any way interfere with these notes, so they are printed as written. If Alf missed you by any chance, I can only say that you were terribly unlucky.

Starting off at 7 p.m., as usual, the scene of the early arrivals keeping one eye on the door for their personal mates and trying at the same time to get a few in with those whom they were already talking to, gave one the impression of a team of men watching a tennis match.

As this was a free night there was no door charge, but our worthy treasurer was in his usual position at the head of the stairs, just in case the unwary happened along and itched to pay some subscriptions.

Seated beside him was the worthy secretary, ready and waiting for any member who may have information on addresses of new members and for those who may have changed their address. It is with sincerity that I say to all members: "No one person can realise to the full extent just what the association does owe to the efforts of these two men."

BIG WELCOME TO OUR OFFICERS

While we do not wish to emphasise any particular group of men in attendance, we do wish to welcome back to the fold the officers who were present on this night. Present were Col. Geoff Williams (ex-D Coy.), captain of Pioneer days, and his second reunion. We like to see them back up. Gordon Finlay, Cyril and John Morahan, Jack Westwood, Allan McInnes—all regulars; and, for the first time, H. W. Nicholls, ex-C Coy., 2/1 Pioneers, and later major in the Paratroops.

It was really good to see "Nicky" again; some of you blokes may have had other names for him at some time, but that is all forgotten now. He has declared that he will come again, so we can but wait and see.

To Jack Westwood, social secretary, who, incidentally has been ill again, and his team from the Social Committee who worked hard and willingly to supply a supper of fish pieces and sausage rolls all piping hot, we say "thank you." As Jack always states, his greatest pleasure is to have the greatest number to cater for.—**Bob Lake, Editor.**

BI-ANNUAL SMOKO JOTTINGS

By ALF CARTER

● As usual at all of these smokos Don Coy. 2/1 was again well represented and in their favourite corner a very happy crowd included—

Colonel Williams, Bill Hodges, Peter Craig, Peter O'Brien, Eric "Bombo" Reynolds, Max Herron, Jimmy Gray, Bob Gratton, Tich McGregor, Bert Moore, "Bluey" Walsh.

● Knocking them over steadily and enjoying each other's company were A Coy. 2/1 blokes—

Casey Brown, Don Slater, Wally Young, Mick Dobson, Gordon Finlay, George Levy, Harry Crowe, "Nip" Kearsley.

● "Nip" Kearsley and Henry Nicholls were a little disappointed so many of their old mates were not at the smoko. Nevertheless, they send greetings and best wishes to all who could not make it.

● Dave Austin, Tom McGinnis, Eric Appleton, Ray Lester and Jim McGuirk, all of B Coy. 2/1, were noticed enjoying a quiet and happy night.

● Noticed having a drink together before getting around to meet other friends were—

"Taffy" Lawrence, Sam Lewis, "Stumpy" Curtain, "Snowy" Jardine, George Edmons, Jack Russel, Ted Skoyles.

● At another table, in animated conversation and nibbling at the tasty delicacies provided by the association, and, of course, sipping a drink occasionally, were regular attenders—

"Bricky" Wall, Jack Bertram, Tom Kelly, Jack Brown, Ted Jensen, Harry Stockwell, Jack Collis. who were all members of the R.A.P. in the good old days.

● Bert Matheson, Mick Egan, George Perry, Jack McKnight, and Alan McInnes, all of the 2/2, were noticed having a few together and quietly enjoying the atmosphere that comes only with true comradeship—found only in one place, the Army.

● Colonel Williams, Gordon Finlay, Cyril Morahan, John Morahan, Alan McInnes, Henry Nicholls, Jack Westwood were the officers of the two battalions present. They were very cordially welcomed by all and we trust they enjoyed their night out with the boys.

● "Nip" Kearsley (A Coy. 2/1), who always comes down from Ourimbah on the Central Coast for these happy functions, brought with him this time Henry Nicholls. Henry, on retirement from the Army, bought the farm next to "Nip's." Unfortunately, he had little time to get used to the many difficult phases of mixed farming, for within three months he was recalled to the services. Now with many campaigns behind him and honours thick upon him, Henry will

surely be an inspiration to those young fellows who, for the first time, are about to learn a little bit of what it all means.

● Ted Skoyles (C Coy. 2/1) came up from Wollongong. Ted never misses a function, and he brought word that old stalwart, Ian Kirkwood, who has been transferred to Wollongong by the State Lotteries Department, could not make it for the "do," but sent best wishes to all his old mates.

● Jack Pearce, Bob Lake, Doug. Shearston, "Nip" Kearsley and Henry Nicholls sipped a couple together and talked of the old days in the desert.

● Ray Lester (B Coy. 2/1), another who is always present at the roll call on these most happy and important dates, brought the best wishes to all present from Frank Dynon, now secretary/manager of the mighty North Sydney Services Club.

● The one and only Casey Brown was adamant to all and sundry (who would listen) that he was without a doubt the best footballer produced by the Pioneers.

In regard to the par in the last paper written about Alf Carter, Casey says it wasn't only lack of hair, but also leaden feet that kept him out of the "big stuff." We would like to hear some support for our little "Alfie."

● "Taffy" Lawrence, an original in C Coy. 2/1 and who now receives a very deserving pension, is willing to help any member of the association or of the two battalions who happens to be in Sydney town and who needs comfort, directions or assistance in any way.

● George Perry, of the 2/2, who won the raffle for a dozen bottles of beer, made a magnificent gesture by handing the prize over to Max Herron, the secretary, for the benefit of the Paper Wrapping Committee. This will be most appreciated by members of that body who gather at the secretary's home to wrap and work on the dispatch of the units paper. Many thanks for your kindness, George, your health will be drunk right nobly.

● "Bricky" Wall (Don Coy. 2/1), now of Bellevue Hill and commissionaire at Phoenix House, the home of the Blue Star Shipping Line, sends greetings to all old friends and would like to know if anyone has heard of or seen Ernie Collins (Don Coy. 2/1), who left the battalion to go to the "Old and Bold" in the Middle East in 1941.

● Laurie Fitzhenry (B Coy. 2/1) made a brief visit to the smoko. After a few with John and Cyril Morahan, Ray Lester, Gordon Finlay and Bob Lake, Fitz. was off to the Rose Club, of which he is a prominent member, dedicated to the growing of fine rose blooms and champion buds. Laurie is well to the fore, with over 300 roses in his very fine garden. He sends best wishes to all old mates in the 2/1 Battalion.

EDITORIAL

A-N-Z-A-C

Anzac — a name based upon the initials of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps.

It had its origin in the fact that the Headquarters of General (later Field Marshal) Birdwood were in Sheppard's Hotel, Cairo, and that the corridor outside the clerks' rooms gradually filled with boxes bearing the term "Australian and New Zealand Corps."

To use this name constantly in full in telegrams and documents was too cumbersome, so for registering correspondence, two sergeants, Little and Middleton, cut a rubber stamp with the initials "A and NZAC," which the clerks referred to as the "Anzac Stamp."

CODE NAME "ANZAC" ADOPTED IN 1915

Very soon afterwards Major Wagstaff, one of Birdwood's operational staff, mentioned that a code name was needed, and the word "Anzac" was mentioned and later approved and adopted by General Birdwood and came into use in 1915.

A few days after the landing on Gallipoli the name was given to a cove where the landing took place and it has been used ever since.

The Australian and New Zealand troops in that war eventually became known as "Anzacs," though the term "Anzac" generally meant one who had served in Gallipoli.

The name has been perpetuated by the setting aside in each year of 25th April (the date of the landing on Anzac Cove in 1915), both in Australia and New Zealand, as a day of remembrance.

By legislation of the Commonwealth Parliament (Defence Regulation Act, 1921) the word "Anzac" is protected and neither it nor any word resembling it may be used as a title or commercially, except by the permission of the Governor-General. It is similarly protected by law in New Zealand and the United Kingdom.

PLEASE KEEP FOR REFERENCE

PROGRAMME FOR 1965-66

● 1965

APRIL 24—WREATH LAYING CEREMONY.

APRIL 24—ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

APRIL 25—ANZAC MARCH—AFTERWARDS REUNION, 2/1-2/2 AT HARRY BURLAND HALL, NEWTOWN. 2/2 AT ST. PETERS.

MAY 28—COMMITTEE MEETING.

JULY 23—"PIONEER NEWS" WRAPPING MEETING.

(Copy to Printer, June 16).

AUGUST 27—SOCIAL COMMITTEE MEETING.

(CASTLEREAGH HOTEL)

OCTOBER 22—COMMITTEE MEETING.

NOVEMBER 5—"PIONEER NEWS" WRAPPING MEETING.

(Copy to Printer, October 6).

NOVEMBER 19—BI-ANNUAL SMOKO—CASTLEREAGH HOTEL.

● 1966

FEBRUARY 18—SOCIAL COMMITTEE MEETING.

MARCH 25—COMMITTEE MEETING.

APRIL 8—"PIONEER NEWS" WRAPPING MEETING.

(Copy to Printer, March 7).

APRIL 24—WREATH LAYING CEREMONY.

APRIL 24—ANNUAL MEETING.

APRIL 25—ANZAC MARCH—AFTERWARDS REUNION, 2/1-2/2, AT CASTLEREAGH HOTEL. 2/2 AT ST. PETERS.

FILL IN AND ENCLOSE IN LETTER — USE BLOCK LETTERS

Christian Name.....Surname.....

Unit.....Company.....Platoon.....

Address.....

Post to: MAX HERRON, 3 ENOGGERA ROAD, BEVERLY HILLS, N.S.W.

INTRODUCING . . .

JACK WESTWOOD

Our third Honorary Life Member, Jack Westwood (pictured below), needs very little introduction to members of the association. Jack has been on the General Committee since 1956, first in the position of Vice-President and for the last six years as our Social Secretary.

Enlisting in May, 1940, Jack went from Ingleburn to Greta, where the 2/1 Pioneers were formed, and attached to B Coy. The battalion sailed on the "Johan De Whit" in September, 1940, for the Middle East, and after travelling from Palestine to Egypt and Lybia, Jack returned to Tobruk with B Coy. just before the Benghazi Handicap. He was in the seige of Tobruk, where he was promoted to sergeant. Evacuated in September, 1941, through illness, he re-joined the battalion in Palestine.



ALONG THE KOKODA TRAIL

Returning to Australia in 1942, Jack saw service in New Guinea on the Kokoda Trail, and was commissioned in December, 1942.

After the war he returned to his old job as a painter with the Salvation Army, and these days he is also secretary-treasurer-manager of a block of home units in Lakemba where he lives.

Jack has always been interested in soccer, cricket, tennis and league, and whilst stationed on the Atherton Tablelands refereed many big Army league matches.

He and his wife, Laura, have four sons—two of whom are married with families.

As our Social Secretary, Jack has put a terrific amount of time and energy into his job and the success of our functions is largely due to his efforts.

In recognition of the sterling service he has given to the association over the years, Jack was presented with his Life Membership Certificate at our October Committee meeting.

R.S.S. & A.I.L.A. OPERATION EXCHANGE

By BOB LEHMANN, H.Q. Coy. 2/1 (Tour Manager)

Six girls, thirty-four boys, a chaperone, two managers and one liaison officer assembled at the R.S.L. Club at Casino on Saturday, 9th January, 1965, as the Far North Coast Youth Delegation of the R.S.L. to travel to Sydney as part of "Operation Exchange," at no cost whatsoever.

We travelled by train and were met at Central Station by the Eastern Metropolitan District Council Committee and our hosts and hostesses on Sunday morning.

For quite a few of the boys this was their first visit to Sydney. They made the most of their first day, which was a free day.

On Monday we assembled at Botany R.S.L. Club and travelled into the City for a visit to the Technological Museum and then later to Anzac House and a wreath-laying ceremony at the Cenotaph. We had lunch at Anzac House and travelled via the underground railway to Circular Quay, and visited the A.M.P. Building, making a conducted tour of the whole building.

On the next day, Tuesday, we were taken to Port Kembla Steel Works, and once again we had a conducted tour of the works. We saw the whole process of steel manufacture. This was one of the three big highlights of the tour and I managed to get some really good movie shots there.

On the way home we stopped at Sublime Point Look-out. What a fantastic view is obtained from this vantage point.

On Wednesday we assembled at noon at Botany Club and were taken to Luna Park. You can imagine the wonderful fun we had there. All tickets were supplied by E.M.D.C. Committee.

ONE SMALL MARTINI FOR ONE SMALL BOY

Thursday we visited the Harbour Bridge Pylon and then to David Jones for lunch. I could write for quite a long time on dinner at D.J.'s with the boys. They could have whatever they wanted; one boy asked if he could have a small martini. You know what answer he got.

After dinner at D.J.'s we visited St. James Theatre and saw the "Unsinkable Molly Brown."

