



OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE  
MARLBOROUGH RETURNED SERVICES  
ASSOCIATION

PRICE 20c

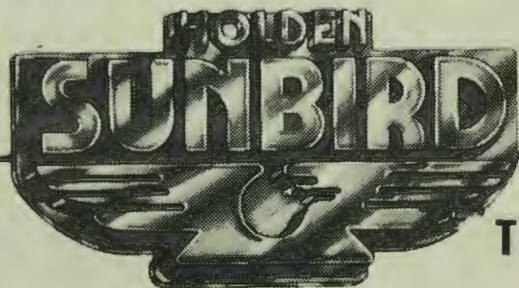
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# EDITORIAL



The least said about the annual general meeting the better. It certainly didn't bring any credit on a lot of members. Competition with international rugby and a dug-out shoot-out didn't help much either and it may pay the executive to look at the way the bowlers have solved their problems of having an orderly meeting — hold it on a Sunday morning.

A warm welcome from all members of the club to new members of the executive. They attended their first meeting on July 4 and we hope they will contribute imaginative and constructional ideas for the conduct of the club in the next 12 months — or slightly less in their case now that the financial year will end on December 31.

Committee change-overs should next occur on April 1 — an appropriate date no doubt!

The special committee formed to investigate the requirements of all users of the clubhouse held their first meeting on July 10 and we will all be looking forward to see what they produce. If you have any ideas don't hesitate to pass them on to your representative. The more ideas the better and who knows, we may achieve a miracle and satisfy everyone entitled to use the RSA.

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### EDITORIAL

The Editor is Paul Brodie and the sub-editor Allan Gardiner. **PRINTING**

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### ADVERTISING

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### PLEASE NOTE

All opinions expressed in Crossfire are those of the individual contributors and do not reflect MRSA official policy unless otherwise stated.

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# PRESIDENT'S PAGE

On June 11-13 I attended the Dominion Conference, along with Paul Brodie, Jim Maxwell and Ron Hemming. Altogether something like 90 remits were discussed and voted on, some after very lengthy debates which entailed some very long sessions. However, a lot of good comes out of these debates and it makes it all worth while. The informal discussions at the pub when conference is over give one an insight into the problems of other associations and how they overcome them.

However, none of them have one like one of ours.

Paul took a few copies of Crossfire and gave them to different ones. They created a lot of interest. The president of the RSL took one back to Australia and the Fijian representative also took one home.

What a shambles the annual meeting turned out to be.

Perhaps it was a mistake holding it after an international rugby match, following which many members failed to go home for tea, but whatever the reason, I have never seen such disgraceful behaviour from some members who should have known better.

One or two have had the grace to apologise since. The smallbore rifle shooting in the basement didn't help either.

And there was no excuse for the abuse hurled at the Secretary-Manager in the foyer after the meeting.

I do think the executive will have to give serious consideration to holding future general meetings on a Sunday morning.

Nola and I attended the Rai Valley sub-branch annual dinner on July 1. It was disappointing that we were the only two from Blenheim. There were two from Nelson and over a dozen from Picton. Havelock and Renwick were represented also. There would have been approximately 50 people present and they all enjoyed themselves immensely. These dinners are going from strength to strength. Perhaps it is because they are held on a Sunday and

they have the hotel to themselves, but more likely it is the good old country-style hospitality.

Nola and I also attended a cocktail hour in the tented camp of the "Wise Owls," a very pleasant evening. These young airmen, who are on a navigation refresher course, love our nice sunny days for flying, but aren't too keen on our frosty mornings.

They had the very latest in tents, double-lined, and quite different to our bell tents.

I invited them all to make full use of our RSA while they are in Blenheim.

I understand DEC Charter Committee had a very satisfactory meeting with the LCC and ironed out some of the outstanding points that are holding up acceptance of our new model rules. We can expect to get some up-to-date information on these rules before very long.

An extract from one of Mr Leuchars speeches might not be out of place: "It was apparent that the largest proportion of those favouring any extension to membership (of RSA) had given little thought to the numerous and complex issues which would be faced both locally and nationally. The use and disposal of welfare funds will become an issue in any proposal for change and it could be that we may lose traditional public support if the RSA is opened up and non-returned service members become eligible for welfare grants or assistance to the same degree as returned service members.

(Continued next page)

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT . . . from page 2**

"Some associations already obtain welfare funds from club revenue (Marlborough RSA did last year and perhaps will have to do so again). There could of course be problems if some club members are not eligible for welfare after having helped provide the funds."

Remember, once a decision is made on widening membership, that decision is irrevocable.

Before we consider widening membership, let us encourage younger returned servicemen to join the RSA. Make them more welcome. We should do everything in our power to bring back to the fold members who have strayed away for various reasons, and also go after the ones who are eligible and have never joined.

An instance of members leaving the club came to light the other day. This member was asked to leave the bar because he was wearing a sleeveless singlet. He left — and didn't return for 18 years.

**RENWICK WOMEN'S SECTION**

The ladies section annual meeting has come and gone with a very good attendance. The whole committee plus secretary and president were re-elected unopposed.

As many readers will know, the local community are trying to build a new hall. Our ladies ran a coffee morning at Mrs Avis Newman's early in June and raised \$61. They also had a cake stall outside the supermarket which brought in more money and we were able to hand over to the hall committee a cheque for \$200.

We have also donated to the Red Cross for an incubator for Wairau Hospital, and raised \$30 for Telethon.

All in all, a good effort for 27 members.

Ken and I, with Mary and Dick Sales, attended the dinner at the Trout Hotel held by the Rai Valley RSA. It was a dreadful, wet night, but an enjoyable evening and it was a pity that more from Renwick did not attend.

**NOLA YEALANDS, President.**



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# The Victoria Cross

(Continued from the June issue of Crossfire).

Altogether 27 New Zealanders have won the coveted award. Six of these have been serving in other than N.Z. Forces. Captain Charles Heaphy, of the Auckland Militia, was the first New Zealander, winning his Cross on February 11, 1864, but it was not gazetted until February 3, 1867, as it was at first ruled under the original Royal Warrant that he was ineligible.

Eventually, on January 1, 1867, the Royal Warrant was amended and drew specific attention to operations undertaken against the insurgent native tribes of our colony of New Zealand.

It was under this amendment that Heaphy's Cross was awarded. Being the first awarded to a member of a colonial force, as well as being the first to a non-regular serviceman. The Heaphy Track perpetuates his name.

One of the six VCs serving with other forces was Acting Lieut. William Sanders, our only Naval VC. He won his award aboard HMS Prize, a 'Q-ship', on June 22, 1917. He was later awarded the DSO and went down with his ship on August 14, 1917.

The Sanders Cup for yachting was named after him.

The first VC won in the air went to another New Zealander serving in the Royal Flying Corps. He was Lieut. Rhodes Moorhouse. It was won posthumously on May 22, 1915.

