



No 1

APRIL 1st 1918.

Price, Ten Cents.



22nd BATTALION ASSOCIATION



TWENTY-SECOND'S

ECHO

No. 26

Issued Anzac Day, 1970

22nd Battalion Association

President: J. R. BENNETT
Past President: G. J. RUSSELL
Vice-President: W. A. KIRBY
Hon. Treasurer: R. S. BAKER

Hon. Secretary:

G. C. RUSSELL, 25 Koona Avenue, East Malvern, 3145 (211 4422)

Committee:

*J. R. ARMSTRONG	H. W. LYNDON
R. DICKINS	*L. R. SPEAK
N. H. DOWLEY	*W. F. STURROCK
C. E. HILDEBRAND	*B. J. VAUGHAN
*S. KIRBY	*H. F. VAWDON

* Denotes Past Presidents.

Forward from the President

Gentlemen,

It is my privilege, on behalf of your Committee, to submit to the members of our Battalion Association a report on the activities for the year 1969 and to express a few thoughts for the future.

Included in the list of those who died during the year are the names of such prominent members of our battalion as our C.O., Lt-Col. A. R. L. Winkler, C.M.G., D.S.O., M.C.; Chaplain F. H. Durnford, M.C., and Major William (Rusty) Rathvon, V.C. We mourn the loss of our comrades and convey our sympathy to their families.

"At the going down of the Sun, and in the morning,
We will remember them."

The annual pilgrimage to the Shrine in May was attended by a representative gathering of our members. The address delivered by Sir Eugene Gorman, Q.C., suitably conveyed to those present the calibre of the men of the A.I.F. We were proud to know and to remember many of the men he mentioned during his discourse. Their valiant service in war and peace exemplified the type and spirit of the men who served.

The Annual Reunion held in the Lower Hall of the Melbourne Town Hall was attended by 54 members and guests of sister associations. Those who attended spent a most enjoyable evening recounting past experiences and remembering pals unable to attend. Details of this year's Reunion luncheon are referred to elsewhere in this "Echo".

Anzac Day 1969 attracted a large muster of members at the assembly point. It is inspiring to take part in this revival of comradeship. If we gauge the success of Anzac Day from the enthusiastic greetings and continuous chatter of those present we must proclaim the gathering an outstanding success. We extend our sympathy to those unable to attend through physical disabilities or sickness, and our regards to those prevented from attending because of distance.

We are indebted to those who contribute so generously to our Association funds. Many of the donations are from members unable to attend the

Reunion in the March. Such continued support indicates the strong link of comradeship between the members of the 22nd Battalion.

Committee meetings are held when required at the home of Mr and Mrs Fred Russell, whose hospitality over the years has been a great asset to ensure the successful and successful of committee members.

The year 1970 marks the beginning of another decade and during the year we will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of Captain James Cook's landing at Botany Bay.

We were honoured by the presence of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, accompanied by H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Charles and Princess Anne, to commemorate and celebrate this historic occasion.

Such occasions should remind us of the many great Australians who, by dedicated service and sacrifice, have contributed so much to the building of our nation into a secure and prosperous community. We who have lived through more than a third of our National history look forward with confidence to the growth of our country. We trust and expect the youth of today to uphold and maintain the spirit of service bequeathed to them by their forefathers.

In conclusion, I desire to express my appreciation of the loyal support of the committee members throughout the year. Our special thanks are due to our untiring Hon. Secretary, Fred Russell, who will complete his 50th year of dedicated and continuous service in September next. I commend to your notice the special reference to Fred's work for our Association in an article in this issue of "Echo".

Your Committee members join me in sending to each of you, wherever you may be, greetings and good wishes for the future.

15th April, 1970. J. R. (JIM) BENNETT.

ANZAC DAY, 1970

The March this year will be held in the same form as previously. Our rendezvous will be in front of Myer's Men's Store in Bourke Street. Assemble around 9 a.m. and the march will commence at 10 a.m. We should be on the move about 10.30 a.m.

We had our usual good muster at the assembly last year, but only a very small number could undertake the march. Much as we regret it, we have to admit to the limitations of age which permit only a nucleus of our unit to do the march. In that regard we are not alone, for our quota marching is in keeping with other battalions.

At a unit associations' meeting held at Anzac House on 2nd March for the purpose of discussion of proposals for the conduct of the Anzac Day March it was announced by the March Marshal that the Commemoration Council was giving consideration to the shortening of the march for the 1914-18 men for the 1971 March. Details had not been worked out but, when available, we would be informed before next Anzac Day of the amended route. This change was deemed imperative in view of the age of the 1st A.I.F. members and would enable those who wished to participate in this most memorable march to do so with the minimum of fatigue.

1969 REUNION

Our Annual function for 1969 was another of our happy functions, but unfortunately shared by a much depleted attendance. No doubt this can be attributed to the "fading away" process, but the support of absentee members exemplified, in no uncertain manner, that the spirit of the troops is as high as ever, but their increasing years prevented many from making the venture.

Our absent members were honoured at 9.30 p.m. in their toast proposed

in his inimitable manner by Sir Eugene Gorman, who recalled many who had died on service or had passed on since and whose memories we cherish. He expressed the sentiments of all present in conveying our best wishes to all our absent members from this function. The responses to the toast of our guests, proposed by Mr. Vawdon, was responded to by Mr. G. McCoomb, of the 24th, and Mr. E. Appel, of the 2/22nd.