Friday was a free day and I can assure you I for one needed it. The girls and boys were with us each day and then we were entertained each night at the various R.S.L. Clubs in the Eastern Metropolitan District, starting with Paddington-Woolahra on Sunday afternoon, Bondi Junction-Waverley Wednesday night, Clovelly on Thursday night, Malabar, Friday night. Saturday, I slept nearly all day, as when we visited these clubs we didn't get home until well after midnight.

Saturday night we were guests at the Speedway. Sunday we were taken on a picnic to Kurnell, where we joined with another group taking part in "Operation Exchange." I am not sure, but I think it was Western Districts Council R.S.L.

Monday was number two of our big highlights, with a visit to Katoomba. We left Central at 8.30 a.m. and arrived at Katoomba at 11.30. After lunch at the guest house we visited all the local points of interest, including the Skyway and Scenic Railway. The camera enthusiasts had a field day. We stayed at the guest house overnight and next day visited the Jenolan Caves, which was,

coins and also the good coins being weighed, counted and wrapped.

Thursday we enjoyed a wonderful cruise around the Harbour, commencing at 9 a.m. and finishing at 5 p.m. We saw all of the Harbour, from the Heads to the Gladesville Bridge, including Middle Harbour and all of the many bays and inlets. We had lunch at Clifton Gardens. A visit to the Taronga Park Zoo was enjoyed by all. However, as we had only two hours there, there were some parts we missed.

Friday saw us at Garden Island Dockyard, and on Saturday, our final day, several girls and boys were interviewed at 2KY by "Tiger" Black.



The group of six girls, thirty-four boys, one chaperone and two managers (one is our member, Bob Lehmann, who is at the top right, at foot of the stairs), from Casino as the Far North Coast Delegation of the R.S.L. to Sydney.

of course, number three of the big highlights. These, of course, were the big highlights as far as I personally was concerned. A visit to Jenolan Caves is something which I had always wanted to see, but had never seemed to get there. They are truly magnificent.

On the return journey to Katoomba we stopped at Hartley for fruit and apple cider.

CIVIC RECEPTION AT THE TOWN HALL

On Wednesday, back in Sydney, we were given a Civic Reception. The Lord Mayor was unfortunately absent, so the Town Clerk deputised for him. We later visited the head office of the Bank of N.S.W. and were given a conducted tour of the building and all departments. The most interesting point for the girls and boys was the room where we saw money being checked for counterfeit

Later in the day we assembled at Maroubra for a farewell function.

HOME—TIRED OUT BUT HAPPY

As I stated previously, we, the tour managers, were entertained at night as well as by day. In the second week we were guests at Matraville, Maroubra (my headquarters) and Botany. We arrived home on Sunday, 24th, tired out but very happy.

The girls' tour was not the same as the boys, although they were with us at Luna Park, the Harbour Cruise and the Civic Reception. They were with us, too, on the first day at the Cenotaph, etc.

I would like to say in closing that I did not meet one Pioneer during the tour, although I did speak to Max Herron on the 'phone from Maroubra.

(Continued on Page Five)

2/2nd NEWS JOTTINGS

It is with deep regret that we learnt of the recent death of our very popular cobbler, **JACK HOWIE**, who died of a heart complaint on March 4.

Jack was of a quiet disposition and liked by all who came in contact with him. He was always willing to lend a helping hand whenever needed.

Already, many of his friends from the unit have visited his wife and family to offer their condolences.

To Joan and family we extend our deepest sympathy.

ARTHUR KELLY, who is on a rambling holiday, invited Dick Kennewell and wife to dinner at the Coogee Oceanic Hotel recently. According to reports a good night was had by all. Guess who picked up the bill?

PODGE SULLIVAN contacted Don Lawson by phone at Christmas and stated he was enjoying the hospitality of the Bankstown R.S.L. as a guest of Frank Locane. We hope to see "Podge" and his brother, Harry, over the Anzac weekend.

TOM REYNOLDS, it is rumoured, has become a very successful punter—in the Perc. Galea class—one new Holden for a weekend's attack.

BASIL ST. VINCENT WELCH, of C Coy., is now a doctor at the Transport Department and is really looking forward to meeting his old friends on Anzac Day.

PADRE STAN CLAUGHTON invites ALL Pioneers to his Remembrance Service to be held at the Methodist Church, Canterbury, on Sunday, October 24, at 7.30 p.m. The service is a week earlier this year as the Padre is away from Sydney the following week.

Those members who attended last year will tell what an impressive service this is to remember—so make a note of it now to be there.

We appeal to all 2/2nd Pioneers to attend the Wreath Laying Ceremony, the Association's Annual Meeting, the Anzac March and the usual 2/2 Reunion, which will be held at St. Peters, after the march.

We would like to see more mail from 2/2nd members, and letters may be sent to the Secretary or to me at the address shown below.

DON LAWSON.

35 Clifton Road,
Clovelly, N.S.W.

OPERATION EXCHANGE

Continued from Page Four

The Eastern Metropolitan District gave us a truly wonderful time and I will never forget it. There were always at least three of them with us, arranging transport, attending to all of our wants and assisting generally with the boys. I made some very firm friends.

[Editor's Note.—This is an excellent article and we are very grateful to Bob for sending it to us. He is to be congratulated on his fine effort, not only as a correspondent but also on his part in bringing these children to the "Big Smoke." Anyone attending to the needs of the youth of to-day deserves the highest praise. Many thanks, Bob, for a job well done.]

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**From: DENNIS GEORGE (H.Q. 2/1),
Larrakeyah Barracks, Darwin, N.T.**

Dear Max,

The long silence breaks at last. First of all, many thanks for your efforts on my behalf as regards a meeting with some of the boys whilst I was in Sydney—or rather, Casula—last year. Unfortunately, I could only get to town at week-ends (the whole two of them), and much time was taken up with duty calls on relatives, etc.

I did look in at the Sussex on two or three occasions, but they were on Saturday mornings, so my apologies to Bobbie Lake and Whitely. Secondly, Max, thanks for the November copy of the "News" and the wealth of interesting information contained therein.

Just for the record, a brief run down on my post-war activities. Having elected to stay in the Army, I continued serving with Signals and was posted first to Melbourne, then Singapore in '47, Woomera from '49 to '52, Japan '52 and '53, and Darwin, Melbourne and Darwin from '53 to '59. I paid off on 3rd October, 1959 (too old) and stayed on the Command Headquarters in a civilian capacity as Staff Captain. We have our own home up here and at the moment have no intention of returning to the high pressure existence of the big cities.

There were three of us up here when I first arrived, Jack Allan, now in Brisbane, and Junior Fotheringham, who unfortunately died some years ago, leaving, as far as I know, only yours truly.

It was really something to read the names of those lucky enough to attend the "Grafton Smoko" and wonderful to note that the old Sig Pin was well represented by such ex-members as Billy Dundas, Bob Burnside, Pat Noonan and Harold Leese.

We drove through that country on leave about 18 months ago on the way from Beaudesert to Canberra. We had already come down through Mount Isa, then up to Cairns and the Tablelands (to see the old haunts) and, in fact, were on our way home via Canberra, Port Augusta, Alice Springs, etc, but were a little short of time.

However, I give fair warning now that all things being equal I shall be driving through the area, probably about November this year, and I won't be in a hurry.

So, providing the local representatives don't abandon the place as a consequence of my proposed visit, I shall look forward to renewing many old friendships in the traditional manner. This will certainly include Freddie Brooks, who apparently now lives in Taree.

Thanks again, Max, for your efforts, and those of the boys who were in on the act of trying to contact me last year.

I am enclosing a couple of quid with this for my subs. for the year, if it is not enough please let me know. If there is any over, your Welfare Fund no doubt has worthy causes to assist.

If I have missed any copies of the "News" since November, 1964, issue, I would appreciate a copy if you have a spare.

In the meantime, all the best to all and may the association rise to even greater achievements during the coming year.

Yours sincerely,
DENNIS GEORGE.

Beaumont, South Australia.

From: MAX LAW (B Coy. 2/1),

Dear Max,

It is about time that I wrote to you once again, as time seems to have flown very quickly.

The first item of interest is that following the visit to Adelaide last year by Jim Robertson and his wife from Wentworth, N.S.W., Jim, Ern, Hayden and myself have decided to go to Sydney for Anzac Day this year. I am not sure how we will get there or how long we will be staying, but it seems at this stage that Ern and myself will be travelling together. I hope I am right in supposing that the march will be held on Monday, 26th April, and that some sort of reunion will take place after the march. We will probably leave Sydney on the Tuesday—or at least I will be anyway.

For your information, I received a postcard from Mick Roberts of Leeton, and it appears that some of the boys from that area hope to be in Sydney for Anzac Day. It looks as if there may be a good roll up for this year and I can assure you that Ern, and myself are looking forward very much to getting up there at that time.

Please find enclosed a cheque for £2/2/- as a subscription to the "Pioneer News."

Would you please note that Ern Hayden does not get the "Pioneer News" for the reason that he changed his address and he didn't advise you. His new address is enclosed and he will be pleased to be put on the mailing list. As you know, Ern is still with the Permanent Army in Adelaide and recently completed a month's camp at Woodside as a cadet instructor.

That's all for now, Max, I hope you and Peg enjoyed yourselves at the Jam-boree. I was hoping that you would get across to Adelaide, but apparently you didn't make it.

As a matter of interest, I did not go to Sydney this year on leave, but spent two pleasant weeks in Tasmania.

Looking forward to seeing you in April.

Yours sincerely,
MAX LAW.

● SEE YOU AT THE HARRY BURLAND HALL, 218-222 KING STREET, NEWTOWN, ON ANZAC DAY, SUNDAY, APRIL 25, 1965, AT 12 NOON



J. McNIGHT (D Coy. 2/2) writes as follows: "I was pleased to be in the position to be able to attend the Bi-Annual Reunion, held in the Hotel Castlereagh, Sydney, on 20th November, 1964, by the 2/1 and 2/2 Pioneer Association.

"A good time was extended by the administration staff handling this function.

"There was plenty to eat and drink and we all had a good evening. I was pleased to meet Allen McInnes and to see Mike Regan there—just to mention a couple. This was my first roll up since the war."

H. A. HUTTLEY (H.Q. Coy. 2/2), from Bloomsbury, via Mackay, Queensland, writes a very nice letter and apparently we had some problems with subscriptions which have been ironed out. To Mr. Huttley, we ask one thing: would you please furnish christian name. All these things do go to help make the reading of this paper a little bit more satisfying.

A worthy letter with reference to the Proserpine Sugar Mill, which in seven months crushed 640,000 tons of sugar cane. Mr. Huttley states that a shortage of cane cutters prevailed last season, and an even bigger one was expected this year.

There is big money in Queensland, but you've got to work darn hard to get it. So don't any of you city slickers even consider hopping up there to get a quid. (Anyone interested for a little bit of a lesson could possibly contact Spag White—cane cutter from wayback).

To H.A. again, and all members of the association, whether 2/1 or 2/2, we do need a record of christian name, surname, battalion company and platoon. If and when writing to the secretary supply the above information **ALL IN BLOCK LETTERS**.

DON MURRAY, Tinonee via Taree (2/2), quotes that Bernie Daley (2/2) will be in Concord. Also had a visit from Stan Baulch (Machine Gun Platoon, 2/2), who has given up growing potatoes and has gone into the cafe business, cooking the same bloody spuds. He also speaks of trying to look up Butch Phillips, but didn't have time, so Don and Stan settled with talking about Butch and his doings for a few hours.

Another mate, Allan Stone, also has given up farming and gone to work down Newcastle way. Don speaks of missing this particular fellow, as apparently in his younger days he was a good footballer, but he expects that he will pass on his knowledge to the stars in the Newcastle area.

Our Welfare Officer, Jack Collis, was on holidays when this letter arrived, so it was arranged for Jack Henderson to visit Bernie. While on this subject, to you, Don, we would appreciate the address of Stan Baulch if possible, as we do not have any knowledge of him on our records.

FRANK CHEAL (D Coy. 2/2). As Editor, I submit my humble apologies and also those of Max Herron. 'Tis not often that one of the 2/2 fails to rise up in the ranks to be greeted as one of the 2/1. However, we do appreciate the blood spirit that comes from south of the border and we appreciate shots that are shots, and they will be accepted in the same way as they are given.

Joking aside, our worthy Secretary, Max Herron, informs us of the terrific job done by Frank Cheal at the Scouts' Jamboree, and on behalf of all Pioneers (2/1 and 2/2) and all Scouters generally, we thank you for the hospitality issued to all the cornstalks while visiting your wee little State.

