
Central Bureau Intelligence Corps Association Mini Newsletter, April 2013

PRESIDENT'S PAR

MacArthur's Secret Bureau

We are finally in print, and hope you are all ordering and reading the book. It may lack anecdotal references, but you should remember the large number of books that have given people's own reactions to the ULTRA experience.

Gordon Gibson

HON SECRETARY'S MINUTES

The Annual General Meeting of CBICA where it was held on 1.30pm Monday 4 February 2013 at Roseville Memorial Club.

Present: Gordon Gibson, Bruce Bentwitch, Helen Kenny, Noni Benn, Alan Norton, Joy Granger.

Apologies: Frank Hughes, Stan Baylis (both unwell). Message received from Noeline Hansen that David has been taken into care. Our thoughts go to all our failing members.

Treasurer Bruce submitted Report for year ending 12.12.12. Current balance \$4640. Our thanks go to Alan Bentwitch for his work on our behalf.

General: President referred to his report (given in Newsletter of December 2012) re recently published History of Unit. Helen advised that Robert Brown would review this. We await with interest.

Anzac Day: Gordon advised that he will be attending a meeting on 7 March which will produce final arrangements for assembly and transport requirements. These details will be covered in circular going to all members prior to Anzac Day. Please read this with care and return to Treasurer ASAP.

Ian has advised that he will be unable to help carry the banner- do we have a volunteer?

Bruce advised booking of Windows Room at Pullman Sydney Hotel (former Marriott) for luncheon.

President then called for nominations for Executive. As Les no longer with us and Frank unwell, Gordon asked Alan Norton whether he would be prepared to stand in as Vice-President. With diffidence he agreed and Executive now stands as:

President: Gordon Gibson

Vice-President: Frank Hughes

Vice-President: Alan Norton

Treasurer: Bruce Bentwitch

Publicity: Helen Kenny

Executive: Stan Baylis, Noni Benn

Secretary (pro tem) Joy Granger

Before closing, we noted with regret the ending of that great ASWG Newsleter "Ink Emma Ink" which Steve Mason and helpers have kept going for so many years. It will be missed. Sorry about any errors.

Meeting closed about 3pm.

Joy Granger

MacArthur's Secret Bureau

-Jean Bou

(Australian Military History Publications)

It would have been a daunting prospect for a writer to chronicle the history of Central Bureau after so many years, when the ranks have thinned. The original author completed several chapters and mapped out the remainder, only to be diverted to other duties.

Current members of the Central Bureau Intelligence Corps Association provided a veritable mine of information and photographs intended to make the book a record of the contributions of people – the story of a vibrant and effective organization and its share in the Allied victory in WW2. A number contributed to the cost.

A useful addition would have been that the life of Central Bureau extended after the conflict, in the careers of so many of its members, such as Nobby Clarke's service as an interpreter at the War Crimes Tribunal in Japan.

There is a marked tendency to major on minors. The book has a copious record of pre-CB history, featuring inter-service rivalry, which members will testify was of little if any operational consequence. Personnel were blissfully unaware that 50 Eldernell Terrace was the scene of frequent dinner and drinking parties.

Minute details abound, of troop movements and locations within and outside Australia, including statistics of the birth, growth and strength of ASWG, with scant mention of people involved.

Presentation of the book might have been improved had the cover featured any of the more expert teleprinter operators and one of the scrupulously maintained machines in constant use in the Henry Street garage.

Members and their families, who have waited for this book, and talked of it constantly, are likely to find that it falls short of expectations.

Robert Brown

[In 1945 after the war ended Captain Nave assembled a team to draw up The Technical Records of Central Bureau. The group included Clarrie Hermes, Judith Roe, and Robert Brown, then a young sergeant. They worked in a house in Eldernell Terrace, Ascot.

Robert Brown, now the Rev. Robert Brown, is the author of a book "Saturday Reflections" and a former reviewer for "The Age". He wrote this review of MacArthur's Secret Bureau.]

VALE

Sadly, there are two more deaths to report – those of WAAAF Peggy Teague (nee' McLachlan) and of Jack Brown who recently moved to the Phillipines & died there in Tacloban.

Peg worked in MacArthur's HQ – the old AMP building and Jack was a Kana operator in the "Foreign Legion".

Last Word: To Joan Harris...Sorry your Vale about Lou must wait until our June issue.

The same apology to Gordon Swinney whose interesting article about his life and the floods he endured as also held over till June.

Thoughts to all CBers – whether they can make ANZAC Day or not. – H.K

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CBICA – ANZAC ARRANGEMENTS – 2013

Wreath laying Ceremony, Wednesday 24 April.

Members to assemble 1815 hours, cnr Pitt St and Martin Place (near old GPO) for wreath laying Parade. Medals to be worn.

March arrangements, Thursday 25 April

Please assemble 0900 hours cnr Hunter and Elizabeth Sts (South side) under our green and gold banner.

Formation will be 8 abreast. Transport will be available for those requiring it (see form below – we need to know how many). Please answer as soon as possible, and provide your phone number.

Reunion lunch

After the march, from 1200 hours, lunch again will be in the “Windows” room, of the former Marriott Hotel. There’s been a change of name. The hotel is now called The Pullman Sydney Hyde Park. The address is the same – 36 College Street, opposite the War Memorial.

Telephone is (02) 9361 8400. Email address is: www.pullmansydneyhydepark.com.au

Parking will be free for CBers ANZAC DAY only. Cost of lunch will be \$50/head (drinks extra of course). Members are welcome to bring wives, husbands, family and friends to the lunch. AIA and ex-ASWG personnel are also welcome. **Please wear name tags and RSVP all functions** (including need for transport) in the form below. We’d appreciate the RSVP for the lunch (plus appropriate cheque) almost immediately.

Membership fees for 2013 are due. If you haven’t paid yet please send your \$15 (\$10 for associates) to the Hon. Treasurer, Bruce Bentwitch, 7 Holly St, CASTLE COVE, NSW 2069. All cheques to be made out to CBICA.

**CENTRAL BUREAU INTELLIGENCE CORPS ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held on Monday, 4th February, 2013, at 1:30pm at the Roseville Memorial Club, 64 Pacific Highway, Roseville, NSW

AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Confirmation of Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 6th February, 2012
3. President's Report
4. Hon. Treasurer's Report
5. Election of Officers. (All positions will be declared vacant. Any member wishing to nominate a member for the Executive Committee should complete the nomination form below, and forward it to the Hon. Secretary, Joy Granger, at 2/5 Endeavour Drive, NARRABEEN NSW 2101. Both nominator and nominee must be financial members).
6. Hon. Auditor
7. General Business

The annual membership fee of \$15 for 2013 is now due (\$10:00 for Associates) and should be forwarded to Bruce Bentwitch, Hon. Treasurer, 7 Holly St., CASTLE COVE NSW 2069.

Joy Granger, Hon. Secretary

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CENTRAL BUREAU INTELLIGENCE CORPS ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT

VICE PRESIDENTS (2)

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HON. SECRETARY

HON. TREASURER

PUBLICITY OFFICER

EXECUTIVE (3)

.....

.....

SIGNED DATE.....

PLEASE PRINT

Attached please find remittance of \$being subscription for 2013.

Signed

Kindly send your subscription to Bruce Bentwitch (address above).
