



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
Email: 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
Tel: 9287 3799

Assistant State Secretary

Monday to Friday
Assist to State President & CEO/
State Secretary
Email: rslwahq@iinet.net.au
Tel: 9287 3702

Membership

Monday to Thursday
Membership Enquiries
Sub Branch Enquiries
Email: 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
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: helenb@rslwahq.org.au
Tel: 9287 3703 / 9287 3718

Pensions

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

ANZAC Club

Monday to Friday
Facilities Bookings
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

From the Presidents Pen...

Amelioration Accounts

For several years there has been confusion over the status of Amelioration Accounts held by Sub Branches. To clarify the situation the following statement is provided: following the Annual Poppy Day Appeal each November, 50% of the **net** collection by the Sub Branch may be retained by the Sub Branch in a bank account clearly defined with the name of the sub branch and designated as an Amelioration Account which can only be used for veteran welfare. **This Account is to be separate from the normal Sub Branch Accounts** and money drawn from the account must be for specific purposes as defined in the Act. This account is to be the subject of a separate Audit Statement. State Congress has ruled that the maximum amount of money that can be held in the account is not to exceed \$10,000 at any one time. To formalise this situation a new State By-Law is being prepared for distribution to Sub Branches for immediate implementation. As members would be aware, we are subject to a separate Act of Parliament for the operation of Amelioration Accounts and following queries on the operation of such accounts we are now obliged to demonstrate that we are compliant with the provisions of the Act. I look forward to your full cooperation on this matter.

Rotary & Lions Donation

The Rotary Club of Canning Bridge and Lions Club of Bullcreek combined their resources to provide volunteers for the conduct of the 2012 ANZAC Day Gunfire Breakfast in Stirling Gardens. This year it was decided to change from a Sausage Sizzle type Gunfire Breakfast to a 'Hamburger Style' feast! The change proved an instant success with the public and saw the cooks struggling to keep up with the demand for cooked food and hot drinks. Club members and helpers did a magnificent job that resulted in a family picnic atmosphere that was evident throughout the activity. The proceeds of the event – just over \$4,000 - was donated to RSL Welfare at a combined Rotary/Lions Meeting held earlier this month. Again, RSL is grateful for the support given by such volunteer groups and is also appreciative of the contribution made by Lotterywest to the success of ANZAC Day Services throughout Western Australia.

Centenary of ANZAC

Progress on the planning of activities for the Centenary of ANZAC Commemorations have reached the stage where finalising of funding arrangements need to be addressed. The Federal Government have committed funding to the Albany project for the construction of the Information and Interpretative Centre and Defence has planning for the re-enactment of the departure of the convoys well in hand. Other funding is still pending and we are awaiting confirmation from the State Government of their involvement in the project. At this stage all projects are awaiting final confirmation of funding so logistic matters can be progressed. We expect to be able to confirm operation arrangement shortly after which we can begin promotion of the event to the public. This will be an exciting event for Albany and, in particular, the veteran community. It will be the *curtain raising event* for Australia's Centenary of ANZAC Commemorations.





From the CEO

State Election

At the time of printing all members of the State Executive had received their copies of the Originating Summons, Affidavit & attachments and the Memorandum of Consent. The latter resulted in all members signing the acknowledgement & waiver documentation. Whilst this may seem run of the mill the admin team at Headquarters were responsible for ensuring each bundle of 312 pages, was copied and compiled for distribution 17 times. This placed a 4,992 page burden on our forests but saved a tremendous amount of expense being done in house by not engaging the team or professional printers. This documentation is now forwarded to the Supreme Court for determination. Timing for this phase is unknown but likely to be 2-4 weeks. Subject to the outcome we will then moved forward as directed. Costs to date \$19,242.70 excluding staff time.

State HO Auditing

RSM BIRD CAMERON have now commenced the annual auditing procedure. This process is due for completion mid August.

Website

Thank you to those who have forwarded ideas & comment to ideas@rslwahq.org.au. Your suggestions covering constitutional issues and membership are much appreciated. We have had additional personnel volunteer for our Directorates which is very encouraging. Don't forget if you've got something to offer be active.

DVA New Online Veteran Service

A new website offering veterans a more immediate way of dealing with the Department of Veterans' affairs has been launched. *MyAccount* offers online forms, transport booking, payment and card information, lodging travel claims, changing contact details, viewing status of claims. The service is optional and veterans wanting to set up an online account should phone 1800 173 858.

More information is available at www.dva.gov.au

RSL Fights for Fairer Defence Superannuation Indexation

The RSL continues its campaign for fair indexation of Defence Force members' superannuation entitlements. The current system is neither equitable nor as favourable as with other sectors of the community. The Leader of the Opposition has committed to improving the DFRB & DFRDB indexation if the Liberal Party gains power but it is disappointing that the current government will not make this commitment.

RSL National President Ken Doolan said *"It was pleasing that this formal policy commitment by the opposition acknowledges that for the purposes of indexation, military superannuation payments should be separate from indexation from other Commonwealth superannuation scheme payments. This is an important point of policy principle for which the RSL has long sought acceptance."*

"It is unfortunate that no such commitment is forthcoming from the Government. I have continued to raise the legitimate claims of military superannuants for an improvement in the level of indexation with the Minister for Veterans' Affairs, the Hon Warren Snowdon and others. The Minister states that the Government cannot fund any increase in the level of indexation for military superannuants – and that he and other members of the Government are well aware of the issue. Minister Snowdon acknowledges that this is a matter of great concern and angst for military superannuants; and understands that the RSL will continue to vigorously pursue the matter with all Senators and Members of the House of Representatives."