• While the Mail Bag from the 2/2 is gradually increasing, we would really like to be able to write many more columns concerning your chaps. So don't be backward, write a letter, if not to our secretary, to your own fellow members who are residents of New South Wales, so that we, in turn, can pass on much more information about your battalion to your own fellow members.

FRANK DYNON (2/1), is now secretary/manager of the North Sydney Anzac Club, and all will realise the above position occupies far more time than most of our club members realise. Frank quotes of impossibilities to attend our functions. Friday night, of course, is impossible, while Anzac Day—if possible—is more impossible!!

However, Frank is never left all alone on these occasions.

I would presume that there would not be one night or day that some of the boys don't happen to just be in that Cammeray area and, of course, while there they just have to look the "Red Wog" up. Many thanks for your letter, Frank, also the donation.

One of these days maybe our honorary executive may have the time to pass over the bridge to the better side of life and look you up, too.

BILL STEER (H.Q. Coy. 2/1), Mortars (Crabdrawers), encloses a postal note, and Bill quotes as being a seaman for some considerable time. I can substantiate this, as I remember when I struck Bill in a pub in Day Street, and at that time he was employed on the ship, "Cycle." Bill, who is now a resi-

dent of Newcastle, speaks of meeting occasionally Jack Wallis and Mickey Flynn—quotes also that he was in Western Australia for a few years and saw nobody.

From the West of Queensland and then back to a life of ease at Marks Point, he speaks of battling through many issues of the "News" and does say that when he gets back into his writing stride will be able to fill us in with a lot more information.

Keep it up, Bill, you just jog the old grey matter (if you've got any left) and we'll do our best to try and make use of it.

• Following on the Mortar Sergeant's letter comes a letter from the Mortar Officer, **KEN STUART** (2/1), now of Turrumurra.

Ken writes of a trip up the north, Ballina, Lismore, Casino, and back home via Glen Innes and Armidale.

At Casino, Ken realised it was only a hop, step and a jump (to a good athlete) to Kyogle, so he decided to visit the town, looking particularly for Ray Smith, Peter Bell and Leo Ferris.

A little disappointed, he only saw Peter Bell and Cec. Blanche, as Ray was out of town. Leo has a sawmill and as we quoted in the last edition, Ferris Timbers will continue for many years to come.

However, Ken had to leave, but about 8.30 that night got his biggest and best surprise of all when into the room walked Ray Smith, his wife Marie, Peter Bell and Leo.

After that night in a little motel room Ken Stuart will recommend Kyogle as one of the greatest places of its size in N.S.W. and well worthy of a visit. As the letters above more or less coincide (Ken, as you know, was the Mortar Officer, and Bill Steers was his Platoon Sergeant), it makes good reading when they can both recommend certain towns over the coast for a visit.

It would appear that whether you be 2/1 or 2/2 you would have no trouble in making up a good holiday visit if you had it in mind.

Mrs T. TAYLOR, McDougall Street, Milson's Point, writes a short letter informing us of the death of her husband, Sydney Alan Taylor. We extend to you our sincere sympathy and would appreciate a letter if you wish us to continue sending you copies of our paper as it goes to press.

Mrs E. J. McDOWALL, Bright Street, Lismore, informs us of the death of her husband, H. C. McDowall, on 3rd October, 1964. To you, Mrs. McDowall, we also extend our sincere sympathies and

FROM THE MAILBAG

would appreciate a letter saying whether you wish to continue receiving our paper.

BILLY HOFFMAN (2/1), Kyogle, and our country vice-president, sends a letter telling of Brian Jackson having a recent operation at Greenslopes Hospital in Brisbane. "Jacko," as we all knew him, would be well up and about by now. Bill also enclosed a couple of photos taken during the 1964 march, showing the battalion approaching St. Mary's Cathedral. Sorry, Bill, but the photos are not large enough for reproduction in the paper.

Bill thanks Harold Leese for his terrific administration at the Grafton Smoko.

It is also with regret that we hear of the death of Jack Sherman's father, who died in Kyogle in October, 1964. Keep up the good work, Bill, and we will be looking forward to seeing you and a contingent from Kyogle at the Anzac week-end.

PHIL MAHEY (B Coy. 2/1), and now of Leeton, writes a cheery letter on behalf of Mick Roberts and himself. Mick has a cheque book, so the battalion funds increased by \$2/5/-, a £1 for Phil, a £1 for Alec Strachan, of Hanwood, N.S.W. Back numbers of the paper have been posted to Phil, Alec and also P. A. Gordon, of Fairfield. Phil sends his best wishes to all of B Coy., and the battalion and quotes confidence in having good representation from Leeton for Anzac Day.

ERIC DENYER (D Coy. 2/1), and now of Gwynneville, via Wollongong, writes a letter requesting our secretary's assistance in certain private matters. By return mail the secretary attended to Eric's personal requests, and we hope this advice has bettered your position with regard to the repatriation. Many thanks, Eric, continue to drop a line occasionally and keep in touch.

H. D. JACKSON sends a change of address to Olga Street, Chatswood. We think this is "Pasha" Jackson, but this would be the briefest change of address letter we have ever received. No christian name, no battalion, no company and "no nothing." So, up to you, Mr. Jackson.

Reverend F. W. LOVELESS (2/1), of Trundle, writes blaming Bob Lake for not being at the Sussex when he was in Sydney. Also blames Lake for not handing in his change of address. Seems like Lakey made a "booboo." Sorry, Fred, I thought I had passed it on, however, let bygones be bygones and I'll say no more about it.

Fred writes of another little party in Repat. and they have given him an okay for three to six months at least.

He quotes of next stop being the Sussex for a bit of a heart starter and by missing Lake, missed the knowledge of the Smoko on the Friday night and pushed off to Trundle on the Thursday.

He quotes of being a poor parson and cannot afford the enclosed quid, but

he enclosed it anyway. One of these days he reckons he will strike a smoko, "then some more Sydney eyebrows may be raised."

He claims it was encouragement by the Pioneers of the Lady Blamey days that taught one how to handle 'em. Not having Lake, by the way, he did a bar crawl through the Menzies—a fascinating place and one he thoroughly recommends. Regards to all from Fred Loveless.

● A short note from **ALFIE CARTER** (2/1), enclosing more of his jottings and explaining a bit more committee business that he, McGregor and Westwood attended to with arrangements for Anzac Day. Alf has not been the best lately and finally decided to look up the local medico with regard to his 'eart. However, after much examining and much testing, we are happy to say that Alfie's 'eart is good for another 30 years. As Alf reckons, "my 'eart will outlast the rest of time."

PHIL RUBIE (H.Q. Coy. 2/1) sends a welcome donation per a letter from his good wife. Thanks, Mrs. Rubie, and your good wishes to association members for the new year are heartily reciprocated.

A short note was received from **JACK McCracken** (B Coy. 2/1), enclosing his subs. Jack has recently returned from a few weeks at Wingham and sends best wishes to all, especially to Jack Collis.

HENRY SMITH (Btn. H.Q. 2/1), writes from Mount Waverley, Victoria, for news of the old battalion. Copies of our paper will be posted to you regularly in future, and we are sure you will find in it all the news you seek. Subscription is 5/- per annum, so you are assured of a few years' supply with your donation.

JIM IRELAND (D Coy. 2/1), from Indooroopilly in Queensland, sends a welcome letter and sub., with a photo also enclosed of Don Coy's football team. Sorry that the photograph was not clear enough for reproduction, Jim, but I will pass it around to some of the boys before mailing it back to you. Elsewhere in this issue Bob Lake is looking for some sideline selectors for the battalion's best team, so how about being his first contestant.

JACK HAMILTON (A Coy. 2/1), a professional fisherman at Kiama, wishes to be remembered to his mates. How about a letter, Jack?

GEORGE LEVY (2/1), attended the smoko in November and thoroughly enjoyed himself. George had not been in the best of health following a stroke, but is now feeling much better.

● **Harry Hamer** (H.Q. 2/1), and now the proprietor of the Motel Terrigal, invites any of the Pioneers travelling to the Central Coast to call and see him. Harry assures them of a fine welcome at the local.

FLASHBACKS FROM ALF CARTER

BOB LONG, H.Q., 2/1, now of Kirrawee, is the successful owner of an instrument overhauling shop.

CEC. HART, C Coy., 2/1, now in a Housing Commission place at Villawood, is an ironworker with Structural Steel Ltd.

JACK HARVEY, B Coy., 2/1, now of Kogarah, is a boiler operator with the Electricity Commission at Pyrmont and sends cheers to all his old mates.

JEFF BIGGS, A Coy., 2/1, and now of the outer suburb of Sutherland, is doing very well for himself as a contract plasterer.

GEORGE PERRY, 2/2, now of Eastwood, is a storeman with W. C. Penfold, the printing people.

That well-known identity of "B" Coy. 2/1, **ALAN "BABY" CRANE**, is doing well these days with an important position with a furnishing firm. Alan has one of those fine Housing Commission flats in Waterloo, and old friend, Danny Gardiner, "E" Coy. 2/1, has another flat in the same block.

ARTHUR LUDDINGTON, A Coy., 2/1, happy with his own home at Rockdale, has a most important job with the Department of Air, procuring spares and spare parts for engines.

MERV. REES, H.Q., 2/1, now of Dorrig, where he has a farm and is doing very nicely. Merv. says cheers to all old pals in 2/1.

"SHREWIDIE" PERCIVAL, Don Coy., 2/1, now in a place of his own at Crows Nest. "Shrewdie" works for the North Sydney Council with Joe White and, of all things, is a keen follower of Rugby Union football.

NOEL TREFONI, B Coy., 2/1, now married with his own home at Toongabbie, is a fitter with Grasslands, the farm equipment people.

"LOFTY" HANNAN, A Coy., 2/1, in a home unit at Harbord and working at the Government Printing Office, says cheers to all 2/1 fellows. "Lofty" is a Life Member of the Rugby League Referees' Association and also a Life Member of the Junior Rugby League Association.

BOB WILLIAMS, B Coy., 2/1, now with a wheat and sheep run at Boorowa in the south-west part of the State. Bob is doing nicely and often sees Jack Smart, A Coy 2/1, who works on another property in the district.

NED JENNINGS, C Coy., 2/1, is now well established on a mixed farm at North Kurrajong and is starting to reap the results of the great efforts he has put into it. Ned sends best wishes to all old C Coy mates.

KEV. CORTAIN, C Coy., 2/1, of Greenaway Flats, Milsons Point, is a maker of printing inks for Sydney Cooke Ltd.

NOEL SCHOMBERG, H.Q., 2/1, another Pioneer with a fine place of his own at Dundas. Noel is a boilermaker inspector at Le Tourneau-Westinghouse in the outer Sydney suburb of Rydalmere.

● Des "Tiny" Field (B Coy. 2/1), now Gundagai, again sends best wishes to all his old mates in the battalion.

JOTTINGS

BY ALF. CARTER

TED JENSEN, B Coy., 2/1, with his own home at Doonside, is a driver with the P.M.G. Ted is still a keen cricketer with the Enfield Club.

BILL CHISHOLM, C Coy., 2/1, with a little palace of his own at North Ryde, is now the works manager of Blaxland Rae Ltd.

MAX "Slim" WILSON, now of Stockton, Newcastle, is doing well at the Commonwealth Steel Co. Ltd. and often has a yarn with Jack McCracken and Ivan Pepper, and they all send best wishes to all 2/1 mates.

All of Don Coy., 2/1, chaps will be happy to hear that **NORM. PAGET** is doing nicely for himself in business at Mittagong, N.S.W.

LANCE GAYDON, A Coy., 2/1, now with the elite at Punchbowl, is doing pretty well these days as a contract painter and says cheerio to all the boys.

"TICH" TURNBULL, A Coy, 2/1, now of Glebe, is an ironworker with the people who handle the cup that cheers, Tooths Brewery.

DES. GRATTAN, B Coy., 2/1, living at Leichhardt, is with the Maintenance Branch at the Randwick Bus Depot.

LAST POST

We are indebted to our Welfare Officer, Jack Collis, for sending along the following information regarding our former members:—

NX 20356, D. W. McLenan, 2/1.
 NX 14628, Pte. W. A. Pollock, 2/1.
 NX 23465, Pte. G. H. Quigg, 2/1.
 NX 58210, Pte. S. M. Williams, 2/2.
 NX 19288, W.O.2 R. O. Evaratt, 2/1.
 NX 18313, Pte. A. Pearce, 2/1.
 NX 21060, Pte. W. A. Pinder, 2/1.
 NX 29614, W. A. (Bill) Fyfe, 2/1.
 NX 52078, Pte. J. E. Ryan, 2/1.
 Denny McDevitt, D Coy. 2/1.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to the relatives of all the abovementioned members.

SUCCESS STORY

It is with deep regret that we have to announce the possible loss of one of our typists. As this paper goes to press, same typist has ideas of a holiday on the Gold Coast, and on return will announce her engagement—if she meets nobody else!