The only New Zealander to win the VC in the Boer War was Farrier Major

Hardham of the N.Z. Mounted Rifles. It was won on January 28, 1901. This medal was recently donated to the Waiouru War Museum by Major Hardham's relatives and it now forms the centrepiece to the South African War section.

The first award of the VC made to an airman for sinking a submarine went to another New Zealander, F.O. L. Trigg. This was a posthumous award as his aircraft was shot down by the sub. he sank — there were no survivors. F.O. Trigg's award was made on the recommendation of the captain and survivors of the U-boat — a distinction without precedent.

Although the plance went down in flames, its rubber dinghy floated free undamaged and it was in this boat that the U-boat captain and five other survivors were found after supplies had been dropped to them the previous day by the RAF, who mistook them for survivors from Trigg's plane and directed the corvette Clarkia to them.

Squadron Leader Trent was flying with 437 N.Z. Squadron RAF when he won his

(Continued next page)

## Too polite

My neighbour's little girl is an unusually polite child.

One morning she knocked on my door. I invited her in and offered her a chair, which she took. But when I asked if she'd care for cup of tea, she declined.

"I really don't have the time," she explained. "I came over to ask if I could use your phone. Our house is on fire."



## Checklist

The wealthy aunt's feelings were hurt because her nephew didn't seem to appreciate her birthday gift.

"I'm sorry you don't care for it," she told him, "but remember, I had asked you first if you preferred a large check or a small one."

"I know, auntie," he said, "but that was before I realised you were talking about neckties."

**VICTORIA CROSS continued**

VC flying Ventura. His was the only plane out of 11 to reach and bomb the target. He was shot down a few minutes later. Trent and his navigator survived the crash and were taken prisoner. During the attack, six Venturas were shot down in the space of four minutes.

The first and only VC bestowed on a member of the Maori race was awarded to 2nd Lieut. Moananui Kiwi Ngarimu, of the 28th Maori Battalion. It was won at Tabaga Gap, Tunisia, on March 26, 1943, and was posthumous.

Captain Charles Upham, of the 20th Bn NZEF, is the only combatant to win a bar to his VC. His first VC was won on Crete and the bar was won at Rueweisat Ridge in the Western desert on July 14, 1942.

Sgt Pilot James Ward was the first New Zealander to win the VC in WW2. It was won over the Zuider Zee, Holland, on July 7, 1941, and was gazetted on August 5, 1941.

Sgt Ward was given command of his own aircraft and was later lost over Germany on September 15, 1941. He flew with 75 NZ Sqdn.

Other N.Z. VCs are:

Cpl L. W. Andrew, 2nd Wellington Regt., 1st NZEF. Won at Basseville, France, Sept. 6, 1917. He rose to the rank of Brigadier in the 2nd NZEF and was also awarded the DSO.

Cpl. C. R. Basset, NZ Div Sigs, 1st NZEF, won his VC at Chunuk Bair Ridge, Gallipoli on Aug. 7, 1915. His was the first N.Z. award during WW1.

Sgt D. F. Brown, 2 Btn NZI, 1st NZEF. Won on Sept. 15, 1916, at High Wood, France. Posthumous.

Pvt J. Crichton, 2 Btn Auckland Reg., 1st NZEF. Won at Crevecoeur, France, Sept. 30, 1918.

Sgt Keith Elliott, 22 Bn 2nd NZEF. Won at Reweisat Ridge, Western Desert, July 15.

Sgt Samuel Forsyth, N.Z. Engineers, 1st NZEF, won Aug. 24, at Grevillers, France. Posthumous.

L/Cpl S. Frickleton, 3rd Btn NZ Rifle Brigade, 1st NZEF. Won July 7, 1917, at Messines, Belgium.

Sgt John Grant, 1st Btn Wellington Regt, 1st NZEF. Won at Bancourt, France, Sept. 1, 1918.

Sgt John Hinton, 20 Btn, 2nd NZEF, won April 28-29, at Kalamai, Greece.

Sgt Alfred Hume, 23rd Btn, 2nd NZEF. Won on Crete, May 20-28, 1941.

Sgt Reginald Judson, DCM, MM, 1st Btn Auckland Regt, 1st NZEF, won Aug. 26, 1918, at Bapaume, France.

Sgt Harry Laurent, 2nd Btn NZ Rifle Bgde, 1st NZEF. Won Sept. 12, 1918, east of Gouzeaucourt Wood, France.

Pvt Henry Nicholas, 1st Btn Canterbury Regt. Won at Polderhoek, Belgium, Dec. 3, 1917.

Sgt Richard Travis, DCM, MM, 2nd Btn Otago Regt, 1st NZEF. A posthumous award won near Hebuterne, France, July 24, 1918. His correct name was Dickson Savage but he enlisted under the name Travis — A family name. (To P36)

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## **LAST POST**

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**A. K. JAMIESON**

**R. LOCKHART (Hon. member)**

*"At the going down of the sun . . .  
We will remember them."*



*THEY GAVE THEIR ALL  
AS WE WHO ARE LEFT DID NOT  
FORGET THEM NEVER OR BE  
YOURSELVES FORGOT.*

Continuing the story of . . .

## HERITAGE (Marlborough) INC.

In 1968 Heritage had completed its first 25 years, under two presidents, A. C. Nathan (1943-64) and E. A. Lucas (1964-68), two secretaries, N. G. Parker (1943-60) and W. R. Olliver (1964-69), with R. T. Scott and G. S. Fuller serving for interim periods.

E. J. Harvey was honorary auditor until his death in 1960, when Robert D. Harvey took over, terminating a long family connection in 1974. J. R. Naysmith has held the position since.

A. C. Nathan relinquished the post of honorary solicitor prior to his departure from Blenheim in 1964. Since then Wisheart, Macnab and Partners have acted in this capacity.

Scores of mothers and children have benefitted from their guidance and legal service over the last 36 years.

The year 1970 marked the termination of 20 years sterling work by J. Donald Young, ably assisted by Mrs Young, in distributing greetings, birthday and wedding gifts.

In 1958 Birthright was inaugurated in Marlborough, giving similar support to families that had lost a parent. Its constitution was largely based upon that of Heritage and in the early years the two groups combined in some of their activities such as Sounds outings and film afternoons.

An early president and long-time secretary of Birthright was G. S. Fuller.

Cautious winds of change had been eddying through Heritage since the mid-50s. Originally, Heritage admitted to its registers only the widows and children of overseas servicemen who had lost their lives in war, or had died as the direct or indirect result of war service.

Eligibility was the receipt of the war widows' pension. After a couple of years deliberation among the branches and at Dominion meetings, a report was adopted in 1956 allowing some widening and liberalisation of this stringent qualification.

Wellington took the lead in widening the scope of admission, followed by Marlborough, South Canterbury and Southland.

Several of the other 13 branches took some steps to widen their interpretation. Over the past three years, the policy on the "Scope of Heritage" has again been debated, culminating in a resolution in March of this year to maintain the status quo.

Branches have followed Dr Mazengarb's heading in one of the chapters in "The Story of Heritage": "Consider of it, take advice and speak your minds."

