

July, 1971.

Editors: B. A. COX  
A. MURRAY

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

You will have received your notice concerning our ANNUAL LADIES NIGHT.  
Briefly, here are the details again:

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <u>START TIME:-</u>      | 7:30 p.m. on SATURDAY, 7th August.   |
| <u>SIT-DOWN DINNER:-</u> | 8:30 p.m.  |
| <u>REFRESHMENTS:-</u>    | Wines and other drinks on sale at Club prices.   |
| <u>ENTRANCE:-</u>        | Single \$4 : Double \$8  |
| <u>DRESS:-</u>           | Lounge suits for men; and, Ladies, whatever it is you wear when you manage to get the 'Old Bear' into a collar and tie.                                    |
| <u>GUESTS:</u>           | Guests will be welcome, but we must stress that should it become necessary to restrict numbers, it will be a case of first booked, first served.           |
| <u>VENUE:</u>            | OFFICERS' CLUB ROOMS; enter Queens Arcade from Customs Street, and take the lift -- on the right just inside the entrance. Take the lift to the top floor. |
| <u>BOOKINGS:</u>         | We must give the Club advance notice of numbers so mail the reply slip by <u>Friday, 30th July</u> at the latest.  |

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Mr. C.W.Randerson,  
Box 13-058,  
ONEHUNGA.

We'll be there for sure on 7th August.

I enclose \$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ people at \$4 each.

NAME (BLOCK LETTERS): \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

SATURDAY, 7th AUGUST.

REPLIES BY 30th JULY - PLEASE

ANZAC DAY: 1971: Auckland Branch marched to the Auckland Cenotaph as usual. Perhaps because it was a Sunday or perhaps because we were not holding an after-Parade social function this year; the numbers on parade seemed smaller than usual. It is difficult to make an exact tally because we start the march with a handful but the parade grows in strength as we get nearer the Cenotaph and we find that we have quite a respectable total by the time we line up at the Court of Honour. The service was a good one and Hamilton Mitchell spoke very well. Our Royal visitors were present and General Westphal laid a wreath. There was some opposition at an R.S.A. Council Meeting to the presence of a German Officer at an Anzac service, but, for the vast majority of returned men, it was a good idea to invite one of our former enemies to share our day of remembrance. We never had anything less than respect for the Germans who fought against us in the desert and elsewhere. Returned men are often accused of living in the past and of wanting to fight the war all over again but that's not why we march on Anzac Day. The presence of a German officer at an Anzac service shows that returned men are there to honour the dead and to re-dedicate themselves to the preservation of peace.

(Thanks to our Secretary for that report on Anzac Day)

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ANZAC DAY IN CHRISTCHURCH: I happened to be in Christchurch on Anzac Day and as I had been told the 22nd would march in the parade, for I believe, the first time in that city, I went along mainly in the hope of meeting some old amigoes. Also, apart from pre-war parades, (when the Anzac Day counted in the number of required COMPULSORY PARADES for the year) I had never seen an Anzac Day march in the south. At least not in daylight; I used to attend with the 19th Battalion "in the cold grey light of dawn". It was good to see Tom Campbell with his troops; Cyril Witty, Maurie Moore, Jim Forster, Ken Meredith-Kaye, Bert Brady, Tony Clarke, and others. About a dozen, all told. And, of course the Great Protesters and Demonstrators did their little thing. Some held blank masks in front of their faces -- I suppose to save washing -- but it was an improvement; and some carried little wooden swords (kid stuff this -- until they tried to plant them among the poppies); and of course they carried placards (the bloke who invented placards should be made attend all demonstrations). One placard was placed among the wreaths, and promptly removed by the Mayor, himself a war amputee. Again it was put among the wreaths, and just as promptly removed and thrown at the feet of some parading servicemen where two pair of large army boots ensured that it would stay there. During the usual long periods of waiting at the parade I fell to thinking -- wondering what the Hell we were doing, and with all due respect to Cedric Randerson's explanation, above, I came up with my own explanation:-

*intended*  
IT IS NOT ~~INTENDED~~ TO GLOBIFY WAR - OR EVEN TO JUSTIFY IT;  
IT IS MERELY AN ACT OF REMEMBRANCE, HONOURING OUR SERVICEMEN  
AND SERVICEWOMEN WHO DIED BELIEVING THAT WHAT THEY WERE THEN  
DOING WAS RIGHT.