The girl mentioned is Gail Lake, our first typist, and all the second typist can say is: "You'll be sorry." Reminds one of the army.

However, the engagement of Gail Lake to Jim Swinburne will be officially announced in our battalion paper before it hits the "Herald" (how about that!)

WELFARE REPORT

Members visited at the Concord Repatriation Hospital since our last report have been:

Tom Hugo, Bob McGregor, Jack Westwood, Don Lawson, Bernie Daly and Gordon Walsh.

All have now been discharged since the last report was received, and we hope they are all doing well.

At present there are no members in hospital—that is, none we have been informed of. If you hear of anyone entering hospital, please contact me at the address below, so that I can pay them a call.

JACK COLLIS, Welfare Officer,
 22 Fisher Street, Auburn.
 Phone 648-1509.

SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE

The administration costs of this Association are steadily increasing and the only avenue to recoup these costs is from subscriptions sent in.

The local lads will be digging deep on Anzac Day, so it is up to those who do not attend the march to send in their subscriptions promptly.

A good intake of subscriptions, plus a roll up of mail with news, is ample reward for the hard-working band of committeemen for their year's labour of love.

All we ask is five shillings per year, and if you are five years behind, well just send along twenty-five shillings, and we will guarantee your receipt of the "Pioneer News."

FOOTBALL

As I wrote in an earlier edition, our battalion football teams were all good—some, each man thought, were better than others. However, this I consider was one of the best teams to represent our battalion.

Full-Back: Alf Gelch.

Three-Quarters: Len Weyman, Fred Wheaton, "Tiny" Thirby, Alec George.

Halves: Ray Horne, "Snow" Hemmings.

Forwards: George Scholes, Charles ("Speedy") Rock, Jim Rhodes, Alec Cameron, Wally Brown, "Nip" Kearsley.

This is my team, so now all you sideline selectors, put your heads together, give it some deep thought and send me copies of your team. This could go to make some interesting reading and would probably bring a lot more names to all readers' memories.

Post your selections to: **BOB LAKE**,
 43 Amourin Street, Brookvale.

FOR LAUGHING OUT LOUD

Actual extracts from letters to the Pensions Department:—

● I want my money as quick as possible, I have been in bed with a doctor for a week and he isn't doing any good. I will be getting another doctor next week.

● My son has been put in charge of a spittoon. Do I get any more money?

● I am very annoyed to find that you have branded my son illiterate; it's a dirty lie, because I married his father a week before he was born.

● Unless I get my husband's money I will be forced to lead an immortal life.

● I am glad to report that my husband that was reported missing, is now dead.

● Mrs. Brown has not had any clothes for twelve months and is visited regularly by the minister.

Wally Page.

"GROG ECONOMICS"

A possible answer to an earlier edition of John Harnetty's article on "Grog."

"Since you cannot refrain from drinking, why not start a hotel in your own home. Be the only customer and you will not have to buy a licence.

Give your wife £7/12/- to buy four cartons of beer. There are 240 drinks in four cartons of beer. Buy all your own drinks from your wife at 1/- a glass.

At the end of seven days (when cartons are gone) your wife will have £4/8/- to put in the bank and £7/12/- to buy four more cartons of beer.

If you live for 20 years and continue to buy all your drinks from your wife, then die with your boots on, your widow will have £4,576—enough to educate and clothe your children, pay off the mortgage on your house, marry a decent man—and forget she ever knew a clot like you."

● CUT THIS OUT AND PUT IN YOUR POCKET AS A REMINDER

Place: **HARRY BURLAND HALL**
 Address: **218-222 KING STREET, NEWTOWN, opp. Shakespeare Hotel, (corner King and Hordern Streets).**
 Date: **SUNDAY, 25th APRIL, 1965, AT 12 NOON.**
 Admission: **FREE — ONLY CHARGE IS FOR DRINKS.**
 Membership: **ALL 2/1 AND 2/2 PIONEERS.**
 Reason: **ANZAC REUNION**

PIONEER NEWS

UL 5491

Official Organ of 2/1 and 2/2 PIONEER BATTALIONS ASSOCIATION

UL 5491

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DOUG. SHEARSTON

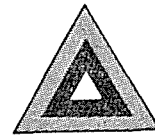
R. LAKE and M. HERRON

ALLAN McINNES

Vol. 10. No. 2

1st JULY, 1965

Price: 5/- Per Annum



Anzac Day March

Marching sixteen abreast, 30,000 ex-servicemen and women of four wars paid homage to the fallen.

As they marched past the Cenotaph, pride of place, naturally enough, went to the veterans of Gallipoli, led by Lieut.-Gen. Sir Iven Mackay. The parade was watched by 90,000 people from the sidelines.

The 2/1 Pioneers were led by Col. Geoff Graham and Col. Norm Neal for the first half, then by Major Gordon Osborn; and the 2/2 was led by Major Bill Robertson. The 2/1 and 2/2 line-up was very good and was most gratifying indeed.

As we marched the 1½ miles to the Domain there seemed to be more prolonged cheering than usual, so much so,

that it prompted members to ask if we had a paid cheer squad on the sidelines.

It appeared early in the morning that we were in for a wet day, but by 9 a.m. the sun was shining, and it lasted to be a perfect day. Both units were lucky enough to have their banners displayed on TV for a full 30 seconds, which delighted a number of members unable to attend the march. Major Osborn (2/1) remarked to me that it was like old times to see our men negotiate the corners sixteen abreast in perfect formation. "Well done, fellows!"

The parade ended in the Domain, but it was only the beginning of an enjoyable day for those who attended the Smoko.

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the association was held at the Returned Soldiers' Club, Elizabeth Street, Sydney, on Saturday, 24th April, 1965.

The meeting was chaired by the vice-president, Mr. Bob McGregor.

Forty-two members were present.

The vice-president thanked the executive and committee for the wonderful work they had done over the past twelve months.

He paid a special tribute to the social secretary, Jack Westwood, for the magnificent job he had done.

A special welcome was extended to the numerous country and interstate visitors in attendance.

Bill Hoffman brought greetings from the boys at Kyogle. Max Law and Ern Hayden, from South Australia, brought best wishes, and Col Shea, from Victoria, brought kind regards from the 2/2 Pioneer Association Committee.

OFFICE-BEARERS FOR 1965-1966

The following are your office-bearers for the ensuing year:—

Patron: Col. G. J. Graham.

President: Allan McInnes.

Vice-Presidents: 1. Bob McGregor; 2. Gordon Finlay; 3. Bill Hoffman; 4. D. Lawson.

Treasurer: Doug. Shearston.

Secretary: Max Herron.

Social Secretary: Jack Westwood.

Welfare Officer: Jack Collis.

Publicity Officer: Wally Page.

Trustees and Hon. Advisors: Col. G.

Graham, F. Allen, T. Crossman.

Master at Arms: Bob Lake.

Auditor: Arthur Watson.

Editors: Bob Lake, Max Herron, John Harnetty.

Reporters: 2/1, Bob McGregor, Alf Carter, Eddie Beaumont; 2/2, Jack Henderson, Don Lawson.

Committee:

Messrs. E. Appleton, P. Craig, J. Collis, R. Coogan, T. Crossman, G. Edman, I. Garnon, J. Hyde, W. Hodges, B. Moore, B. McCarter, J. McGuirk, P. O'Brien, J. Oliffe, A. Ronan, P. Walsh, B. Burnside, T. McInnes; plus the following, who are also members of the Social Committee: Messrs. A. Carter, J. Dodson, G. Finlay, J. Henderson, M. Herron, R. Lake, D. Lawson, R. McGregor, A. McInnes, W. Page, D. Shearston, G. Todd, J. Westwood, N. Woodham.

PIONEERS' REMEMBRANCE DAY

Life has plenty of surprises and pleasant surprises convey qualities that enrich one's experience.

Outside the Guildford Methodist Church on Sunday evening, 9th November, 1958, I noticed a fairly large group assembled, and in the dim light I could not make out the features, especially when for some reason or another, they all seemed to be looking away from where I passed.

Entering the church, I called one of the church stewards and said: "There's a crowd outside and I'm wondering whether or not I have made a 'blue' in my diary. I think they must be here for a baptism—but whose child it is I haven't a clue."

The introit was half over when in the group came and in the brighter lights I received one of the most pleasant and touching surprises of my career.

RAVENSHOE AND MORESBY DAYS

It reminded me of old times at Ravenshoe and Moresby to have before

me my mates of the 2/2nd Pioneers. It was more meaningful to me, since I had no part in organising the parade! Needless to add, I scrubbed my prepared notes and found myself living and describing a few of the episodes that are part and parcel of our Pioneer memories.

So that's how it happened—and every year since, of their own accord, Remembrance Day has been commemorated in a church service by our group.

This year we are holding our Remembrance Day Service on Sunday, 31st October, at 7.45 p.m., in the Canterbury Methodist Church, Canterbury Road, Canterbury (opposite the large Amoco Garage). A hearty, sincere welcome is extended to Pioneers and their families. After the service we meet for a cuppa and comradeship. Be sure to note the new date.

STAN CLAUGHTON (2/2)

ANZAC DAY WITH THE 2/2nds

Anzac Day, 1965, was one of the most successful we have had, more than 70 joining in the march. This number included the contingent from the Clovelly R.S.L.

Bill Robertson, led the 2/2nd, and the banner was carried by that old stalwart, Jim Fields, ably assisted by Col. Shea, who made a special trip over from Melbourne to be with the boys.

After the march the usual reunion was held at the little wooden hall at St. Peters with a roll up of 62. The catering was once again arranged by Dick Kennewell and, we are sorry to say, for the last time. Dick has looked after us royally for 17 years, but, like the rest of us, time is catching up on him, so as the saying goes we have to get off his back and do a bit for ourselves. On behalf of the boys, Dick, thanks a lot, and also to your good wife, Sylvia. We are going to miss the home cooking.

2/2nd JOTTINGS

By Reporter, DON LAWSON

Quite a lot of new faces this year, including Des. Martin, from Wodonga, who was not allowed to forget the time he fell off his horse when the boys backed him to win a race up on the Tablelands.

Basil St. Vincent-Welch enjoyed every minute of the day, renewing acquaintances with old friends after a spell of 22 years. Basil is now a medical officer in the Public Health Department.

Alby Klaus and Charlie Firth along for the first time from Grafton.

Ken Wilson, Lismore, looks as if he is in a good stable by his build. He is resting with the Public Works Department.

Bob Ginnane sends best wishes to all his old mates. He is bar manager at the Mascot R.S.L. and by his looks they sell a good drop. He will welcome seeing any of the boys.

Another first-timer in Dick Alchin, from Dalton. Dick is a shearers' cook and claims he had trouble getting to town in time for the reunion. He probably had to detour around a lot of sheds he had been cooking for.

Cec. Sloggett, a new face from Gunnedah, says he will be coming back.

Ernie Lunn, now a stock agent at Carinda, has been down before and had a good day. Vince Digges sends greetings through Ernie and expects to be domiciled in Sydney shortly.

Nice to see Len Hope after a spell. Len lives at Toukley and arrived with Tom Morgan, a member of the Tuggerah R.S.L. and an interstate bowls rep.

Old friend in Harry Sullivan from Bourke, who is a linesman. Harry has been in contact with Tom Bye who is a breeder of top grade cattle. Send along some news, Tom.

A welcome sight to see Arthur Kelly, Tom Reynolds and Jim Crake.

Tom is recovering from a spell in hospital after being knocked down by a car. Hope to see you blokes again next year.

Dick Wakely, now secretary-manager of the Combined Services Club, extends a welcome to all Pioneers visiting town.

Finally, good health to you and yours. Please send along any news of interest to Max Herron or drop a line to me—Don Lawson, 35 Clifton Road, Clovelly.

2/2nd NEWS ITEMS

The following items were taken from the 2/2 "Pioneer Despatch," Melbourne.

Reg. Goodman, while in Sydney attending the funeral of his sister, had a long telephone chat with Colonel Williams, who sends his kind regards to members.

Cec. Dickson, who has been living in London for several years, returned with his wife during January on a three months' visit. On the way they stopped off the plane at Beirut, where Cec. toured the Syrian battlefields, and also at Bangkok. Cec. has been very busy visiting other States and unfortunately will return to London before the annual reunion.

We were very pleased to get a short note from F. J. ("Bluey") Carroll, of "B" Company. "Bluey", who had not been in touch since the war, now lives in Liverpool, N.S.W.

Wally Peeler, V.C., of "D" Company, has retired from the position of Custodian of the Shrine of Remembrance, where he had been since 1934 (less war service). Wally is now 70 years of age.

