

10TH AUSTRALIAN FIELD AMBULANCE (A.I.F.) ASSOCIATION

(AFFILIATED WITH ANZAC HOUSE)

PRESIDENT

Dr. D.J.M. Dunn
544-1541

SECRETARY

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50 Castlewood Street,
East Bentleigh, 3165.

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TREASURER

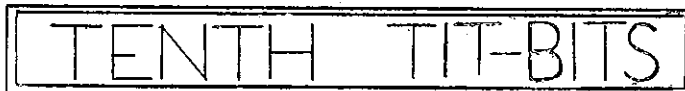
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85-2995

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NO. 4

March 1971.

Whilst from time to time throughout each year our memories flash back to wartime years - the problems, humorous incidents, boredom, fright, sad moments, mateship - we are once again approaching the day of special significance where all of us are invited and welcome to associate in the "old" atmosphere where the intervening years just seem to roll away.

So, even if you've not been to our get-togethers for years, overcome all obstacles and "be in it" - you'll be so glad you did.

HERE IS THE IMPORTANT DATE AND INFO:

SUNDAY, 25TH APRIL - ANZAC DAY - 26TH RE-UNION

(MEETING, MEAL, THEN MARCH)

1. Assemble prior to 11.30 a.m. at Hotel Federal
2. Pre-luncheon Meeting to Commence 10.30 a.m. SHARP
3. Luncheon immediately follows Meeting to ensure ample time to eat and associate prior to March.
4. NEW ASSEMBLY POINT FOR MARCH THIS YEAR

Bourke Street, between ELIZABETH & SWANSTON STREETS
(approximately opposite Myers, Bourke Street)

TIME - 2.45 p.m.

N.B. - Remember to take your medals out of mothballs!!

5. ASSEMBLY POINT FOR WIVES & FAMILIES

The east side of St.Kilda Road near Alexander Avenue.

AFTER-MARCH GET-TOGETHER - This will again be held at Bob King's residence, 28 PRINCESS STREET, FAWKNER, immediately following the March and a "cordial" invitation is extended to all Members to share the fellowship and hospitality ever present at this show.

We are ever grateful to BOB, MARJ and Family for the venue and organisation which must entail lots of thought and work.

INTERSTATE & COUNTRY MEMBERS.

Any member requiring accommodation for the Re-Union is invited to contact any Member of your Committee. (S.T.D. dial 03)

We are conscious that Anzac Day, once again falling at the weekend, provides a better opportunity of attendance for distant Members. In Fact, rumours are flying that certain New South Welshmen are even now laying plans to invade our territory - what a happy thought! We do hope the rumours are more fruitful than some which flew around from '39 to '45 So, surprise us!

ALTERATION OF ADDRESS - VICTORIA

No. 165 WENKE, L.B. 220 Serpells Road, Templestowe. 3106.

ALTERATION OF ADDRESS - INTERSTATE

No. 43 DOUGLAS, NORM Unit 111, Panorama Tower, Watson Esplanade, Surfers Paradise, Queensland, 4217.

(Half your luck, Norm - but hop a jet for the 25th!)

No. 168 STUART, LLOYD C/o Bank of N.S.W., 60 Martin Place, Sydney. N.S.W.2000

(Not far away really Lloyd, for a Transport Wiz!)

NEW ADDRESS which we're glad to have

No. 116A MARLES, F. 23 Ascot Street, Canley Heights, Sydney, N.S.W. 2166.

HOME ADDRESSES CHANGED AND CURRENTLY UNKNOWN TO COMMITTEE

No. B 15 BLYTH L.D.

S 150 SANDERS L.

R 144 RIDDELL R.

H 64 HAMER H.

B 10 BIRD L.V.

J 76 JENNINGS J.H.

CAN ANY MEMBER PROVIDE THIS INFORMATION PLEASE ?

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS RECEIVED FOR ANZAC DAY, 1970.

