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Keith McBrearty

JUNE 1968

Secretary: C.W. Randerson  
P.O. Box 13-058  
Onehunga, Auck.

B I G   D A Y   F O R   A U C K L A N D

S A T U R D A Y   1 0 t h   A U G U S T - S A T U R D A Y   1 0 t h   A U G U S T

All Black/French Rugby Test at Eden Park  
All Black/French Rugby Test at Eden Park

AND  
AND

OUR AUCKLAND BRANCH LADIES' NIGHT  
OUR AUCKLAND BRANCH LADIES' NIGHT

WHERE      WHAT      WHEN

we have hired the

N E W      LUXURIOUS      RANFURLY      ROOM,      STATION HOTEL

for a

DINE AND DANCE - WINE AND DANCE  
DINE AND DANCE - WINE AND DANCE

FABULOUS BUFFET DINNER - DANCING - ENTERTAINMENT  
FABULOUS BUFFET DINNER - DANCING - ENTERTAINMENT

The Time.      7.00 p.m.      Cocktail Hour  
8.00 p.m.      Buffet Dinner (wine supplied)  
Followed by - Dancing - Nattering - Entertainment

Subscription.      \$3.50 (only 35/-) per head  
\$7.00 (only £3.10.0) per double

- MORE DETAILS NEXT PAGE -

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Drinks of your choice can be purchased throughout the function.  
Make up a party with your friends, the more the merrier. Non Battalion visitors are welcome to this, our major event of the year.  
N.B. A reply slip is attached. As we must let the Hotel know the numbers for catering please let us have your reply and cheque by the 3rd August.  
Don't dilly-dally, fill it in now and get it off your mind. (Any last minute additions telephone the Secretary)

SEE THE TEST

and then

GIVE YOUR WIFE/GIRL FRIEND A REAL NIGHT OUT

S A T U R D A Y    1 0 t h    A U G U S T

RANFURLY ROOM - STATION HOTEL

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NATIONAL REUNION. Erl Pleasants, Mick Anderson and Tom Hood, represented us at the Delegates Meeting during the recent National Reunion in Christchurch. Erl has kindly written a report on the Reunion.

#### 22nd Battalion Reunion 1968 at Christchurch

Christchurch was a long way to go but it was well worth it. Three days of perfect weather, bright sun, no wind, no rain. The warmest of welcomes not only from Cyril Whitty, Tom Campbell and all our South Island friends, but from the Mayor of Christchurch, Sir John Manning, the Press and even Television. It is nice to be news and feel important and we were news and were the subject of articles, plenty of photographs and a shop window exhibition. I almost thought I was one of those heroes again going off to war.

A very good show chaps and thoroughly enjoyed by all who were there and they seemed quite numerous despite forebodings of reduced numbers - certainly over 300 and some 100 wives. A very impressive business meeting of delegates held in a Company Boardroom and they looked like Directors. Age helps a lot that way. A very nice Saturday evening - good food and plenty of grog but I think some left over this time. I believe the Ladies had a wonderful evening. L.W.A. looked fit and well and I have never heard him speak better. He faced down Hikko Broughton (that rumour that he is deceased is very grossly exaggerated) as I have never seen it done before. Tom Campbell was a busy man and obviously events owed much to his good work. Haddon Donald snatched absent time from his Parliamentary duties to attend and the toast of the Battalion was proposed by Dick Connolly onetime C.O.

of the 23rd and known to many of us. Cannon Thorpe, now vicar of a Christchurch parish, was on the Committee and conducted the service at the Cenotaph. That was an inspiring service combined with 6th Field under Sir Stephen Weir and the boys marched like soldiers again to the music of a Pipe Band. Christchurch is fortunate in its Cenotaph beside the Cathedral in the centre of the City and as I took part I read the names on the crosses planted in the lovely grass plot between us and the Cenotaph and saw again in front of me those of them with whom I had marched and fought, drunk with (too much sometimes) and shared many meals, joined in criticism of Commanding Officers and other units and laughed together at many jokes. There to me for a moment they stood just as I last knew them with their personalities which I could see as it were beside them.

I went back after the parade to look at those crosses again. I don't know who first produced them - was it Scotch Paterson - but whoever it was we owe much to him.

And then the Lunch. Very good indeed and excellent speeches from the Mayor, Cyril Whitty (particularly good and should be recorded) and L.W.A. There was a time when the boys were a little restless about speeches but they take them lying down now at any rate after a good feed and the cat calls even from Hicco barely caused a flicker.

Auckland had eleven on parade and would have had twelve if Crappy Williams hadn't slept in.

1970 it is Napier with Frank Twigg in charge. Getting a bit old but will be there if I can.

E.T.P.

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CRETE CHILDREN. Our Crete Fund continues to maintain several children at school and provide them with the occasional extra food parcel etc. It is very hard for us, in our land of plenty, to appreciate the hardships that are the average Cretan's lot.

