



# 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](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

**RECEPTION**

Monday to Friday - general enquiries  
Email: [adminassist@rslwahq.org.au](mailto:adminassist@rslwahq.org.au)  
Tel: 9287 3799

**EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT**

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

**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 applica-  
tions, emergency housing, food &  
lodging grants, SS&A Relief Trust  
Fund applications. Overseas pen-  
sions  
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: [stateacct@rslwahq.org.au](mailto:stateacct@rslwahq.org.au)  
Tel: 9287 3703 or 9287 3718

**PENSIONS**

Monday to Friday - pension entitle-  
ments, claims preparation  
Email: [pensions1@rslwahq.org.au](mailto:pensions1@rslwahq.org.au)  
[pensions2@rslwahq.org.au](mailto: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](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

## Aggregate RSL Volunteer Work Performed in Western Australia

On his recent visit to Western Australia the National President RADM Ken Doolan AO (Rtd) outlined his plan to improve the image and the visibility of the Returned and Services League across the country.

A number of initiatives were outlined to improve the status of the organisation, particularly in the political area, where the number of parliamentarians who are former members of the ADF or the ADF Reserve has dwindled to the point that the League must now lift its profile to maintain its position as the peak ex-service organisation in the country.

One of the initiatives that we in Western Australia can help with is to put a figure on the amount of volunteer work that we all do for the good of the ex-service community. When negotiating with Government the RSL is often confronted with the argument that whatever it is that we are seeking will cost the Government more money – as undoubtedly some of the agenda items will do – better terms and conditions for those currently in the ADF, separate indexation of ADF superannuation and pensions, increases in ex-service pensions and conditions etc. It is the National President's desire to be able to counter the Government's 'extra cost' argument by pointing out the amount of charitable and civic good work done in the community by the RSL as a whole.

The argument to be made is that if the RSL doesn't do these good works, then presumably they will have to be picked up, to some extent, by the Government, and that by funding the RSL agenda as we want, any Government will actually be saving itself significant amounts of cash in its Welfare budget.

The RSL argument applies equally to State and Federal governments.

Enclosed with the *Signal* you will find a simple form outlining all the sorts of charitable activities our sub branches undertake. Not all sub branches provide the full range of services identified. Please study the form and fill in the ANNUAL number of hours spent on each type of activity. Once completed please return the form to State Headquarters by **Friday 1 October 2010** where your return will be collated into the State return. Once all the returns have been processed, the total number of hours will be multiplied by a nominal amount - \$20.00 – to give an approximate value that the RSL is voluntarily returning to the Western Australian community.

Your co-operation is requested and your early attention to this small project will be greatly appreciated. You will be advised via the *Sub Branch Signal* when the project has been completed and the approximate value of all the volunteer work we undertake.

## **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  
(08) 9287 3707**



### Poppy Day Reminder

Poppy Day street collections are regulated under “*Street Collections (Regulation) Act and Regulations*” (“Act”). Part of the requirements of *the Act* specify that street collectors are required to wear collector cards dated with the actual date of the collection. *The Act* also stipulates that collection containers are to be consecutively numbered and issued by the person to whom the Permit has been granted.

This means that **ALL** Sub Branches who are collecting are required to purchase sufficient Collectors Cards and Tin Wrappers annually to ensure compliance. Any inconsistencies may prevent future Permits being approved.

### RSL WA 2010 Raffle

The 2010 Raffle books have now been posted to members. Please ensure that **ALL** sold and unsold tickets and any payments are forwarded to State Headquarters in the reply paid envelope provided no later than **FRI-DAY 29 OCTOBER 2010**. Tickets are \$2 each with up to \$20,000 to be won.

Thank you again for your support!

### The Listening Post

When your Sub Branch has a function or something special happens take a few photos, write a short article and get it in to *The Listening Post* editorial team!

An article only needs to be approximately two paragraphs, explaining what the event was for and who was there.

REMEMBER - Resolution for photos is extremely important, obviously the higher the resolution the larger and better quality reproduction.

