

"Vrai et Fort"

22nd Battalion Association

AUCKLAND BRANCH

Telephone 664-792

Secretary:

C. W. Randerson

(Registered at Post Office H.Q. as a Magazine)

22ND BATTALION NEWS

P.O. Box 13-058,

Onehunga,

Auckland, 6.

FEBRUARY, 1984

BRANCH REUNION & LADIES NIGHT - SUNDAY, 11TH MARCH

PLEASE NOTE THE DATE:- As members were informed in our December Circular, this year's Branch Reunion is being held about a fortnight earlier than usual - this because the National Reunion at Wanganui takes place early in April. You are also asked to note that there will be a change in the type of meal provided. At our November social function, when the meal was the Smorgasboard type, some of those at the end of the queue got rather short rations and the Branch Committee is making sure that that does not happen again. On Sunday, the 11th, we will have a sit-down meal at a basic price of \$5.50 per head for the main course. Everyone will pay this amount as admission fee to the Reunion. Those who would like an Entree or a Sweets course as well may have it by ordering it separately and paying the Caterer. There will be a charge of \$2.50 for either the Entree or the Dessert course. We are sure that this arrangement will meet our varying tastes and requirements. JIM ALLEN says that there will be a choice of main course:- Steak or Roast Meat or Cold Meats & Salad.

The Committee expects to see a good muster and remember that any of your friends or relatives you wish to bring with you will be most welcome.

VENUE:-

Grey Lynn Returned Services Club.
1 Francis Street, Grey Lynn.

TIMES:-

<u>Assemble at:-</u>	4 p.m.
<u>Dinner at:-</u>	5.30 p.m. (approx)
<u>Close down:-</u>	8 p.m.

(Francis Street runs between Old Mill Road (near the Zoo) and Richmond Road.
The Grey Lynn R.S.C. is at the Richmond Road end of Francis Street (ample parking).

Admission:- \$5.50 per head - for Main Course only

(Plus 1984/85 Subscription, if not already paid)

Drinks will be available at Club prices. Dinner Wines will also be available.

Sunday, 11th March will be close at hand by the time you read this, so PLEASE fill in and return the Reply Slip on the inside page of this Circular right away. We would rather not handle cash at the door (it makes extra work for the Secretary) but, if it's inconvenient to mail your reply and remittance, do make a point of ringing the Secretary at 664-792 (business hours) to let him know you are coming and how many to cater for.

BRANCH REUNION & LADIES NIGHT - SUNDAY, 11TH MARCH

BRANCH REUNION & LADIES FUNCTION - 11TH MARCH

Details of our annual Branch Reunion and social function on 11th March are on the front page of this Newsletter. At our last get-together, in November, your Committee were concerned when they heard that some people who were at the end of the queue missed out on a full meal. Did the early-comers take too much or did the caterers under-estimate on their quantities? We don't know for sure but it won't happen again, as we have arranged this time for a sit-down meal that will make certain that we all get what we pay for. We hear that another Branch of the Association is enthusiastic about its new system of catering, based on the "bring a plate" idea. We might try that at some later date but will find out first if it appeals to our members. We do know that, for most of our womenfolk, the big thing about going out to dinner is that they don't have to do anything towards preparing the food.

The Grey Lynn R.S. Club is a very suitable and comfortable venue for our functions and we are grateful to Jim Allen, who makes the arrangements for us and to the Club Executive, who do everything possible to ensure that we enjoy ourselves. We look forward to seeing you, with any members of your family or any friends whom you may wish to bring along as your guests. Out of town members will be especially welcome. We hope the ladies will bear with us for the brief time it will take to elect the Officers of the Branch and to discuss any essential business. PLEASE DON'T forget to send in your reply slip - by 7th March, if not sooner.

ROLL OF HONOUR

45804	T.A. KING-TURNER	Masterton - 10/12/83
449901	TREVOR D. SELBY	Matamata - 10/1/84
624427	W.M. PHILLIPS	Auckland - 16/2/84

Maurice Phillips was one of the two men accidentally killed while working on a house-lifting job in Riddell Road, Glendowie on 16th February.

NATIONAL REUNION - WANGANUI

The Wanganui Reunion Committee has asked us to remind you that time is short for registrations to be sent and for accommodation to be booked for the weekend of April 6/8, 1984. One or two Hotels are already fully booked but there is still plenty of accommodation available. The Committee says that all signs point to a "cracker" of a Reunion. TOM CAMPBELL will head a strong South Island contingent; TONY WHITLOCK and SNOW LEEKS are coming from Australia and STAN CHONG from Papua-New Guinea. If you intend to be there, NOW is the time to write to National Secretary LES CLARK at 38 Roberts Avenue, Wanganui. So far, we have not received a supply of Air N.Z. Group Discount vouchers but Les should be able to send you one if you are going by air.

CALL IN AT WAIOURU:- If you are going to Wanganui by car on Friday, 6th April, RON JONES makes the excellent suggestion of an Auckland Branch group visit to the Army Museum at Waiouru on the way. Time your departure to get to Waiouru by 12 Noon for lunch (there's a Restaurant there) and an inspection of the Museum. The group will leave Waiouru about 3 p.m., in time to reach Wanganui comfortably by 5 p.m.