FUTURE REUNIONS

For some time past the Committee has been considering the nature of our annual reunions. It is clear that the attendance at the night functions is usually falling off, and it is equally clear that this is due mainly to our advancing years and the strain of night travel. The spirit of our members is undoubted, as witnessed by the generous financial support we receive from those unable to attend. At the last reunion a proposal to alter the form of our annual get-together to a luncheon to be held at a city point was submitted to those present and it received unanimous approval. From the opinions expressed then and by many absent members it is apparent that a luncheon would be very much appreciated and that it would provide the opportunity for many members, who have had to forego previous reunions for reasons already stated, to attend a mid-day show and to reach home afterwards in comfort.

In view of these opinions, the committee is proceeding with plans to hold this year's reunion at a place in the city at a date and time yet to be decided. However, ample notice will be given all members, and it is anticipated that the opportunity will be availed of by many of our members who have, hitherto, been unable to attend. Furthermore, the mid-day function will, no doubt, permit members from nearer country centres to make the journey to the city for the occasion and return home the same day. In these days of motor transport distance is not an obstacle that it used to be and that may be an inducement for them to parade again with the 22nd.

With such thoughts in mind we look forward to a greater muster of our members and we have no doubt that the very nature of the function will provide an enjoyable few hours for all.

Shrine Pilgrimage, Sunday, 10th May, 1970

Our Annual Service of Remembrance will be conducted at the Shrine on Sunday, 10th May, 1970, at 3 p.m.

Assemble at Lincolnbow Statue, opposite Victoria Barracks, at 2.30 p.m., and after a short march to the Shrine the Service will commence at 3 p.m.

All members who are able to attend are urged to make our Annual Ceremony a duty to "Departed Comrades".

Our Pilgrimage last year was held on Sunday, 11th May, and members and their families who attended participated in a Ceremony made more significant by the Spirit of Remembrance — Remembrance for the hundreds of Comrades who made the supreme sacrifice in that titanic struggle for the right of all people to live in a free world.

The attendance of members, although not as good as was hoped for, was representative of the battalion. Included in the number was Mr. J. Gosse, who had travelled down from Wangaratta for the ceremony. We most commend Sir Walter Cavilliers for his presence, especially in view of physical disabilities incurred as a result of a recent operation.

The address at the Shrine of Remembrance was given by Sir Eugene Gorman, who spoke of the supreme sacrifices of so many men who were hardly out of their boyhood years. He mentioned many of our own battalion, and other units of the A.I.F., who had achieved honours and distinction among their fellows, and who had only reached the age of 21-22. Such words as these enhance our pride in the A.I.F., but emphasise in no uncertain manner the tragic loss to human life associated with war.



This photograph of Mr. Frederick Charles Russell has been inserted in the "Echo" by your committee to celebrate the completion of his 50 years of continuous service as Honorary Secretary of the 22nd Battalion Association. It is believed that this remarkable achievement is unequalled among Office-Bearers of similar ex-Servicemen's Associations in the Commonwealth.

Fred Russell's connection with our battalion commenced in March, 1915, when he enlisted for active service overseas with the A.I.F. He took part in most of the major battles in which the battalion was engaged, notably Gallipoli, Pozieres, Ypres and the Somme 1916, Bullecourt, Villers Bretonneux and the final campaign terminating with the Armistice. He was wounded at Pozieres and again at Bullecourt, two of the most desperate and costly battles in which the battalion played a notable part. An impressive record indeed.

After the war Fred continued his military career as a commissioned officer with the 22nd Battalion, A.M.F., until his retirement in 1927 with the rank of Major. He was appointed Honorary Secretary of our Association in September, 1920, and has continued in that office without a break up to the present time. In addition to his wonderful work for us, he has taken a leading part in R.S.L. and other ex-Service and Civil Organisations. He has given up a great deal of his life to this voluntary service, and his name stands high in the respect and regard of his fellow members of our Association for the immense sacrifice of time and effort he has made, and is still making on our behalf.

Your committee is confident our members will insist that Fred's loyal and devoted work must be recognised in some suitable manner, and with that end in view, you will be hearing from them in the near future.

ANNIVERSARIES

Last "Echo" included references to some of our members who had reached the "sere and mellow" age when they could boast of Golden Wedding anniversaries, and we are pleased to publish our approbation of such records.

However, the publicity afforded them has revealed that we have many members with similar claims to distinction, and the "Echo" provides an appropriate medium for spreading the good news. To each and every one of them we add our warmest congratulations.

James and Mrs. Greig, of Clayton, celebrated their 50th anniversary on 10th April, 1969, and at a party at the Clayton R.S.L. Hall numerous friends and their three children and seven grandchildren made merry in no uncertain manner. Jim's romance originated in a train in England, while he was on leave, and there met his future wife, who was a fellow traveller. They were married in Holy Trinity Church, Ilfracombe, Devonshire, on 10th April, 1919. Jim was for many years with the Repatriation Department and is now taking his leisure in Clayton. He was on the committee for a number of years, but failing eyesight forced him to cease that activity.

Sid W. Blomley and Mrs. Blomley, late of Balliang but now of Bacchus Marsh, celebrated their Golden Wedding on 12th November, 1969, with a special family gathering at Bacchus Marsh. They were married on 12th November, 1919, at Malhoura, N.S.W., and at their Golden Anniversary celebration all of their wedding attendants, with the exception of one, were present to live again a wedding of 50 years vintage. A very remarkable record. Sid has another record to celebrate, for he had been the postmaster at Balliang for 50 years, and last year decided that his retirement was overdue, so he has moved to Bacchus Marsh to spend his leisure, aided by eleven grandchildren and his two daughters, who also reside in that town.

Donald and Mrs. Villani (nee Ada East, of Tasmania), now residents of West Heidelberg, first became associated in South Melbourne and were married in the C. of E. Church in Dorcas Street on 1st February, 1919. Their union has been blessed with five children. Ossie was wounded at Flers in November, 1916, but returned to the battalion and received severe wounds at Pouchencelle in September, 1917, and was invalided home in March, 1918. He was for many years employed at the Metropolitan Gas Company.

