



LIFE MEMBERSHIP / MERITORIOUS MEDAL AWARDS

Sub-Branches are again reminded that nominations, supported by full documentation, are required by 30 April, 2007.

Late nominations will not be accepted.

When nominating a member please ensure all aspects of league activities are considered and well explained. Life membership is not automatic and is only awarded where a member's service is outstanding and above that expected of his/her peers.

State Congress

Plans are well advanced for the Congress to be held on 30th June & 1st July 2007 at the Mercure Hotel, Irwin St, Perth.

The proceedings will follow last year's format. Delegates are reminded that there will be a Wreath Laying ceremony at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday at the State War Memorial, Kings Park.

There will also be a Congress Dinner at ANZAC House on the Saturday evening. The 91st State Congress Administration Guide will be mailed separately this week.

ANZAC WORKING COMMITTEE GRANTS

A final reminder that the first round of grant applications will close on 23rd March 2007. Application Forms were issued to each sub branch last month.

The committee will announce successful applicants for the \$250k allocation on ANZAC Day. A further allocation of \$500k will be available for distribution around Remembrance Day. Applications for that round will be issued mid-year.

AFOF CARE PACKAGES

We have been requested by National Headquarters to advise Sub Branches of the many favourable letters that have been received from Australian Troops on deployment around the world for the kind thoughts expressed by RSL Members across Australia through the AFOF Care Packages we sent to them for Christmas.

Letters from all ranks and all Services show that they appreciate the fact that we are thinking of them.

MEMBERSHIP & YOUTH COMMITTEE REPORT

The Air Force winner of the 2006 Cadet Efficiency Trophy was City of Albany 705 Squadron for the second year in a row. Well done Albany. The Perpetual Trophy, commemorative plaque and a cheque for \$1,000.00 was presented by Mr Graeme Sheriff, vice president of the State RSL and Mr Frank Carville from the Defence Credit Union during the Australian Air Force Cadets Graduation Parade held at the RAAF Base, Pearce, on Tuesday 23 January 2007. It was a most impressive parade. Many proud parents and friends were present to view the parade and presentation of awards.

The 2007 programme for the National "RSL Spirit of ANZAC" Award has been planned for this year and nominations will be forwarded to each Service in May.

The Community Youth & Education Display Unit is still in the process of having shelving installed for the display of medals and memorabilia. Bookings will be taken as soon as the complete refurbishment has finished. The delay was a bit longer than the committee anticipated but I am sure members will be very happy with the trailer when they see the finished result.

Bookings for the Welfare & Membership Trailer can be made by contacting Olga Greig on 08 92763493.

Olga Greig OAM
Chairperson, Membership and Youth Committee

NATIONAL TREATMENT MONITORING COMMITTEE

Mr Mark Sullivan Secretary of the Dept of Veterans' Affairs, and Mr Ed Killesteyn, Deputy President of the Repatriation Commission will be addressing a meeting at Busselton RSL Hall, 69 Causeway Road on Monday 2nd April 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm

Open invitation to all RSL members

RSVP (for catering purposes) to Lavinia Nott

1800 555 254 by close of business Friday 16th March

ANZAC CLUB

OPENS FRIDAY AFTERNOONS

The ANZAC Club invites you to relax after work on Friday afternoons from 4 pm to 7 pm.

Cold beer, good service, great hospitality!

Why not join us?



THE SUB-BRANCH SIGNAL

DOING BUSINESS

WITH RSL

8:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.

ANZAC HOUSE

28 St George's Terrace, Perth
PO Box 3023
Perth Adelaide Terrace WA 6832
Website: www.rslwahq.org.au

RECEPTION

Monday to Friday - general enquiries
Tel: 9287 3799

OFFICE CO-ORDINATOR

Monday to Friday - PA to
State President & State Secretary,
Email: rslwahq@inet.net.au
Tel: 9287 3799

MEMBERSHIP

Monday to Thursday - membership enquiries, Sub-Branch enquiries
Email: membership@rslwahq.org.au

WELFARE

Monday to Friday - welfare applications, emergency housing, food & lodging grants, SS&A Relief Trust Fund applications. Overseas pensions
Email: welfare@rslwahq.org.au

ADVOCACY

Monday to Friday - S31 reviews, Veteran Review Board, Admin Appeals Tribunal
Email: rslwahq@inet.net.au
Tel: 9287 3708

FINANCE

Monday to Friday - all account enquiries, Sub-Branch credits
Email: accounts@rslwahq.org.au
Tel: 9370 0200
Sub-Branch Insurance, information, claims, grant application assistance, DVA, Lotterywest (ABN, tax)

PENSIONS

Monday to Friday - pension entitlements, claims preparation
Email: pensions3@rslwahq.org.au
Tel: 9287 3709, 9287 3710

ANZAC CLUB

Monday to Friday - facilities bookings, catering/hospitality
Email: anzacclub@rslwahq.org.au
Tel: (08) 9287 3714

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This issue if *Sub Branch Signal* has attachment that require urgent attention.