Dr. Jim Goding has left on a twelve months' visit to the U.S.A., where he will carry out research work on diseases of sheep. This is a continuation of the work he has been doing at the Melbourne University for the past seven years.

Gordon Richards, from Deniliquin, called in recently to see the secretary and told him that Ted Shelton was now shire clerk at Deniliquin, having transferred from Corowa. Gordon said that they had quite a reunion last Anzac Day.

Reg. Goodman, Bob Evans and Bob Rice represented the association at the annual reunion of the Corps Petrol Park Association. They were welcomed by the president and had a very good time.

Jim Marshall and Bernie Young represented the association at the annual reunion of the 2/6th Battalion Association.

Committee man "Sailor" Barr was at the Shrine of Remembrance prior to Anzac Day and weeded around the memorial tree and painted the supporting stake.

Alex McLean, a past president, Ted Thurlow and Vic Clark were at the assembly area for the Anzac Day march and met many friends.

Jim Pallas retired from the position of chief crier of the Commonwealth Industrial Court last April and was publicly farewelled by the Chief Judge. Jim was an original member of "D" Company.

Bob Evans forwarded the following news after a visit to his home town, Benalla:—Lloyd Trewin is well and his sons have completed building a very fine boat. Sam Wright is well and won a car in a raffle conducted by the Swanpool Football Club. Ted Beurckner is well and would like news of Jack Duggan, Archie Vipond and Jack Harrington.

2/2nd LAST POST

We are indebted to the 2/2 "Pioneer Despatch" of Victoria for the following news of the death of our former comrades:—

H. "Hammy" Black, of Kyabram; W. F. "Bill" Muir, of Box Hill; E. B. "Bluey" Kennard, of Malvern; George Jacobs; Stan Holmes; Hughie Bergin; Fred Crick; Joe Raven; Cyril Carpenter; Ernie Hill; and William Harrison.

WE REMEMBERED THEM

Our Wreath Laying ceremony, as usual, was performed in all sincerity and reverence at the Cenotaph in Martin place, Sydney, at 7.30 p.m. on the 24th April. We had an attendance of 54 men, which was considered quite good.

The 2/1 wreath was laid by Bob MacGregor, the 2/2 by Don Lawson, and the Ladies' Auxiliary by Mrs. Gordon Finlay. The "Ode to the Fallen" was recited by Bob and Don, and our bugler once again was Aub. Brazier.

Many thanks to all who attended.
Wal. ("Desso") Page,
Publicity Officer.

SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE

For existence, the "Pioneer News", your army unit newspaper, depends solely on your yearly 5/- subscription.

The local lads dug deep on Anzac Day, as well as quite a few country members, but there are a lot of chaps who have NEVER sent along a penny. So how about digging deep and sending it now.

A good intake of subscriptions plus a roll up of mail is ample reward to the hard-working band of committeemen for their year's labour of love.

All we ask is five shillings per year, and if you are five years behind just send along twenty-five shillings and we will guarantee your receipt of "Pioneer News".

2¹/₁st RE-UNION AT BURLAND HALL

The Annual Smoko, held at the Harry Burland Hall, Newtown, on Sunday, 25th April, was really the success that we expected.

Each member attending was given a meal on arrival at the hall, and a very nice meal it was, too! Piping hot braised steak and vegetables was served. This meal was free to all, as were the hot fish pieces and sausage rolls, biscuits and cheese we had as an afternoon snack.

The attendance figure was within our estimation of 200.

After the meal the men queued for their jugs of beer. The beer queue was caused by the inability of one tap to dispatch the amber fluid fast enough, but with the help of the manager of the Shakespeare Hotel, who located another tap and more gas, we soon expelled the queue and everyone settled down to steady drinking and chatting with their mates, some of whom we hadn't seen for twenty years.

It was nice meeting these fellows again.

APPRECIATION TO JACK WESTWOOD

Every member present stood and, by acclamation, expressed their thanks and appreciation to Jack Westwood and his Social Committee for the work they put into the Smoko.

Clarrie Pakes won the raffle for the one dozen beer, but most graciously donated them to the committee. They will be consumed when next we wrap your "Pioneer News." Thanks Clarrie!

Many thanks also to Charlie Vickers, for selling the tickets.

Some members expressed the wish that we hold future Smokos in the same hall, which, to the committee, proves one thing—it was a success!

The committee thanks you for your attendance.

Wal (Desso) Page,
Publicity Officer.

ANZAC DAY

As seen by our Star Reporter
ALF CARTER

As all members would appreciate, the "Pioneer News" would be sadly lacking without the information that is gathered and written by Alf Carter. However, after Anzac Day, 1965, I would say this is his greatest effort. It is to his great credit that the following news is reported in this issue. If by any chance a name or member has not been noted by Alf in this issue, I can only say that the party must have been in hiding.—Ed.

Following is the role of country and interstate visitors at the March and Smoko on Anzac Day.

Alby Brown, Canberra; Peter Priest, Queensland; Ted Stratford, Lismore; Eddie Beaumont, Bonalbo; Ted Skoyles,

Wollongong; Harold Leese, Grafton; Norm Baker, Tamworth; Wally Brown, Bourke; Noel Peterson, Wyong; Bill Porter, Tumbarumba; E. H. Thompson, Port Macquarie; Bob Fogarty, Nundle; A. Tongs, Leeton; Jack Hayden, Orange; Ken Newling, Scone; Alec George, South Lismore; Charlie Wilby, Moree; D. Watson, Bellambi; Mick Stephens, Moulmia; E. Eather, Kempsey; Noel Jennings, Kurrajong; Len O'Connor, Tumbulgum; Tim McCoy, Bega; Merv. Rees, Dorriggo; Fred Wheaton, Dorriggo; Sid Jopson, Inverell; Ken Watts, Quirindi; W. Bates, Gloucester; Peter Seddon, Newcastle; Jack Griffiths, Newcastle; Don Crooks, Newcastle; Tom Wallace, Newcastle; Bill Nickolas, Newcastle; Jack Bertram, Newcastle; Ray Smith, Kyogle; Bill Hoffman, Kyogle; Peter Bell, Kyogle; B. Jackson, Kyogle; Col. Noon, South Tamworth; Arch McTavish, Breeza; "Snowy" Vickery, Goulburn; George Hill, Londonderry; Max Law, South Australia; Ern Hayden, South Australia; Norm Pagett, Bowral; Ian Kirkwood, Wollongong.

Ned Jennings ("C" Coy. 2/1) has a very fine orchard property at Kurrajong North.

George Hill ("B" Coy. 2/1), now of Londonderry, Richmond, and working at the Hawkesbury Agricultural College, was another to make his first appearance, and we all trust he will follow it up with many more.

Jim Anderson (Don Coy. 2/1), with a lovely home at Blacktown, is now with the N.S.W. Railways.

Geoff Robinson ("A" Coy. 2/1), now with the elite at Turramurra, is doing very well these days as an engineer.

Alan McHugh (H.Q. 2/1), of Bexley North, and a motor body builder by trade, is still another Pioneer making his debut. We hope he now becomes a regular.

Ron Callaghan ("B" Coy. 2/1), now residing at Petersham, is doing very nicely for himself as a metal merchant.

Johnny Dolaghan ("B" Coy. 2/1) spends a great deal of his time travelling in the country at his trade as a licensed plumber.

"B" Coy. 2/1 fellows will be glad to hear that Bill Steers, who has been away in Western Australia for a long while, is now back at Marks Point, Newcastle, and is a new member of the association. Bill sends greetings to all in 2/1.

Fred Adams ("B" Coy. 2/1), of Narellan, is now on the retired list and taking things easy. Fred has not been the best lately, but is being looked after by the Repat.

Archie McTavish ("C" Coy. 2/1) is now a successful wheat farmer at Breeza, on the Barwon River.

Noel Peterson (H.Q. 2/1), formerly with the P.M.G. Department, is now retired and enjoying things quietly at Wyong.

"Snow" Vickery ("B" Coy. 2/1), and not seen for many moons until this Anzac Day, is now a stock inspector with the P.P. Board at Goulburn.

E. "Bluey" Eather ("A" Coy. 2/1), now of Kempsey, is working with the local R.S.L. and welcomes any Pioneer visiting or in transit.

Tim McCoy (Don Coy. 2/1), now a dairy farmer of Bega, made his first appearance since the war and was warmly welcomed by old mates.

Merv. Rees (H.Q. 2/1), cattle raising and farming at Dorriggo and is doing very nicely for himself.

Ken Watt ("A" Coy. 2/1) is another Pioneer doing pretty good with a grazing property at Quirindi.

Peter Priest (H.Q. 2/1), now with General Motors-Holden in Brisbane, brought best wishes to all from Bill Dundas.

Norm. Baker (Don Coy. 2/1) was seen in animated conversation with his old mate, Claude McKeig.

It was widely rumoured during the Anzac Day Smoko that Frank Gillian and Casey Brown were two of the co-editors of the notorious "Kings Cross Whisper"—Frank Gillian in charge of the Jewish section, while Casey Brown is in charge of the Arab section of the Kings Cross community. We hope, in the future, to publish in the unit paper a photo of these two characters (long hair and beards as well), so that members will have a lasting memento of the outstanding success achieved by two more of our members.

Very popular Clarrie Pakes (Q.M.S. "B" Coy. 2/1), who had a wonderful time at the "do", finished up winning the raffle for a dozen of the best. He generously donated his prize to the Paper Wrapping Committee. This will surely be appreciated and Clarrie's health will be toasted right royally.

Wally "Bombo" Brown ("B" Coy. 2/1), now with the P.M.G. at Bourke, came down with a mate, Joe Tapp, for the festivities. They were both impressed and thoroughly happy at the Wreath-Laying and Smoko arrangements and had a wonderful time meeting old pals. "Bombo" was particularly pleased to meet his old mate, Alec George.

"Bombo" says old friend Danny Black ("B" Coy. 2/1), of Brewarrina, is not keeping in the best of health these days. All Danny's old mates, including Alf Carter, wish Danny better and brighter days in the future.

Bill Hoffman brought the news that Harold Buckland (H.Q. 2/1) had suffered two coronary occlusions, but his legion of friends will be happy to hear

2/1st RE-UNION

Harold is now out of hospital and progressing favourably. It is expected that he will be back to the old grind in a few weeks, but will have to forego large doses of the amber fluid and calorie-laden foods.

A very happy and contented little party having a few together were:—Wally Young, Clarrie Pakes, "Tich" McGregor, "Bluey" Miller, Tom Goddon, Ted Stratford and Eric Guthrie.

A gang of the "old hands" from H.Q. Coy were noticed sinking a few, including Albert Brown, Joe Bird, Alan ("Dora") Black, Frank Gravenmaker, Peter Priest, Joe White, Merv. Rees. Charlie Wilby was there, too, while Bob Lake, when he had a minute to spare popped across to toss one down.

Another happy little mob downing them steadily and enjoying it all were:—Jerry Collins, Ed Paine, Max Wilson, Jack Harvey, Ivan Pepper and Archie McTavish.

Noticed having a few together and deep in conversation were some of the old No. 1 Section, happy to be together and including Bert Watt, Don Manuel, Lyn Chapman, Jack Chalmers and Beau Hannaford.

Sipping a few and quietly enjoying the atmosphere of the company of true and tried friends were:—Ted Skoyles, Eddie Beaumont, "Curly" Bentley, Harry Jones, Ted Dolling, Harold Leese, Viv. Parkinson, "Snowy" Wiseman.

A quiet and happy group having a few together were:—Ces Peak, Harry Robey, Ron McFarlane, Dick Chalmers, Wally Parsons and Bob Burnside.

Busily selling beer tickets were three ardent committee members, Doug. Shearston, Bob McGregor and Wally Page. I bet Bob was hearing "More jugs, McGregor!" in his sleep.

Eddie Beaumont brought best wishes to all from old mate, Joe Leis. Harold Leese had apologies and cheers to all the boys from Bruce McNaughton and John Sherman.

And then there was the "Don" Coy. mob—a large crowd, a noisy gang, and the happiest lot of fellows you ever did see, including:— "Bluey" Jones, Charlie Johnson, George Tolmie, Jack Lamerton, Tim McCoy, "Bombo" Reynolds, Ray Wiseman, Ray Gardiner, "Mac." McKibbin, Bob Morris, Peter O'Brien, Bill Hodges, Ray Hill, Peter Craig, Jack Lloyd, A. Tongs, Bert Moore, Ken Oliver, "Shrewdie" Percival, Harry Cross, Max Herron, D. Watson, R. Gales, W. Bates. They were joined later by Gordon Osborn, Jim Purse and Colonel Williams.