Ern H. Paul and Mrs. Paul celebrated their 50th anniversary on 8th March, 1969. They were married in the Morland C. of C. in March, 1919, and Ern recalls that, as well as being their wedding day, that day marked the lifting of the anti-influenza restrictions, and that made their day even more memorable. For some years after his discharge Ern was a peach and pear grower at Kyabram, but later became a paper merchant in Sydney. They now reside in East Malvern.

Bill and Mrs. Ruthven celebrated their Golden Anniversary on 20th December, 1969, with a gathering of their relatives and friends at the Collingwood Town Hall. Mrs. Ruthven (nee Irene M. White) and Bill, both residents of Collingwood, had become engaged before his enlistment in 1915, and on his return to Australia they were married in St. Phillip's C. of E. in Hoddle Street, Abbotsford, on 20th December, 1919. Mr. Les Turner, now of Warrambool, was best man at their wedding. Their union has been blessed with two children and four grandchildren.

N.B.—It is with very deep regret that we have to record the death of Bill on 12th January, 1970, and an obituary is included in this issue of "Echo".

Very special congratulations are due to *Fred and Mrs. Stille*, of Coogee, N.S.W., who celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on 12th February, 1970.

In 1908, when the world wasn't such a hectic place as it has become, and society moved on an even keel, a young man named *Fred Stille* decided that Australia offered him more opportunities than his native Edinburgh and hied himself to that remote land. Prospects proved well worthwhile and in 1910 he induced his wee lassie, *Cecile Birnie*, to join him in Sydney, where they were married in the Grahame Memorial Church in Waverley on 12th February, 1910. They established their home at 3 Woodland Street, Coogee, which has been their "wee hut and hen" ever since. In 1915 Fred joined the A.I.F. and was fortunate in being posted to the 22nd Battalion, with which unit he soldiered on for the duration and eventually returned to Australia and took up his civilian occupation again.

Fred has a remarkable record of service, as apart from his war service with the 22nd, he had been, for some years prior to 1908, a member of the 42nd Queen's Rifle Volunteer Brigade (Yeomanry) of the Royal Scots Regiment, and proudly displays a Cup Trophy which he won in July, 1900, for the best rifle shot in his company. He will reach his 91st birthday on 11th June, 1970, and Mrs. Stille has not quite reached that score, but the years have treated them fairly well and they both enjoy the health their years will allow.

PERSONAL PARS

Roly Werrett wrote from Bertheaucourt and took a whole year to complete his letter. However, he put the commencing and finishing dates on it, so we have to believe him, but we do not imagine that he was writing for the whole twelve months. Actually his letter covered events and experiences during that period.

He has disposed of his business and he and Mrs. Werrett are now living in retirement in Bertheaucourt. He attended the memorial service at Villers Bretonneux in May, 1918, and was given special privileges, being one of the very few A.I.F. men present who had participated in that action. After much champagne, before and during the lunch, the whole party proceeded to the memorial, where they were received with full military honours by a French infantry company with band. After that ceremony there was another at the French War Memorial, and then the official party, including Mr. Werrett, were entertained at dinner, and much more champagne. Even after the dinner, numerous mademoiselles "forced" more champagne on the guests and Roly could not refuse them—of course. However, Roly was fortunate in that his niece from Bertheaucourt—forewarned no doubt—arrived at the function and extracted him and carted him home. Roly admits that he was feeling wobbly—what an admission—and appreciated the transport.

He also attended the ceremony in Amiens on Armistice Day, 1918, and again was singled out for special attention and invited to join the party of visiting dignitaries. He had an interesting trip with his son Pierre in August, 1918, when he visited Roquetaire (our first billeting village) and Gourdinne (the last). Roquetaire had changed a lot and he could not locate his own billet. But at Gourdinne he contacted people who had known the family with whom he and Gerald Monaghan had billeted themselves. The daughter, now aged 82, of that family was living in Charleroi and Roly visited her. She remembered him and many other Aussies. She recalled that while billeted with them at Gourdinne Roly had some muscular trouble which the R.M.O. had not corrected, and she brought in the local doctor, who soon fixed the trouble. On that tour Roly visited Beaufevre and looked up the graves of Captain Braithwaite and Mike Davies.

Oliver Warriman, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, is a most prolific contributor and at all times was eloquent on his reminiscences of the "Good Old 22nd".

In this scientific age an airmail letter takes four days to reach him, and vice versa. He had received our reunion circular on September 18th and most dutifully "stood to" at 9.30 p.m. and joined "absent members".

Referring to the late Padre Durnford, of whose death I had just informed him, he recalled how the Padre had organised a special Yomkipper-Kosdomish service in Bethune for all Jewish members of our and neighbouring units and had arranged lorry service to transport them. Waxy had been co-opted to round up the troops. He now owns to 72 Waxy had been co-opted to round up the troops. He now owns to 72 years and nine grandchildren. In September last year he was complaining about the excessive heat (62) and no rain. How would he go in a Melbourne scorchier with hot north winds. Anyway, he does not seem to have lost verve — or nerve — for he had just visited his daughter, who lives 45 miles away, and covered that distance in 45 minutes — on the highway, of course. Apparently speed cops are needed in U.S.A. too.

Arthur Robertson has spent the last five years in London, where his son had a dental practice, and has returned to Hobart. He was a passenger on the Russian ship *Shota Rustaveli* from U.K. to Sydney. While in U.K. Arthur made numerous trips to European countries and has about visited the lot, but a trip to the North Pole was not possible. He and Bill Bunning had a number of occasions together at Commemoration services in London.

Harold Fawcett has achieved another record. Last year he completed 51 years' continuous service on the committee and is the only serving member of that august body formed in September, 1918. He was President in 1948.

