



THE RETURNED & SERVICES LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA
WA BRANCH INCORPORATED

Issue 5/2010
Sub Branch Signal

THE SUB BRANCH SIGNAL

DOING BUSINESS WITH RSL
8:30 AM — 4:30 PM

ANZAC HOUSE

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

RECEPTION

Monday to Friday - general enquiries
Email: adminassist@rslwahq.org.au
Tel: 9287 3799

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

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

MEMBERSHIP

Monday to Thursday - membership
enquiries, Sub-Branch enquiries
Email: membership@rslwahq.org.au
Tel: 9287 3705

WELFARE

Monday to Friday - welfare applica-
tions, emergency housing, food &
lodging grants, SS&A Relief Trust
Fund applications. Overseas pen-
sions
Email: welfare@rslwahq.org.au
Tel: 9287 3707

ADVOCACY

Monday to Friday - S31 reviews,
Veteran Review Board,
Admin Appeals Tribunal
Email: 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: stateacct@rslwahq.org.au
Tel: 9287 3703 or 9287 3718

PENSIONS

Monday to Friday - pension entitle-
ments, claims preparation
Email: pensions1@rslwahq.org.au
pensions2@rslwahq.org.au
Tel: 9287 3709
9287 3710, 9287 3711

ANZAC CLUB

Monday to Friday - facilities book-
ings, catering/hospitality
Email: anzacclub@rslwahq.org.au
Tel: 9287 3714

LISTENING POST

Monday to Friday - editorial staff
Email: listeningpost@rslwahq.org.au
Tel: 9287 3716

National President's Visit

Monday 12 July 2010

1.30pm to 4.30pm

Belmont RSL,

Corner Great Eastern Highway & Leake Street, Belmont.
Convenient Location with plenty of free parking

PRESENTATION

*The Future of the League
The Way Ahead*

Presentation followed by a Discussion Session

KOREA - The Forgotten War

The 60th Anniversary of the commencement
of hostilities of the Korean War

will be commemorated at

The Flame of Remembrance
Kings Park
25 June 2010
1030 hrs.

**Contacts - Ken Barrington RARWA on (08) 9446 4227
Garry Burgoyne KASEAVA on (08) 9276 6248**

REMINDER

Frederick Bell VC Memorial Lecture

Cottesloe Civic Centre War Memorial Hall

Saturday 26 June 2010

6.30 pm for 7.00 pm

Presentation

Major John Fahey DSO

Chaplain of the Great War

The Returned Sailors' and Soldiers' Association of WA President 1917

by

Ruth Marchant James OAM

Cottesloe Historian

Admission: Gold Coin

Light Supper Provided



Membership Renewal Reminder

Renewal reminder notices were forwarded to members who have not renewed their membership for 2010. Sub Branch Membership Officers are asked to make contact with unfinancial members as listed on their monthly return and remind them to complete the renewal requirements as soon as possible. Unfinancial members will no longer receive *The Listening Post* nor will they have a Membership Card that will give them access to significant discounts from our supporters.

Membership Statistics

As at 28 May 2010

Service Members	8,106
Affiliates	1,409
TOTAL	9,515

Anniversary Certificates

National Executive also issues Anniversary Certificates. These are generally in blocks of 10 years but other periods can be negotiated. Locally we are encouraging Sub Branches to apply for 90 and 95 year Anniversary Certificate when they fall due. If you require a Certificate for a presentation function remember the issue of these Awards can take up to three months. Further details are available from ANZAC House

RSL Awards

Awards for the recognition of service by members to the League in general and to sub branches in particular are available at the resolution of the Sub Branch. Nominations for Life Membership and the Award of the Meritorious Medal close on 31 August, 2010 and nomination forms are available on the RSL Website. Other awards of recognition include Certificate of Appreciation (State & National) Certificate of Service and 50 year Long Service Certificate. For Office Bearers, a Certificate of Service indicating position held and period of service is available to outgoing Sub Branch Officers.

The Listening Post

Thanks to a great response from sub branches and readers reporting on local ANZAC Day Commemorative Services we are expanding the next edition of *The Listening Post* to 36 pages. A colourful wrap round will display a selection of photos that show just how well ANZAC Day is supported by the Service and Ex-Service Community as well as the general public. Sincere thanks to our many contributors.