**REPORT FROM CRETE:** It has always been a matter for regret that we have no personal contacts with the five Crete kids whom we have sponsored over the past six or seven years. We were able to do something about this in May when a party of Crete veterans went to Greece and Crete on an organised tour. A 22nd Battalion member of the party, Ian Burnett of Wanganui, was kind enough to offer to get in touch with some or all of our five young Cretans and we gratefully accepted his offer and supplied him with a list of names and directions as to how to make contact with them.

On his return to New Zealand, Ian gave us a report about what he had been able to do. The party had a very full itinerary for their short visit to Crete and time did not permit Ian to locate the two girls (Evangelia and Andriana) or one of the boys (Constantinos) all of whom have left home and are living in other villages. He was able to see the other two boys. He found Emanuel Marathakis in Athens, where he is taking an Engineering course. Emanuel is now married and has one child. In Maleme, he saw the latest of the Crete kids and the only one we are still sponsoring - Ioannis Kalietzakis. Ian says Ioannis is well and happy. He was given a wonderful reception by the Kalietzakis family. The language barrier was a problem until one of the girls of the family came in and said, "Hi, Kiwi," or words to that effect. It turned out that she had spent some time in Australia.

The party of Crete veterans was received in Crete with tremendous hospitality and there were many expressions of gratitude for what New Zealanders are doing to help the people of Crete. Ian found it something of a paradox that we feel we owe a debt to the people of Crete, yet they feel exactly the same way about New Zealanders. The older people remember the Kiwis of 1941 with great affection and thankfulness and would do anything to show their gratitude and to repay what they feel is their debt to us. Ian found it a most rewarding and memorable trip. We are grateful to him for taking so much trouble to look up the youngsters we have tried to help.

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**POPPY DAY STALL:** Not all members are aware that we have manned a stall in Karangahape Road on every Poppy Day for a number of years. Other Unit Associations do the same and their efforts make an important contribution to the raising of funds to help returned men who are in hospital or in need of help for other reasons. Members of your Committee have provided most of the manpower each year, helped by other members of the Branch. A hearty vote of thanks to these volunteers is overdue, so we place on record the names of the fifteen men who manned our stall on Friday, 23rd April, 1971:-

Mick Anderson, Hal Grieg, Tom Hood, Ron Jones, Mal Linklater, Keith McBrearty, Terry McLean, Ken McLeod, Sandy Murray, Joe Norrish, Scotch Paterson, Jack Pender, Dudley Shirley-Thomson, Ces Smith, Massey Wood.

It should not be overlooked, too, that Erl Pleasants was a busy boy on Poppy Day in his capacity as the Chairman of the appropriate Committee of Auckland R.S.A.

Thanks to Cedric Randerson for that report, and from Sandy Murray, here is an eye-witness account of the action.

A DAY ON THE POPPY STALL: "Saieeda George."

"Buona Giorno Effendi."

"Who's your lousy clobber? I thought you were an honest man!"

"Hello, Jack! Treat yourself to a bunch of flowers. Here's your first customer."

Brown-faced Polynesian, "Something for the boys, eh?"

An old lady, shabbily dressed, opens bag, extracts large purse, extracts small purse, extracts 50 cents in small change, closes small purse, and reverses the rest of the processes.

"The widow's mite, eh Jack?"

"Yeh, This well-dressed geezer looks a cert."

Well-dressed gent passes, hesitates, returns, "Better give you jokers something."

Fishes in his pocket, extracts a wad of notes and loose-change, sifts out 10 cents and that's it.

"I suppose you're passing this way again to-day?" asks George.

Young man in mod dress with peace badge, pushes in a dollar note.

"I've a good reason for doing this," he remarks.

The boxes rattle on and the poppies grow less and less.

"Cor! George! Did you get a shoofiti at that bird in the mini?"

"Yeh! Puts you off your feed!"

"Sure does! I saw your hands fumble a bit when you pinned that poppy on!"

"Yeah! She had left her engine running....."

Dark-faced Indian woman in sari -- young mother with three 'under-fives',

"They made a house collection but the kids have lost theirs and have pestered me ever since."

"Here's three, On the house," said Jack.

Jack's a family man.

Small Maori boy, "How many for 10 cents? Can I get three. I've got two mates....."

Young hippie girl to her hippie boy-friend, "Come on! Get your 50 cents out!

You're going to get a poppy today whether you like it or not!"

"Did you hear the one about the bishop and the actress.....?"

"22nd, eh! I was in 25....."

"Thanks, Dig...."

"I'm off now," said Harry. "Just time for a quick one..."

"Business is getting slow..."