Perhaps the rowdiest and most enthusiastic band of happy warriors was "A" Coy. With plenty of the old thirst quencher available and the company of tried and true comrades, the boys really let themselves go, with the leader, Frank Gillian, in the chair. The gang included Gordon Finlay, Clem Maroney, Geoff. Robinson, Casey Brown, Mick Dobson, "Bluey" Eather, Tom Crossman, Brian

Kybert, Jack Norton, Ron Callaghan, Alec George, "Bombo" Brown, Bill Tasker, Bert Holmes, Len O'Connor, Don Slater, Harry Crowe, Arthur Ludington, Tom Wallace, E. H. Thompson, Ken Watt.

Bending the old elbow steadily and with lots of good and bad times to talk about, but happy to be with each other, were Arthur Ludington, Ted Vaughan, Nelson Eddy, Bert Herne, Harry Mosely, Fred Callaway and "Scotty" Burns.

Among the happiest groups, having a couple together before getting around to greet other friends, were:—Joe Cliffe, Stan Jones, "Pasha" Jackson, Ken Stuart, Johnny Flood, Kevin Morahan, Gordon Walsh, "Snow" Vickery and Jack Lloyd.

Happy and pleased to meet each other again and enjoying a steady session were:—Ray Smith, Peter Bell, Jack Westwood, Jack Collis, Ted Reedy and Bill Hoffman, Stan Sayers, Ivor Garmon, Alan Shaw, Ted Jennings, Kev. O'Connor and Bob Smith.

Ray Smith and Peter Bell brought apologies and good wishes from "Banjo" Martin, Cec. Blanch, Ted Felton, Leo Ferris, Ben Hall and Joey Blanch from Kyogle.

Getting them down steadily and thoroughly enjoying themselves were:—Perce Penrose, Nev Furness, Brian Blume, Clarrie Robinson, Evan Thompson and Harry Allen.

Having a jug or two for old time's sake were "C" Coy. boys:—Mick Stephens, Sam Lewis, Bill Wright, George Edman, Ted Skoyles, Dick Chalmers, "Wimp" Cookson and Bob Fogarty.

Noticed topping a couple over before moving among their many friends were: Max Law, Ern Hayden, Fred Wheaton, "Bluey" Moxey, Vince Petrich, Jack Griffith, Sid Jopson and Charlie Wilby.

Mine host of the Blacktown Hotel again provided the local boys with sufficient liquid refreshment to last until the "do" started, and for this the boys say "Thanks a million!"

Ted Skoyles, up from Wollongong ("C" Coy. 2/1), again had a wonderful day.

Having a quiet yarn and enjoying a couple of noggins were noticed: Alan McHugh, Nev. Furness, "Macka" Mackney, Jack Shepherd, Ken Newling and "Jock" McGregor.

Down from Dorrigo for the big day came Laurie Burbridge, with Fred Wheaton. They both made the same trip together in 1939 to join up, and whereas Laurie went into the Air Force, Fred finished with the elite—the 2/1 Pioneers.

Ted Stratford, R.S.M. Training Battalion and so well known to many hundreds of reinforcements to the 2/1, came down from Lismore for the first time since the war. He brought the sad news that Joe ("Jock") Copland (H.Q. 2/1) had lost the sight of an eye and had returned home to Scotland to live.

Editor's Notes...

To all those members who attended the Anzac Day function we, the committee, hope and sincerely trust that you met as many of your friends and old acquaintances as could be possible out at Newtown.

To all those who attended the March and then failed to go to Newtown, we, the committee, can only say you missed a grand day.

It is the committee's heartfelt thanks that the roll-up at Newtown was as it was—some 200 and odd being in attendance.

As one of the committee, we have to apologise for the small and somewhat disturbing trouble with the beer, however, as all members must know, there are always some things completely beyond the control of your committee and in this instance (it had to be) the beer was one of them.

However, they say we all learn by mistakes we have learnt, and if in the future another such reunion is held in these circumstances, we shall have gained the required knowledge to assure that the beer will never be a source of trouble again.

Whilst on the subject of Anzac Day, I, as editor, did have the misfortune to be threatened by one (Casey Brown), because in a previous issue of the "News" I had failed to include Casey as a player in what I considered one of the best football teams to represent our battalion (you will notice, I said "one of the best!"). Since this issue I have received a letter and a photo from one "Snowy" George Hemmings. Sorry, "Snowy," the photo is just a little bit too old for reproduction. I am posting the photo back to you, but if perchance you wish to write another letter I would appreciate the names of the players in the same photo. I do think it is a replica of the photo that Fred Wheaton also brought down from Dorrigo.

Conspicuous by their absence, as usual, were, and still are, the names that were going to be forwarded to me by our famous centre, Fred Wheaton, of the players in the photo that he was carrying on Anzac Day. Remember, Fred? You were going to write all their names and send me the letter that very next week-end.

Whilst on the subject of football, and above all the ranting and raving of Casey, a remark from a diminutive fellow, namely Alfie Carter: "Any team that could leave out 'Tiny' Fields could well be without Casey Brown!"

BOB LAKE, Editor

2/1-2/2 BI-ANNUAL SMOKO
CASTLEREAGH HOTEL
 Corner Castlereagh and Park Streets,
 Sydney
 Quarter Deck Lounge, First Floor
FRIDAY, 19th NOVEMBER, 1965
7 P.M. TO 10 P.M.
NO CHARGE — FREE SUPPER
 ● Cut this out and put it in your wallet
 so you won't forget



For the Mail Bag in this particular issue we have to hand some 17 letters only. Not a lot, but as this issue goes to press after Anzac Day it is as much as we expect.

● **Clive McLachlan** (Lockie), ex-Gosford Ampol Service Station and now trading as the Wollongong Tyre Service at Wollongong, writes a short letter mentioning as how the "Pioneer News" has been travelling three parts of the way around N.S.W. chasing him. Eventually it found him, instigating this letter informing us of his new address. Lockie (ex-"C" Coy. 2/1) requests knowledge of Ned Byron and Merv. Phipps. For your information, Lockie, Ned Byron can be contacted c/o the Newport Hotel, Newport. We have no address of Merv. Phipps. However, as Merv. once lived at Mona Vale, should you contact Ned he may be able to give you the information as to his whereabouts.

So much for the letter and your requests, Lockie. All the boys who attended the cricket match at Gosford that memorable day send their regards; the treasurer appreciated very much the enclosed cheque and, as you say, would really put you in front.

● **Bill Thiele** ("C" Coy. 2/1) writes from Flinders Park, South Australia. Not a great amount of news from Bill. Can't understand why he didn't join the other crowd-eaters who made the trip for the Anzac week-end. However, circumstances, as we all know, do alter cases.

Thanks for your donation, Bill, the paper will follow as usual. Would really appreciate a little more news with regard to yourself, family (if any) and occupation down South Australia. All "C" Coy., and especially 15th Platoon, would be really glad to hear about it.

● **Gerry Collins** (ex "A" Coy. 2/1), and now of Penshurst, a cheery little note and, to quote his own words, a big and pleasant surprise. Still, we're open to big and pleasant surprises at all times. Gerry mentions an accident with a power saw which almost cost him his left leg—hence the change from a country dweller to a city slicker.

He quotes numerous jobs since his change to the city as men's wear salesman, and is now employed at R.S.L. Headquarters, where he has the somewhat thankless job of advocate for entitlement appeals.

Gerry mentions that any of you chaps with rejected disabilities have the right to an appeal to the Tribunal, which, in turn, could change the rejection to a

grant. Keep it in mind, lads. This same chappie extends to all fellow members an invitation to the Penshurst Sub-Branch, where he claims that by mentioning his or "Pearshape" Victor Whitely to the manager you will be well looked after. Personally, I've got my doubts about that—any mention of "Pearshape's" name could only cause a storm in my book.

Thanks for the news, Gerry, keep it up. We appreciate the letters and we need them to keep the paper going.

● **Alick Strachan** (ex 2/1), and now of Hanwood (where is Hanwood?) sends an apology that he would not be able to attend the Smoko, as he quotes business before pleasure. We all wish you the very best in the pleasure; I can assure you that Westwood had more than one drink on you and, if I'm any judge, on quite a lot of others on Anzac Day. Sorry you couldn't make it, Alick, however, possibly the "News" will bring a little of what went on a bit closer to you. Treasurer smiles gratefully for the donation.

P.S.—Westwood had to buy his own.

● **W. Portors**, of Rosewood. Your letter to hand—no unit, no company, so we cannot quote too much information. However, our secretary has written to you and previous editions of the paper have been posted. By this time all would have been finalised. We hope you enjoyed Anzac Day and with the previous editions you will get some idea of just how the paper functions.

● **Mrs. Oprey**, of Corrimal, requests that we visit her brother, R. Buckley ("D" Coy. 2/1), of Corrimal, who has been hospitalised. Jack Collis visited Robert while at Concord. On Robert's return to Eden he enclosed a postal note to the treasurer, as he would not be able to stay for the march. Hope everything, as far as the illness is concerned, has gone by the board now, and looking forward to perhaps another letter in the future.

● **Mick Roberts**, Pine Avenue, Leeton, no company, no unit—just a request for lodgings. However, lodgings were arranged by the secretary and we hope everything turned out as well for you as it did for the battalion on Anzac Day. Don't forget, in your next letter, company and unit are definitely necessary.

● **Bobby Gratton** ("D" Col. 2/1), now residing at Goulburn. As all these letters were written prior to the Anzac Day Reunion, the news is a bit difficult to write. We presume that you brought your mates to the Smoko, as we have always quoted: "Visitors are welcome!"

● **Mrs. Lincoln**, wife of the late Tom Lincoln ("C" Coy. 2/1), posted two photos of the boys that were taken at Greta Camp in 1940. Well, Elsie, firstly the photos are too aged for reproduction, but the Secretary asks that he may keep them for a couple of months that he may pass them around to some of the chaps who would be interested.

Perhaps it would be as well not to write too much about the tea that you received in the mess, but can quite understand the humour that it would provide. The days of the Bognor Hotel are way past now, but, like you, I would imagine that many of the chaps think back and get as many happy thoughts as you do.

● **"Sailor" Whitham** (2/1), ex-cook, quotes he will not be able to attend the Anzac Day March as he will be holidaying South Aust. We're sorry you could not make it, "Sailor". However, the caterers did pretty well, but we don't say that an extra hand would not have helped. I would suggest that in future years you remember you can always alter holidays, but there's nobody can alter the 25th April—keep it in mind.

● **Jack Collis** (2/1), of Auburn, our worthy welfare officer, sends £2—one each for Jack Brown and Sid. Sweeney. Many thanks, Jackie. Have Brownie and Sweeney got rheumatics in the hand now, can't even bother to drop us a note? I suppose they'll learn.

● **Ted Carter**, of Tamworth (Lieut. "C" Coy. 2/1). Glad you enjoy our paper so much—that kind of appreciation makes our efforts worthwhile. A pity you didn't make the Anzac Day functions, but keep next year in mind—it's a day no one should miss. Also happy to hear that you enjoyed the Grafton trip—it was a wonderful week-end.

Ted also states that anyone up Tamworth way is quite welcome to drop in—he will be very pleased to see you. Thanks for your donation, Ted, the treasurer has noted it accordingly.

● **Tom Amey**, of Gunnedah. Just a cheque for £2—no letter or even a note. So to you, Tom, a little bit more information really helps.

● **Ossie Thew** ("D" Coy. 2/1), now of Brookvale. A note from Ossie, quoting that it has been ten years since he has been to a turn-out. He reckons "there is more news in the Pioneer newspaper than in 'Granny Herald'." Tom mentions a little trouble with illness, a slight stroke and back trouble, so his days of

FROM THE MAILBAG...

a day out are past. But he can still manage to amble down to the Dee Why Club a few times a week.

Glad to hear everything is okay as far as that's concerned anyway.

Donation received and paper will continue to be produced.

● **Col Leslie** ("B" Coy. 2/1), and now of Gilgai, via Inverell, sends his best wishes to all the lads of "B" Coy. and to all the battalion. Quotes that as he is not a real A1 going concern the trip to Sydney would possibly be a bit much, plus the fact that the drought situation and bushfire danger a real threat, and would not like to be away from home at a time like this.

Donation received; perhaps when we have another Country Smoko we can get a little closer to your part of the world.

● **Ted Jensen** ("B" Coy. 2/1), and now of Doonside. Ted reports good reading in the news and sends his congratulations to Jack Westwood on being elected a Life Member of the association.

Ted was at Islington (Newcastle) on his holidays and stayed at Billy Nicholson's place for a night. Had a few at the local with Bill, Don Crooks and Roy Bounds. Reports that they will all be down for Anzac Day (I also met Billy Nicholson and he said he'd be down that year, too, but he never made it), and I don't think he made it this time. However, copies of the paper have been posted and new addresses have been noted.

● **Alan Shaw** (2/1), now residing at Paddington, back in the city after a period of time at Queanbeyan and has joined the Burwood Band, where he will be playing on Anzac Day and afterwards attending the reunion.