An influx of families in the 60s led to Heritage overspending its income by \$900 in 1967. Dominion headquarters has always helped in such cases, but Marlborough decided to extricate itself by its own efforts, or rather, the efforts of the RSA to begin with.

A big placard in the social room depicted a tree, with red sap running up its trunk and branches until \$900 appeared on the ladder. Through the efforts of Walter Olliver and Mervyn Wisheart, J. E. Thomas Ltd agreed to donate the proceeds of their Miss Sophisticate Contest to Heritage.

Within a month the deficit had been cleared and funds of \$5000 from the carnival re-established a sound foundation for the future.

Heritage is grateful to the principal of the firm, T. W. Thomas and Messrs A. E. Andrews and I. B. Columbus, and the many organisations and service clubs which put so much energy into the campaign.

The appointment of our first field officer, Mrs Grace Petrie in 1970

(Continued on page 8)

HERITAGE . . . from page 7

systemised visiting, shopping and contacts with schools, youth movements and church activities.

Mrs Petrie's appointment as a J.P. in 1974 was a well-earned distinction.

Mrs Colleen Neal was appointed field officer in 1975. She had served on the committee, along with Mrs Vyner Quinn, since 1967 as representatives of the women's section of RSA.

RSA presidents who have been, or are still on the committee are: V. J. Anderson, G. S. Brash, G. P. Cameron, J. H. Jellyman, J. A. Knowles, W. J. Perkins and M. W. Wisheart.

Representatives of the P.O.W. Assn, the Patriotic Council and of the sub-branches keep Heritage informed of families of deceased servicemen throughout the Province. The monthly use of the RSA committee room has continued for 17 years without a hitch and has been a real boon.

In 1969, A. C. (Bert) Thurlow added the secretaryship of Heritage to his fine record of hospital visiting and welfare work on the Marlborough Patriotic Council.

In 1975 Mrs Quinn instituted a mothers' luncheon in late November to usher in the Christmas season. The emphasis then shifts from children to mothers. A Sunday was selected, for many mothers are working, or doing part-time work.

It would be a dull ending to the sumptuous meal that Miss Chapman generously provides in the City Hotel to get up from it and go home, so it has been followed by a move to the RSA and a visit to an exhibition of modern furnishings, a display of her own pictures by Celena Ballantine, a floral arrangement display by Mesdames Frank Neal and Vic Smart, an illustrated talk by Allan Gardiner on how to win a golden disc, and some community singing. Afternoon tea provided by the women's section has concluded the day's outing.

The present committee is H. P. Glen (president), W. J. Giffin and J. E. Hyndman

(vice-presidents), Mesdames T. G. Neal, J. T. Quinn, Pam Shattock, Messrs I. S. Burson (Rai Valley), G. P. Cameron, R. C. Davies (Picton), J. N. Kinder, J. McKee (Seddon), J. A. Knowles, H. A. Sales (Renwick).

Field officer, Mrs T. G. Neal; secretary, A. C. Thurlow; treasurer, Roy Cunningham; solicitor, M. W. Wisheart. auditor, J. R. Naysmith.

Some RSA members who served on the Heritage committee in the 60s and 70s were R. J. Ballinger, T. R. Harrison, N. P. Healy, Tom Healy, A. A. Kitching, B. E. Twidle, D. Wishnowski. Others to serve were Mrs M. A. Foote (field officer), Mrs T. R. Harrison (gifts) and Mrs M. Kendrick.

How long Heritage will last in its present form has been problematical since its formation. There are 43 families and 65 children on our register at present.

There is a simple criterion for assistance — "Where there is a need."

The need takes many forms, of which the payment of school activities and examination fees is simplest to meet.

Doing the kind of thing a good father would have done if he were still living may have nothing to do with financial help, but may be infinitely more important.

Forty-eight young people on the register are between 15 and 21 and in a vulnerable age group, and Heritage can help unobtrusively and confidentially to bridge potentially dangerous gaps between school and employment.

At the moment it is good to record that all 48 are at colleges, receiving further education elsewhere, or are at work.

A former Heritage widow, Mrs P. A. Shattock, has joined the committee, and offers of future membership have been received from several younger members of Heritage families who are prepared to take an active part in the movement "when there is a need" for their services.





"You'll get your shoes dirty standing in Daddy's shepherd's pie, darling."



"Tell them about your operation."

**Tit for tat**

I had a visitor who liked to tease my parrot.

He said to the parrot, "Can you talk?" "Sure I can," said the parrot. "Can you fly?"



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# **THIS MONTHS PERSONALITY**



**W. G. HORROCKS**

**(Ex-Chief Engineering Artificer (Ordinance))**

**Born February 1, 1904, on the outskirts of Manchester. Took an exam for engineering apprenticeship in R.N. during 1919. Joined the engineering establishment HMS Indus in January, 1920. The Living Ship was called HMS Ganges.**

Like most Navy ships we had a concert party and one of the party was Jack Train — later known as Colonel Chinstrap in the I.T.M.A. show.

During my apprenticeship I qualified in Ordinance (Mechanics of Gunnery) and was drafted to HMS Ajax, a 13½in, 5-twin-turret, AB.XY & Q, with 10.4in secondary armament. She was a battleship from the First World War — a coalship — my first, and thankfully, my last.

I was then drafted HMS Diomedé, a light cruiser, for a New Zealand commission which was quite eventful.

In 1927 we were sent to Samoa to deal with the Mau and although it seemed like a bit of a comic opera, underneath the surface it was deadly serious and the commander was to be complimented on the shedding of no blood.

A little later we were called on to search for Hood and Moncrieff, who had tried to fly from Australia to N.Z. It was during the leave period and each cruiser had only half a crew each. Men from HMS Dunedin were drafted to the Diomedé and we set sail.

All the men on leave were recalled and manned the Dunedin which set out after us.

We cruised the Tasman at 22 knots for three days without success and returned with a hefty oil consumption bill.

In 1931 both cruisers were called out to the Napier earthquake. Diomedé first with doctors and medical supplies, etc., and then Dunedin came up with more extensive supplies. We got there about midnight the same day and the engineering departments and shipwrights landed as a demolition party or for anything else required.

We stayed for 10 days and one thing I'll always remember was opening safes (in the presence of the police) and finding lovely bundles of notes which fell to pieces as they were touched. We did open the Public Trust Office strongroom and its contents were all intact.

The ship's concert party and band did a lot of entertaining on a £1 for £1 basis for the unemployed during the depression.

I left the Navy in 1934 and came to Blenheim in 1938, and it was here I met my wife, Queenie O'Sullivan, who ran a dance orchestra, so we joined forces and did quite a lot of entertaining at dances, balls, etc.

However, war came and it was back to the Navy for me.

Little events which come to mind include the Leander's concert party entertaining on the U.S. Air Force carrier Enterprise, for whom we were acting as crash ship.