Firstly, a letter from our President, who couldn't be with us, but thoughtfully took time out to pen the following:-

"Palace Hotel
TOKYO. JAPAN
12/4/70

Dear Kel and all my friends in the 10th F.A. Association,

As you can see we are in the land of the rising sun having passed through Singapore, Bangkok and Hong Kong. It is hard to realise that all the neat, clean Japs; that swarm through the streets and bow and smile their greetings are the same nation of people that we hated so much in 1942-46. We were reminded of this fact on the way when we visited the War Cemetery at Singapore. This is a beautifully maintained and impressive garden on a hilltop and most of the graves have individual headstones. Also when we passed the gloomy and forbidding walls of Changi prison and realised that in my own case only three weeks difference in time of enlistment prevented me from spending the war there.

As I said before I left, my one regret about this trip is that I shall be in Manila and not Melbourne on Anzac Day but that is the way the tour itinerary was arranged. However I shall be with you all in spirit and I hope that the bands play in time and that the weather holds good - Ted Young would go out of business in Hong Kong charging the prices he does for plastic rain coats! My best wishes to all.

Lest we forget

Mick Dunn."

And a welcome letter from our esteemed erstwhile chief - Col. E.C. Palmer -

" 17/4/70

Dear Kel,

Thank you very much for your letter and invitation. Unfortunately family and practice problems make it impossible for me to go to Melbourne this year. I am sorry

that I have been so long in answering your letter but I had hoped that I would be able to arrange to be with you for Anzac Day.

Please convey my best wishes to all the members of the Association. I must say I find it hard to realise that it is twenty five years since the Association was begun. All best wishes to yourself,

Yours sincerely,

Ted"

10th April, 1970.

"Dear Kel,

I'm sorry I won't be able to be with you all this Anzac Day but will be thinking of you. Thanks for the copy of the "Tenth Tit Bits", it is good to hear all the news.

Hope all of the Boys who have been ill this year are now well on the road to good health again. I will be seeing Murdock McMillan and Ken Clinch at the March in Sydney and hope some of the others turn up. We will have a few quiet ales after.

I hope yourself, Glad and family are all well.

My best wishes to all the members for Anzac Day. I know it will be a very good one with first the March then the Dinner and later at Kruger's home. Win sends her regards to all the members that she has met.

Here is another address for you

FRED MARLES
23 ASCOT STREET
CANLEY HEIGHTS, 2166.

I have to give him a ring to see if he can make it to the March up here.

Well, Kel, I will close now as I want to catch the mail. Once again, best wishes to all.

Your old mate,
Bob Mitchell,"

9th April, 1970.

A much appreciated letter was received by Kel from ERN MILTON. Best wishes, Ern, and thanks for the enclosure which we felt worthy of publication:

"We pass this way but once
Whatever good therefore we can do
Whatever kindness we can show
To any human being
Let us not neglect it
Nor defer it
For we shall not pass this way again."

10th April, 1970.

"Dear Kel,

Thanks ever so much for the "Tit Bits" No. 3 and all the news contained therein. Keep them coming along each year, Kel.

I hope to be able to come up once again for the march. It all depends on my physical condition, still feeling the after effects of the fire last year. Mrs. McKim has had to have visits to the eye Doctor and her Doctor in regard to the condition - some infection caused by the smoke and dust during that day. We were both right in it - remember, I think I said that at the last reunion.

Well, all the kindest regards to yourself and all the chaps at the reunion.

Yours faithfully

Roy McKim"

12th April, 1970.

"Dear Kel,

Jack and I will be down this year, but I very much doubt that we will be in the march, I couldn't walk 50 yards without getting out of breath now.

Hope you are keeping well, Kel, also your family. See you on the 25th.

Yours sincerely,
Jim Drysdale."

13th April, 1970.

"Dear Kel,

Well I am pleased to say that I am up and feeling good again, hope it remains that way, of course.

I was pleased to see your wife and yourself when you came to see me in hospital and wish to thank you for same. I will not be able to make it this year as I am not too sure of things. Hope to see you at a later date,

I remain yours,
Gerald Frogley."

