



# 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  
EAST PERTH WA 6892  
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

#### CEO / State Secretary

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

#### Assistant State Secretary

Monday to Friday  
Assist to State President & CEO/  
State Secretary  
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 / 9287 3718

#### 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

## From the Presidents Pen...

### State War Memorial Update

After a successful ANZAC Day commemoration which set the scene for future years with regards to change of venue, direction of march and numbers involved it was with considerable disappointment that the West Australian printed a grossly inaccurate and unfair article indicating the RSL WA Branch had little respect for the widows of fallen SAS soldiers.



Since the motion was passed at State Congress in November last year to have the names of Australian Defence Force personnel entered on the State War Memorial the RSL has worked tirelessly to ensure legal issues were resolved (covering a new inscription criteria), that the State SAS Association had input and that a memorandum of understanding was drafted & agreed between Kings Park & Botanic Gardens and the RSL. Furthermore, an application had to be made to the Heritage Council for their support for the inclusion of a further panel in the crypt to include the names of those killed. It was well known that the deadline for completion was 24 April 2012. Throughout the process ASASA & the RSL worked closely together resolving all but one of the issues to arise. The RSL is grateful to the ASASA for this ongoing support and successful outcome.

There were most definitely issues with contacting the widows and NOK individually as other agencies, due to confidentiality issues, would not give contact details. However both ASASA and Channel 10 tried to contact those involved asking them to call the RSL. One of the widows was aware, having called the RSL several weeks ago to ask if the deadline would be met and if wreaths could be laid. It was highlighted that family were coming from the Eastern states. The RSL gave a firm and positive response saying they'd be delighted however, they also advised that the Dawn Service was a silent service and that no special recognition would be mentioned during the proceedings. The widow understood entirely and was very appreciative of what the RSL had done. The RSL would never make a decision such as that suggested in the West as this would be considered disrespectful and inappropriate.

Yet again, individuals and organisations have found it necessary to pen to paper without the courtesy of checking both sides of the story. A phone call or email will clarify such situations and save both the originator and the RSL embarrassment.





### **From Honours & Awards**

#### **Changes to the Nature of Service**

Periodically, the nature of service in an operation may be changed following extensive review. Any such change may result in a change to medallic recognition.

For example, if the nature of service in an operation is upgraded from non-warlike to warlike service, then the medallic recognition for that service may change from the Australian Service Medal (ASM) to the Australian Active Service Medal (AASM). In a case like this, recipients of the ASM will be obliged to return that medal to the Directorate of Honours and Awards before being issued with the AASM. This aligns with the long standing policy that two medals are not awarded for the same service.

#### **Fraudulent Wearing of Medals**

While most people only wear the medals to which they are entitled, sadly there are some people who wear medals they have not earned.

Section 80B(1), (4) of the *Defence Act 1903* makes it an offence for a person to wear a service decoration that they are not entitled to wear, or to falsely represent themselves as a person on whom a service decoration was conferred.

The Australian Federal Police (AFP) has primary responsibility for conducting investigations into alleged Commonwealth offences, while the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions (CDPP) has responsibility for prosecuting such offences.

Defence is not in a position to influence or comment on the AFP's Case Categorisation and Prioritisation Model, which determines if reported matters are investigated by them. However, Defence will respond to a request by the AFP, CDPP or some other authorised investigation agency to supply information on individual medal entitlements as part of a formal investigation of improper or fraudulent wearing of medals.

#### **70th Anniversary of the Formation of the Australian Women's Land Army**

As agricultural labourers left to join the armed services during World War II, on 27 July 1942 the Australian Women's Land Army (AWLA) was formed to ensure that military and civilian requirements for food production were met.

To mark 70 years since the formation of the AWLA and to provide further recognition of the service rendered by members of the AWLA during World War II, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet is considering a number of options for further recognition of the AWLA, including a commemorative brooch and certificate to recognise AWLA service, as well as a commemorative history booklet.