Jim Coffey has a boast too. He is now blessed with 26 grandchildren and takes justifiable pride in his offspring. He is now living in retirement in Echuca, having handed over his citrus property to his sons.

We like to record in this section an event which took place in the Ewing Memorial Church, East Malvern, on 27th November last year. Fred Castledine's granddaughter, Marilyn Cramer, was married to Walter G. Seaward.

Roy Smith, of Brisbane, gets another mention. He and Mrs. Smith travelled to Melbourne in March so that Roy could participate in the Lambton Soldiers' Interstate Bowling Competition. His State were runners-up for the fifth time.

Laurie Breen, of Iparita, has found another occupation to farming. He is now the Chief Mechanic of the Iparita Farm Machinery Museum and labours diligently in restoring the defuncts to working order. He calls it a hobby, but it sounds more like a labour of love.

Keith Anderson, of Portland, has ventured into the TV field. Last August he appeared (without make-up) on Channel 2 in a session relating to the development of Portland Harbour Trust, of which he was the Foundation Chairman. He was brave enough to admit his age, too, and boasts 99% steam, apart from a "gammy leg", the result of war injuries.

It was with deep regret that we learned that Chas. Hutton's son Paul was a member of the crew of the ill-fated "Norwegian", which went down off the Queensland coast in September last year. He was the Chief Engineer of that vessel.

SICK PARADE

In the days of our youth, "extraordinary efforts were made to magnify very minor ailments as an excuse to attend Sick Parade", with the possible outcome of being absolved by the M.O. for varying periods of "No Duty". In most cases the attenders were awarded the possession of M & D and returned somewhat embittered to just "carry on". The very few fortunate received limited periods of "No Duty" and fully enjoyed that regime. In fact, that could be taken to extremes, as instanced by one member of "C" Coy, while occupying the rampart line at Flein Boix in May, 1916. One mid-morning there was a gas alarm and all hands donned their gas-masks — P.H. Helmets — of that period. One fellow was found still relaxing in his dugout and when hauled out protested that he was on "No Duty" and free from all commitments. The C.S.M. soon overruled his objections.

Time has changed such attitudes, and nowadays "sick parade" is abhorrent to all ex-servicemen and they resist having to attend the local Medico for aid in restoring physical ailments.

Our members who have suffered illnesses of late will not feel that reference to them in this section of our paper will be derogatory, but that it will endeavour to acquaint their cobbers of their incapacities.

Jack Russell, of Southport, Queensland, has had a run of bad health for 12 months, necessitating an operation and a number of spells in Greenslopes Hospital. He is home but taking things very quietly.

Reg Rees had a few days in Prince Henry's Hospital in January but is now at home recuperating.

Bill Lyndon underwent an operation for a thigh trouble in January but will be confined to his home for some weeks.

Roy Baker had a short spell in Heidelberg in January for an operation in an endeavour to straighten his legs. At Ville sur Ancre he was badly wounded, having both legs broken, and has suffered considerable disability in consequence. He has been fitted with a special leg splint and is now learning to walk again. However, he is carrying on as our Treasurer and happy in the job.

Roy Wright has spent some months in a private hospital in Camberwell. He is the victim of a physical breakdown which has restricted his movements so much that hospital affords him the best relief.

Albert (Lofty) Thomson, ex-Signal Section, suffered head injuries in a fall at work in 1968 and had many weeks of hospitalisation. He is now confined to his home in Brighton and is making progress towards recovery.

Sir Walter Cawthorn was incapacitated on a number of occasions last year but has surmounted them all. This month he is undergoing successful operation for eye trouble and will have to miss the March. His attendance at the Shrine Pilgrimage last year was a source of wonder to those who were aware of his condition at that time.

Bill Connish, of Swan Hill, is confined to his home. In 1962 he suffered a stroke and his movements are still very restricted. Apart from that, Bill says he has no worries and enjoys his full rations.

Peter McKay, of Manifold Heights, has had a series of physical setbacks during the past 12 months necessitating periods in Heidelberg and local hospitals. In April last year Mrs. McKay had a breakdown and both she and Peter were in hospital together. No later news indicates that they are both progressing.



LT-COLONEL A. R. L. WILTSHIRE, C.M.G., D.S.O., M.C.
Deceased 1st June, 1969.

The late Colonel was one of a number of officers of the 56th Battalion (The Yarra Borderers) who accompanied the late Lt-Col. Crouch when he assumed command of the 22nd Battalion at its inception in March, 1915.

He won the first battalion M.C. in France for his command of the first Australian raid on the German trenches at Armentieres.

He was awarded the D.S.O. in 1918, and in 1919 received the honour of C.M.G. In June, 1917, he was appointed, at the age of 27, to command the battalion, one of the youngest men in the A.I.F. to attain that rank, and continued in command until the end of the war and until the unit was returned to Australia. On his return to civilian life he rejoined the Bank of Australasia and eventually became its General Manager, being in charge of the merger with the Union Bank, which became the A.N.Z. Bank. He retired in 1953 and was for some years an active member of several boards. For the last two years his health had declined, and after a very short illness he died in St. Andrew's Hospital on 1st June.

Mrs. Wiltshire only survived him for seven months when she died on 24th February. They are survived by the elder of their two daughters.



CHAPLAIN MAJOR F. H. DURNFORD, M.C.
Deceased 27th March, 1969, at Cottingham, East Yorkshire, England,
aged 87.