(Continued page 36)

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Sir, — In Crossfire No. 6 I took interest in the article by Charlie Coleman where he mentioned the country out from Ypres, Hooze Crater, The Menin Road, Birr Crossroads and, more especially, the Butte de Polygon (generally known as "The Butts"). I covered most of the ground very extensively and have clear memories of the old Butts. I did four days SOS guard on the top of that lovely place once.

Charlie says he can't remember Jerry shelling the Mound itself. Neither can I, although it was well knocked about, perhaps by our own bombardments, but Jerry had a rotten habit of using 5.9s with air bursts inside, about 150-200yds from the Butts, and the shrapnel was certainly deadly.

Four of us, under a good man you could call a leading hand, were sent over from the platoon to form the guard. We had a small trench, about 6ft long, on top of the mound, with steps cut into the clay sides to give us access.

Our equipment was a couple of rifles and the rifle grenades fitted with the rods. The grenades were like canisters to fire different lights, green, red and another green — two yellows and a red — and such like. We had to fire a different colour every so often to correspond with the SOS from the front line. Our job was to fire the grenades to pass the signal on to the guns from the Butts.

Our man in charge was killed less than an hour after we got there. We sent up to platoon for another man and were told there was no one to spare.

We three carried on, but one of our chaps couldn't stay awake for 10 minutes so two of us had to hold the fort. Altogether a hectic four nights and very cold at the end of November.

When we were relieved I was sent down to the NCO school at Poperhinge, but only did one morning on the bull ring there.

Two of the sergeants were personal friends of mine and they found me a nice, soft job?

This turned out to be a trip back to Ypres F.M.O., to join a working party with 3 Field Co. Engineers. Out of the frying pan into the fire.

We had to rise before 2am, have some breakfast, then walk away up the Menin Road, about Hooze, pick up two duckboards (one on each shoulder), kick the snow off them, and off up the track to the duck-walk tracks. There we dumped them and tore off back to repeat the process. We tried to get two trips in before daylight when Jerry's Whizz Bangs would begin to sweep the track.

There were 36 in the party when we arrived but in three weeks there were only three left on their feet. Replacements had also been seriously depleted.

I wasn't slow on the uptake and could see myself being relieved of duty fairly soon.

Sure enough, I got a bump on the head on Boxing Day and started off on a stretcher for C.C.S., and finally landed in England two days later.

To conclude: On my arrival at 3rd Field Ambulance, near Ypres, I struck a bit of unconscious humour. A man I knew well saw me and said:

Are you Jack Coutts?

Yes.

But weren't you killed on The Somme?

No, but I came damn close this time.

## BOWLS REPORT

Sir — As a member of the Kaikoura four who represented Marlborough at the national RSA indoor bowls tournament, I am pleased to report that the team met with a fair amount of success.

(Continued page 13)

Two loosies, two tighties  
and a fullback  
unanimously\* agree  
Lion Beer is best



*\* Well, almost unanimously.*

**Lion Beer**

If you know what's good for you



We were defeated by Wanganui in the semi-finals and were placed fourth. Hastings were the winners.

From an entry of 120 teams only two were from the South Island, and we were among the 35 qualifiers after Saturday afternoon's play.

By Saturday night we were down to the last eight and a win on Sunday morning saw us go into the semis.

In retrospect, I think we had set this as our target, and having reached it, some of the impetus and concentration went out of our game. In addition, the growing crowd of spectators and the pressure probably told on our inexperienced members and we did not perform to the standard we had set earlier.

However, it is a fact that many highly-rated teams have never reached the final four after years of effort, so our first-up attempt can be viewed with some satisfaction.

On behalf of Jack Thorne (s), Bert Smith (2) and Bob Coulbeck (lead) I thank the Marlborough RSA for the opportunity and assistance given in respect of this tournament.

For our fourth placing we each received a canteen of cutlery.

D. W. BIRD, Kaikoura.

★ ★ ★

### The Poor Secretary!

- If the secretary sends a letter, it's too long,*
- If he sends a postcard, it's too short.*
- If he issues a bulletin, he's a spendthrift,*
- If he attends a function, he's butting in.*
- If he stays away, he's a shirker.*
- If he asks for advice, he's incompetent,*
- If he doesn't he's a 'big head.'*
- If he offers a suggestion, he's a 'know-all.'*
- If he says nothing, he's useless.*
- If he asks for subscriptions due, he's insulting,*
- If he doesn't, he's lazy.*
- If a meeting is a success, the committee gets the praise,*
- If it's a failure, the secretary gets the blame.*
- Ashes to ashes, dust to dust.*
- If the others won't do it, the secretary must.*

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Ready to listen - Ready to help.

# MIRACLES DO HAPPEN!

During the unsuccessful attempt by troops of the N.Z. Div to capture Casino and clear the enemy from the forbidding rocky heights of Montecassino, with its ancient monastery founded by St Benedict in the 6th Century, I was attached as signaller with a platoon of 27th Vickers Machine-gun Btn., who were holding a support position at the foot of Trocchio.

Another signaller name Snowy Hilton (now of Nelson) and myself were told one very dark and stormy night to put a telephone line from the platoon's position into the casa of a British brigade HQ about half a mile away, which in due course we successfully accomplished.

Next morning with the benefit of daylight, we went back down the road to further improve the line by tree-ing it here and there so that it would be safe from damage by road transport.

Arriving at the fence fronting the casa we were about to enter the front gate and walk up the pathway, as we had done the previous night.

But we were stopped by a British soldier on guard who said: "Sorry, Kiwis, you can't go in there. The place is lousy with mines so you had better go round the back, which has been cleared, unless of course you want to join two of our blokes who were killed last night!"

Looking over the fence we saw a Sapper busy with a mine detector and a pile of some 20 mines, half of which had been lifted from the pathway we had used the previous night!

## PATIENCE IS A VIRTUE

To reduce bar overheads and help keep prices down, we no longer employ part-time bar staff at peak periods.

★ ★ ★

## IN TOWN FOR THE DAY?

Try lunch at the RSA — 12 noon to 1.30pm  
Monday to Saturday

Snowy and I looked at each other aghast. We told the guard who said: "Oh my God, it's not possible." He looked at us as though we were miracle men from outer space.

But it was all too true, as our line running up the edge of the path proved.

To this day it is still a very special miracle to me, and I am sure that secretly we both remembered our prayers more frequently from then on.

C. M. J. WATSON.

*FOOTNOTE: Since Reg Watson's collapse at Housie one night in March, he has been placed on daily pill medication by his doctor. We overheard Reg telling one of his friends that after taking one of his new pink pills he had to frequently rush for the urinal. The pill is called the "Slow K," but Reg is convinced the chemist has made a mistake and given him the "Fast P."*

## DON'T BE A GRUMBLER

Nothing is easier than fault-finding. No talent is required to set up in the grumbling business. As this business flourishes everything else will wane. Criticism, if it has no active follow-up and reconstruction, leads only to dissatisfaction, strife and slow disintegration. If you are in the grumbling business, burn your stocks, declare yourself bankrupt and begin anew and build.