- RSL Pension Officers & Advocates Registration Form
- Review of Welfare Operations within the RSL

Please consider these documents and respond as appropriate.

CLOSING DATES

The closing date for Congress Motions Nominations for Meritorious Medal and Life Membership Awards is

FRIDAY 27th APRIL, 2007

Late or incomplete applications will not be considered

PRESIDENT'S PEN

As previously indicated the Unit & Kindred Association at their February meeting addressed the issue of the Order of March for the 2007 ANZAC Day March. For a number of reasons the meeting experienced difficulty in transacting its business but in the end resolved to send a recommendation to the Board of Directors to return to the pre 2002 model of Navy - Army - Air Force with order within those divisions conforming established precedence. This recommendation was debated by the Board who, after extensive research across Australia, varied the recommendation for 2007.

Using the NSW 2007 Model the Order for the ex-service contingent will be NAVY - ARMY - AIR FORCE - as stated, and subject to their acceptance, the Intelligence Corps (celebrating their centenary) will be invited to lead the ARMY ESO Contingent with Australian SAS Assoc WA (celebrating their 50th Anniversary) invited to lead the post 1945 ARMY veterans.

In view of the mis-information circulated, and their desire not to create issues within the veteran community, the Surf Lifesavers who were, or still are, veterans in Western Australia have withdrawn from the March in that capacity and will march with their respective Units.

A further outcome from the issue has been the role and function of the Unit & Kindred Associations as a group associated with the RSL. The Board of Directors has established a representative committee to examine where such an Organisation fits into the RSL framework and to make recommendations as to their composition and capacity to influence the RSL decision making process. They will also address the Order of March issue for 2008 and beyond.

Constructive comments, in writing, on this issue would be welcomed by the review committee and should be addressed to the State Secretary.

Service Delivery

In an endeavour to enhance our service delivery to members we will shortly be installing an automated telephone answering system. Given our limited resources we have to look to a greater use of technology and this is but one of the innovations you can expect to see over the coming months. Members can greatly assist Head Office by making their Sub Branch the first point of contact for information. If this were to happen we would be in a better position to deliver a prompt and efficient service to those who require more complex information.

Again the membership is reminded - State Branch does NOT respond to e-mail traffic. A written request, provided it is courteous, will receive a prompt reply.

ANZAC DAY 2007

ANZAC DAY DAWN SERVICE

The Dawn Service in Kings Park will be held at the State War Memorial commencing from approximately 4.00am with archival footage of Australia's Military History up to the commencement of the service at 6.00am

Public Transport:

Transperth will provide transport from key points in the metro area to Perth and a shuttle service from Perth Train Station. Please refer to the newspaper advertisements for details.

Bus Service: A bus service will operate from the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial in May Drive to the State War Memorial vicinity for the Dawn Service. The bus service will commence at approximately 4.00am. The return bus service will commence at approximately 7.00am from the State War Memorial car park. The Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Service is to be held at that Memorial commencing at approximately 7.30am

Restricted Access—Seating: For the comfort and assistance of elderly and invalid veterans, seating will be placed on the upper levels of the Court of Contemplation. Entry to this area is through this main entrance to the State War Memorial precinct.

Aged / Frail / Disabled Parking: Limited parking for the aged / frail and disabled will be available in the car park behind Fraser's Restaurant. Car passes are required for entry to this car park; they are available from ANZAC House.

Please write to:

ANZAC Day Parking, RSL WA Branch
PO Box 3023

PERTH ADELAIDE TCE WA 6832

or Fax: 9287 3732 or e-mail: rsllwahq@inet.net.au

Please DO NOT Telephone for car passes

ANZAC DAY TRANSPORT

For Veterans requiring volunteer driver transport IN the ANZAC Day Parade this year, the following volunteers need to be contacted to secure a reservation in a vehicle. The volunteer transport drivers have seen significant increases in recent years with ageing veterans so please assist the coordinating drivers and book ASAP:

Cars - Cassandra Brennan Ph: 9315 3413 Mob: 0402 845 459. Jeeps - Jack McRoberts Ph: 9330 9752

ANZAC DAY ASSEMBLY AREA DIAGRAM

A map/diagram of the Unit Association Assembly Areas and other relevant information will be included in the

West Australian Newspaper on Monday, 23 April 2007 and the April Edition of The Listening Post. It will also be on RSL Website: www.rsllwahq.org.au

Please do not contact us by telephone for this information

ADF SUPPORT FOR SUB-BRANCHES

A consolidated ADF Support Request for RSL Sub Branches for ANZAC Day 2007 has been forwarded to Defence Corporate Support Centre for review and approval. Sub-Branches who requested support through this Headquarters will be informed of the ADF response as soon as it is forthcoming. We appreciate that at times the response time may be difficult for planning purposes of committees, however Defence endeavours to provide as much support as manning and equipment allows and must fully evaluate their requirements.