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THE V.C. AND G.C. REUNION IN LONDON - NOVEMBER, 1983

The New Zealand Contingent for the Reunion arrived in London on 29th September. The New Zealand Government were kind enough to give the members and their wives a free ticket. Air New Zealand did the rest, looking after the party very well indeed. N.Z. was represented by Jack Hinton, Charles Upham, L.H. Trent and Keith Elliott and we were pleased indeed Mrs. C. Hulme, widow of Sgt. Clive Hulme, was included in the invitation. We were sorry that the 1914-18 V.C. Matt. Laurent of Hastings and his wife were not able to travel with us but age catches up with old Soldiers and their wives who really make the show.

The Reunion was very low key. We did not parade or lay a wreath at the Cenotaph at Westminster, our first engagement being a church service at St. Martins in the Field, in Trafalgar Square. This was a thanksgiving service and very impressive indeed. The next gathering was held at the Chelsea Barracks, where we met many of the Old Soldiers who live in this glorious haven.

The main gathering for all members of the Reunion, wives, relatives and friends was held at The Fishmongers Hall in London. Margaret Thatcher the Prime Minister was the guest of honour. She was very gracious and chatted freely with all present. We had a very interesting trip to the British Army Museum in London. From France 1914-18 to the Falklands 1982, all the changes in Army equipment and modern methods used in warfare were on show. Talking to one of the personnel responsible for setting up the Museum, he told me that they had visited the War Museum at Waiouru in N.Z. and gleaned some of their ideas from the exhibits there.

The V.C. and G.C. Reunion Dinner was held in Cafe Royal in London. The speaker was Prince Andrew, who spoke very well indeed and included some of his first hand experiences while fighting in the Falklands, something which he will never forget as he was actually in combat.

The New Zealand Contingent were given a reception at New Zealand House. The Honourable Bill Young, High Commissioner for New Zealand, spoke very kindly, not only from the point of view of New Zealand's Representative in London, but as a soldier who served his country in 1939-45. Rear-Admiral Place, President of The Victoria Cross/George Cross Association was present. Altogether a very happy and successful party. The Hon. Bill Young was invited to the V.C./G.C. Dinner, which we thought was very fitting.

We were fortunate indeed to experience such good weather while in London and to meet V.C./G.C. winners from all over the world was really a great experience. The trip was only made possible by the New Zealand Government and all members of the N.Z. Contingent were most grateful.

We made our own way home, visiting different places en-route and taking our time made this Reunion a memorable one for us all. V.C's are a dying race; it is very assuring to know that the G.C. winners will be able to carry the Spirit of these Reunions of Members of the Commonwealth on from one generation to another.

(From Keith Elliott)

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TREASURER'S REPORT

The financial year just ended is the first in which we have paid our subscriptions at the higher rate of \$4 per member and the effect of this increase is shown in the Income and Expenditure Account included in this issue of the Newsletter. About 160 members of the Branch pay their subs. in any one year but those who forget to send in their subs. one year often make up for it the following year and, every now and then, we receive a donation in place of past subs. unpaid. Also, we continue to receive many donations to the Branch Welfare Fund and other donations for general purposes and these donations add up to a fair sum in the course of a year. For the second year running, the Welfare Fund has been credited with more in donations than it was necessary to pay out, leaving a credit balance of over \$600 in this fund at the end of the year. The need for Welfare assistance is likely to increase, so it is good to have a reasonably healthy balance in this fund. The Committee thanks all those who have sent in donations, large or small, during the past year.

Expenditure:- The cost of printing and mailing these Newsletters is our only major item of expense and this cost is an increasing one, which is why the subs. were put up in 1983. For some years now, the work of typing the copy, addressing the envelopes, folding, etc. has been done without charge to the Branch by the staff of the Accountancy practice in which the Treasurer is a partner. But he is now but one of 3 partners in the firm and this work has to be charged for, as from this issue of the Newsletter. It is not going to cost that much but it will put the Branch's expenses up. There seems to be general agreement that the Newsletters are well worth what they cost and communications are the lifeblood of any organisation. You can be sure that we will do our best to keep all costs as low as possible.

Subscriptions Payments for 1984/85:- About 40 of our members have paid their subs. in advance for the financial year about to start. For the rest of us, March is the month for payment and, once again, we ask those unable to attend the Branch function on 11th March to use the reply slip in this issue to send in their 1984/85 subs. NOW. This will help to keep our costs down; it costs money to send out subscription accounts and we wish we didn't have to. Receipts will not be issued unless a stamped, addressed reply envelope is sent with the remittance.

BRANCH OFFICERS - 1983/84

PATRON:- D.R. Froggatt. PRESIDENT:- H.G. Matthews
VICE-PRESIDENTS:- ♦ D. Shirley-Thomson; S.H. Johnson.
WELFARE OFFICER:- ♦ R.G. Jones. HON. AUDITOR:- E.B. Paterson.
SECRETARY/TREASURER:- ♦ C.W. Randerson.

COMMITTEE:-

♦ J. Allen; E. Benfield; E.G. Borrie; G. Couchman;
 ♦ B.J. Galvin; ♦ W.D. McLachlan; ♦ J.G. McMillan;
 ♦ H.B. McRae; E.B. Wood.

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INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT - YEAR ENDED 29TH FEBRUARY, 1984

March, 1984

PHONE NO. :-