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requirements see us**

# HISTORY OF THE ROYAL AIR FORCE

CONTINUED FROM LAST MONTH

## FORMATION OF W.A.A.F.

To supplement man-power and to release as many airmen as possible for the more strenuous and combatant duties, a women's branch of the R.A.F. was formed. In April, 1918, a Women's Royal Air Force had been created from a nucleus supplied from the W.A.A.C., W.R.N.S., and Women's Legion: in August, 1938, Air Council revived this Service by taking part in a scheme, under the title of the Auxiliary Territorial Service, which was administered by the War Office but included women enrolled for duty in the R.A.F. When the R.A.F. companies of the A.T.S. were reorganised in January of the following year, they became affiliated mainly to Auxiliary Air Force units. Finally, on June 28, 1939, the Women's Auxiliary Air Force was constituted by Royal Warrant an integral part of the R.A.F., with its own officers, N.C.O.'s and uniform. Within three years there were to be over 50 different Air Force trades staffed by members of the W.A.A.F.

## THE LAST DISPLAY

The last Hendon Air Display, which took place in 1937, was both symbolic of the change and a portent for the future. The previous year "Hurricanes" and "Spitfires," "Wellingtons" and "Whitleys," "Hampdens" and "Lysanders" made their first public appearance: in 1937 there was seen a new co-

The R.A.F. Long-range Development Unit. In 1938 this Unit, flying Vickers "Wellesley" monoplanes, captured the World's Record with a non-stop flight of 7,158½ miles from Egypt to Australia.



In the years between the wars the R.A.F. brought medical and surgical aid to the sparse populations of the East. Many civilian natives were flown to hospital when the need arose. A stretcher case goes aboard a Vickers "Victoria."



"Control without Occupation" No. 30 (B) Squadron flying over Iraq.





ordination of men and machines. Led by Wing Commander Slatter, 260 aircraft, timed to perfection and formed in one great square of 150,000 horse-power, flew at 2,000 feet past the Royal Enclosure. The ground trembled beneath their wings. With flights flying fifty yards apart and squadrons a hundred, only matchless precision and air sense could have combined such a team in united manœuvre. This, the last and greatest of eighteen air displays, ended an era in peaceful aviation.

In the winter of 1927 the R.A.F. evacuated nearly 300 women, children and officials from besieged Kabul over the snow-bound Khyber Pass, north-west India. The machines were Vickers "Vernons" and (illustrated at right) "Victorias"

Much R.A.F. peace-time flying was over inhospitable country like this where lives depended on absolutely reliable engines and aircraft. (Above) A Hawker "Audax" (Rolls-Royce "Kestrel" motor) over Syria,



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## R.S.A. Committees 1979-80

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**FINANCE:**

A. M. Fry (chairman), R. Hemming, V. Anderson.

**MANAGEMENT:**

President, two vice-presidents, treasurer, immediate past-president.

**CHARTER:**

V. Anderson (chairman), Jim Griffiths, Joe Griffiths, R. Hemming.

**WELFARE:**

G. P. Cameron (chairman), A. D. Dick, A. C. Thurlow, R. A. Miller, E. A. R. Bishell.

**PROPERTY:**

G. Gardiner (chairman), A. Gardiner, W. Boddington.

**AWARDS:**

G. P. Cameron (chairman), R. Hemming, G. Gardiner, N. Jellyman.

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- SOCIAL, SPORTING, including GOLF:** A. Gardiner (chairman), R. Bean, S. Robinson, Joe Griffiths.
- CEMETERY:** N. K. Jellyman (chairman), W. Boddington.
- KINDRED ASSOCIATIONS:**
- Marlborough Provincial Patriotic Council:** Mr G. P. Cameron.
- Heritage:** Mr K. Yealands.
- Red Cross:** Mr N. K. Jellyman.
- Llaison Officer A.T.C.:** Mr N. Healy.
- College Outdoor Living:** Mr R. Bean
- Building Improvements Committee**

The above committee has met several times since being appointed at the A.G.M. It has been great to observe the give and take between various interests and meetings have been harmonious. It is believed they will have plans ready to present to the next executive meeting, with regard to additions and alterations.

## **FOR YOUR PRINTING REQUIREMENTS**

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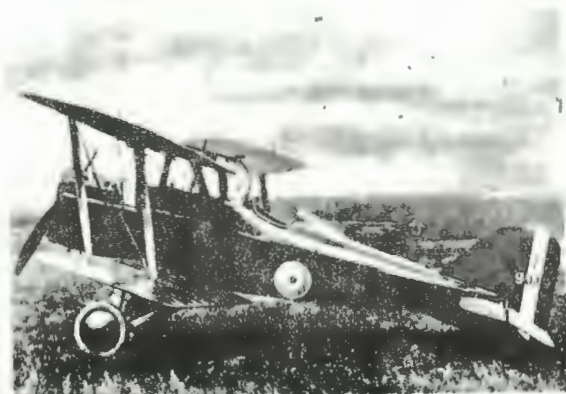
# THEN AND NOW



**Sopwith "Camel."** A single-seater machine of 1918. 130 h.p. 120 m.p.h. Two fixed machine guns.



**"Hurricane II."** Successor to the "Hurricane" which fought in the Battle of Britain. 1,100 h.p. 370 m.p.h. Four 20-mm. cannon.



**S.E. 5a.** Companion to the "Camel" in 1918. 220 h.p. 140 m.p.h. Two fixed machine guns (one on the top plane).



**"Spitfire."** Shared honours with the "Hurricane" in the Battle of Britain. Horse-power—secret, speed—secret, armament—secret, on the latest models.



**Bristol Fighter.** "Fighters" in 1918 were two-seaters. 225 h.p. 113 m.p.h. A movable gun on a ring mounting was carried in the rear cockpit.



**"Beaufighter."** Designed for effective offence by day and night at greater distances than the single-seater fighters.

# THEN AND NOW



**R.E.8.** A corps reconnaissance aircraft, carried one Vickers and one Lewis gun, had a speed of 102 m.p.h. and a ceiling of 13,000 feet.



**"Mustang."** An American machine used in large numbers by the R.A.F. for co-operation with ground troops at speeds of over 300 m.p.h.



**D.H. 9a** in 1918 was one of the most successful day and night bombers used by the R.A.F.



**"Mosquito."** Designed by De Havilland, creator of the B.E. 2c and D.H. 9, this is a light bomber. Made first daylight raids on Berlin, morning and afternoon Jan. 30, 1943.



**Blackburn "Blackbird" Torpedo Carrier.** A single-seater machine in 1918 designed for operation from aircraft carriers.



**Bristol "Beaufort."** A long-range torpedo carrier, designed to operate from shore bases against distant targets.

TO BE CONTINUED NEXT MONTH

# New home for old!

\*\*\*  
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\*7-DAY\*  
TRANSFORMATION



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## **Lunch at the RSA**

WAITRESS: HAWAII soldier. You must be HUNGARY.

SOLDIER: Yes, SIAM. And I can't RUMANIA long either. VENICE is lunch ready?

