



# THE SUB BRANCH SIGNAL

DOING BUSINESS WITH RSL  
8.30 AM — 4.30 PM

#### ANZAC House & Reception

28 St Georges Terrace, Perth  
PO Box 3023  
Perth Adelaide Terrace WA 6832  
Website: [www.rslwahq.org.au](http://www.rslwahq.org.au)  
Email: [rslwahq@iinet.net.au](mailto:rslwahq@iinet.net.au)  
Tel: (08) 9287 3799  
Fax: (08) 9287 3732  
Country Callers : 1800 259 799

#### Chief Operating Officer

Monday to Friday  
Email: [rslwahq@iinet.net.au](mailto:rslwahq@iinet.net.au)  
Tel: 9287 3799

#### Administration Manager

Monday to Friday  
Assist to State President & CEO  
Email: [rslwahq@iinet.net.au](mailto:rslwahq@iinet.net.au)  
Tel: 9287 3702

#### Membership

Monday to Thursday  
Membership Enquiries  
Sub Branch Enquiries  
Email: [membership@rslwahq.org.au](mailto:membership@rslwahq.org.au)  
Tel: 9287 3705

#### Welfare

Monday to Friday  
Welfare Applications  
Emergency Housing  
Food & Lodging Grants  
ASS&AR Trust Fund Applications.  
Overseas Pensions  
Email: [welfare@rslwahq.org.au](mailto:welfare@rslwahq.org.au)  
Tel: 9287 3707

#### Advocacy

Monday to Friday  
S31 Reviews  
Veteran Review Board,  
Admin Appeals Tribunal  
Email: [advocate@rslwahq.org.au](mailto:advocate@rslwahq.org.au)  
Tel: 9287 3708

#### Finance

Monday to Friday  
All Account Enquiries  
Sub Branch Credits  
Sub Branch Insurance  
Information, Claims  
Grant Application Assistance  
DVA & Lotterywest (ABN, tax)  
Email: [helenb@rslwahq.org.au](mailto:helenb@rslwahq.org.au)  
Tel: 9287 3703

#### Pensions

Monday to Friday  
Pension Entitlements  
Claims Preparation  
Email: [pensions1@rslwahq.org.au](mailto:pensions1@rslwahq.org.au)  
[pensions2@rslwahq.org.au](mailto:pensions2@rslwahq.org.au)  
Tel: 9287 3710 or 9287 3711

#### ANZAC Club

Monday to Friday  
Facilities Bookings  
Catering & Hospitality  
Email: [anzacclub@rslwahq.org.au](mailto:anzacclub@rslwahq.org.au)  
Tel: 9287 3714

#### Listening Post

Monday to Friday  
Editorial Staff  
Email: [listeningpost@rslwahq.org.au](mailto:listeningpost@rslwahq.org.au)  
Tel: 9287 3716

## ANZAC Day 2011

From reports received it would appear as though Sub Branches and local communities are well on the way to presenting Commemorative Services to mark the 96<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ANZAC Day. Through community support and the generosity of *Lotterywest* we are able to present dignified services throughout Western Australia to mark this very special anniversary. With ANZAC Day falling within the Easter break this year we do not anticipate any reduction in attendance at Commemorative Services for veterans and members of the public to recognise the sacrifices made by our Service Men and Women. It's that one day in the year when all Australians remember those who serve and have served their country.

In Perth, the Dawn Service will be conducted under the same arrangements as previous years with Rover Scouts maintaining the night vigil leading into the traditional Dawn Service. We anticipate a public attendance of around 45, 000 and logistical arrangements are well in hand to accommodate that number. Full details of public transport and ceremonial arrangements will be published in *The West Australian* newspaper on Thursday 21 April.

Following the Dawn Service there will be a Gunfire Breakfast in Stirling Gardens to which the general public are invited.

The 2011 ANZAC Day March will follow a different route this year due to road changes in the Perth CBD. Full details relating to Form Up locations and other arrangements are still being finalised and will be released in newspapers and on RSL Website at a later date.

## Centenary of ANZAC

The announcement by government of funding allocation to WA submissions for the commemoration of the Centenary of ANZAC was recently announced. The endorsement of the Albany initiative should ensure the centenary commemorative activities continue to get community support. We are hopeful that WA will receive additional financial support from other funding sources to present activities that will acknowledge the contribution that was, and still is being made, to the defence of our country by our defence force personnel.

The Albany Project was recently reported in *'The West Australian'* by Malcolm Quekett and he wrote:

*"A re-enactment of the departure from Albany of ships carrying soldiers to World War 1 and an interpretive centre could play a major role in the commemoration of the ANZAC centenary. The projects have been endorsed in a report to the Federal Government by the National Commission on the commemoration of the ANZAC Centenary..."*

*The report said Albany had a rich ANZAC heritage and in 1914 had been the gathering point for ships carrying forces that became known as the ANZACs*

*It recommended a commemorative event be held at Albany and broadcast nationally, which could include assembling ships in King George Sound on November 1, 2014 to represent the first convoy. Ships from allied countries that were former enemies could also be invited.*

*The commission also recommended the development of an interpretative centre on Mount Adelaide in Albany with panoramic views of King George Sound."*

The planning committee is to be congratulated on a successful outcome to their well prepared and presented submission to government.



