



NEWSLETTER

MAY 1985

We had another good roll-up by Association members for the 1985 Anzac Day activities. Ten were in attendance for the wreath laying ceremony - Norman Allen, Bob Bevan, Madeline Chidgey, Austin Goldberg, Charles McCafferty, Dennis Moore, Allan Osborne, Geoff Patience, Lester Truex and Jim Williams. As usual, the parade included delegations from Australian Intelligence Association and Special Z Force. Our thanks to Allan Osborne for obtaining the wreath and putting our insignia on it.

Not only did the rain stay away for the wreath laying, but after a huge downpour early on Anzac Day, it held off for the duration of the March and the Reunion at Phillip's Foote - so those of us who marched with brollies and/or raincoats at the ready, did not need them.

Twenty-five members marched - Norman Allen, Bob Bevan, Syd Carey, Michael Casey, Madeline Chidgey, Bill Estep, Gordon Gibson, Joyce Grace, David Hansen, Frank Hughes, Norma Keeling, Noel Langby, Vic Lederer, Bob Leonard, Charles McCafferty, Mac Maroney, Leslie Morley, Reg Murphy, Allan Osborne, Geoff Patience, Joe Richard, John Shoebridge, Lester Truex, Jim Williams and Stan Winn.

Pittwater House College Band, preceding us, did a marvellous job, as did the two young Scouts who carried our banner. It was very plainly seen in the TV coverage, though we did not get a mention as a unit. But the VHS video-tape we made showed a number of our marchers in full swing. Anyone who would like to borrow the 1984 or 1985 tape is welcome. (Phone number 02 524 8739).

Sylvia, the Manageress of Phillip's Foote, is a very hospitable lady who not only made us feel welcome but provided excellent food - and, of course, the atmosphere is always warm and relaxed. Most of those who marched attended the Reunion, and were joined by the following members, spouses, friends and relations - Doug Allen, Shirley & Bruce Bentwitch, Norma Carey, Joyce Casey, Ron Chidgey, Nobby Clarke, Lil & Alan Cornish, Don Coventry, May Gerber, Sue Gibson, Ken Henderson, Bob Johnson, Jackie Keeling, Joy Linnane, Allan & Ruth MacDonald, Noni McNaught, Margaret McCafferty, Clair Moss, Meg Osborne, Percy Pledger, Aub & Gwenda Roberts, Diane Seymour, Marcie & Gordon Wilson, and Marion Winn, and also Vic Lederer's son Robin. I hope I have all the names!

Brigadier Keith Stringfellow of A.I.A., with Jock Cameron, Harold Waugh from California, and other A.I.A. members also joined us and it was good to have them. 54 in all!

Mac Maroney and Stan Winn walked over to the Paragon Hotel at Circular Quay to reminisce for a while with their A.S.W.G. friends. We had an early visit from Phil Dynes, an ex-C.B.-er who was going on to the Z Force Reunion.

It was good to see Percy Pledger looking so well, also Bob Bevan, whose wife Fay is making a good recovery from heart surgery. Bob is one of the original steering committee who formed our Association.

It was also a pleasure to meet Joe Richard, from Silver Springs, Maryland, U.S.A. Joe actually marched in his original uniform!!! I wonder how many of us could do that today. Ken Henderson of Canberra visited us for the first time. Ken is Editor of "Hemisphere" Magazine. New member, Leslie Morley of Narrabri, also joined us for the first time. It great to have them all with us, renewing old acquaintances.

- 2 -

The Association has purchased two copies of "A Woman at War" by Eve Scott, which makes interesting reading. Anyone wishing to borrow a copy may ring Norma Keeling on 02 525 0382 or me on 02 524 8739. We are awaiting, with eager anticipation, Geoff Ballard's book on his wartime experiences, and now we hear that Vic Lederer is writing his memoirs.

Bob Burnside, though much better, is still awaiting admission to Concord Repat Hospital for surgery, and his wife Jean is recovering from another spell in hospital, so our good wishes are with them. Bob is another 'old original' from the steering committee.