Padre Durnford joined the battalion at Tel el Kebir in January, 1916, and served in that capacity until the end of the war. On the momentous march from Moasskar to Hogback in Sinai, a route march of eight miles which took eight hours to accomplish, the Padre refused to use the horse allotted to him but turned that animal into a packhorse to transport the packs of those unable to carry on the march. That endeared him to the troops and set the main for many acts of a similar nature which characterised the man throughout his service with us. In Pozieres he was in the thick of the battle and was to be found all over the area with his shirt crammed with field dressings giving aid to the wounded. For similar activities at Bullcourt he was awarded the M.C. On his return to Australia he carried on with his C. of E. vocation, but was attracted to missionary work and took up an appointment in the Sudan.

Eventually he returned to England and in due time was appointed to the parish at Alwick, in Northumberland, where he continued in office until his retirement in 1968. He maintained a steady contact with us and always referred to his service with the battalion as his most cherished memory.

He had a family of three, two sons, one of whom is a missionary in South Africa, and a daughter. Mrs. Durnford survives him and is now a resident of Cottingham.



Lieutenant W. RUTHVEN, V.C.
Deceased 12th January, 1970.

It will not be derogatory to his rank when we adopt his battalion nickname, "Rusty", in referring to him. It is doubtful if many in the battalion knew that his name was William. Rusty was one of those who are referred to as a "unit's backbone" — platoon sergeants — and he was a redoubtable member of that category. It was at Ville sur Ancre that Rusty achieved the distinction of winning the most coveted decoration, the Victoria Cross, and his exploits at that stunt and the resultant decoration need no repetition. He was the first award in the Brigade, and very soon afterwards he was promoted to Lieutenant and returned to Australia.

His first venture on the land proved disastrous and he returned to Melbourne, where he took up various avocations and interested himself in municipal affairs as a member of the Collingwood Council. He was in uniform again in World War II and attained the rank of Major. In 1945 he was elected member for Reservoir in the Legislative Assembly, and with the change of seats due to redistribution he became member for Preston and held the seat until 1961, when ill-health necessitated his retirement. He was the party whip in the Government of the late John Cain.

For his community service Rusty has had a railway station and a club at the Broadmeadows camp named after him, and a team of Preston Marching Girls proudly carry the name "Ruthven". He has had a very poor state of health for some years and has had many periods in Heidelberg,

where he died on 12th January. He was cremated at Fawkner with military honours on 14th January, having previously made it known that he did not want a State funeral, to which his decoration entitled him.

In the large attendance at the final ceremony there was a very representative muster of battalion members. He is survived by Mrs. Ruthven and his son, Noel and a daughter, Mrs. A. Woolcock.

MONT ST. QUENTIN MEMORIAL

A movement has been originated in N.S.W. to organise a pilgrimage of 2nd Division members to France and Belgium for the unveiling ceremony of a new statue to replace the original memorial at Mont St. Quentin which was destroyed by the Germans during World War II.

The original memorial was erected by the Australian Government to commemorate the dead of all the First A.I.F., but as the Mont St. Quentin battle was carried out by the 2nd Division we have a special interest in it.

The Australian Government has made funds available for another statue to replace the original. It is not a replica of the original but is a 9-foot-tall figure of a Digger and will be erected on the original base. The fabrication of the statue has been done by a Melbourne sculptor, Mr. S. J. Hammond, of East Malvern, and has been completed and the final statue is being cast in bronze in Australia.

It is an excellent piece of work and true in every detail. The Australian hat has been included in the figure, as that hat has achieved world-wide fame and is much more typical of the troops it depicts than the "Tin Hat".

It is anticipated that the unveiling will take place some time in 1971 and the purpose of the "Second Australian Division, 1st A.I.F., Mont St. Quentin Memorial Association" is to publicise that ceremony and to organise a pilgrimage of 2nd Division members wishing to participate.

As the proposal is only in its formation stage, no details are available, but brochures are being prepared and will be distributed through unit associations to all members. We have contributed to the preliminary funds required to develop the proposal.

UNOFFICIAL HISTORY OF THE 22nd.

When returning to Australia in 1919 Col. Wiltshire was O.C. Troops and Sergeant Arthur Gould, D.C.M., was a mess-deck Sergeant.

During the course of his duties Sgt. Gould was assaulted by a bullying type of trooper, who naturally earned a charge of "striking an N.C.O." and was confined to the boob. In due course he appeared before the O.C. Troops, who exercised his wisdom and prerogative in dealing with the case.

As the ship was en route for Australia with troops for discharge, Col. Wiltshire decided to waive official procedure and deal with the charge in a more effective manner. He informed the culprit that he was not going to award punishment for the crime but lectured him instead. He pointed out that Sgt. Gould was a D.C.M. winner and had had a long and meritorious record in the 22nd Battalion, of which unit he was a very notable member. Sgt. Gould would not take any retaliatory action against the accused but there was a number of 22nd Battalion members amongst the troops on board and they would make sure of making full retribution for any assault on Gould, who figured high in their regard. He advised the accused to go quietly while on board and keep out of range of the 22nd men on the rest of the voyage. The advice was most effective, for Col. Wiltshire related that there were no other incidents of that type, and he did not sight the offender again during the trip.

22nd. BATTALION, R.V.R.

The Twenty-Second Battalion is still "soldiering on".

This unit designation is now the proud denomination of the 22nd Battalion, Royal Victoria Regiment, station at Puckapunyal.

At the invitation of the C.O., Lt. Col. D. M. Strickland—conveyed to us verbally at the 2-22nd Reception on 21st January by the 2 I/C, Major F. Muenzinger—a visit of representatives of the three previous 22nd Battalions was arranged for Sunday, 8th March, 1970. The express purpose of the visit was for us to meet the present members of the battalion in their camp at Puckapunyal and to see how the 1970 soldiers do the job. The men who compose this unit are all aged in the early 20's and have elected to volunteer for a period of service extending over six years, with annual periods in camp of 33 days, which can be served in two periods of 16 days each. Their strength is gradually increasing and will, within another 12 months, have reached a full battalion strength of 800 all ranks. The officers have elected to join this unit as they are enabled to fulfil their military responsibilities without detriment to their civilian occupations, and they are all imbued with a real appreciation of their unit and a feeling of accomplishment in a military sphere under congenial conditions.