14th April, 1970.

"Dear Kel,

Thanks a lot for the newsletter, it is very nice to receive news of the boys, note my address is Greenacre and not Lakemba, Kel, they have changed the boundaries again.

I saw Bob Mitchell yesterday, we did intend coming down for the 25th but Kel its a bit far for a couple of days, I just had a trip down recently, my father passed away and we all went down for that so I will have to give it a miss this time but hope to make it next year. At least I will be in Sydney for the march so will see some of the other lads who live here so that will be something. It is years since I attended a march in Sydney so it will be good to see the boys again.

Cheerio for now and keep up the good work and all the very best to you and all the team for the 25th and hope we are able to have plenty more get togethers.

Regards,
Murdoch McMillan."

20th March, 1970.

"Dear Kel,

Things in general are pretty good in the Harbour City and it is now over eleven years since we migrated from the South. I still miss the Aussie rules football in Melbourne but usually manage to see a game or two each year when brief business visits conveniently carry over to a weekend. However, I am a keen bowler and as we play all the year round here it is some compensation.

Have been on the move quite a bit lately, Canberra and Adelaide mostly, but usually manage to get home for the weekends.

All the rest of my folks are still in Melbourne so I am usually pretty well tied up when I do get down there.

My eldest son is 21 on Sunday so big things on Saturday night next. He landed the call up lottery about 12 months ago but was deferred until he finished his course at the University of New South Wales. He goes into the Army on the 19th April.

The younger bloke, 18, was at the same University last year and this year will be at the Goulburn Teachers College.

I bumped into Murdoch McMillan some little time back. I was visiting Greenacre Bowling Club and sipping a quiet ale after the game when this chap walked in.

We had a few good looks at each other and although it did not register immediately it did not take very long before we both woke up, especially when I heard his voice.

I don't go to the march over here on Anzac Day as we have quite a big day at the Bowling Club starting at about 10 a.m. with a very impressive service at 11 a.m. and after that no holds barred.

Must away so cheerio for now. Keep the good work going

With kind regards to all,

Roy DeJarlais."

(Sorry for the delay in Banking, Roy, - will try to be more business like in future)

24th April, 1970. TELEGRAM, PERTH.

"ARK WILLIE AGAIN 10TH TITBITS GOOD BEST WISHES TO ALL FOR HAPPY ENJOYABLE REUNION STOP HAVING DINNER WITH TED LEE AND FAMILY ON ANZAC DAY. JOHN BACON."

10th April, 1970.

"Dear Kel,

Many thanks for the newsletter, it is great to be kept up with the latest.

I have been out of touch for a few years but expect to make the march and reunion this year.

Kind regards,

Ray Frith."

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS RECEIVED SINCE REUNION 25/4/70.

8th May, 1970,

"Dear Kel,

I am a bit late this year in replying to the latest "Tit-Bits". Actually at the time Lou and I were overseas and we only arrived home last weekend after a wonderful holiday. Enclosed is my annual subscription with a promise that provided nothing unusual intervenes, I will fly down next year for the reunion.

It does one good to read all the news in your rag but there is always a moment of sadness as one reads the names of those who have passed to the Great Beyond. As a matter of interest, I attended Anzac service on board ship this year just one day out from Rabaul. Quite close to our happy hunting ground.

My warm regards to all,

Sincerely,

Lloyd Stuart."

6th September, 1970.

"Dear Kel,

I apologise for my late reply to your welcome correspondence, but about the time of receiving your letter my Mother passed away and as I was executor of her will I became pretty involved at that time. Then of course I misplaced your letter, however I now have everything at hand and am anxious to write.

I have been seeing quite a lot of George Johnston lately. A friend of his spent some time in the hospital where I work and as George is a man of leisure having retired, it was convenient for him to pop in for a chat on visiting days. George intended flying to Melbourne for last Anzac Day but unfortunately he was taken ill and had to postpone the trip. I am pleased to say that George is now looking a lot better so trust he continues to improve in health. Incidentally, I spent a most enjoyable Anzac Day with George at his home at Bondi discussing at length times spent with the Unit, also the contents of Tenth Tit-Bits. The happy parts and the sad parts.