RSL Scholarship

The League is pleased to offer congratulations to Miss Danielle Rathjen of Palmyra on being awarded a grant of \$3000 to assist her in her studies. Administrators of the Scholarship – Australian Veterans' Childrens Assistance Trust - will make the presentation and a Certificate of Award at a ceremony to be held next month.

ANZAC Day Committee

As requested in the last issue of the Sub Branch Signal sub branches were invited to forward submissions on the conduct of the 2010 ANZAC Day March in Perth. Submissions will be considered by the Organising Committee as part of the annual review process. Some significant changes will need to be considered on the conduct of the Perth March as there will be major road works on St Georges Terrace between Barrack & William Street and the availability of the Perth Esplanade is uncertain.

The State Executive is the final approving authority for the conduct of Perth ANZAC Day Commemorative Services and acts on the recommendations of the ANZAC Day Organising Committee. Committee members are, Duncan Warren AM RFD, Kevin Trent RFD, Gary Sutherland OAM, Marija Jelavic (Event Organiser) and ANZAC House Staff, Nola Keen & Caitlin Harnwell as support staff. Your constructive comments for improvement of the Perth ANZAC Day Commemorative Services would be most welcome and need to be lodged by 30 July 2010

RSL Badge

We receive many requests for organisations to use the RSL Badge to promote their product or indicate their support for the League. The Badge is protected by Law and as such the Badge, as a Badge or Logo can only be used with the permission of the National Executive of the RSL. All requests for its use are to be sent to State Branch for submission to National Headquarters. Badges issued to members remain the property of the RSL and when a member resigns, becomes unfinancial or otherwise leaves the organisation the Badge must be returned to the Sub Branch and then returned to State Branch for withdrawal from the Register. Non members are NOT entitled to wear the Badge. It is a Sub Branch responsibility to attend to this requirement.

ANZAC Club

At last, repairs to ANZAC House and Club following the water damage due to the March storms have been completed. Restoration work involved the removal of all floor coverings on the ground floor and replacement with ceramic floor tiles and carpet. Almost two months of inconvenience to customers and staff has ended. Despite a loss of trade the staff managed to keep things going and retain the majority of bookings. We will now need to mount an aggressive marketing strategy to restore the business to its former level. We ask that members support the ANZAC Club wherever possible. It's your Club – why not use it regularly.



REMINDERS

Following last months notices to sub branch administration officers the closing dates for Returns listed are:

Annual Audited Financial Return for year ended 30 June 2009	Overdue
Celebrate WA Gunfire Breakfast Acquittal	Overdue
Sub Branch Building Maintenance Requests	Now Due
Request for funding to restore War Memorials	Now Due
Lotterywest ANZAC Grant Acquittal	18 June 2010
Annual Insurance Schedule	18 June 2010

Your urgent attention to these returns is essential

PAWS

To better reflect the role of the WA Veterans' Affairs Committee and to avoid confusing its status with that of the Department of Veterans' Affairs, State Executive have approved a change in title to WA Pensions, Advocacy and Welfare Services. The Committee will be chaired by State Director Ray Ward

Sub Branch Contact Update

An Audit of our Sub Branch Directory has shown up to date contact information is not accurate for many of our Sub Branches. Could you please provide HQ with your latest list by email or fax.

Golf Day

The Annual Presidents Cup Competition will be held on Thursday 22 July 2010 at Meadow Springs Golf Course.

Please refer to Entry Form issued with the last edition of Sub Branch Signal

Further details available from Ken Hamilton at RACA Ph: 9370 0200



Submarine Special Operations

Other initiatives announced by the Government include the reclassification of those involved in submarine special operations by declaring the service as hazardous. The period being covered is from 1978 to 1992 which now means this service will be deemed as qualifying service and some 890 former submariners will benefit.

RAAF Ubon

The Government will also reclassify service at RAAF Base Ubon in Thailand between the period 31 May 1962 to 27 July 1962 from operational service to qualifying service which will improve eligibility for benefits to those affected.