In his letter Alan asks if any member of the association in the area from Burwood to Hurstville is looking for a boarder he would be very pleased to hear from them. He is a non-drinker, non-smoker, of quiet personality and has a motor car.

George Levy's address is 45 Walder Road, Hammondville. The address of George should let you contact him some time.

Can assure you that the Colonel Williams we speak of is the selfsame Lieut. Williams who joined the battalion in Tobruk. He is now secretary/manager of the Imperial Services Club, Sydney.

A unit badge has been spoken of, but to my knowledge nothing concrete has been done about same. Scotty Armour does not belong to the association, but to my knowledge he has a position with the Department of Motor Transport at Rosebery, Sydney. With regard to Fred Charlesworth, I'm afraid we have no knowledge of him whatever.

Thanks for the donation, Alan, I only hope that you struck all these band members on Anzac Day.

● A short letter was received from Mrs. Henery, notifying us that Frank Henery (ex 2/1) died on 22nd March,

1965, at Temora. A sympathy card was posted from the battalion.

● **Eric Monckton** (2/1), Engadine, apologises for non-attendance at the Anzac functions, but his 17-year-old daughter was recently killed in a car accident.

Please accept our sincerest sympathy, Eric, and we do hope you and your wife have recovered from this sad blow.

● **Bob Evans**, secretary of the 2/2nds in Victoria, writes to say how pleased he is with the presentation of the "Pioneer News" and wants to know the secret of our success in having so much news.

Well, Bob, the secret lies in having a dynamic reporter like Alf Carter, but I am afraid you would never find another like him. Alf simply lives, sleeps and eats for the Pioneers, and although he calls us all a bunch of clots, takes our last shilling from us each Anzac Day, abuses us when we don't do our job properly and abuses us when we do too much—underneath it all he really thinks ALL Pioneers are terrific blokes.

He sets such a high standard of reporting, Bob, that the other chaps are doing their level best to keep up with him.

Thank you for your kind regards, Bob, and for returning the blocks.

● **Ivor Garnon** (H.Q. Coy., 2/1), of Hunter's Hill sends along a card from Bill Burton (2/1) of Noraville, via Gosford. Bill apologises for non-attendance at the Anzac functions, but was fully occupied playing the bugle for the different clubs in his area. Bill wishes to be remembered to all his friends.

● **Jack Marshall** (H.Q. Coy. 2/1), of Glen Innes, sends along a newsy letter after nearly 18 months. Jack is still going strong and exhibiting his birds at the local shows. At the Inverell Show, recently, he won four first prizes and one second from the five birds he took. While in Inverell he met Dave Strahley (ex "C" Coy.), who is very interested in "chooks" (Jack says the ones with feathers, not the bobbed-haired ones).

Thanks for passing on your papers to him, Jack, and we are pleased to add his name to our mailing list.

Jack recently hit the headlines in the local papers after arresting at gunpoint a man he found hiding in the store where he is employed as night watchman. Jack did not know until a reporter told him that the man caught was an escapee from a prison farm. Well done, Jack, we can see that your army training was not in vain. Many thanks for your good wishes, which are heartily reciprocated.

● **Mrs. Margaret Hugo**, wife of Tom Hugo, "D" Coy., 2/1 once again writes good news of her husband. Tom was discharged from Concord in November and is doing well at home. He is able to use his calipers and with the aid of a walking stick can take a few steps without help. Keep up the good work, Tom, we are sure you will win out in the end.

Thank you, Mrs. Hugo, for your letter and we hope your new War Service home is ready by the time we go to print. Our good wishes to you both and always pleased to hear of Tom's progress. Jack Collis will be glad to hear the good news.

● **Bruce Rich**, H.Q. Coy., 2/1, sends a welcome donation from Narrandera, but no letter. How about some news next time, Bruce?

● From Beaudesert in Queensland comes a letter and donation from **Ray (Joey) Blanch**, 2/1. Joe had been down to Southport on holidays and says he had the pleasure of seeing Merv. Rees and Peter Priest, with whom Merv. stayed while in Brisbane.

He also had a visit from Brian Jackson of Kyogle. Jacko wanted to have a beer to celebrate our 25th anniversary of joining the army, but Joe wasn't able to join him on account of late night shift. (Maybe just as well, Joe). Young Bill Blanch has been transferred to the Commonwealth Bank in Lismore and gets home quite often, and both girls are working. Hope by now the drought has broken in your part of the globe, Joe.

● Absent from the Anzac Re-union with a bout of 'flu was old friend **Hughie Green**, "C" Coy., 2/1. However, Hughie now sends along his welcome donation and news of some of the boys he sees regularly, Jack Price, Jack Brown and Bert Cooper. Bert is at the Parramatta Hotel replacing Lennie Weyman, who has returned to his former job at Davies Co-op., at Rydalmere. Con Fitzgerald has been working as a carpenter at Clyde railway yards.

Thank you for your kind remarks about the paper, Hughie, and your regards are passed on to all Pioneers, especially all ex-15 platoons.

WELFARE REPORT

Members visited in hospital since our last report have been **Nelson (Mick) Marshall**, who has been in several times (the last time seriously), but like a good Pioneer, he is now out and on his feet again. Mick is now a T.P.I.

John McCracken has once again been down from Newcastle, but has also been discharged.

The only other member visited in Concord was **Jack Hamilton** and I'm pleased to report that he is also out and well on the mend.

JACK COLLIS, Welfare Officer

2/1-2/2 BI-ANNUAL SMOKO CASTLEREAGH HOTEL

Corner Castlereagh and Park Streets,
Sydney

Quarter Deck Lounge, First Floor

FRIDAY, 19th NOVEMBER, 1965

7 P.M. TO 10 P.M.

NO CHARGE — FREE SUPPER

● Cut this out and put it in your wallet so you won't forget

PIONEER NEWS

UL 5491

Official Organ of 2/1 and 2/2 PIONEER BATTALIONS ASSOCIATION

UL 5491

Registered under the Charitable Collections Act, 1934-41—Certificate No. 10462

Correspondence: Secretary, MAX HERRON, 3 Enoggera Road, Beverly Hills

Treasurer:

DOUG. SHEARSTON

Editors: J. HARNETTY,

R. LAKE and M. HERRON

President:

ALLAN McINNES

Vol. 10. No. 3

1st NOVEMBER, 1965

Price: 5/- Per Annum



SMOKO

The stage is once again set for the 2/1 and 2/2 BI-ANNUAL SMOKO. The Social Committee asks all members not only to remember that the Smoko is on the 19th of NOVEMBER and that the place is the Quarter Deck Lounge of the CASTLEREAGH HOTEL (corner Castlereagh and Park Streets), and that the time is 7.30 p.m., but we expect them to come along and give the Social Committee the assurance that their time and efforts in arranging this Smoko were not in vain.

Remember, you haven't got to be a beer drinker to enjoy one of our smokos, we will be giving you a nice hot supper and a chance to renew old acquaintances and make new friends at the CASTLEREAGH HOTEL, 19th NOVEMBER, AT 7.30 P.M.

The Committee would like you to bring along a friend if you wish; if you haven't got a friend, come along and we will find you one for sure, at the CASTLEREAGH HOTEL, 19th NOVEMBER, AT 7.30 P.M.

We have been pleased with the manner in which the 2/1 and 2/2 members have integrated. You have mixed well, particularly at our Bi-Annual Smokos, but we would like to see more of it. There may be two battalions, but there is only one ASSOCIATION, so let our byword be "associate" or, to use a corny phrase, let there be more togetherness at the Bi-Annual at CASTLEREAGH HOTEL, 19th NOVEMBER, AT 7.30 P.M.

See you there, fellows.

Wally Desso Page.

2/1 - 2/2 BI-ANNUAL SMOKO

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HOSPITAL VISITATIONS

By Jack Collis, Welfare Officer

As usual, our Welfare Officer, Jack Collis, has been making his rounds of the hospitals where members of our units have the misfortune to be inmates.

Jack speaks of George Levy, several weeks in Ward 7 at Concord, but now discharged.

Also at Concord in Ward 210, our old stalwart, Jim McQuirk, and at the time of this report still on the D.I. list. Jimmy has the misfortune to be suffering from a heart condition.

Charlie Johnson (ex-Don Coy. 2/1) had several weeks in Caringbah Hospital. He had been visited by Bob McGregor, and Bob reports that Charlie has since been discharged. Good luck, Charles, keep the old chin up and hope to see you at the Smoko in November.

Jack Garland has also been in Penrith Hospital and been visited regularly by the Penrith R.S.L. Jack sent his apologies for his non-attendance at the Anzac March.

Ted Dolling (2/1), has also been visited in Concord by Jack Collis, and shows a little improvement.

HOSPITAL NOTIFICATION

We request next of kin of a member to notify Jack Collis, our welfare officer, immediately a Pioneer enters hospital, or even before, if possible.

Contact by letter or phone:—

JACK COLLIS
22 Fisher Street,
Auburn, N.S.W.
Telephone 648-1509

Editorial

In past years we have had a stockpile of news for our paper, but this issue found us with NO news items and only eight letters. This is the worst position we have been in since I have been secretary, and at the time of going to the printer a week late, I was a very worried person.

The bulk of letters received were not very newsy; in fact, some contained NO news, consequently Bob Lake and myself were not too happy, and started off by making some very caustic remarks in our replies. At the risk of being told by Bob Lake what to do with the "Pioneer News", I re-wrote these remarks so as not to offend the members concerned, for when it is summed up, they at least DID write, and they at least DID send along a subscription, which is more than 1,130 remaining members DID.

THIS IS YOUR PAPER, SO IT IS UP TO YOU TO SUPPORT IT!

If you are interested in keeping it alive, show your keenness by sending along an article, but if you wish it to fall by the wayside, just sit back and continue to do nothing.

You do not have to be a literary expert, as we have reporters like 2/1st's Bob Lake, John Harnetty, Bob McGregor and Alf Carter, and 2/2nd's Jack Henderson and Don Lawson, who will be only too pleased to lick it into shape. It does not have to be about your present day doings—some of those funny war experiences will do.

If you are sending a subscription, mention what kind of a job you have—if you are married—how many children and their interests—your hobby—the names of the Pioneers you have seen.

IN OTHER WORDS — LET'S GET TOGETHER!

MAX HERRON.



JACK HARVEY (H.Q. Coy, 2/1), from the St. George district, had expressed his wishes for a few names of members between Sydney and Cairns; his intention—making a trip with wife and son back over the old stomping grounds. These names were duly submitted by Max Herron and Jack's trip, as written below, proved a great success. Word for word is Jack's letter describing his trip.

"Dear Bob and Max,

Here is the letter I promised you about my trip to Cairns and back over the last four weeks. It's the best time to go up there, as the weather was really lovely—no rain after Bundaberg, and it's still as lovely a bit of country as anywhere in the world. I think I could say that Caboolture is just about the same as when the battalion was there; could be a couple of new buildings, but no one could mistake the old place. The big towns up further have really grown, Townsville in particular; then Rockhampton, Mackay, Bowen, Ingham, Innisfail and, of course, the places we knew better, Babinda, Gordanvale, Edmonton and up to Mossman, have all grown to our time.

It's a big place now. We did the Tablelands, where we camped at Kairi—it's about 30ft. under water now. The big Tinaroo Dam covers the old place. The pub at Kairi is "no-change" in looks but, brother, has the beer improved!

The camp at Wondecla is non-existent now. I tried to place it for the wife and son, but I'm afraid it was no go. Mostly the towns up there are much the same, Mareeba, Atherton, Malanda, Yungaburra, Herberton, Millaa Millaa, Ravenshoe, etc. New buildings here and there, but any of the mob to go there again, well, you would know it.

Green Island has changed, and how! In the season, two near-Manly ferries run there daily (12/6 a nob), with pictures (4/- a time), underwater observatory (4/- a time), glass bottom boats (4/- a go) and lunch at the cafe (10/- a time). It's a goldmine—I wish I had shares in the place.

The best now is to come down the Gillies—two-way traffic and sealed road—different to the one-way in our time.

A must for anyone going by road, though are windshield and headlamp protectors. From Bundaberg up, towns with glass replacement garages would have an income rivalling sugar. Between the towns the sides of the road are just pile after pile of glass.

The roads are really good, a clear go and you can sit on 60 with no trouble at all, but nearly all are only one car wide, so you can imagine how the stones fly when you pass someone or someone overtakes. I had the protection for my job and it was the best investment I ever made.

I didn't manage to see many of the old mob on the way—just didn't have the time. I did see Allan Crute and family at Woolgoolga; Norm McEvoy at Woodburn; Alec Cameron on the ferry, and Charlie Kerr at Maryborough. They all asked to have their regards passed on to the old mob. A special from Charlie to "Snowy" Hemming, whom he said is a no-good drunk and the worst chap he ever knew for getting nice clean living soldiers into trouble, just the same he would sure like to see him again.

