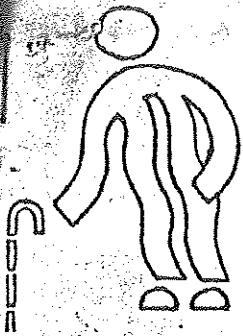


WATERY SAUCES OLDIES & BODIES

(Officially known as Q.W.R.C. Retired Officers Association)



NEWSLETTER NO 2

of the WRC Retired Officers Association

December 1989

Your Association's Committee members would like to take this opportunity to wish all retired officers and their families very good health and happiness and a prosperous year for 1990. Thanks for your support over the past year and we look forward to your continued association with the group's activities in the coming year.

RETIREMENTS

Since the September newsletter the following officers have announced their retirement:

Viv Wright	South East Region	8 January
Tony Coutts	Planning Division	24 November
Maurie Watts	Rockhampton	12 January
Norm Smith	Local Authority	29 January

VALE

Oscar Dyson who retired in 1988, died 19 September 1989. Helmer Kermilt died 28 October. Helmer was employed in the Commission's Design Division at the time of his death.

GET WELL CALLS

Sincere best wishes for speedy recoveries for -

COL LLEWELLYN who is still confined to the Canossa Hospital, at 17 Mile Rocks Road, Oxley, following his very debilitating stroke in November, 1988.

HENRY HANNAM who spent from July to October in Greenslopes Hospital having extensive facial surgery. Lottie was down with him, being accommodated at adjacent Red Cross facilities. After a period of recuperation at home in Cairns, they're due back in mid January for further treatment.

ARTHUR PAYNE who has just come home from having major surgery in Greenslopes Hospital.

BILL CATLING who is convalescing at home and very restricted in his activities

HARRY WRIGHT is also at home but having to take things very quietly. Good to see GARNEY JOHNSON out and about again after his illness. FRANK LEARMONTH seems to have bounced back in "Hearty" fashion from his heart problems, even though perhaps not quite as "Hale" as previously. LEN REDMOND pursuing a quiet course, getting on top of that blood pressure.

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS

Hearty congratulations are extended to MORRIS OCHERT for his being awarded the Order of Australia for service to the community, and also to Halina Netzel (wife of Karol) who also was awarded the Order of Australia for service to the community.

COMMISSION SITUATION

A message is attached from the Commissioner and another from the Minister explaining plans for the development of the new Department of Primary Industries.

ACTIVITIES

A thoroughly pleasant bus trip to Toowoomba on 19 September to view, and wander through some of the prize winning gardens in the Carnival of Flowers Competition was enjoyed by 37 of our members, families and friends. A convivial picnic lunch in Toowoomba's Queen's Park, some fruit and vegetable shopping on the way home, with an overall coating of gregarious "chatting" and "bon ami" completed a nice day.

The Annual Christmas Lunch was held at Petrie Mansions in late November. A record attendance of 54 again really enjoyed a pleasant get-together, and all seemed to be pleased with the change of venue. Nice one Noel and Rhonda.

Many thanks from the attendees to anyone involved in the organisation of the above functions. Well Done!!

NOTES FROM TRAVELLERS

A Visit to Iceland

by

Alan Wickham

A meeting of the International Commission on Large Dams (ICOLD) in Copenhagen last July was followed by several study tours, and gave Joan and I the opportunity of visiting an interesting country well off the usual tourist route - ICELAND. So far off the beat in fact that making flight bookings for the required dates presented some difficulties and in the event our planning was foiled by schedule changes and unavoidable delays.

Iceland in mid-Atlantic, just below the Arctic Circle, is half as large again as Tasmania, with a population of about 250 000. It is a land of great contrasts, having extensive glaciers on the one hand, and active volcanoes and geothermal activity on the other. Among the glaciers, Vatnajokull is Europe's largest; of the volcanoes the best known is Hekla which erupts periodically. A new island, Surtsey, appeared off the south coast recently, and is providing scientists with a case-study in colonisation of a barren landscape.