### [New Constitution](#)

A writing team has commenced revising the State Constitution and expects to circulate the Revised Constitution (first draft) to Sub Branches within the next two weeks. Our Legal Advisors believe the rewrite is necessary as we progress our application to have RSL classified as an Association at a higher Taxation Status than that which currently exists.

If our proposed structure is accepted by members and endorsed by Corporate Affairs there will be significant benefits to members and Sub Branches. Consideration of the new governance model is a move RSL must consider. The rewrite will ensure a more equitable and inclusive structure for decision making within the organisation. In the meantime, members and Sub Branches are assured that the current Rules and By Laws are the ones under which we will operate. There will be no change until the membership has had an opportunity to debate and vote on the proposals at a forthcoming Special General Meeting.

### [New Online Health Assistance](#)

Two new websites are being piloted to provide the ex-service community with access to vital health resources, the Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Minister for Defence Science and Personnel, Warren Snowdon, announced today.

Mr Snowdon said the sites, the *Wellbeing Toolbox* and *touchbase*, have been developed specifically for ex-service and transitioning personnel, their families and friends to help them face challenges that moving from military to civilian life may present.

The *Wellbeing Toolbox* provides interactive educational material in key areas such as problem solving, building support, helpful thinking, getting active, keeping calm and sleeping better and has been developed in conjunction with leading experts at the Australian Centre for Posttraumatic Mental Health.

The *touchbase* website, developed jointly by Defence and the Department of Veterans' Affairs provides information on lifestyle issues such as employment and finances, and is a one-stop-shop for useful links on topics ranging from compensation and finances to health, housing and parenting support.

The *Wellbeing Toolbox* can be accessed at [www.wellbeingtoolbox.net.au](http://www.wellbeingtoolbox.net.au) and *touchbase* at [www.touchbase.gov.au](http://www.touchbase.gov.au)

### [Flags for Funerals of Australian War Veterans](#)

Australian War Veterans are entitled to have an Australian National Flag for use at their funerals. Upon completion of the Service, the flag is then presented to the surviving spouse or family members on behalf of a grateful national.

Flags are available from a Federal Member of Parliament, or Flagworld.

### [Japanese War Records](#)

The Australian Government welcomes Japanese Foreign Minister Maehara's apology to Australian Prisoners of War (POWs) for the horrors they endured under Japanese control in World War II.

Foreign Minister Maehara's apology was made in a spirit of reconciliation during the visit to Japan of five former Australian POWs and their carers under the auspices of the Japan-POW Friendship Group.

Foreign Minister Maehara also announced Japan would return to Australia historical records of former Australian POWs held by Japan during World War II.

Minister Snowdon said the Japanese records may shed light on the fate of the members of Lark Force, many of whom were lost when the Japanese transport *Montevideo Maru* was sunk by a US submarine in 1942.

"The Government recognises that there are families who remain uncertain about the fate of those captured by the Japanese during World War II," said Mr Snowdon.

The records are expected to be housed in the Australian War Memorial.

### ***WA AGED RETURNED SAILORS, SOLDIERS & AIRMEN'S RELIEF TRUST FUND***

**Ready to Assist  
Veterans and Dependents in  
Need or Necessitous  
Circumstances**

**Apply: Welfare Officer  
(08) 9287 3707**





### [Rehabilitation for Wounded Soldiers](#)

The Minister for Veterans' Affairs and the Minister for Defence Science and Personnel, Warren Snowdon, visited the United States of America earlier in March to examine the best practice medical research and techniques in rehabilitation and support for Australia's wounded soldiers.

"The Australian Government is committed to providing the best support available to our wounded troops and, through innovative research and continued collaboration with other countries, we will go a long way in achieving this," Mr Snowdon said.

Mr Snowdon said the Defense Advanced Research Project Agency has a prosthetics program that aims to build a realistic prosthetic arm-hand combination that allows the wearer to control it naturally by using the brain.

"This will restore a level of independence to amputees and patients with spinal cord injuries. I believe we owe it to our injured personnel to investigate all options for rehabilitation and such advanced technology would contribute significantly to their recovery," Mr Snowdon said.

To look at continuing Australian research, Mr Snowdon will meet with the Deputy Secretary of Defense for Military Personnel Policy, Ms Virginia Penrod, on the Support to Wounded, Injured or Ill (SWIIP).

This project is a joint effort between the Australian departments of Veterans' Affairs and Defence, and is developing a whole-of-life framework for the care of the wounded, injured or ill Australian Defence Force Members.