WAITRESS: I'll RUSSIA table. What'll you HAVRE? AIX or TURKEY?

SOLDIER: Whatever's ready. But can't JAMAICA cook hurry?

WAITRESS: ODESSA laugh! But ALASKA.

SOLDIER: Put a CUBA sugar in my tea.

WAITRESS: Don't be SICILY, SWEDEN it yourself. I'm only here to SERBIA you.

SOLDIER: DENMARK my check and call the BOSPHORUS. I hope he'll KENYA. I don't BOLIVIA you know who I am.

WAITRESS: CANADA noise! I don't CARIBBEAN. You sure are ARARAT.

SOLDIER: SAMOA your wisecracks? What's got INDIA? Do you think this arguing ALPS business? Be NICE.

WAITRESS: ATTU. Don't KIEV me that BOLOGNE! ALAMEIN do! SPAIN in the neck. Pay your CZECHO and scam! ABYSSINIA.

SOLDIER: Yes, I MOSCOW. FINNISH.

---

### **CROSSFIRE MISPRINT**

In last month's issue of Crossfire with regard to attendances at Dominion Conferences in 1962-63-64, read F. Adeane for J. Ahern.

---

**SUPPORT THE ARMY MUSEUM**  
Raffle tickets on sale at bar.

\* \* \*

**PLEASE SUPPORT  
YOUR ADVERTISERS**

## **LET ME LIVE**

*Let me live, O Mighty Master,  
Such a life as man should know;  
Testing triumph and disaster,  
Joy — and not too much of woe.*

*let me run the gamut over,  
Let me fight and love and laugh;  
And when I'm beneath the clover,  
Let this be my epitaph—*

*"Here lies one who took his chances  
In the busy world of men;  
Battled luck and circumstances,  
Fought and fell and fought again.*

*Won sometimes but did no crowing,  
Lost sometimes, but did not wail;  
Took his beating, kept on going,  
Never let his courage fail.*

*He was fallible and human,  
Therefore loved and understood  
Both his fellow men and women,  
Whether good or not so good.*

*Kept his spirits undiminished,  
Never false to any friend,  
Played the game until it finished,  
Lived a sportsman to the end."*

—J. J. GLENNON.

## **TOO SOON — TOO LATE**

So brief a time we have to stay  
Along this dear, familiar way.  
It seems to me we should be kind  
To those whose lives touch yours and mine.

The hands that serve us every day,  
Should we not help them while we may?  
They are so kind that none can guess  
How soon they'll cease our lives to bless.

The hearts that love us, who may know  
How soon the long, long way must go;  
Then might we not their fault forgive  
And make them happy while they live.

So many faults in life there are  
We need not go to seek them far;  
But time is short and you and I  
Might let the little faults go by.

And seek for what is true and fine  
In those whose lives touch yours and mine;  
This seems to me the better way  
Then why not, friend, begin today?

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## CUT THE CARDS

*Life is like a game of poker,  
For you'll always find a joker  
In every deck as you commence to play;  
And you'll learn in the beginning,  
When your mind is set on winning  
That the cards are stacked against you all  
the way.*

*You may trust and treat all fairly,  
You may deal the cards out squarely,  
But friends will try to trim you every time;  
They'll do all they can to hurt you,  
When you're broke they'll all desert you,  
And you'll find life's ladder mighty hard to  
climb.*

*When the chips are piled before you  
All those who did ignore you,  
Will come and tell you that you're fine and  
grand;*

*You will find you friends are many  
Where before you had not any,  
And they'll all be glad to share your winning  
hand.*

*When you're holding all the aces,  
And they come with smiling faces,  
And pretend that they have always been  
your pards;*

*Greet them fondly and believe them,  
Treat them kindly, don't deceive them,  
Trust them all my friend, but always Cut the  
Cards.*

J. J. GLENNON

★ ★ ★

Famous agent James Bond was called to his mother's death bed. "Son," she whispered, "I must confess you are not my husband's son. His brother was your father."

Bond broke into tears. "Oh mother, that means I'm not 007 but the Man from Uncle."

The there was the sailor who had been at sea for six months. On reaching port he headed for the nearest bar. Pointing to a customer who was prone on the floor, he told the barman: "give me a shot of that."

Old age is defined as that period in life when your thoughts turn from passion to pension.

A tomcat and a tabby were courting on the back fence, when the tom leaned over and said: "I'd die for you, you beautiful thing."

The tabby gazed at him longinly and said: "How many times?"

Johnny: I put a stick of dynamite under the teacher's seat today.

Dad: Well, you go right back to school this minute and remove it.

Johnny: What school?

The boxer was sitting at home with a bruised head after being terribly beaten, while his small son was doing his homework.

"Tommy," said the lad's mother, "don't count up to ten anymore — it makes Daddy's head ache!

Entering the darkened room unexpectedly, the mother found her daughter and her boyfriend in a compromising position.

"Well, I never," shrieked the mother.

"But, mother," said the daughter, "you must have."



"I'll bet you have a girl on every planet."

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## SENIOR MEMBERS' BILL OF RIGHTS

That no man should regard me as an object of pity  
That I should be allowed to work as long as I can.  
That when I can no longer work, I should share in the prosperity I have helped create.  
That this share should be mine as a "right" not a "charity."  
That I should be allowed to preserve my dignity while I have breath.  
That I should not be the shuttlecock of politics; my needs listed for prying eyes, to barter for a shilling rise.  
That I should be termed a senior member, and my pension should be known as my dividend from Australia unlimited.  
That I should have a fireside I can call my own.  
That the young should remember;  
That youth is not a patent of this generation — we have all had it.  
That OUR youth was poured into the channels of the public prosperity.  
That regimentation is anathema to us, who fought two wars against that ultimate evil — a world without freedom.  
That it was US who laid down the highway where they now walk in safety.  
That the world they "inherited" was the world WE made.  
That their country's code of honour is the flower of our dreams, our faith, our courage, our truth and our integrity.  
That we would like to share in the affection the world feels for an old tree that has stood upright through a thousand storms.  
And, when the shadow falls on us, we would like to be sure of a place to lay our heads, where gentle fingers would close our eyes and someone would bless us — just because we are human.

S. D. WATSON.

★ ★ ★

**SUPPORT THE ARMY MUSEUM**  
Raffle tickets on sale at bar.

## BOWLERS BEWARE!

Remember the wood you didn't cut?  
The grass that isn't mowed?  
The sole that hangs off junior's shoes,  
Poor kids walking on the road.  
The house, it needs repainting  
It's five years overdue,  
But the flamin' house could fall apart  
It wouldn't worry you.  
The fowls invade the garden  
Of Mrs Jones next door,  
There's a dozen palings off the fence,  
Been off a year or more.  
The garden's like a jungle,  
The weeds, they'd make you cry,  
But the only thing that worries you,  
Is whether your bowl's jack-high.  
We stand for hours in the kitchen,  
Cooking scones and cakes and tarts,  
And you arrive home two hours late  
(Been having a game of darts).  
There was a time, remember?  
When you loved me heart and soul;  
But that was long ago dear  
Now you're married to a bowl.  
So we have joined the bowling club,  
We're going to pay you back;  
For as long as you chase the "Kitty,"  
We're going to chase the "Jack."  
Wednesday's the day we roll them up,  
So if you don't want to get any thinner,  
Might we make a suggestion boys,  
On Wednesday — you cook the dinner!