"Yeh! Those sheilas on the corner are ruining our trade....."

"Oh well, when the U.K. joins the E.E.C. we'll be able to sell them to the Teds and Ities....."

"And the Japs..."

A taxi draws up, "You blokes have done a good job. Might as well close now. Thanks..."

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And thank you, too, Sandy. Now if we can only get Dudley Shirley-Thomson to write up his big mement on that stall, some two or three years ago, we will have a complete picture. In fact, we could go further and collect reports from outside Auckland, too. Must be lots of good stories 'On The Peppy Stalls.'

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PADRE D. THORPE: While in the South Island I took time off to dash out to Hororata and spend an hour or so with Padre Dave Thorpe. Until a year or so back the Padre was at ST. Johns, in Christchurch. And then I heard 'over the grape vine' that he was not too well and feeling the strain of ministering in the large city parish. The change must have been most beneficial for when I ran him to earth he appeared in the best of health -- and very happy. Very proud of his beautiful old church, too, and who wouldn't be? It is a fine building, and in a lovely setting in the rolling downs country of Canterbury, about 30 odd miles west of Christchurch. He said he was thinking of buying a horse -- thought it would be a good idea to ride around visiting his parishioners; which would bring history around the full circle, because he commenced his ministry doing just that. The Padre's first parish was on Banks Peninsula, and he visited his parishioners on horseback. The Padre and Mrs. Thorpe are both keen potters and he has built an oil-fired kiln behind the Manse. So, if you are travelling down that way, it's only an hour's run from Christchurch, and in the heart of the "Deans Country" -- remember Bebbie Deans who scored that "try" against Wales in 1905. The Deans family were the first settlers in that area, as they were in Christchurch some years before. Here is the address:- REV. D. D. THORPE, The Manse, Hororata, Canterbury.

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BOB WOOD: While in Sydney, last March, I called on Bob Wood. Remember Bob? Originally a 19th bloke, like so many other good types, drifted to the 22nd. There is a good story told about him. It appears that he went into the bag -- I am not sure if he wasn't in the 19th at the time. Anyway Bob found his way back through the lines and into the 22nd area. He was rushed to Battalion Headquarters, and among these he met was Dave Whillans -- another ex-19th wallah. Dave greeted him and offered a cigarette. Bob said, "Thanks, and I'll have my cigarette case, too!" Apparently when Bob went into the bag, Dave had taken Bob's gold cigarette case into protective custody, and had showed his honesty, some would his absentmindedness, by offering Bob a smoke from his own case. And that some hundreds of miles later, in Italy! Bob is at A.M.P. Society, Circular Quay, Sydney, and lives at Warrawee.

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TAURANGA NEWS: From Tauranga we have a screed of newsy notes, for which many thanks. Tauranga has a strong 22nd group, and they keep close contact. The notes were apparently written in some haste and are a bit hard to read, but not to worry, they are most welcome. With commendable foresight, our Secretary has suppressed any reference to the perpetrator of the notes and also to the originator of the explanatory notes appended in red ball-point. It's all a bit difficult, but to give you some chance of understanding, and appreciating, the news, I will put the explanatory notes -- (RBP for Red Ball-Point) and my own comments, if any, (Ed) in brackets. Now, let's see if we can't work the Old General -- you know the one -- into this play.

(WRITTEN BY THE TERRIBLE MAN...RBP)

At Tauranga, May 3rd, members of 22nd Battalion paid their last respects to Major (Jim) J.W.C. Craig, M.C. and Bar, E.D., who passed away on April 30th, in Tauranga Hospital, after a long illness which he bore nobly as was his character, and retaining his alertness to the end. Nineteen (see list

attached..RBP) members attended along with many local dignitaries, business associates and friends at the two services at the church and crematorium. Jim had been home for Anzac Day and was looking forward to leaving hospital and resuming his life again.