ANZAC DAY PARADE MARSHALS

- VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The increased number of participants in recent years at the ANZAC Day Parade and subsequent Service in the Perth CBD requires more members to make themselves available as Marshals to ensure the smooth and proper conduct of the event. It would be greatly appreciated if sub-branches would canvass their members to ascertain if any of them wish to assist in this very important area.

Volunteers should forward their particulars as soon as possible to The State Secretary.

ANZAC DAY GUNFIRE BREAKFAST

Following the huge success of the inaugural ANZAC Day Gunfire Breakfast in the City of Perth in 2006, RSL (WA Branch) in partnership with Celebrate WA and the Rotary Club of Burswood will once again host a breakfast in the City of Perth's Stirling Gardens.

A traditional Gunfire Breakfast was a robust beef stew, sausage and bread served to Australian troops during the ANZAC battle. Some argue that it also included coffee laced with rum.

Over the years the tradition of the Gunfire Breakfast has continued and in many communities it has become a part of their ANZAC Day commemorations.

This simple breakfast was incredibly well attended in 2006 and offered veterans, their families and the community an opportunity to meet, engage and build a better understanding of the values and spirit of the ANZAC legend.

Guests are invited to enjoy a FREE traditional Aussie sausage sizzle, tea, coffee and juice.

WHAT: ANZAC Day Gunfire Breakfast

WHEN: Wednesday 25 April 2007

WHERE: Stirling Gardens, Perth

TIME: 7am - 9:30am

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

AS AT 31 JANUARY 2007

| | |
|-----------------|-------|
| Service Members | 5,970 |
| Affiliates | 310 |



HQ POSTAL ADDRESS

RSL WA Branch
PO Box 3023
Perth Adelaide Terrace WA 6832

ANZAC DAY BAR EXTENSION & MEALS AT ANZAC CLUB

Due to the large number of people expected to attend the ANZAC Club on ANZAC Day, permission has been approved to establish a marquee in Irwin St. A 'Can Bar' is to be established in the tent to provide more elbowroom for members, their friends and guests. Roast Beef Rolls and Baskets of Chips will be available inside the Club, as well as a sausage sizzle outside.

ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATIONS

Sub-Branches are encouraged to make contact with their local schools and offer their assistance in the conduct of their ANZAC Day observances. Such Services are obligatory in Government Schools as a result of a bipartisan agreement some two years past and any assistance offered by the RSL Sub-Branches and its members will be willingly accepted. Please start now to ensure that your local schools receive every assistance possible from the RSL.

FROM NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

National Executive and National Veterans' Affairs Committee met in Darwin last month to transact its quarterly business as well as participate in the commemorative activities associated with the 65th Anniversary of the Bombing of Darwin on 19th February, 1942.

The ceremonial was impressive and well attended by the ex-service community from all over Australia. There were many of the original troops in attendance and their stories of the 'day war came to Australia' were well received by fellow veterans and all in attendance.

Members of National Executive were fully briefed on the intense lobbying being undertaken by RSL to address issues related to our priorities. In particular the TPI Issue, the Funeral Allowance and POW Europe payment have been high on the agenda in discussions with the minister.

Given the political scene we can only wait and see what is in the budget on these points - and if not, increase the debate - it is an election year!!!

RSL Finances and membership Fees were also discussed.

With rising costs it was pointed out that to maintain the level of service and research required an increase needed to be considered. It was finally resolved that a study of the costs of running the National headquarters be undertaken and findings reported to the May Meeting of the Directors.

The National Publication 'Stand To' will cease in June 2007. Directors were of the view that the information in the publication would be better placed on the National Headquarters Web site. This will result in a considerable cost saving and free up staff to engage in research work on submissions for government. The National President will provide articles for State Based publications and other media release opportunities.

Services Member of the Repat Commission

With the retirement of RADM Simon Harrington the appointment of BRIG Bill Rolfe to fill the vacancy has been announced. Brig Rolfe has a strong military background as well as a leadership role in the Veterans Review Board. We wish him well in his appointment and look forward to working with him.

PRESIDENT'S CUP GOLF DAY

The President's Trophy will be contested at Burswood Golf Complex on Wednesday 13 June 2007. The inaugural Presidents Cup was contested in 2005 with a very strong field of RSL members and their guests.

Sub-Branches are encouraged to participate in this day to represent their sub-branch, and the RSL. The camaraderie at this event is very reflective of the RSL and one of its prime objectives to provide services and support to veterans.

For further enquiries Doug Rasmussen is point of contact on 9287 3799.