It has been a particularly busy year. I have a daughter in fourth form and one in sixth form high school. both preparing for their respective school certificates

among other things. This has proved quite a trial, however if they get good passes it will have been worthwhile.

While reading through the Tenth Tit-Bits I notice that Geoff Flower mentioned the drought he has suffered in his district. I only hope the recent rain we have had has been of some help to these stricken farmers.

This about winds it up Kel, please convey my best wishes to any of the fellows you may contact.

Sincerely,
Bob James."

13th September, 1970.

"Dear Kel,

Very sorry but unable to attend the Dinner Dance on 25th September, reason being I have only been out of hospital a couple of weeks after a spinal operation. (Laminectomy) and at present in a brace and still not very strong on the legs.

Regards to all, hoping night is a success,
Yours faithfully,
Geoff Dermer."

"Dear Kel,

One of the first things I did on arrival home was to go through the inwards mail for the period of my absence. Amongst it was your circular about the carbaret dinner. Although I have told you verbally that we cannot attend I thought this a good opportunity to formally advise and wish you all a very enjoyable anniversary.

I would also like to commend the wonderful work of your visiting committee. During my seventeen day stay at Heidelberg there were only three visiting periods during which a member of the old unit was not present. This I am sure did not happen by accident but by the efficient functioning of a dedicated committee.

Please pass on my thanks and kindest regards to your team and I look forward to seeing you all at the march next year.

Regards,
Jod Strudwick."

15th February, 1971.

"Dear Kel,

Steve Langton has told me that on information he received he has reported that I have had a heart attack. I have had an E.C.G. and am pleased to be able to tell you that this is not so.

I am having treatment for high blood pressure and uneven blood flow - so whatever I did have was probably caused by over exertion. (Plus age.)

Not sure whether I will see you a Healesville as on the same day every year there is a Highland Gathering at Ringwood and as my son-in-law attends these with pipe band we usually have my daughter and family here for lunch.

With best wishes to you all,
I am yours etc.,
"Bunny" King."

UNIT CABARET DINNER DANCE - CELEBRATING 25TH YEAR.

Our Silver Anniversary was celebrated on the Night of 25th September last at the Hawthorn Club. We were fortunate even with the weather and had 69 present. The general consensus of opinion voted the night a real success - good company, good food and a pleasant atmosphere. Room decorations were carried out by Members and special thanks go to Joyce and Ron Woff who supplied all flowers and decorated the tables magnificently.

During the evening, Vice President Ted Young called on our President, Dr. Mick Dunn and his wife to cut the "Birthday" Cake with a Japanese Sword specially provided for this auspicious occasion (No one was injured in this episode).

On behalf of all Members of the Association Dr. Mick Dunn presented our Secretary Kel White with a magnificent Coffee Maker suitably engraved for 25 years continuous and loyal service as Secretary of our Association. Kel in his response was obviously deeply moved and typically pointed out the lack of necessity for such a gift.

Certainly a memorable night for all. Apologies were received from the following Members:-

Bluey DAVIS	Ned MATHEWS
David JAMES	Rod RAMAGE
Joe SHUDWICK	Harry GAUDION
Jeff MCGILL (ill)	Gerald FROGLEY
Alan TATE	Ron LINCOCK (Davenport Tasmania)
Dr. Alec REITH	John GRANT
John STRETTON	Don BRAINE
Jock DRYSDALE	Eric WILLIAMS (Sergie)
Geoff DERMER (Laminectomy)	Ian WILSON
Ern MILTON	Steve LANGTON
Albert HAMNY	Noel NORTON
Ray FRITH	Wattie TULLY
Roy McKIM	

UNIT PICNIC - QUEEN'S PARK, HEALESVILLE.

This was held on Sunday 21st February, 1971.