As usual, members at Tauranga paraded for the Dawn Parade on Anzac Day, a goodly muster considering that some of us are getting a bit long in the tooth. Les Donovan came down from Waihi Beach, and after the shouting at the R.S.A. Club-rooms the members withdrew to Tom De Lisle's for the usual "Anzac" get-together. Barry Houlahan had the "Crete Children Box" and his good lady "Marg" rattled it until the jingle was out of all the pockets. D found his long lost son who had migrated to N.Z. in search of his long lost "Kiwi Daddy". (He replied to a skit organised by.....RBP. I could not decipher the explanation, unfortunately, so have crossed out Daddy's name. Ed.) Bert Parnell's and Max Robinson's duet was a success although Max's miniskirt was a little mini for Bert's stature. (That possibly explains the illegible explanation, above. Anyway, I'm glad I crossed out your name, Dunc. Ed.) Also a certain renowned N.C.O. of the Battalion provided an establishment for the requirements of members' needs which was adequately recognised by the sign at the entrance.(\*)..... can vouch for this one -- A certain member in this district was on a tour of inspection of a developing area of homes with his superiors when a window was thrust open of an almost completed home, and a voice called, "Hey -- you so-and-so old ---Z---, did you ever pay "Tiger ..." back that five quid you borrowed in 1942.?" The reply is therefore unprintable and possibly libelous!! (So, possibly, is the story. Hence the omission of the victim's name. Ed.)

(\*) (Red Ball Point again with the unnecessary comment that the reference was to an improvised latrine. Ed)

The appended list of members who attended Jim's funeral reads:-

Cam Budd, Barney Beckett, Barry Houlahan, Ken Maclellan, ... Robinson, Lacy Craig, Les Donovan, Bert Parnell, Slim Calman, Tom De Lisle, ... Fowler, Merv Ashman, Fred Pinney, Jackie Hargreaves, Mitch Mitchinson, Duncan Otto, T... Cookson, Leo Milgrew, Fred Webber.

I'm sorry to miss out on some of those names -- some I could fill in from memory, some I should have been able to fill in from memory, but they just wouldn't come. Ed. Many thanks to the wielders of the three different hands responsible for that effort.

FLASH BACK: Those who attended the last Annual Meeting will recall that our duly appointed Auditor, Aus Riddell, fled the City just before completing his duties. Our Secretary appointed his own Auditor, and the Meeting confirmed the appointment.

Here is a copy of the report filed by Deputy Acting Auditor, Scotch Paterson:-

" Gentlemen, I have the honour to submit, as your Auditor, my report on the books of the Auckland Branch, 22 Bn. Assn. First, I must, of course, thank your Committee for the confidence they hold in my obvious deep and extensive knowledge of all things financial. However, the matter of our Books. To my surprise, they are both in remarkably good condition -- no signs of mould growth, silver fish or yellowing of the pages. Even the ink looks good -- in fact, as I had walked in unannounced, I found the ink on many of the entries seemed to have scarcely to have had

had time to dry. All good accounting, as you know, relies on the double entry system -- which means you write everything twice. Some accountants do this in one book, but others find it easier to do the balancing exercise if they keep it in two separate books. We have two. Either are available for inspection -- but not both at the same time. I watched your Treasurer balance these two -- on either end of a 12" ruler laid over a thick pencil at roughly the 6" mark. We managed to balance the two successfully with the aid of a bunch of keys and half a box of matches laid on one of the books. Apart from the unfortunate theft of our Cheque Book by a burglar who cashed five of our cheques -- none of them honoured, of course, by the A.N.Z. Bank. I found that we can place our full confidence in our Secretary/Treasurer. Seriously -- he does a tremendous job and we don't hear a word about it. I offer him our thanks for the past, for what seems to me, a hell of a lot of work, and also in anticipation of many years' activity in the future."

E. B. Paterson,  
Auditor.

How about that, now? And to think that was all written on the backs of two forms calling for applications for membership of the "Royal New Zealand Naval Volunteer Reserve."

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AMPUTEES: The War Amputees Assn. has funds available for the assistance of War Amputees and their widows. If you know of anyone eligible for such assistance, not necessarily a 22nd man, but any war amputee, please get in touch with Mick Anderson, 12 Central Ave., Papatoetoe -- Phone 82-412.

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We regret to record the deaths of former members of the 22nd:-

Jack Ryan

Collin Sullivan

Charlie Tait (Result of an accident)

There are others, but I am sorry to say the complete list has gone astray, together with a note book containing other notes for this Newsletter. I put them in my car with other papers, and cannot now find them. Consequently this Newsletter has become somewhat disjointed. I started it off desperately short of material. Cedric Randerson and Sandy Murray came to my assistance, Bless them, and I now find I have filled the allotted space -- in fact I have succeeded only too well and have been forced to hold over a very complete write up of Jim Craig. It will be included in the next issue.

Among the material sent in by Sandy were two photos of Auckland Anzac Day parades. One is included on the next page. We do not know the year, but in the forefront is our President, Hal Greig, carrying the banner. Hal, just when were you 'Sister Hannah'? That may fix the date of Sandy's photo.

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In conclusion: Have you sent in your booking slip for Ladies Night?