All in all, boys, it was a trip well worth doing. It's a lovely bit of country up there and good to see again. The wife and son realise now that my memories of the place over the years weren't exaggerated. They agree it's lovely.

I did forget to mention it, but the only memento of the Army up there is one igloo left at Rocky Creek. It's been built on at the back for the workshop, so that's all that is left of our day.

Oh well, we had our times, eh! So all the best for now and regards to all.
Jack Harvey."

Sounds as though it was really a grand trip, Jack, and a trip that must bring envy to all our old members. Jack thanks the association for the good effort put on on Anzac Day and sends a special request for Tony Walters and Charlie Kemp to attend the Bi-Annual Smoko in November, where he claims that Ivan Pepper and himself will give these two the treatment. Tony, should you want city accommodation for that week-end, get in touch with Jack at 32 Culver Street, Kogarah.

TED DOLLING (2/1), from Conjola Park, quoted that he is due for a trip to Concord for treatment. Your message for Jack Collis has been forwarded and we hope that your results at the hospital were favourable. Keep the chin up, "Dorothy," we know you can.

FRANK WAKELIN (H.Q. Coy, 2/1), of Killara, writes that since his discharge from the Army in 1945 he has been with the Nestles organisation which has taken him all over Australia.

In 1953 he purchased an accounting practice out at Coonamble, but has now sold out and moved permanently to Sydney, where he hopes to take a little more interest in the unit business and is looking forward to the smokos. Welcome, Frank, and we hope to see you in November.

TOM O'SCOTT, Mt. Gravatt, Qld., is not a member of our association, but has shown considerable interest in the history of same for some period of time. He requested lots of information from our worthy secretary and has finally written a short history for his own personal collection. It has been suggested that your name be added to our mailing list, Tom, which costs 5/- per year. For further information you could contact J. R. Evans (Bob), 47 Albion Street, Essendon, Victoria, if you are interested in the history book of the 2/2 Pioneer Battalion. Welcome to the mailing list.

FRANK (Fanny) FRANCIS (H.Q. Coy, 2/1), now of Sydney, enclosed a donation to the treasurer and the information that after 20 years with Hastings Deering, the Ford people, he is now at their headquarters in William Street. Frank does not quote whether he is a salesman or in what capacity he is with the company. However, thanks for the good wishes, and let's have a little more news next time.

BOB GRATTON ("D" Coy, 2/1), of Goulburn, writes a newsy letter. Never made it for Anzac Day, but quotes he will be down in November. Good show! We will be looking forward to it. Bob was in Sydney for a few days recently and ran into "Bluey" Walsh, and they managed to knock a few over at the "Three Swallows." He thinks the hotel appropriately named for an hotel where Pioneers drink and said if that "streak of misery" Bob McGregor had been there they would have shown how Pioneers could drink. Don't know whether McGregor will appreciate the "streak of misery" Bob McGregor had you that McGregor is not too old nor too feeble yet. Bob sends his best regards to all the boys of Don. Coy. and the unit, one and all.

BILL HOFFMAN (2/1), our Kyogle vice-president, writes with the news that he was off to Brisbane and South Molle Island for four weeks' holiday. Lucky fella! Bill encloses a new member's name for our lists, Dave Denny, of Lismore, and the information that Eddie

MAIL BAG

Beaumont is having another spell in Greenslopes at Brisbane, this time with an ulcer. Bad luck, Eddie.

ERIC SMITH, of Kendall, writes two lines on a sheet of paper with a welcome donation. How about some news next time, Eric, and information regards your platoon and company.

BOB KELLY ("D" Coy., 2/1), of Double Bay, was also rather sparing with the pen. Surely, Bob, in your duties as a member of the staff of the Lottery Office you would have some news. Perhaps you may do better next time. The change of address has been noted and thanks for the subscription.

PETER CRAIG (2/1), of Mosman, sent along a short note and apologies for his non-attendance at our last Committee meeting. These were noted and accepted, Peter. His mother had not been enjoying the best of health and we sincerely trust that by the time this paper goes to press a marked improvement has been made. Your subscription has been passed on to the treasurer, Peter, and many thanks. (We always accept subscriptions.)

To all members of the Pioneers residing in, or travelling through, Armidale, a special request from Bob Lake. He has a mate from his golf club (by name of Noel Johnson), who assumes the manager's job at the Imperial Hotel, Armidale, approximately at the end of October. Would anybody up that way give him a hello?

To Merv Rees, of Dorriggo, I know you sometimes go over that way, Merv, so you would know him (the red-headed bloke). Keep it in mind, boys. While on the subject of Merv Rees, sorry I have not written, but, like yourself, I'm a — of a letter writer. However, this will be attended to very soon.

ERIC O'HARA ("C" Coy., 2/1), of Glen Innes, sent along a very welcome donation and writes that since the introduction of the "News" we must have become "shockproof." We sure have, Eric, but then, as the old saying goes, "it's better late than never." Since his discharge, Eric has been with the Department of Main Roads and spends his spare time (now what is that) as a horse trainer and has bred one or two

himself. Says he hasn't made a fortune, but has had a lot of fun.

We have added Tom ("Cobber") Cain's name to our mailing list, Eric, and he will receive the "News" regularly. Tom has a soldier settler block near Glen Innes, and is an ex-"C" Coy. man of the 2/1.

Glad you have been able to track down a few of your old mates through the paper, Eric, but, as you say, there are still a few we never hear from, even though they receive the "News." Still, one of these days they may get around to scratching us a few lines.

TOM CONNELLY (2/1), of Wallabadah, writes in to say that he has been away a few times in the past months and is just catching up with his mail. Tom and his wife had a holiday in North Queensland in June, but as time did not permit a full scale operation, they intend returning and doing a lot more exploring. He hopes to get to Canberra next Easter to see a lot of the Pioneers at the "Rats of Tobruk" function.

Tom states that they had a little rain after months of drought, but they need a lot more to bring the country back to normal. They had four inches of snow in July and, being the first in 60 years, Tom took photos so that visitors will believe him.

Thank you for your donation, Tom, and for your kind regards to the executive of the association.

HARRY MONTAGUE (2/1), of Homebush, sends word that one of our members, Fred Davenport, of Lawnton, Queensland, is seeking information in the "Rats" paper regarding the Pioneer Association. Thank you, Monty, for your kind interest, and already Fred's name is on the mailing list and he will receive this issue of the "Pioneer News." Welcome to the fold, Fred, and in return we seek news from you.

GEORGE R. PATTERSON (2/1) sends along a welcome donation, and we thank you for same, George. What about dropping us a line to tell us of your overseas travel?

JACK HAMILTON sends along a word of thanks to the association for the gifts bestowed upon him while in hospital recently, and a special vote of thanks to Jack Collis for his most cheery visits.

FOR LAUGHING OUT LOUD

ACTUAL EXTRACTS FROM N.R.M.A. ACCIDENT CLAIM FORMS

I consider that neither of us was to blame, but if either were to blame it was the other one.

I knocked over a man. He admitted it was his fault, as he had been run over before.

The accident was due to the other man narrowly missing me.

I collided with a stationary tramcar coming the other way.

I left my Austin Seven outside and when I come out later, to my amazement there was an Austin Twelve.

To avoid a collision, I ran into the other car.

Car had to turn sharper than necessary owing to an invisible lorry.

I collided with a stationary tree.

Dog on road; applied brakes, causing a skid.

I told the other idiot what he was and went on.

Wilful damage was done to the upholstery by rats.

A pedestrian hit me and went under my car.

I blew my horn, but it would not work as it was stolen.

I thought the side window was down, but it was up, as I found out when I put my head through it.

Cow wandered into my car. I was afterwards informed that the cow was half-witted.

If the other driver had stopped a few yards behind himself the accident would not have happened.

She suddenly saw me, lost her head and we met.

A lorry backed through my windscreen into my wife's face.

I misjudged a lady crossing the street.

I heard a horn blowing and was struck in the back. A lady was evidently trying to pass me.

Coming home, I drove into the wrong house and collided with a tree I haven't got.

Three women were talking to each other and when two stepped back and one stepped forward I had to have an accident.

LAST POST

We are indebted to our Welfare Officer, Jack Collis, for sending along the following information regarding our former members:—

NX 29611, A. S. Smyth, 2/1.
NX 155708, A/Cpl. H. Sommerville, 2/1.
NX 24442, Pte. D. M. McDevitt, 2/1.
NX 25058, Lieut. H. C. McDowell, 2/1.
NX 23846, Pte. W. A. Corrigan, 2/1.
NX 18995, Cpl. E. Johnson, 2/1.
VX 28701, Lieut. A. F. Rody, 2/2.

To Vic. Whitely, we extend our sympathy on the recent sad loss of his mother.

BI-ANNUAL SMOKO

CASTLEREAGH HOTEL (Corner Castlereagh and Park Streets, Sydney)
In the Quarter Deck Lounge on the First Floor

FRIDAY, 19th NOVEMBER, 1965 — 7.30 p.m. to 10 p.m.

NO CHARGE

FREE SUPPER

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2/2nd JOTTINGS

By Don Lawson

● By the time this article goes into print quite a few of us, along with our families, will have attended the Remembrance Service, held at the Canterbury Methodist Church, conducted by our old Padre, Rev. Stan Claughton. Those who have attended for the first time I am sure will make sure they are present at future services.

● While on the subject of the Padre, I am sorry to report that he is going through a bad period. His wife has been ill and Stan himself is not enjoying the best of health. I am sure all will join with me in hoping that there will soon be a silver lining in those clouds and the sun will shine once more.

● Received a nice long letter from Eddie Weston, who has now been a councillor at Lismore for the last nine years. Eddie is also President of the Lismore District Sports Trust and reports that Dickie Walker ("C" Coy.) is employed by the trust and doing a good job. (That would be no surprise to those who had known Dick for any length of time.) Nice to hear from you, Eddie. Send down any news you get of any of

the boys and thanks for the nice donation.

● Alan McInnes had a visit from Jim Commins, who was down in Sydney for a holiday with his wife, and according to Mac. doing very well. Your donation has been passed on, Jim, and many thanks.

● Mac has also been in contact with Harry Waite, who is secretary of the Commissionaires' Association. The size of the name suggests that big men would be needed for a job with them. Good to hear of you, Harry, come along to some of the functions.

● This is a forward notice that the 2/2nds will be holding their next Anzac Reunion at a different venue. The new address will be the LITERARY INSTITUTE, CLOVELLY ROAD, RANDWICK. It is a much better hall than we have been used to. Further details will be given later, but note down the new address.

As this is the last issue before Christmas, may I wish you all happiness, good health and peace for the future.

IN PASSING

JOHN FLOOD, popular lieutenant of "B" Coy. 2/1, is now a keen bowler at Grandview Bowling Club. Though he has been playing for only a few months, John showed great promise playing lead for the winning team in the club's Opportunity Fours Championship. Nice going, John, it looks as if we will have to arrange a Bowls Day for the Pioneer bowlers to show their paces.

Incidentally, our worthy treasurer, Doug. Shearston, is also a bowls enthusiast and plays with John at Grandview Club.

SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE

For existence, the "Pioneer News", your army unit newspaper, depends solely on your yearly 5/- subscription.

The local lads dug deep on Anzac Day, as well as quite a few country members, but there are a lot of chaps who have NEVER sent along a penny. So how about digging deep and sending it now.

A good intake of subscriptions plus a roll up of mail is ample reward to the hard-working band of committeemen for their year's labour of love.

All we ask is five shillings per year, and if you are five years behind just send along twenty-five shillings and we will guarantee your receipt of "Pioneer News".

CUT OUT FORM FOR ALL PIONEERS TO COMPLETE

2/1-2/2 PIONEER BATTALIONS ASSOCIATION

In order to assist the Editors in their records, all Pioneers are requested to fill in the following particulars and post immediately to the Secretary,
MAX HERRON, 3 Enoggera Road, Beverly Hills, N.S.W.

PLEASE USE BLOCK LETTERS

CHRISTIAN NAMES.....
SURNAME.....
ADDRESS.....

ARMY RANK..... UNIT.....
COMPANY..... PLATOON.....
SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS FOR "PIONEER NEWS".....

SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS FOR ASSOCIATION.....

With this form send a newsy letter of your doings and your subscription of 5/- per annum for the "Pioneer News."

1966

ANZAC SMOKO

CASTLEREAGH HOTEL

Quarter Deck Lounge

Castlereagh Street, Sydney

MONDAY, 25th APRIL, 1966

● **FREE LUNCH**

Commencing at 11.20 a.m.

See April Issue "Pioneer News"
For Further Details