Queen's Park is still proving a delightful venue and the weather was once again kind to us. This is a day of happiness and whilst we had a respectable roll up of approximately 75, it is felt that a number of Members are missing out on a good fun day.

Nice to see our President Mick Dunn and his wife back again and Gerald Frogley back on deck too. The only blemish on the day was Kel's absence and the knowledge that he had just gone to hospital with a quite serious heart attack - you'll all be glad to know he's home again and making quiet progress.

On the lighter side, an unfortunate incident occurred involving one Sergeant, Bob Crawford, which perhaps can best be told in verse by your unacclaimed bard.

"Did you hear about our "SNATCH"
Who's currently sporting a Patch
Right on the seat of his pants
No - not caused by white ants
He was taking a catch
In our Cricket Match,
He bent too low
Something had to go !!!"

There's no doubt about our Vice President - he was right there with an offer to supply another pair off the rack, at a discount Bob Hawke would have been proud of - or so I heard.

CASUALTY LIST

Kel White - Southern Memorial Hospital
Heart Attack - admitted 19-2-'71
- discharged 13-3-'71

Kel was deeply appreciative of the flowers and fruit sent by your Welfare Committee and the numerous "get-well" wishes by 'phone, cards letters and personal visits.

- Cliff Watkins - Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital
For ten days - Discharged 5-9-'70
- Joe Strudwick - Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital
For seventeen days - Coincidentally admitted on 5-9-'70 to same
bed vacated by Cliff (above) - had to wait for Cliff to vacate!!
- Des Rae - Mordialloc Community Hospital - 7-9-'70
- Dr. Frank McCardle - St. Vincent's Hospital
Three months
Discharged December, 1970.
Members will be interested to hear that Frank is now fit and well
and back on the job.
- Geoff Dermer - Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital
August - September, 1970.
- Laurie Malkin - Southern Memorial Hospital
Admitted 12-10-'70
Discharged 25-10-'70
- Jeff McGill - Hamilton Russell (Alfred Hospital)
Operated on 26-10-'70

WATER CART WHISPERS.

Kel White and Family left Melbourne on Christmas Day, driving to Perth and back - some 4900 miles. They stayed a fortnight with Lily and John Bacon and Family. A barbecue tea one night included the Bacon Family. White Family together with Ted Lee and Family - at Ted's residence. On the way home to Melbourne, they stayed a night with Jack and Wenda Standerwick at Bordertown - - liked to have been a fly on the wall (or perhaps a bee!!!)

CONGRATULATIONS to Ted Young who won the By-election for the Hughesdale Ward on the Oakleigh City Council on Saturday 23rd January, 1971. Councillor Young now please!

CONGRATULATIONS to Lloyd Stuart on his promotion and transfer from Brisbane to a major City Branch with Bank of New South Wales, Sydney.

Calling Merv. Featonby at 70 Raglan Street, Sale - what about telling us some highlights of your six months trip overseas last year Merv. - sure members would be interested.

GOLF

Rebellious souls will be pleased no doubt that President (Mick Dunn) and Vice President (Ted Young) were just recently defeated by other ranks ("Horror" and Woffie") - I think a brew concocted by Ron Woff and imbibed during the round may just possibly have had something to do with it - the winners prefer to think of it as "Just better golf on the day!!"

UNIT WELFARE

Welfare officers, David and Clem, are happy to report that they had little to do during the year 1970 - 1971 - and whilst they are ready to act in cases of emergency when they arise - they hope that they will have little to do for many years to come.

A few of our Members had spells in hospital during the year, including Jeff McGill, Des Rea, Frank McCardle, Laurie Malkin, Cliff Watkins, Joe Strudwick and Kel White. All have now recovered, or are on the way to recovery and appreciated the visits made by Members while they were in Hospital or at home after hospital.

David and Clem thank all those Members who visited our casualties and appreciate the ready support that has been given by Association Members over the year. They ask all Members to tell them if ever help is needed and, more importantly, to tell them when it is known of a Member whom it is felt should be contacted.