Before we saw Joe Richard, he had seen more of Australia than most of us locals ever see. His first stop was Melbourne, and while there Lester & Kay Truex arranged a most enjoyable evening for him at their home to meet old CB members, including Captain Eric Nave, an alert octogenarian! Over to Adelaide, where he stayed with Ted Correll, thence to Perth, Darwin, Cairns, and then visiting with his wife's relations on the way down to Brisbane. It was from Joe that we heard the news that Pappy Clark was undergoing radiation treatment in Brisbane. We sent Pappy a greeting from the crowd at the Anzac Day Reunion which he was pleased to receive, and in a note dated May 7 he says, "I have completed my course of 15 doses of radiation and am now relying on prayers to give me a reasonable remission". Stan Winn has spoken to him by phone and reports that Pappy sounds pretty good. Our good wishes continue with him and his wife Anni.

Alf Bobin of Gympie sent down a long and newsy letter, after a long silence caused by trouble with the muscles in his right arm which severely restricted his writing. He now has 75% usage in the arm, and we hope there will be further improvement.

Gordon Gibson had a call from Brian Walsh to say that Bobby Goode, ex CB, was drowned recently in a rip at Surfers Paradise. Bobby was married to Alma Matheson, who was a switchboard operator at Henry Street. Our sympathy is with the family in this sorrow.

The death occurred in April of Mrs. Margaret Dunlop, widow of the late Eric Dunlop, ex CB. Margaret became an Associate Member of the Association after Eric's death some years ago.

An application for membership has been received, via Geoff Patience, from "Stewie" Southam, well remembered by some of you. Details of new members will be in the next Newsletter.

Reunion in Brisbane - 1 Wireless Unit. To be held on Saturday, 10th August, at the home of Les and Kit Copeland, 24 Hayden Street, Nudgee. For further details, contact Alan Marsland, 45 Keylar Street, Mitchelton, 4053. Alf Bobin is hoping that Rita (Taylor) Balin and Eve Scott can be persuaded to attend, and that Frank Patrick and others from down south will be there. Frank Patrick is now over 80 and attended their last Reunion.

Reunion in the U.S. - S.I.S. To be held at Louisville, Kentucky, on October 11th and 12th this year. The MAIN EVENT will be a Renewal-of-Vows ceremony between Max & Nancy (Waterworth) Hurley, of Casterton, Victoria. The first ceremony took place in a thatched chapel at San Miguel, Tarlac, Luzon, in 1945 (revisited by Max & Nancy Lou last year), and of course all the original guests are invited! A reference to the wedding appears in the S.I.S. Record, page 37. Those interested in attending the Reunion should write to - S.I.S. Reunion Fund,
c/o Grace DeJarnette,
1205 Castlewood Avenue,
Louisville. KY. 40204.
U.S.A.

We would, of course, all like to be there for such a happy and memorable event.

All for now!

Madeline Chidgey
Publicity Officer

A word from our President

Sincere thanks to all those who supported our Anzac Day activities by their attendance - particularly those from the country, interstate, and even the United States.

Joyce and I were delighted to have Joe Richard, from Maryland, as our house guest, during Anzac Week. We were able to take him down to Canberra on the Saturday and put him on the plane for home on Sunday. I hope he enjoyed his visit as much as we enjoyed having him.

The Reunion, as usual, was a great success, with everyone in good spirits, and there was a great deal of laughter and "storytelling". And it looks as if, even in the middle of a wet spell, we can still depend on the weather to be kind to us. May it be so for all future Anzac Days.

Hearty good wishes to you all.

Michael Casey
President

Changes of address:

S.R.I. Clark Now: 14 Sigatoka Place, Merrimac. Qld. 4226 075 55 1659
 (Pappy)

W.E. Clarke Now: 7 Kangaroo Street, Manly. N.S.W. 2095
 (Nobby)

Brian Lovett Now: 76 Taree Street, Jonnel Park, Tuncurry. 2428. 065 54 5405