The members of the visiting party were: J. R. Bennett and F. C. Russell, 22nd Bn.; E. Appel, C. G. Harry and H. W. Smith, 2/22nd; G. Macfarlane and T. Pratt, 22nd A.I.B. On arrival at Puckapunyal they were met by Major Muenzinger and were guests of the Officers' Mess for lunch. The meal provided the first of many agreeable surprises, for it was an excellent meal, served unspasmodic fashion, and all the numerous items were regular army ration issue. It was a culinary masterpiece and rated with any usually associated with top-bracket functions.

An inspection of the whole Puckapunyal area was made and the visitors were astounded at the extent of it and the types and proportions of the various barrack buildings and ancillary store houses. Furthermore, there was quite a town of homes occupied by married members and their families, with a school, adequately staffed by the requisite teachers, and a shopping centre. The hospital has an extensive layout of ward blocks with excellent staff accommodation buildings. The original hospital had been constructed in 1941 and over the years had been considerably extended.

A special parade of the battalion had been arranged for the visiting party, which was ascended a prominent vantage place to view the parade. Col. Strickland addressed the troops and announced the purpose of the parade to give a welcome to the visiting members of the three previous 22nd Battalions, and presented each member of the party individually to the parade.

The visitors were very much impressed by the first-class bearing of the troops and the excellent precision of their drill movements, which were on a standard equal to that of a Guards Regiment. The parade terminated with a march past, at which Col. Strickland took the salute and invited Mr. Bennett to accompany him on the day. We of the 1st 22nd are particularly appreciative of the honour afforded Mr. Bennett and ourselves.

The ceremonial was made complete by the presence of the Pipes and Drums of the 5th R.V.R., and their music added that martial touch without which such a parade would have "lost out".

After the parade a display of modern small arms weapons was arranged and we were permitted to handle the S.L.R. (Self-Loading Rifle) which has replaced the M1, the F1 9 mm., which has superseded the Owen (unknown in our war) and the G.P.M. (General Purpose Machine) Gun, which has replaced the Lewis Gun and the Bren. It was quite an experience

to handle these modern weapons, and they demonstrated the remarkable changes which have been made since 1918, and even since 1945.

The visitors were the guests of the Sergeants' Mess, whose President, R.S.M. W.O. J. E. Michels, sanctioned the leaders of the mess, and both members and the visitors fraternised in no uncertain manner.

With a total absence of undue haste, the visiting party eventually terminated its first visit to the 22nd R.V.R. and returned to Melbourne, unanimously agreeing that they had had a most instructive and certainly a most hospitable day. In fact, it portends many repetitions, with which the 22nd R.V.R. is in accord.

This lengthy report is promulgated to our members to acquaint them with the activities of a unit which carries our number and invites them to publicise this information so that the present battalion will not be lacking in support.

An "Impossible" Task (R. MALLINSON Ex 22nd Bn.)

"North-west of this point the Australian front had not yet reached the trench network, and all parties had to advance over the open. Those from the left of the 22nd, and right of the 24th attacking the crossroads south-west of Herleville, disappeared. Two runners came back to say the enemy were working round them. German machine-gun bullets kicked dust clouds from the edge of a crater or trench in which some were sheltering. Between 8 and 9 o'clock a party of Germans was seen carrying away a wounded man and driving a dozen prisoners. A week later was found there a wooden cross inscribed in German: 'Six unknown Australians'." — Vol. VI, A.I.F. Official History, referring to the attack by the 22nd and 24th Battalions at Herleville, August 18, 1918.

I was one of those who disappeared that morning, and who was in the crater from which the dust clouds were kicked up by the German machine guns. In this "stunt" many brave men lost their lives in trying to accomplish the impossible. Our Battalion Commander knew of the impossibility and did his best to stop the "stunt", without success.

We had been chasing Fritz since August 8 and carrying out each night "peaceful penetration" tactics. This meant digging in on new positions, and we were all tired and weary. We were waiting for relief when word came that we had to "go over" on the morning of August 18.

We were pitifully few for the job. My platoon consisted of Sgt. Dolan and eight men. We were to advance, not in a single line, but in groups, so that there was no connection between the men either on our right or left. Little things come back to the mind. My watch was out of order and I had given it to Sgt. Heffernan of the next post (who was a watch maker) to try to fix it. He sent it back a few hours before "zero" and said he would fix it for me after the show was over. He never fixed it; he was killed very early in the piece, and his post wiped out.

The barrage was due to go down at 4.15 p.m. on the 18th, and we all assembled in front of our position a little before this. As soon as our artillery opened fire Fritz did likewise, and hell was let loose. German shells were falling near us, and machine-gun bullets were whistling around us. By the light of the exploding shells I looked at the men I was leading. Their rifles were grasped tightly, and their faces were strained and grim, as they advanced towards our objective.

We started to have casualties, and the fire got so hot that I hesitated and stopped. "Lead on, lead on," they yelled from behind, and we pushed forward into the noise of bursting shells, whistling bullets and the dust, flame and smoke of the fight.

In the dim light I saw Lieut. Westaway, of Company Headquarters, and a few men in a fairly big shell crater. I made to join them, and just as I reached them, Sergeant Bregenzer, D.C.M., who was with Westaway, jumped out and said, "Come on". Westaway, who was O.C. of the Company, and I both agreed that we were in a tight spot. We were about 50 yards from a hedge in which six machine guns were afterwards counted.