It will enhance support for members with complex or serious medical conditions transitioning to civilian life, improve information sharing between DVA and Defence relating to injury or illness, with plans to streamline and simplify compensation claims handling; and simplify processes involved in applying for, and acceptance of liability for compensation," Mr Snowdon said.

"I want to ensure that any lessons learnt from the US experience can be used to strengthen our programs for ADF personnel who are wounded, injured or ill," he said.

### [Membership Statistics as at 29 March 2011](#)

Service members	7,180
Affiliate Members	679
Total Members	7,859

### [Bowl Cancer Month](#)

Cancer Council Western Australia would like to invite RSL Clubs to apply for a 2011 Bowel Cancer Education Community Grant. The grant can be used to host an event within your community in June to raise awareness and share information about bowel cancer, Australia's second most common cancer.

Successful grant recipients will receive Cancer Council resources, a speaker and \$150 to go towards healthy catering, venue hire or fun activities for the bowel cancer event (and the bowel cancer event only).

We are encouraging everyone to apply for the grant, and applications need to be in by April 29. If you would like to apply for the grant please email Alycia at [Aholland@cancerwa.asn.au](mailto:Aholland@cancerwa.asn.au) to receive your application package.

### [Funding Boost for the Australian War Memorial](#)

Prime Minister Julia Gillard reaffirmed earlier this month the Government's ongoing commitment to the Australian War Memorial, announcing an additional \$8m per year to support its ongoing operations.

The increased financial support is the result of a comprehensive review ordered by the Prime Minister on funding arrangements for the Australian War Memorial.

The new funding will increase the Memorial's operational budget by \$8 million per year - on top of the Memorial's regular annual funding which is currently \$38 million.

The Prime Minister and the Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Warren Snowdon, visited the Memorial and praised its outstanding contribution to Australian society.

The Prime Minister also announced that Minister Snowdon will take on a new role as Minister Assisting the Prime Minister on the Centenary of ANZAC.

### [RSL Living History Project Schedule](#)

We will be at the following Sub Branches on the dates indicated. If you have any information about the history of the Sub Branch that you would like to share with us then please contact Naomi at ANZAC House.

- 4 May 2011 – Gosnells
- 5 May 2011 - Armadale
- 10 May 2011 - City of Belmont
- 12 May 2011 - Canning District and Victoria Park
- 18 May 2011 - Riverton
- 24 May 2011 - Serpentine Jarrahdale
- 26 May 2011 - City of Perth



### *Progress on New Health Program for Veterans*

Significant progress is being made towards introducing a new program to improve the health of chronically ill veterans and war widows who have complex care needs and are at risk of hospitalisation.

The Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Warren Snowdon, said service partners had been selected for the innovative Coordinated Veterans' Care (CVC) Program, which starts on 1 May.

Bupa Health Dialog has been selected as the Primary Service Provider. Bupa Health Dialog, the Australian arm of Health Dialog, is a wellness, prevention and chronic disease management company with expertise in analytics. It will analyse client data to identify and contact the veterans and war widows who are DVA Gold Card holders and are most likely to benefit from taking part in the CVC Program.

More information about the program is available from [www.dva.gov.au/cvc.htm](http://www.dva.gov.au/cvc.htm)

### *National Pneumococcal Immunisation*

The *National Pneumococcal Immunisation Program for Older Adults* commenced in 2005 and extended into 2006 with 800,000 people aged 65 years or older receiving the free vaccine. To complete the vaccination course a second dose is required 5 years after the first dose. In 2011, there are still 300,000 people aged 70 or over who have not yet had the second dose of pneumococcal pneumonia vaccine, so therefore have not completed the vaccine course.

Speak to your doctor for more information about receiving your second dose.



The Lighthorseman, the true story of the men of the Australian Light Horse Regiment in the Palestine Stalemate in 1917, will be repeated in Hoyts Cinemas for one week from April 4.

A competition is being run nationally with 10 free passes are available in WA.

To enter email [proficer@rslqld.org](mailto:proficer@rslqld.org). Winners will be announced via email on 1 April 2011.

### *Breakfast at ANZAC Club*

ANZAC Club is now serving Friday Breakfast, and many members may choose to take advantage of this new service before Friday shopping in the city - or before going on to other meetings in town.

The club is easily accessed by public transport links and, the fantastic price of just \$12.00 is great value for a full cooked breakfast - where you choose the items you like from the servery including two types of eggs, giant bacon rashers, chipolatas, mushrooms, tomatoes and hash browns - all with plenty of toast and preserves and a selection of fresh sliced fruits.

This is even better value when considering the deal includes a glass of orange juice and bottomless tea or freshly percolated ground coffee. Group bookings are welcome - and as ever, the friendly staff at ANZAC Club look forward to welcoming you to **YOUR CLUB** soon.

ANZAC Club will also be open for a full breakfast on ANZAC Day from 6.30 am at a cost of \$13. Snacks will be available over the duration of the ANZAC Day events.