As the following letters very aptly show, our fund does an extremely worthwhile job and your committee hopes that you will continue to give it your support. Many more letters have been received but these are representative samples.

My respectable Sponsor,

I wish you are keeping in good health, I received the money and I thank you very much indeed and all my family we are very grateful for your help which came at a very hard time for us, our father died and we are very unhappy.

I pray God to keep you healthy and happy, my mother brothers and sister send their love to you.

your sponsored child,  
Evangelia Haralambous.

Canea, the 27th September 1967

Respectable and Dear Sir,

My five brothers and I thank you very much for your pecuniary assistance which is really a great relief to my family and myself. My parents, my brothers and sisters and I feel deeply grateful for your kind generosity. I know that it would have been quite impossible for me to follow my studies at the Primary School where I am a pupil at the 5th class and I am doing well, without your kind aid.

My father is a sick man, suffering of an ulcer at his stomach, he doesn't work since long time and in consequence our income is very restricted.

Dear Protector I sincerely thank you, your family and your Country for your benevolent assistance and I pray God for you and I wish that Almighty God may Keep you and your beloved family always in Good Health and Happiness.

Wishing you a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR.

I kiss your hand  
with much love and affection

CONSTANTINOS NASSIOU

Dear and respectable Sponsor,

I thank you warmly for the money I received 1058Drs. your kind help means alot to me and to my poor family, we are all very grateful to you and pray God to keep you healthy and happy, with your family.

I go to the 4th class at the secondary school, and with your help I will be able to continue my studies.

My parents, brother and sisters send their love and best wishes to you, and your family.

I thank you again with love  
and respect, your sponsored child

CONSTANTINOS NASSIOS

INTELLIGENCE SECTION

MARCHED IN:-

A warm welcome to the following new members of the Branch:-

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
C.C. ALLEN	TOKOROA
NOEL CAMERON	17, Station Road, Papatoetoe.
J.W. COUSINS	117, James St., Whakatane.
DOUG. GRAY	49, Prospect Terrace, Mt. Eden.
H.K. JOBLIN	14, Ridings Road, Remuera.
TOM McDONALD	3, Lyon Street, Kihikihi.
C.A. PERRY	28, Shakespeare Road, Māfōrd.
D.A. PETTIT	Pollock Road, R.D. Pukekohe.
RON WESTERBY	52, Morris Road, Hamilton.

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DUDLEY SHIRLEY-THOMSON informs us that he has reached the compulsory retiring age for his firm, N.Z. Insurance Co. Ltd., and has been put out to grass after long years of service. Dudley, who has been on the Branch Committee almost as long, will still be around for this purpose and, just in case the Association can't give him enough to do, he is buying a small business to keep himself out of mischief.

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ROLL OF HONOUR:-

We record with great regret the death of 6762, JIM McELHONE on 3rd. June. Jim was in B. Company and had the distinction of having been a P.O.W. twice. Taken prisoner at SIDI AZIZ in 1941, he was released from captivity when BARDIA was recaptured, only to go into the bag again at RUWEISAT in 1942. Jim was unmarried and lived in Western Springs Road, Mt. Albert. Four members of the Committee attended the funeral.

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GONE. NO ADDRESS:- If any member of the Branch can supply the present address of any of the following, the Secretary would be pleased to hear from him:-

<u>Name</u>	<u>Last Address</u>
DOUG. BATY	Ngaruawahia
JOE CARLSON	Mt. Maunganui
R.S. FLETCHER	Rerewhakaitu, Rotorua.

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ANZAC DAY - 1968. There was a slightly smaller muster on parade at the Auckland Cenotaph service on the morning of Anzac Day. President RON JONES attributed this to the weather. It was raining during the early part of the morning and this must have kept the less hardy at home. We have always had pretty good weather on Anzac Day and it was almost miraculous the way it cleared up this year about the time the Units were called upon to fall in. Our new banner was in use for the first time - a natty, lightweight job about half the weight of the old .303. It is a big improvement on the half-ton job we used to have. There should be no lack of volunteers to carry the banner from now on. The service itself is now much more streamlined than it was a few years ago and this Association can rightly take credit for some of the improvements that have been made. Nobody took any notice of our suggestions at first but they have been adopted one by one. The Governor-General spoke very well, though more like a Governor-General than an old soldier.

The social function at Newmarket after the parade was as enjoyable as ever. We all seem to be getting a bit older and drinking with more sedateness. Fewer kids came along this year. They too are getting older and we'll soon have to think about entertainment for the grandchildren! We had a number of visitors, including two members of the Aussie ex-Servicemens Contingent. Other visitors were KEN MURRAY (Maori Battalion), PETER PRESTON (26th) and a 22nd man from Christchurch, JOHN WERE. Out of town members were rather scarce this year, but it was good to see GRAY TENNENT on deck as usual.