British Nuclear Tests

Those involved in the British Nuclear Tests (BNT) some \$24.2 million will be provided over the next four years and benefit some 2700 surviving personnel. These survivors will now be able to claim for compensation under the provisions of the V E A. This would allow potential access to disability pensions, health care benefits and for widows to claim a War Widows pension if it can be proven that her husband's death can be directly attributed to his exposure to the BNT.

The RSL is very much in favour of this arrangement as it has been advocated over many years.

F111 Reseal/ Deseal

The government in budget has committed to extending the benefits of those RAAF personnel who were involved in the F 111 reseal/deseal programme, which will enable them to access health care and compensation arrangements which previously had been denied to them. It is estimated that this package will cost \$36.9 million and will affect something like 2,400 extra people.

This is a positive move by the government as it extends cover to a large number of personnel who had missed out previously when compensation was offered to those people who had worked on fuel tanks associated with the F111. Previously ex gratia payments were based on arbitrary classifications without any reference to actual health needs. This now means that they will have their health needs and any associated costs caused by the F111 reseal/deseal programme met by government under the revised arrangements. Counselling will also be provided to affected personnel and family members. Ex gratia payments will be made to those estates where the affected died prior to 8 September 2001. Statutory Declarations will now also be accepted as evidence where no contrary information exists.

This a very positive move as it has addressed anomalies inherent in the previous arrangements.





Scholarships for Children of Veterans intending Tertiary Studies in 2011

In 2011 the Australian Veterans' Children Assistance Trust (AVCAT) are expecting to give financial assistance for up to 65 students under many different scholarship schemes. All schemes help the selected children in need of the Australian veteran community with the costs of tertiary education. Applicants are considered for all schemes for which they are eligible.

Applications open on 18 August 2010. To apply you must be:

- a. Within the means test. That is eligible on assets and income grounds for Youth Allowance benefits for full-time education.
- b. Enrolled, or planning to enrol in a full-time course of tertiary education in Australia by attendance at a university, TAFE or college. The course must be of one or more academic years length and at undergraduate level.
- c. The child or grandchild of a person who has operational service with the Australian Navy, Army or Air Force, or if not has three or more year's continuous full-time service as a member of the Australian Defence Force.
- d. Under the age of 25 when applying, unless exceptional circumstances related to veteran's service exist.

The largest scheme is the Long Tan Bursary funded by the Australian Government. There are 50 new bursaries each year. They are valued at \$9,000 each which is paid at \$3,000 per year for three years. There are selection quotas for each State and Territory. To apply you must be the child of an Australian Vietnam Veteran, be resident in Australia, be entering any year of tertiary study, having not previously received a Long Tan Bursary.

The other national schemes are the AVCAT Bursary, the two RSL Scholarships, three Vietnam Veterans' Peacekeepers and Peacemakers Scholarship and the Defence Force Welfare Association Scholarship. George Quinsey Scholarships directly pay tuition fees for economics, commerce and accountancy studies. There are also regional scholarships. In NSW, there are three from Brisbane Water Legacy covering Gosford/Wyong NSW and one from the NSW TPI Association. Some private donors offer two scholarships to resident NSW applicants. In SA, the VVAA also offers a scholarship.

Schemes vary between \$3,000 and \$5,000 per year each. Some are restricted to location of residence or studies. Most require veteran service in Vietnam but others are broader in eligibility criteria. Most schemes continue payments for later years of study. All scholarship schemes but one pays monthly instalments. That scheme helps with tuition costs for courses in commerce, economics and accountancy. In addition to the above there is one grant per year to assist a handicapped eligible veteran's child or grandchild with special extra costs of transition to tertiary studies or employment

To receive an application form register interest on **1800 620 361**. Children and grandchildren of Vietnam veterans should do so now, as should any others who believe that they are eligible.

Applications close on 31 October each year.

AVCAT

PO Box K978

Haymarket NSW 1240

FAX: 02 9213 7307

Email: avcat@dva.gov.au

Web: www.avcat.org.au

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

Ready to Assist

**Veterans and Dependents in
Need or Necessitous Circumstances**

Apply: Welfare Officer – ANZAC House