Hurst, a signaller from headquarters, was lying near us, badly hit in the stomach with machine-gun bullets. He was called out for us to get him. I managed to drag him in. He thanked me. He wanted water, but we could not give it to him with his stomach wound. He soon died, but before he did he wished us all good luck and good-bye.

Sergeant Dolan worked our Lewis gun, as the gunner had been knocked not long after we started, but it was put out of action by enemy fire.

Dolan crawled out in front and came back after a little time and said, "Poor old Brig. (Bregenzer) is done. He's just said good-bye."

About this stage a corporal from Heffernan's post on our right made his way into the shell hole and told us Heffernan had been killed and there was no one but himself left of the post. Our position was now hopeless. It was nearly daylight, and we were 50 yards from Fritz's machine guns. It was sudden death to try to take a shot at him. We decided to fire our SOS signal for help. It was fired (3 reds) and floated over our position, but we never got a shot from the artillery, and learnt afterwards that the officer in charge of the Reserves decided he could do nothing for us. He was right, as they would never have covered the ground to get to us, and there were not nearly enough of them.

We went through an awful period of agony, with the wounded and dying men in the post, and the utterly helpless position we were in. Sergeant Dolan made an attempt to get back, but he no sooner got out of the shell hole than he was riddled with bullets and killed instantly. The Germans had now worked close to us and were bombing us. Westaway was in the front of the shell hole. I was on the opposite side, and I asked to change places with him, thinking that I might get a crack at them as they came to bomb us. We had no sooner changed our positions than a bomb landed in among us and killed Westaway.

The strain was telling on us all. L/Cpl. Jackson looked up and fired his rifle, but he fell back with a burst of machine-gun bullets through his head. Another bomb landed among us, killing Kelly, who was already wounded, but still clutched his bag of bombs. It looked as if those of us left would be killed at any minute, and without a sporting chance of hitting back.

Almost immediately I was looking down the barrel of a revolver in the hands of a big German, and there was nothing we could do other than surrender. I motioned for him to help me with the wounded. There was only Vaszilow alive, and he was badly hurt and unconscious, but the German and I carried him to their lines, and he was given first aid at their aid post. He was shot through both eyes, and when the German Red Cross man saw him he shook his head. I thought he was dead, but although he lost both eyes, he got back to England after treatment in Germany.

The Germans were the 65th Regiment, and they treated us well. They took nothing from us, and the fact that they buried the dead that night, and marked the grave with a cross, proves that they were good men as well as good soldiers. Shortly after getting us they moved down and captured Lieut. Armstrong, who was on my left, and Lieut. Rigby, of the 24th Battalion. The "six unknown Australians" buried by the Germans would include the four men I left dead in the crater — Lieut. Westaway, L/Cpl. Jackson, Ptes. Hurst and Kelly — Sgt. Bregenzer, D.C.M., and L/Sgt. Dolan, who were lying close, one on either side.

—From "Reveille," January 1st, 1943.

1969 Reunion absentee Donations

M. Jacobs, Cairns, Q'land.
 J. Giroud, Fawkner.
 J. Hocking, Footscray.
 A. I. Meakin, Geelong.
 J. Sutherland, Seymour.
 J. W. Masters, Dee Why, N.S.W.
 E. Mallinson, Griffiths, N.S.W.
 R. J. Wright, Camberwell.
 I. T. Birtwistle, Roleystone, W.A.
 C. F. Glasscock, Elwood.
 H. C. Yeaman, Greensborough.
 W. B. Entwisle, Hopetoun.
 F. H. King, Bentleigh.
 F. J. Warman, Frankston.
 Geo. Carter, Port Welshpool.
 Geo. Phillips, Hampton.
 F. W. Lavender, Mt. Eliza.
 E. H. Craker, Oakleigh.
 P. McKay, Geelong.
 L. Tretheway, Urana, N.S.W.
 W. E. Smythe, W. Heidelberg.
 A. G. Parry, Leongatha.
 V. Handley, Warragul.
 E. Thomas, Newport.
 N. A. Browning, Oakleigh.
 E. Seccull, Caulfield.
 H. Proud, Windsor.
 A. J. Mitchell, Ararat.
 R. Thomas, Ivanhoe.
 R. Andrew, Clematis.
 K. S. Anderson, Portland.
 J. Graham, Tarnagulla.
 L. Speak, Twood Heads.
 A. A. McDonald, Sydney.
 E. Thompson, Hawthorn.
 A. Milne, Upwey.
 W. S. Wolff, Eaglemont.
 F. B. Stillely, Coogee, N.S.W.
 I. Greig, Clayton.
 V. F. Oscar, Reservoir.
 A. W. Smith, Kilsyth.
 A. Salmon, Caulfield.
 G. Logan, Surrey Hills.
 D. Lechte, Mt. Waverley.
 R. Holdsworth, Beaumaris.
 J. M. Sutherland, Forest Hill.
 W. K. Du Boos, Burwood.
 J. J. O'Bevine, N. Fitzroy.
 W. H. Jamieson, Bendigo.
 G. H. D. Williams, Halwyn.
 C. Fulton, Adelaide.
 H. W. Heathcote, Blackburn.
 T. Hoare, Moorabbin.
 L. O'Connor, Lubeck.
 M. Ridgway, Burleigh Heads, Q'ld.