Our visit took place in mid summer, and although we did not see the midnight sun, it never really got dark and we saw water skiing on a northern fjord at 11.30 one night. The winter is so severe that, as in other Scandinavian countries, the locals seem to exist on very little sleep through summer. So the tourists don't get much either! The mild summer climate is ideal for travelling, and the Icelanders do a lot of motoring, cycling and camping, even in the most inaccessible places.

The permanent glaciers and winter snows provide strong river flows in summer and many hydro-electric schemes have been constructed on the main streams to provide the country's power requirements. The geothermal activity has been harnessed in many places to provide hot water and domestic heating in winter. A high standard of living and comfort is thus achieved from these natural power sources.

Iceland's main industry is fishing - remember the Cod War with Great Britain? - and this, together with some hand crafts and tourism (small but developing) sustains an obviously sound economy. Houses, public buildings and hotels are generally modern and of high quality. The people are friendly and hospitable, and possess a long history and highly-developed culture based on the oldest living language on earth, which they are keen to share with visitors.

Add to this the scenic grandeur, including many spectacular waterfalls, and the high level of technological development, and you will see that Iceland is indeed a most fascinating place to visit!

Jules Verne - Phileas Fogg Record Smashed

Around the World in 63 days - by Joan and Stan Ross.

July 10. By British Airways to London. A week around London, an 18 day "Insight" coach tour of England, South Ireland, Wales and Scotland, a 14 day "Insight" coach tour of Central Europe, a week's hire-car trip around the coast of South Western England, then to Vancouver per B/A for four days, a week's "Tauck" coach tour of the Canadian Rockies, then back home on 11 September via Hawaii and Cairns by Qantas, briefly sums up this trip. All tours, car-hire, accommodation etc., were pre-arranged, and thankfully nothing went wrong. The weather was better than could have been expected (95% fine and sunny), and we won the Ashes. A good time to be in England - the finest summer for 13 years.

Saw Jack and Romy Squires in the Strand, enjoying their trip away

Beer Testing in Shaky Isles

Ernie and Lorraine Melville reckon the shaking around doesn't do it any harm at all. They had an Aust-Pacific 14 day coach tour on both islands in July. Reported that its a good time to go - out of the peak tourist season so there were no crowds, and there was plenty of snow to show off the lovely scenery of the South Island. Ernie suggested as a trip to others that 21 days might have been better to get a more extensive coverage.

A Return to Home Town

Bernie and Sherry Credlin have recently returned from a month or so southern car tour including visits to younger daughter Patricia's new home in Wagga, and for Bernie back to the old home town and family in Wycheproof in Central Western Victoria.

NOTE TO TRAVELLERS

Drop me a note or make a phone call, and tell us what you've been doing. I'm sure you'd like to give some tips or answer any queries that potential trippers might like to ask.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

1. Boat trip to St Helena - This has been arranged for Wednesday 4 April. This is a boat trip, barbecue lunch, and guided tour of St Helena, and was one of the popular choices indicated by the returned questionnaires.
2. Annual General Meeting - The Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday 19 April, 1990 at 11:00 am in the Conference Room, on the 13th Floor, Mineral House.

This is the time for election of Committee members for the ensuing year. I've seen or heard a comment or two about the Committee being too much like the old heirarchy of the Commission. Well, the Committee are elected by a democratic system. Only those nominated and elected by the meeting go onto the Committee. I'm certain, none of the current office bearers would be hurt or offended by other nominations, so, April 19th is the time to make your nominations, and exercise your democratic right.

RETURNED LETTERS

Newsletters and other correspondence from some of our members have been returned "Not at this address". If you know the present address of any of the following please advise Noel Ullman on 349 8048 or Carol Davison on 224 8287:

F Charters
6 Driftwood Street
SUNNYBANK

K Ruddell
105 Blackwood Road
MITCHELTON

CALL FOR ITEMS

I'm always very pleased to be given news items that could be of interest. Sorry if your news wasn't in this one, but you didn't tell me, did you?

Address: Stan Ross
3 Connery Street
MCDOWALL QLD 4053

Phone (07) 353 1145

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks again to Gillian Pickersgill and Carol Davison for all their assistance in producing this edition, and to Tom Fenwick for his and the Commission's help.

HAPPY NEW YEAR