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet is seeking to identify as many surviving AWLA members (as at 21 December 2011) as possible for recognition during the 70th anniversary celebrations. Application forms can be obtained from the:

Awards and Culture Branch  
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet  
PO Box 6500  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

#### **ANZAC Day March 2012 on DVD**

Each year the ABC broadcasts ANZAC Day marches from Australia's capital cities as well as commemorative services from overseas.

The following services can be purchased:

- 2012 ANZAC Day March from any Australian Capital City
- Gallipoli Dawn Service
- Villers-Bretonneaux Dawn Service
- Lone Pine Service.

To purchase, please contact: [progsales@your.abc.net.au](mailto:progsales@your.abc.net.au) or 1800 650 587



## Reminder - Return Dates

**Sub Branch Street Appeal Forms - Monday, 7 May 2012**  
**ANZAC Day Gunfire Breakfast Grant Acquittal Form - Friday, 25 May 2012**  
**ANZAC Day Sub Branch Acquittal Forms - Friday, 15 June 2012**

### ANZAC Day Update

Not even a week has passed since ANZAC Day and so our feedback is a little thin. What we have received has been positive but we are aware that the post event committee meeting may raise some issues. Considering we changed the venue and the route due to the Esplanade development the overall consensus is that the day was a success. The Dawn Service and Parade figures are remaining solid at 40-50,000 each. The Parade was also joined this year by a small detachment from the USNs visiting deployment group.

There were some 60 volunteers assisting along the Parade route and in the form up area this year who have all given positive feedback regarding the day.

Having Terry's sausages sizzle at the door made it very beneficial to those waiting to enter ANZAC House. Terry cooked & disposed of 380 snags with proceeds going to the ANZAC Club.

Throughout the day we were visited by inspectors from the Department of Racing, Gaming and Liquor to ensure that we met the standards required to hold such an event. We are pleased to report that we were complemented on the high standard of the ANZAC Club.

More feedback will follow in *The Listening Post* and the next issue of *The Sub Branch Signal*.

### The Listening Post

*The cut off date for articles for The Listing Post is 15 May 2012. Please forward any submissions and all ANZAC Day articles and photos to reception1@rslwahq.org.au by this date.*

### **Breakfast at ANZAC House**

The famous Friday Breakfast has returned to ANZAC House on Fridays from 7.00 - 9.00 am for only \$12.00!

Eggs (fried, poached or scrambled), tomato, mushroom, bacon, hash browns and chipolatas, as well as toast, fruit platter, juice, coffee, jams and spreads and a selection of cereals are all available.

Come on down and support the Club that supports you!

### Best of British Concert

The 'Best of British' concert has become an integral part of the music scene in Western Australia for 20 years – now it is time for the 21<sup>st</sup> and last concert.

Prepared and presented by John Christmass the concert is an annual event and the final concert in the series will be given at the Perth Concert Hall on Saturday 12 May at 7.30pm.

Most ex –servicemen will know John for his work as Musical Director for the ANZAC service every year for the past 50 years, and having recently celebrated his 88<sup>th</sup> birthday, John has decided to make this his last 'Best of British'.

For this very special occasion John has put together a fantastic programme which will appeal to all ages. For more information and bookings visit [www.ivoci.org.au](http://www.ivoci.org.au) or contact BOCS on 9484 1133 or [www.bocsticketing.com.au](http://www.bocsticketing.com.au).

### Remember Indigenous Veterans' Service

National Reconciliation Week 2012 will take place around Australia from 27 May to 3 June, providing an opportunity to focus on reconciliation between Indigenous and non- Indigenous Australians.

As part of National Reconciliation Week, DVA, the RSL, State and Federal Agencies and Indigenous veterans will work alongside ex-service and community organisations to hold a ceremony in Perth to commemorate the contribution of Indigenous servicemen and women.

The keynote speaker will be Mr Len Ogilvie, a Veteran from the Korean War

**A service will be held at the State War Memorial in Kings Park on Wednesday, 30 May at 10.00am.**

**For more information on the ceremony please contact Sandra Alldritt on 9366 8500 or email Sandra.Alldritt@dva.gov.au**

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