Lately a lot of photos have come attached in a Word Document, ideally a picture is easier to manage separated from stories as saved as a .jpeg file no less than 100kb size.

**Please note that ANZAC House will be closed on Monday 27 September for the Queens Birthday public holiday**

### Heritage Week

RSL will be supporting WA Heritage Week and plans are in hand for an RSL Expo at ANZAC House on 13 & 14 November 2010. Plans include 4 Army Museum vehicles on display in the Justice Department forecourt, RSL Trailer, Army Band, Living History Association, 10<sup>th</sup> Light Horse Memorial Troop, presentations in the Gallipoli Room, photographic collection in the Quarter Deck and cadets.

### Reminder

Sub Branches are reminded that their Annual General Meeting is to be held between 1 July and 31 October in each year. At the AGM the Audited Financial Statement is to be presented to the members and, if approved, adopted.

The Annual Audited Financial Statement, together with a list of Office Bearers is then to be forwarded to State Branch no later than 31 October.

Your prompt attention to this requirement would be appreciated.

If you require a State Executive representative at your AGM, or at any other occasion, Digger Cleak, Sub Branch Liaison Officer, can be contacted through ANZAC House.

### Membership Statistics

**Service Members - 8, 715**  
**Affiliate Members - 1, 642**  
**Total Members - 10, 355**

# 2010 Remembrance Day Luncheon

Thursday 11 November 2010

12.30 pm – 2.30 pm

Gallipoli Room  
ANZAC House

Cost - \$40.00

*RSVP: Friday 22 October 2010*

*Only 120 places available –  
tickets issued on a first come basis*



### Menu

Roasted Sirloin of Beef on  
Mashed Potato  
with a tomato basil sauce and  
fresh seasonal vegetables

Individual Pavlovas  
with a raspberry coulis

Tea & coffee



### Due Dates

**Congress Motions - Friday 27 August - OVERDUE**  
**Department of Corrective Services Application - OVERDUE**  
 Poppy Day Order Form - Friday 3 September  
 ANZAC Day Sub Branch Funding Application Form - Thursday 30 September  
 Sub Branch Annual Volunteer Consolidation Form - Friday 1 October  
 Remittance Advice & Delegate/Proxy/Observer Nomination - Friday 8 October  
 Congress Dinner Payment - Friday 8 October  
 Trophy Competition Form - Friday 8 October  
 Remembrance Day Luncheon Tickets - Friday 22 October  
 Raffle Tickets - Friday 29 October

### Beverley Sub Branch 90th Anniversary

The RSL in WA was honoured when the State Vice-President was invited to open the Beverley Agricultural Show on Saturday 21 August 2010.

Mr Carter drew attention to the continuing contribution the district, including its farmers, had made in the name of serving the country.

A special highlight of the official opening was a parade of local Sub Branch members and the presentation to Mr Alan Deverall, Sub Branch President, of a framed certificate honouring the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the granting of an RSL Charter to the Beverley Sub Branch.

### Annual Report

The Annual Report will be sent to Sub Branches with the September edition of the *Sub Branch Signal*. This will allow Congress delegates time to read and make note of the Annual Report, and reduce the length of Congress.

### Account Details

It is requested that all Sub Branches forward their bank details (Sub Branch name, BSB number and Account number) to the Financial Services Officer, Helen Beech. This will help to ensure a prompt deposit of money into Sub Branch accounts. Helen can be contacted on [helenb@rslwahq.org.au](mailto:helenb@rslwahq.org.au) or 9287 3703.

### RSL Educational and Promotional Trailer

Please be reminded that the Trailer is available to all Sub Branches and Associations for promotional visits, activities, membership drives, and school liaison.

All enquiries to Keith Boxshall at the Nollamara Sub Branch or 0418 938 808 or Chris Campbell on 0409 370 548.

**Please note that the Pro-Rata payments  
 for NEW MEMBERS ONLY is \$20  
 from July-September 2010**

### The ANZAC Club

ANZAC Club is looking great having our floors repaired after the recent storm damage that affected so many others around Perth. Smart new fitted carpets and a beautiful cream coloured ceramic floor around the bar area have enhanced the look and feel of the Club.

