

CHALKIES

NEWSLETTER

2/2014

EDITORIAL

We are reporting, in this Newsletter, a sequence of quite extraordinary events related to Chalkies. These include reports on Chalkie gatherings ACROSS THE COUNTRY (!!), the remarkable article on Chalkies in 'The Age' and 'The Sydney Morning Herald' and some forthcoming events for Chalkie.

This Newsletter should keep you up-to-date with the goings-on in this very richly rewarding group we call the 'Chalkies'.

Ian

Greg

BUT FIRST

CHALKIE ARTIFACTS

At a recent planning group meeting of Queensland Chalkies, Vlad Cizauskis (Igam 71/72) was able to produce copies of the magazine 'Poroman' that the Education Sergeants produced in their time at the Military Cadet School. These magazines contained articles written by the cadets AND the Chalkies themselves.

This is an astonishing record of the work of the Chalkies there that we have not seen before. Some of these stories will be 're-published' in the next Journal and is to be looked forward to with some anticipation.

Above and beyond this, these artifacts demonstrate the importance of these 'primary sources' in the telling of our story.

I have raised this point earlier and I would encourage you to track down material that you may have stashed in a cupboard somewhere.

Our way of preserving these is to have them copied and placed on the website through the good work of our webmeister, Frank Cordingley.

So, next time you are having a cleanout

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

ANZAC Day:

Quite a significant number of Chalkies make it their business to march on ANZAC Day. If you have not done this, perhaps you would like to be involved.

Contacting your local RSL is the first step in organising your participation.

Chalkies in the Brisbane area have marched in the main parade through the inner-city streets for some years now with the PIB/NGIB/HQ/PIR Association.

Details of the position in the 2014 March and assembly point are available from Kev Horton, Secretary-Treasurer of the Association (lindyhorton@hotmail.com).

Chalkies in the Sydney area will also be marching again this year. Details are available from Peter Porteous on: pporteous@optusnet.com.au

Reunions:

NSW Chalkies are organising a reunion at Port Stephens on October 9 - 11 and Chalkies across Australia are invited.

Contact Garry Screen (sugaz.screen@gmail.com) for further details of the reunion weekend or to express your interest in attending.

Queensland Chalkies will also be having their reunion in late October. Planning is in the early stages at this time but the likely date and location are as follows:

October 25 at the Kedron-Wavell RSL, Brisbane

This information will be confirmed shortly.

The theme will be the Year of Moem Barracks and the focus is on the particular Chalkie experience in this location.

CHALKIE GATHERINGS HELD THIS YEAR

1. Queensland Planning Group:

A small number of Chalkies and partners met in February this year to plan out the year and discuss issues relevant to the group. Kevin Smith's excellent hospitality ensured a fine get-together.

These hard-working Chalkies can be seen in the photo below.



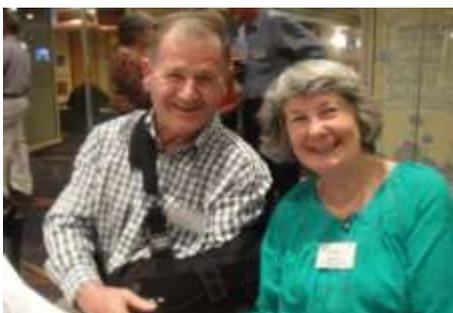
2. Yet another small group of Chalkies met at the Kenmore Tavern, Brisbane last month to talk over old times during a social Lunch.



The photo above shows further evidence of the 'hard yards' being put in by members of the Chalkie group.

3. Nashos Gathering in Perth on 8 March:

Greg Ivey (Qld) visited Perth in March and participated in a large Dinner gathering of WA soldiers. Twenty five ex-Nashos and partners attended the function at the Herdsman Lake Tavern in Wembley and Graeme Johnson reports that an excellent time was had by all. Graeme and Cheryl chose a very good venue and encouraged people to bring memorabilia. Well done WA Nashos and we trust that such gatherings will continue.



Bob and Margy Mason



John Moore, Graham Leader, John Stringfellow



Lorellyn and Laurie Bowman



John Moore (Yes, he is in his original PIR gear!! Well done!!)



Graeme Johnson, John Ford, Ian MacKay



Brian Haines, Bob Daniel



John Stringfellow, Graeme Johnson, John Fragomeni

4. Chalkie Gathering in Melbourne 3 March

Please visit our Website (www.nashospng.com) to see photos of the 14 Nashos enjoying Lunch at Docklands. Click on 'Photo Gallery' then 'Reunions'.

FINAL WORD

CHALKIE ARTICLE IN THE 'SYDNEY MORNING HERALD' AND 'AGE' NEWSPAPERS

This 15 February article by author Mark Dapin has been greeted with much interest and excitement. Well done to those involved.

We believe that it was a comprehensive and well-presented article that finally gave some exposure to the wider community of our remarkable and unusual experience of National Service.

It is really an important landmark in our quest to have the story told.

For anybody who has not read it, we highly recommend it. Please visit the Home Page of our website (www.nashospng.com) to read the article.

Best wishes to you all,

Ian and Greg