"The palpable frustration of military superannuants about the lack of action on this legitimate and overdue reform is well understood by federal politicians of all political persuasions. So too are the consequences at the next federal election if nothing is done to rectify or ameliorate the situation before polling day. The apolitical stance of the RSL has not changed and will not waiver as we continue to make the case for an improvement to the indexation of military superannuation payments to all elected to the Commonwealth Parliament."

WA Veterans' Affairs Committee Email Address

The WA Veteran's Affairs Committee has established a secure email address for any communication your Sub Branch or members may wish to send. The address is wavac@rslwahq.org.au.



Midland Retravision are proud to host a **VIP day** for RSL Members, their friends and family on **Saturday, 30 June 2012**.

Morning tea and cakes will be on offer

Stock will be Store Cost plus One Dollar Storewide !!

Resort Cheques www.resortgetaways.com.au are also included.



Reminder - Return Dates



ANZAC Day Gunfire Breakfast Grant Acquittal Form - NOW OVERDUE
ANZAC Day Sub Branch Acquittal Forms - Friday, 15 June 2012

[RAAF Welfare Recreational Company \(RWRC\)](#)

The RWRC provides low cost holiday facilities in Queensland on the Gold Coast, at Merimbula on the far South Coast of NSW and in Darwin.

While these facilities are predominately for current serving members, our ex-Service personnel may also access these facilities on an availability basis. Our website www.raafholidays.com.au has all our details, including those of the Winter Special which has just been launched. The website also has links to other available holiday facilities.

[Membership Renewals](#)

Please note that reminders to unfinancial Service members were mailed out Friday, 25 May 2012.

[Sub Branch Information Update Form](#)

Enclosed you will find a Sub Branch Update Form. The yellow sheet indicates the current details we have for your Sub Branch. The pink sheet is for you to update and return to us after your AGM. Up-to-date Sub Branch details are vital to insure important information can be given to your Sub Branch, and assists possible future members to contact you.

[Constitution Amendments](#)

Enclosed with this Sub Branch Signal are the approved Constitutional Changes from DOCEP that were passed at State Congress 2011. Please follow the instructions on the enclosed sheet to ensure your Sub Branch Constitution is current.

[Membership Statistics as at 24 May 2012](#)

Service	7,322
Affiliate	1,109
Total	9,431

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

**Ready to Assist Veterans and Dependents in
need or necessitous circumstances**

Apply: Welfare Officer - (08) 9287 3707

[Armed Forces Republic of Vietnam Commemorative Service - 50th Anniversary of Australian Military Forces Deployment SVN](#)

The Vietnamese Sub Branch in conjunction with the Vietnamese Community in Western Australia extend an invitation to all ex-service men and women to attend a commemorative service to honour those Australian and Vietnamese service men and women who paid the supreme sacrifice.

The Service will be held at the Vietnam Memorial, May Drive, Kings Park, Perth, WA on Saturday, 16 June 2012 at 11.30 am.

For more information please contact Thanh Van Nguyen on 0413 354 031 or tvt52@hotmail.com

[RNA Marmion](#)

RNA Marmion was founded in 1998: a branch of the Royal Naval Association for veterans north of the city. Members have faithfully marched and laid a wreath every ANZAC Day, and have also supported Australian Navy Cadets (Marmion Unit) with the annual award of the Sword of Excellence.

RNA Marmion is now to lay up its colours: 5pm, Sunday 10 June, St George's Cathedral. The Dean of St George's invites all Australian and British RSL members and their families to stand alongside RNA Marmion on this significant occasion, and to enjoy fellowship with them at the ensuing reception.

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!



YOUR CHOICE – Older People Speak Out – People's Choice Awards

WIN A TRIP TO BRISBANE AND \$1,000

AT THE OPSO MEDIA AWARDS PRESENTATION 2012

DO YOU THINK THE COMMUNITY GIVES OLDER PEOPLE A FAIR GO?

We invite you to help us identify the Media portraying older people positively.

DO THIS BY ENTERING ONE OR BOTH MEDIA COMPETITIONS BELOW:

1. Collect as many quality media items that show older people ageing positively.
2. Choose a media item that illustrates positive ageing, and, in fifty words or less, tell us why the item should win an award.

Entries must have been published between 13 September 2011 and 31 August 2012

Send your entries, including your name address and phone number to –
OPSO – PO Box 623 - Brisbane Qld 4001

Entries Close: September 1 2012

More information can be obtained at: www.opso.com.au or on 07 3002 7612



Stay On Your Feet® Week 9th – 15th September 2012

Applications are now open – Grants up to **\$1,000** are available for events held during Stay On Your Feet® Week

Stay On Your Feet® Week aims to promote healthy active ageing in WA and raise awareness within the community that falls are preventable and not a consequence of ageing.

Contact the Injury Control Council of WA for your application kit on (08) 9420 7212 or email soyfw@iccwa.org.au

