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*55/53 Aust. Inf. Bn. Association  
("The Mice of Moresby")*

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**(in association with the 55th & 53rd  
Infantry Battalion 1<sup>st</sup> A.I.F.)**

**BATTALION NEWSLETTER &  
Orderly Room Gossip March 2010**

N T Scowan, J H McCarthy, C P Morrell, W D Walker, R A Davis, J S Spiller, R Robinson, T A Harper.

**LEST WE FORGET**

To the families of our "Fallen Comrade" we extend our sincere sympathies and assure them that we are gathered together.

**WE WILL REMEMBER THEM**

It is with much regret to advise the passing of our second president in 2 years.

President Trevor Harper passed away on 15<sup>th</sup> February after a short illness. For over twenty years Trevor worked tirelessly for this association and will be dearly missed.

**President's Report**

Because of Trevor's passing there will not be a report this edition.

The committee has elected Charles Jennings to the position of president and I am sure he will do a great job. Congratulations Charles.

**Anzac Day:**

We will be gathering at the normal spot in Bligh St and expect to move off at 10.30 Hours.

Your committee asks that all marchers be appropriately attired and that sets of medals are not separated. The reunion lunch following the march will be at the NSW Leagues Club, 165 Phillip St. It will consist of a buffet and the cost will be \$20.00 per person. Please complete the enclosed form so that catering numbers can be advised.

A big thank you to Beverley Dawson for once again preparing an entertaining and interesting Orderly Room Gossip.

Donations received since the last Newsletter:

A. Putland, J. Newbould, J. Firth, A. Westwood, C. Meredith, T. Denny, J. Price, V. Piper, A. Burling, A. Nall, J. Pringle, G. Johnson, D. Drayton, G. Wearne, N. Porter, B. Mathew, L. Longbottom, C. James, Covey Bros, T. Tierney, B. Walsh, K. Richards, E. Fraser, F. Denny, F. Bilson, C. Cover, R. Marden, T. Harper, N. & S. Harris, W. Flanagan, H. Lowe, C. Parsons, L. Hitchens, B. Thorburn, C. Jennings, R. Gentles, N. King, R. Millbank, J. Stevens, L. Abeshouse. If I have missed anyone please advise.

Clyde Parsons Hon. Sec.



Welcome back we hope you all had a good break over the holidays.

The years are passing us so fast it is hard to keep up with the fashions. A lot that I would not be wearing anyway. Where has all the style gone.

Again, it has been a sad time for we have lost so many of our comrades. Our numbers are dwindling in droves but thanks to the descendants our memories and sacrifices will not be easily forgotten for our banner will always be held high for all to remember that we were there and our sacrifices were not in vain.

Thank you to those who have contributed to the Orderly room gossip, all your items have been welcomed with great interest. It was brought to my attention that people know very little about the other battle that seems to have been forgotten, so this issue has been dedicated to those who have not forgotten the SANDAKAN-RANAU DEATH MARCH, were our MICE were involved and suffered great hardship.

So to all those who do remember THANK YOU.

See you all on ANZAC DAY.

**(Transcribers note:** The rest of the report concerns the harrowing tale of the Sandakan-Ranau death march. It has not been transcribed at the story is so dreadful. I could not reproduce the stories of hardship and violence meted out by Japanese soldiers to Australian and British Prisoners, whose rights under the Geneva convention were ignored. There are many monographs that have been published in the intervening 75 years; I suggest the reader seek these out if they wish).