With acknowledgements to  
Cronulla RSL.



### Redfaced

At a formal dinner, the hostess sent a note to a young lady far down the table.

She turned to the man at her right, saying, "I can't read this without my glasses; would you read it to me?"

He unfolded the note and read aloud: "Dear Betty: I know the man on your right is a frightful bore; but please talk to him."



**TODAY'S GREAT DRINK**

# LETS HAVE A LAUGH . . .

The trouble with being best man at a wedding is that you don't have a chance to prove it.

Most husbands never stop being romantic, but they sure catch hell everytime their wives found out.

She was only the optician's daughter — two glasses and she made a spectacle of herself.

I was just trying to teach my boy that you can't put more in a container than it will hold," complained Bill, "when along came a woman in slacks.

First bride: Does your husband snore when he's asleep?

Second bride: I don't know. We've only been married three days.

An exhausted, bleary-eyed private was asking his C.O. for a transfer. "They made a mistake sir," he said. "they assigned me to the WAACs barracks."

"Good heavens," said the C.O. "When did this happen?"

"About three months ago, sir."

Old blondes never fade — they only dye away.

Notice in car: This vehicle is driven from the right front seat only. Any passengers disagreeing please kiss the mistletoe pinned to the driver's coat-tails.

Husband: "Darling, I've brought home some presents for the one I love best. Can you guess what they are?"

Wife (sourly): "Razor blades, cigars and a bottle of whisky."

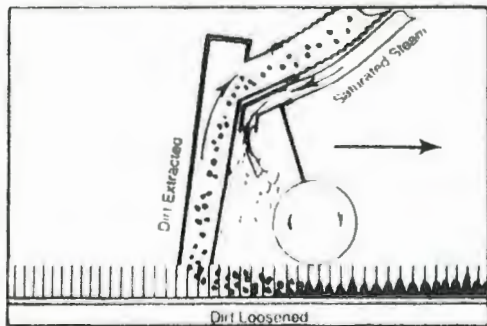
(Continued page 30)

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A young Irish lad, on joining the Army, was bewildered to find himself thrust into a queue outside the quartermaster's store. "What are they doing here then?" he asked the chap in front. "This is where we collect our kit," was the kindly reply. "But what are they calling numbers for?" "Well, they ask your size, you say it, and they'll give you your kit."

"Oh, but I don't know my size."

His newly-found acquaintance eyed the Irish lad up and down and said: "I'll tell you what. You're about one size larger than me, so when they call us, I'll give my size and you give one size larger, O.K.?"

"O.K.," said the Irish lad uncertainly.

The quartermaster, moustache bristling, impatiently roared:

Boots—7s—8s, croaked the Irish lad.

Trousers—4in—5in croaked Irish.

Collar—15in—16in croaked Irish.

Cap—6<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub>—9, 10, 11 croaked Irish.

★ ★ ★

**SUPPORT THE ARMY MUSEUM**  
Raffle tickets on sale at bar.

"Hello, is this the Salvation Army?"

"Yes, it is."

"Do you save bad women?"

Yes, we do."

"Well, save me a couple for Saturday night!"

★ ★ ★

Bill: "I had a bit of bad luck in court this morning."

Bob: "How's that?"

Bill: "I got arrested for kissing a woman; then the Judge saw the woman and fined me \$100 for being drunk."

★ ★ ★

The fellow at the bar kept ordering two drinks at a time. Not doubles, but two singles.

"The other one is for a departed friend," he told the puzzled steward.

This kept up every night for several months. Finally, one night he came in and ordered only one at a time.

"Something happen to your friend?" said the steward.

"No," replied the tippler. "He's fine, bit I quit drinking."

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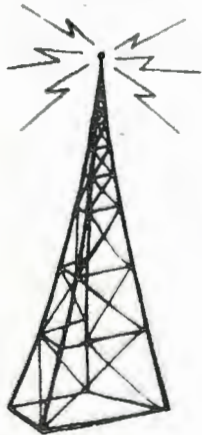
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# PICTON RSA NEWS

Last month we published excerpts from the president's report to the Marlborough RSA Picton branch Inc. and this month we have details and excerpts of the chairman's report to the A.G.M. of the Marlborough RSA (Picton Branch) Club Inc. This is obviously confusing to new associate members and therefore requires an explanation.

Associate members, Home Servicemen and women, and wives and widows of Returned Servicemen are members of the Marlborough RSA Picton Branch Club Inc. and any notices of meetings for you are always titled with the word Club. The club leases the building from the Marlborough RSA Picton Branch Inc.

With these words of confusion, may I now present the CLUB executive for the ensuing year:

Jim Maxwell, Gordon Mattingley, Peter Ashfield, Fred McCall, John Frisken, Ross Fredericks, Jim Cook, Jim Taylor, Bevan Tapp, Mike Everett, Doss Fredericks, Noel Carter, Des Bullen, Tony Scalmer.

The chairman of the club committee will be elected at their first monthly meeting.

Excerpts from the CLUB chairman's report:

On behalf of the club management committee I have pleasure in presenting the annual report for 1978-79.

**OBITUARY:** We record with regret the passing of: Mrs I. Goodwin, Messrs S. Borrie, R. L. Stent, J. Findlater, O. R. Heberd, S. Steel, C. H. N. Mottram, E. W. Charters, R. F. Parkinson and G. Topp.

**MEMBERSHIP:** This stands at 358, made up of 232 RSA, 37 wives and widows from the women's section, 29 HSA and 60 non-RSA, admitted under rule 4d.

**FINANCE:** The club account has been transferred to the Canterbury Savings Bank. A sizeable amount has to go the RSA to repay loans. The Balance Sheet shows the year has been a successful one.

**CHARTER:** As you will note from the balance sheet we have had a large turnover

this past year. To keep ahead of rising costs, more jugs and glasses were purchased. Tanks and beer lines have been cleaned each week, thus keeping our draught beer in perfect condition. Every effort has been made to keep liquor prices as low as possible. My grateful thanks go to all who have done voluntary duty behind the bar, with special mention of Mrs E. Bascand who has been expertly dispensing for three years, and Mrs S. Rowland comes a close second.

Also many thanks to John who prepares the bar roster.

**PROPERTY:** The existing RSA building has been well maintained and was recently repainted. Fire safety equipment has been regularly inspected.

For the benefit of members a pie warmer has been installed in the bar. The pies sold are not for profit, the additional couple of cents is to cover electricity costs.

As difficulty has been experienced in obtaining sufficient ice for the bar and social evenings, the club committee and RSA executive have purchased their own ice-making machine.

**SOCIAL & GAMES:** Several successful social evenings have been held during the year. We would like to see all members patronise them and bring a friend.