Members and guests have also commented on the improved menu, with tasty and popular offerings now being served earlier each day from 11.30 am by the kitchen team headed up by new Chef Mike Hatcher. The Club has also become the home of the Legacy Wednesday and Friday Laurel Clubs recently, with the War Widows getting together for an early morning cuppa and some friendship with many ladies staying on to enjoy a luncheon in the Club.

Many sub branches may not be aware that the Club is available not just for Sub Branch meetings but can be hired for business and personal use. Our team are always eager to assist you in organising your business conference, reunion dinner or even something as simple as a birthday morning tea. Contact Matthew on 9287 3714 or [anzacclub@rslwahq.org.au](mailto:anzacclub@rslwahq.org.au) to discuss the options available.

There is plenty to see and enjoy in the Club with a changing display of artefacts and memorabilia in the comfy Catalina Corner - so why not come in soon to enjoy your ANZAC Club.





### **BEST REVIEW**

The report into BEST funding has now been released and Senior Advocates and Pension Officers from all states (excluding Tasmania) of the RSL met in Perth in the week commencing 23 August 2010 to consider the report and its recommendations.

A number of the recommendations made by the Review Team have been supported although there were some recommendations which clarification was sought or conditions added to ensure that the best outcome can be achieved when the report is implemented.

The Review Team was strongly in favour of having Veteran Centres being the primary means of delivering services to the veteran community given that this model has been very successfully adopted in Victoria. These centres operate with people from various ex-service organisations coming together in one location and providing advice and assistance in welfare and pensions. In doing so any connection to their respective organisation is subsumed by the need to provide advice to any eligible person, without having to put their own organisation ahead of the need to assist any person eligible whether they be a member of an ex-service organisation or not.

At present in WA only ANZAC House and the RAAFA centre at Bull Creek operates in a similar fashion with all other advocates operating singularly from either their own premises or from an office operated by an ex-service organisation.

### **FEDERAL ELECTION**

Although voting has been completed we are still at the time of writing awaiting the final outcome of who will be able to form a government and what implications this will have on the ex-service community in so far as the policies of both major parties are concerned.

Both major parties have released comprehensive policies that relate directly to the ex-service community and what that will mean to us individually.

One of the major issues related to the indexation of military superannuation with the conservatives confirming their commitment to new indexation arrangements for those in receipt of DFRB and DFRDB schemes for those aged 55 and over with their pensions indexed to the highest of the three indexes Consumer Price Index (CPI), Male Total Average Weekly Earnings (MTAWE) or the Pensioner Beneficiary Living Cost Index (PBLCI).

In so far as the Labor Party is concerned they have not been as forthcoming, highlighting the fact that as responsible economic managers the significant additional costs that now is not the time for a change to the superannuation indexation.

Another item of relevance is the review into pharmaceuticals costs and the possible implementation by the coalition from 1 January 2012 to remove out of pocket expenses for those on disability pensions in receipt of 50% of the General Rate of Disability Pension or higher (this includes TPI and EDA).

The Labor Party has conducted a review into the Pharmaceuticals scheme for the ex-service community and in its public consultation phase has noted that a strong preference for a single retrospective annual reimbursement to affected veterans. The amount of reimbursement will be calculated on the basis of the gap between prescription co-payment costs covered by the Pharmaceutical Allowance and co-payment costs for pharmaceuticals incurred before the safety net is reached. Reimbursement will be based on individual usage and will apply on a calendar year basis from 2012.

There are many other aspects to both policies and are available on the respective parties' websites. The Labor Party having been in government for nearly three years has also in its documentation highlighted what it has been delivered on since 2007 whilst the conservatives can only commit to what it would like to achieve if it gains government.

### ***CONGRESS AT THE ANZAC CLUB!***

**The ANZAC Club will be open on the evening of Friday 29 October 2010 for all members of the RSL with a Table d'hote menu following the Wreath Laying Ceremony at the State War Memorial**



**Come and enjoy below hotel prices drinks and the hospitality of the ANZAC Club**