P.S. Anzac Day. Special moan from Jack Pender. He doesn't appreciate having to buy his son whiskies when other parents get free apples and pies for their kids!

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It must have been a particularly rough night but at a recent Committee meeting we had an unusual number of apologies including one from our worthy Secretary. In his absence our Vice-President, Bark Cox, took the chair and his minutes are far too good to be cast away in whichever dark corner Cedric usually casts them, but are to be preserved for posterity in the Circular.

We Quote:-

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE held on Wednesday, 3rd April 1968, at the office of Mr. E. B. Paterson, at 8.00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE: Messrs. Jones, Paterson, Wood, Shirley-Thompson, Cox, Greig, Anderson, McRae, Wisnowski.

APOLOGIES: Messrs. Randerson, McBrearty, Pender, Riddell, Kinvig and Pleasants.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: Apparently the Secretary had not written up the minutes of the previous meeting and consequently he could not attend. As a Secretary without minutes is about as useful as a woman without time, the Secretary's apology was accepted.

POPPY DAY: The President arranged a roster of members to man the Battalion stall on Poppy Day.



ANZAC DAY: Mr Paterson explained - at length - progress on the new banner. As a result the Committee launched into a planning project of its own. Mr Greig produced a telescopic banner-carrier - rod, pole, or perch - complete with rubber navel protector. During the discussion Mr Paterson offered to have "it" anodised. No one appeared to understand just what "it" was, so the offer was accepted. With the aid of a black-board and a box of coloured chalks - thoughtfully provided by Mr Paterson - a banner was designed, and noted by the sub-committee. During the course of the discussion, some members (including the President) moved into the next room. Such business as was conducted outside the Committee room was not audible to the Acting Secretary owing to one member wielding a hammer with enthusiasm and apparent effect, a wooden case was heard to yield to the hammer, and a return to the Committee Room lead to the continuance of the meeting.

CATERING: Mr Woods reported he had pencilled in the date with Monterey Caterers - who acted last year. Mr Woods was instructed to confer with the Secretary - and ACT.

GROG: Mr Greig to confer with the Secretary - and ACT.

WREATH: The President to arrange.

VENUE: Over to Mr Paterson

PARADE: Starting time and place to appear in the Branch Newsletter.

V.I.P. The President announced that he had a friend. Members were so astounded at this momentous announcement, they agreed that this "friend" should be asked to say a few words.

SUBSCRIPTION FOR THE DAY: The subject was raised, passed around, and dropped - apparently in the lap of the Secretary.

HAMILTON RE-UNION: Resolved that the Secretary write to Mr Charlie Weller & Lloyd Grieve "the bloke behind the bar" thanking them for their work in connection with the arrangements for the re-union, and at the function. The Secretary had already written the Hamilton caterers. Resolved that a letter be sent to Mr Jim Craig expressing the appreciation of the Branch.

LADIES NIGHT: The President expressed a desire that an early start be made on arrangements for the next Ladies Night. This matter - Secretary willing - will thus arise at the next meeting - "arising from the minutes", along with the Club rules. P.T.O.

C.W. Randerson,  
P.O. Box 13-058,  
Onehunga, Auckland.

"LADIES' NIGHT"

Name.....

Address.....

.....

I WILL/I WILL NOT be present.

There will be ..... in my party.

Cheque/Postal Note for \$...... enclosed. (\$3.50 per head)

Mr Woods retired early explaing he had to pick up his "daughter". As no further information was forthcoming, either on the subject of the "picking up" or of the "daughter" - Mr Woods was excused - Willy Nilly.

The meeting lapsed into the usual informal discussion, then someone remembered the -

NATIONAL RE-UNION: This subject was immediately pushed into the maw of "arising from the minutes" at next meeting, and back to natter.

Cop this lot, Cedric,  
at 2210 hours a vote of thanks to the Acting Secretary was proposed, and apparently carried, and the meeting ended.

Confirmed (Uncensored)

B.A. Cox

Chairman

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THE VIETNAM WAR. Such vast quantities of bombs are dropped by the latest high level American Bombers that one finds it hard to draw any comparison with ones experiences with Super Fortresses etc. There was one article in a paper recently, however, that demonstrated in a remarkable way the power of current high explosives. Talking about a particular hill in Vietnam this report stated that six feet had been blasted off the top of hill 471 in an effort to dislodge the Vietcong. Imagine being on the receiving end of that lot!!

As an after thought this same paper mentioned that the Hill had been renamed Hill 469. Both 471 and 467 were the heights in metres above sea level, before and after.

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10th AUGUST RANFURLY ROOM STATION HOTEL - 10th AUGUST RANFURLY ROOM STATION HOTEL