DONATIONS ANZAC DAY 1969

E. Evans.
 J. R. McLeod.
 S. Köhn.
 J. R. Bennett.
 W. P. Yelverton.
 T. H. Johnson.
 L. Speak.
 E. Smart.
 A. Carroll.
 E. Draper.
 J. B. Armstrong.
 J. Lovelace.
 F. B. Mann.
 J. Wright.
 C. V. Gold.
 E. Gorman.
 W. Graham.
 H. F. Vawdon.
 S. Holmes, Flag Bearer.
 T. Jeffs (brother of L. Jeffs, deceased).
 G. G. Towler, 6th P. Amb.
 K. Moore.
 A. Seuling.
 T. Hoare.
 L. Richmond.
 C. F. Monk.
 W. Bailey.
 V. Handley.
 J. J. O'Beirne.
 R. C. Laing.
 N. A. Browning.
 S. Blomeley.
 H. W. Barker.
 J. Köhn.
 W. J. Salter.
 N. H. Dooley.
 G. A. McKenzie.
 C. Stanley.
 P. Laidler.
 R. F. Baker.
 C. C. Christie.
 T. A. McKenzie.
 W. E. Smythe.
 A. Wilson.
 A. B. Callahan.
 G. Logan.
 S. Gilchrist.
 R. Dickins.

DONATIONS 1969

John Mowsey, Belair, S.A.
(son of Stan Mowsey).
Mrs. Anton, Fairlight, N.S.W.

Mrs. S. Harvey, Toorak.
Mrs. Howship, Surrey Hills.
Mrs. Thurston, Lilydale.

Absentee Donations, Anzac Day, 1969

W. C. Cornish, Swan Hill.
P. McKay, Mansfield Heights.
L. C. Guthrie, Sandstone, W.A.
A. R. Wiltshire, Kooyong.
A. E. Strandgard, E. Preston.
W. Linton, Oakleigh.
A. H. Blamey, Cowes.
L. T. Binns, Iperit.
V. F. Oscar, Moorialloc.
R. C. Briginshaw, Frankston.
G. Comeadow, W. Footscray.
A. Salmon, Caulfield.
R. Smith, Brisbane.
R. Andrew, Clematis.

K. McRae, Echuca.
W. J. Cawthorn, Kallista.
R. J. Wright, Camberwell.
A. J. McRae, Murtoa.
A. I. Meakin, Geelong.
C. F. Cox, Glen Iris.
A. Milne, Upwey.
L. Vanshaw, Canterbury.
W. Boothroyd, Ballarat.
F. Silver, Fairfield.
J. Greene, Wangaratta.
H. Benson, Armadale.
A. Souling, E. Brighton.

Sale of Battalion Books

E. H. Paul, East Malvern.

K. H. Holder, Adelaide.

MEMBERS' SUBSCRIPTIONS 1969

W. Linton, Oakleigh.
K. Sutherland, Camberwell.
H. W. Heathcote, Blackburn.

C. F. Monk, Coburg.
W. Vincent, Preston.

LEST WE FORGET

1968.

669 W. F. PETERS, Malvern.
2419 P. SKEGGS

December

1969.

5921 W. WIFFEN, Portarlington
4357 J. AITKEN, Box Hill
6793 L. T. BROWN, Werribee
250 T. A. STAFFORD
Padre F. H. DURNFORD, England
H. J. EVANS, Albert Park
6814 W. R. HIGGINS, Footscray
560 G. BARNARD, Reservoir
Lt.-Col. A. R. WILTSHIRE, Kooyong
4454 C. W. LETCH, Windsor
4715 J. J. GRIGG, Carnegie
4558 A. V. TAYLOR, Shepparton
909 T. WHITE, Colac
6827 J. H. HOOPER
L. G. PIMBLETT, Gosford, N.S.W.
1629 E. J. LANGSTON, Blackburn
3851 C. A. JOHNSON
963 A. E. STRANDGARD, Preston.
D. D. KING, Avalon Beach, N.S.W.
5294 A. C. EMRY, Colac
6811 R. E. GERRING, Newport
Lt. J. C. McCAUL, Mt. Eliza
554 C. S. BELL, Montrose
5026 C. HAUFF, Shepparton
2122 P. E. BERRY, Geelong
1123 M. J. CARROLL, Bundooia
P. C. BELL, Ultima
6870 O. P. PAUL, Coburg
6414 D. NOLAN, St. Albans
934 L. E. WALTERS, Broadford
3803 A. L. CADMAN, Beestleigh
1544 (Lt.) W. D. FRASER, Lockhart, N.S.W.

January 1
January 27
January 29
March 11
March 27
April 11
April 16
May 21
June 1
June 2
June 5
June 8
June 17
June 19
July 1
July 2
July 9
July 27
August 1
August 3
August 6
August 11
August 12
August 21
August 21
August 28
September 15
September 22
October 11
November 23
November 3
December 3

1970.

768 R. C. BRIGINSHAW, Frankston
5923 A. L. VANMLOW, Gardiner
2301 M. COWAN, Mitcham
1946 W. RUTHVEN, V.C., East Kew
6834a W. JAMESON, Bendigo
Major E. A. DAVIS, Sydney
H. C. YEAMAN, Greensborough
822 F. GREENWAY, Strathmore
816 J. W. ETHERIDGE, Moorialloc

January 3
January 5
January 7
January 12
February 10
February 14
February 19
March 23
April 8

Twenty-Second Battalion Association

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR TWELVE MONTHS ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1969

RECEIPTS	EXPENDITURE
Bank Balance S.S.B. 1/1/69	
Members' Subscriptions	
Donations	
Sale of Program — Aardvark Day	
Balance S.S.B.	
Credit Balance — Program 1969	
Sale of Business Books	
<u>\$409.82</u>	
	Printing "Folder"
	Package "Folder"
	Bills — Xerox Day
	Stamps — Postage 6.75/69
	General Expenses
	Printing and Stationery
	Telephone Rent
	Donations — Large
	Donations — Carry Over
	Donations — R.S.V.
	Postage and General
	Miscellaneous — Auditor
	Miscellaneous — Typist
	Bank Balance — S.S.B. 31/12/69
	<u>\$409.82</u>