The newly-formed RSA Band under the direction of Des York, has proved to be very popular. Many thanks to Des, Les, Tom, Denis and Val for the time they have spent on practice and playing.

The social committee have also had the responsibility of running raffles, which together with social evenings, made a profit of \$4113.30.

(Continued on page 34)

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The billiard table is almost constantly occupied and money received from this was \$1222.

Several pool and darts matches have been played against other organisations.

**GENERAL:** A number of other organisations have held entertaining evenings in our rooms and the Waikawa Play Centre had the use of the upstairs room for their children's Christmas Party.

A deposit has been paid on a second billiard table which will be installed when the new extensions are completed.

Club pennants are now available from the bar.

Our appreciation and thanks to the women's section for their continued co-operation and support.

I am pleased to report that the club continues to be extremely popular with visiting RSA members from other centres, both in N.Z. and from overseas.

Thanks to Margaret Frisken for keeping the premises clean and tidy during the year.

Thanks to Ross Fredericks for transporting a load of coal from Murchison for the club's space heater.

And appreciation and thanks to Bill Abernethy for his valued assistance in the preparation of accounts prior to audit.

Due to sickness and transfers, some members of the committee had to be replaced during the year. Many thanks to Bon Wrightson, who resigned through illness, and to Kevin Harwood and Colin Hall, who were transferred.

**CONCLUSION:** The year for the secretary/treasurer and myself has been a busy and, at times, difficult one and the large amount of work carried out in the back room is possibly not evident to most members.

A huge thank-you to Gordon Mattingley for an excellent job.

I must add that the able assistance of the Vice-Chairman, chairmen of sub-committees and members of the management committee during my year as chairman have made my task a satisfying one.

To anyone who I should have thanked but have not done so, please accept my thanks and apology.

Thank you all for your confidence and support.

JIM TAYLOR, Chairman.

\*\*\*\*\*

**PICTON TELETHON**

On Saturday, June 30, fund-raising within the Club netted \$34 for the Telethon appeal for the Year of the Child. This was a great effort and our president, Jim Maxwell, has asked me to thank all who contributed to the club effort.

\*\*\*\*\*

A captain attached to HQ had brought the new colonel home to dinner.

"Daddy," piped up little Tommy at the table. "Isn't this roast beef we are having."

"Yes, Tommy," replied his father.

"Daddy's such a tease," laughed the little boy as he addressed the colonel at the table. "He told mummy he was bringing old mutton-head for dinner!"

**TO OUR INTREPID CYCLIST — NO NAMES, NO PACKDRILL**

*Returning home from a long evening at the Club, our hero decided to take a short cut across a paddock, forgetting the bull was loose.*

*The bull attacked, not recognising a club member.*

*The unfortunate animal was gripped by the horns and lugged around the field until it managed to break free and bolt.*

*"Pity I had those last two pints," thought our hero. "I ought to have been able to get that chap off his bike."*

★ ★ ★

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## **PICTON WOMEN'S SECTION NEWS**

There were 30 present at the June meeting of the section and they were treated to a highly interesting account of a walk over the Heaphy Track, undertaken by member Phyl Wilkes and husband Eric.

Phyl's thought in bringing along a large map and numerous coloured photos made the trip come alive for those of us unlikely to ever make the walk, we not being blessed with her stamina and fortitude.

When thanking her, our president, Sybil Phillips, called for a vote of thanks, our applause was sincere in our admiration for her effort — but perhaps the thanks was that we ourselves did not have to undertake the trip!

We were pleased to congratulate the former Joyce Baxter on her new status as Mrs J. A. Jenett.

We were pleased to note that Doss Fredericks, one of our section members, was elected to the charter club committee at the annual meeting. Betty Topp, our section delegate and immediate past-president, will doubtless appreciate another female's presence at the meetings.

Before signing off I would like to express appreciation of the fine effort Paul Brodie does in editing Crossfire. It can be no easy task to compile all the material into one very interesting bulletin each month, and enjoyed by so many.

**JOAN M. TAYLOR.**

## **June Executive Meeting Highlights**

Marlborough Search and Rescue Organisation in Blenheim need 10 hand-held radios, each costing \$300. Executive voted them \$300 for the purchase of one set.

Salvation Army Home "Omaio" at Nelson, final payment of \$850 forwarded.

Special committee formed to make a study of best useage of, and any improvements considered necessary, to the clubhouse.

Diggers' elimination bowling tournament scheduled for August 25 to be conducted by men's indoor bowling club on behalf of MRSA.

High school boys to be employed when necessary to assist in cutting firewood, lawns, etc., for some of our disabled and widows.

Transport to be provided for widows to visit Fairhall cemetery on a regular basis following request from women's section.

### **Fashionable**

Suzy: "Say, whatever became of that little girl who ate bullets?"

Duzy: "Her hair grew out in BANGS!"

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## VICTORIA CROSS

As well as those listed, four other New Zealanders serving with the 1st AIF won VCs.

Fourteen Naval and Imperial Army personnel won the Cross during the second Maori War of 1860-72.

One of these, Assistant Surgeon Manley, won the VC at Gate Pa, Tauranga, on April 29, 1864. He later became Surgeon-General and served with a British Ambulance Unit during the Franco-Prussian War and won the Iron Cross (2nd class), being the only man ever to win both the VC and the Iron Cross.

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## PERSONALITY . . . from page 10

Then there was the U.S. Task Force vessel getting torpedoes and tying up to a tree on a small island to effect temporary repairs, with the Marine band playing while the lads manned the capstan — old-time style.

We also entertained on the King George V, a British battleship, at Trin-calomee (Ceylon).

I came back to Blenheim and was mainly involved with the brass band, operatic society, Blenheim Orchestra, choral society and the colleges from 1946 onwards. I still do a little to help these organisations.

I also received the M.I.D. for Distinguished Service while on Achilles during the last 18 months of the war. I don't think they bother too much about that decoration here.

I also served on HMS Nelson in between N.Z. commissions.

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## TELETHON APPEAL

*A total of \$362.38 was raised in the club for the Telethon appeal for the Year of the Child.*

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### IN TOWN FOR THE DAY?

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## NEW MEMBERS

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Susan tried to engage a lawyer for a seduction case against her employer. The attorney told her she had insufficient facts to support the action. She left dejectedly, but returned triumphant the next morning. "He did it again last night."

"Do you know what they call a man who doesn't believe in birth control?"

"No, what?"

"Daddy."

Junior: Daddy, what do you call a person who brings you into contact with the spirit world?

Daddy: A barman, my son.

The Red Indian squaw was explaining the facts of life to her daughter. "The stork not bring papoose, it come by beau and error."

The average man marries a girl because he can't afford to take her out anymore.

★ ★ ★

A group of airmen were drinking in a Tokyo bar when the barman introduced himself as Chow Mein, a former Kamikaze pilot.

They refused to believe him, saying no suicide pilot could have survived.

Then the barman told them his full name was Chicken Chow Mein.



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