

JOTTINGS OF JILL



Sergeant Laurie Proud, of Stradbroke, and Pte. Alan Beare received a rousing reception at the A.N.A. old-time ball on Thursday night. Their presence was announced and the crowd cheered enthusiastically. Laurie won the D.C.M. and Alan has just returned from a prisoner of war camp in Germany.

The old-time ball held at the Mechanics' Hall on Thursday night was an outstanding success. More than 476 attended and the hall was tastefully decorated for the occasion. The circular waltzing competition attracted a large field and the award went to Mrs. Williams and Mr. D. McMullen, who received continued applause. During an interval, the president (Mr. G. Doultree) called on the Mayor (Cr. C. F. Shellew) to present a cheque. Cr. Shellew, making the presentation to Mr. C. E. Cartledge for the R.S.L. Distress Fund, referred to the fine charitable work done by the A.N.A. during the war and hoped that it would continue. Mr. Cartledge thanked Cr. Shellew and the A.N.A. for their fine work over a lengthy period. The organisation had benefitted many good

causes. The ladies of the R.S.L. Auxiliary and the Old-Time Dance Committee provided an excellent supper.

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Writing to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. P. Jordan, of Sale, Sgt. Sid Jordan (A.I.F.), who is attached to the South-East Asia Command at Kandy, Ceylon, describes the seven days trip from Melbourne and the bright surroundings he is in. Leaving Melbourne by Liberator on Wednesday, he arrived at Colombo on Friday afternoon, a fast and comfortable trip. A member of the A.I.F., Sid said that the issue of the 1939-45 and Pacific Stars was made just before he left. The job he has taken is chief clerk of the Australian Mission. He has found the English troops most helpful.

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Mrs. Bernard McMahon is in Melbourne for the school vacation, with her two girls. They are at Middle Park, where they will remain for a few more days before returning to Sale. Mr. B. McMahon returned to Sale on Thursday.

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Mr. Tom Purcell has received his discharge from the Army and is home with his bride-to-be, Miss Gladys Kieffe, of Sydney.

Mrs. J. Morrison and Miss J. Henderson, of Metung, were in Sale last week-end, to attend Eric Sorenson's 21st birthday party.

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Cpl. Marjory Sorensen, of West Sale, has been spending an enjoyable leave at Marlo and Metung.

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Able Seaman Fred Dryden, of H.M.A.S. Quickmatch, writing home

THE SCOTSMAN FRED DRYDEN, of H.M.A.S. Quickmatch, writing home from Tokio to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dryden, Stratford Road, tells them of exciting incidents in the seas off Japan before the Japs "threw in the towel." He tells of one occasion when a "Kamahaze" (Japanese suicide plane) was reported coming, and the Quickmatch was ordered to take up a position one cable's length behind a carrier, with three other destroyers stationed on the other side. Fred says this Kamahaze took a vertical dive from about 30,000 ft. straight at the carrier and must have been doing 700 m.p.h. when it "hit the drink" between the destroyer and the carrier, which managed to swing out of the way. On another occasion the carrier the attacked from the air by 16 Jap torpedo bombers, but they were all shot down by the Fleet fighter screen before they had a chance to do any damage. Fred says the fighting planes of the Fleet did some wonderful work, and they saw some thrilling dog-fights overhead.

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In a letter to relatives in Sale, Private Harry Hook, who has been a prisoner of war since the fall of Java, states that he is well and hopes to be home in November. He was a prisoner in East Thailand where prisoners of war suffered casualties as a result of raid by B29's. He said that he had suffered from typhus, malaria and a few tropic ulcers, but had become acclimatised to the diet of rice, of which he had had 4000 consecutive meals. He added that the end of the war in their area was a tame and disappointing affair. At the time of writing, September 5, he had not met anyone from Sale.

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The Superintendent of the Gippsland Hospital (Mr. G. L. Cameron) will attend the Country Hospitals conference in Melbourne this week. Mrs. Cameron will travel to Melbourne, where Judith returns to M.L.C.

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Private and Mrs. Les Jordan are spending a few days leave with Mr. and Mrs. P. Jordan, of McCole Street, Sale. We are glad to see Les looking fit and well after spending the past month in Heidelberg Military Hospital.

A bright welcome home party to Alan Beare, who returned to Sale on Wednesday after being a prisoner of war for four years in Germany, was held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Anderson on Saturday night. More than 30 attended and the welcome was extended by Mr. M. C. Beresford, who on behalf of his many friends, welcomed Alan back and hoped that his future would be happy and prosperous. He was supported by Mr. Chas. Smith. In response Alan said that he appreciated the welcome. It was great to be back again. At a later stage, a welcome was also accorded Jack Reid, who was a prisoner in the same camp in Austria.

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An interesting ceremony took place in the gardens of the Gippsland Hospital on Saturday afternoon when Mrs. Hagenauer and Miss Hagenauer, accompanied by Mr. R. G. Howard and the Superintendent (Mr. G. L. Cameron) planted a golden poplar in memory of the late Dr. G. A. Hagenauer in a spot selected by the Doctor prior to his death, as a place where a poplar should go to improve the grounds.

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Mrs. W. Gray and Mrs. Henderson, of Lakes Entrance, are visiting Sale.

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Miss Vic. Macdonald, of Melbourne, has returned to the city after a short holiday spent at "The Hill," Maffra.

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Lieut.-Col. Gwynne Hopkins and Mrs. Hopkins have been visiting his sister, Mrs. R. Cobain, at Sale for a few days.

The marriage of Meta Patricia, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Murphy, of Linden, Lindenow, to Flight-

phy, of Linden, Lindenow, to Flight-Lieut. James Donald McIntosh, of Lis-more, N.S.W., was celebrated at Our Lady of Victoria Church, Camberwell, on Saturday.

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The many friends of W/O. Alex Kelly (R.A.A.F.), of Briagolong, will be pleased to know that he has arrived back in Australia and reached Darwin per plane on Friday last. He was one of those who worked on the Siam-Burma railway.

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Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. John Shears on the safe arrival of a son (Peter Owen) at the Gippsland Hospital, Sale, on September 2.

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Wing-Commander Ron Fisher, who was in command of No. 4 R.A.A.F. Hospital for some time, from which he was posted to the North, paid a brief visit to Sale last week. He was accompanied by Group-Captain Robert Dalton, late C.O. at West Sale.

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A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. G. Dethridge, of Maffra, at the Gippsland Hospital last week.
