

## **GOOD NEWS OF BENALLA DISTRICT SOLDIERS**

The splendid news of the safety of soldiers who left Benalla district in the early stages of the war and who have not been heard of since the fall of Singapore, was received with great joy during the week.

### **LIMA SOLDIER SAFE AND WELL.**

There was great joy in Lima, Swanpool and surrounding districts when it was learned that Mr and Mrs Chas. Essenhigh, of Lima, had received word after 14 months' absence that their son, Private Alf Essenhigh, who was a prisoner of war in Japanese hands, was safe and well. Alf was well known throughout the districts named.

### **BENALLA SOLDIER WOUNDED.**

Private Jim Howell, who is well known to many Benalla residents, and who was missing as Singapore fell, is now a prisoner. In a card to his wife, who resides in Benalla, he stated that he was wounded.

### **PARENTS OVERJOYED.**

Mr and Mrs H. J. Hardy, of Gillies Street, were overjoyed on Tuesday at receiving the good news of their son, Pte. Harry Hardy, from a Japanese prison camp. His card stated—"Came through all right, still doing well, love to all." Over two and a half years elapsed before Mr and Mrs Hardy received any news as to the whereabouts of Harry, who was well known in sporting circles in Benalla.

**Mrs Mark Joy, of Cunningham Street, Benalla, this week received a 25 word letter card from her husband, who is a prisoner of war in Japanese hands. He said he was being well treated and was in the best of health. The last Mrs Joy heard of her husband was during the Malayan campaign, and some time ago she received word that he had been taken prisoner.**

**Mr and Mrs Fred Gray have also received word that their son, Private W. Gray, whose safety has been unknown for some considerable time, is now a prisoner in a Japanese camp.**

**Private Ben McFarlane, who conducted a hairdressing saloon in Bridge Street some years ago, and who is well known to many Benallaites, is also a prisoner.**

**Other Benalla soldiers now prisoners of war are Private Boyce, formerly manager of Hattam's, Private P. Turnor, of Nixon Street, and Private Tim Cogger, who is well known amongst the younger folk; Corporal Jim Kirkby, son of Mr and Mrs Kirkby, of Bridge Street.**

**There was jubilation at Goorambat when it was learned that Captain Lloyd Trewin, son of Mr and Mrs P. Trewin, of Goorambat, is now a prisoner.**

**Mrs Elliott, of Lurg, was overjoyed when she informed her friends in Benalla yesterday, that her son, Stan, was now safe and well, he being a prisoner of war.**

**Private Robt. Evans, son of Mr and Mrs Mark Evans, of Lima South, is also a prisoner of war, his parents having received the good news yesterday.**

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### **WARRENBAYNE LAD PRISONER OF WAR.**

Mr G. W. Jensen, of Warrenbayne, received the good news on Monday last that his son, Private Bert Jensen, who had previously been reported as missing, was a prisoner of war. The first notification was a telegram from the authorities, and that afternoon he received a letter card from Bert which read: "Am being treated very well, so there is no cause to worry. My health is good and I hope you folks are the same. Remember me to Esma and all my friends."

When Singapore fell, Bert was reported as missing, and his father has been the recipient of many congratulations on the wonderful news that his son is safe and well. Bert was the youngest Warrenbayne resident to join the A.I.F.

### **HEARS FROM HUSBAND AFTER 19 MONTHS.**

Mrs Kennedy of 24 Byrne Street, Benalla, this week received a letter card from her husband, Driver Phil. Kennedy, for the first time in nineteen months. Phil is a prisoner of war, and on a card said "Keep your chin up. I am quite well. Give my love to all at home. Treatment good."

Mrs Kennedy was thrilled to receive the note, and to know that her husband is safe and well. The card was dated July, 1942.

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