



# 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...

### NOT FOR PROFIT SECTOR

We have been advised that Government Legislation is about to be set in place for financial management of organisations in the Not-For-Profit Sector. This government initiative will be phased in over a three year period and will impact on the way we account for the financial management of the State Branch and all Sub-Branches.

The implementation of the process will be the responsibility of the newly created *Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission* based in Melbourne.

While we have some time to obtain professional advice on this matter it is certain that if we are to continue to enjoy our Tax Exempt Status we will need to make significant changes as to how we account for our financial management to remain compliant. We do envisage mounting an education programme through workshops and regional visits to assist Sub-Branch Officers in the transition to the new system.

Should further information be required at this point in time reference should be made to the Australian Taxation Office website in the Non-For-Profit Organisation section.

### FINANCIAL REPORTING

Sub-Branch Treasurers are reminded that an Audited copy of the Sub-Branch Annual Balance Sheet and Statement of Financial Affairs is to be provided to ANZAC House immediately following presentation to the Sub-Branch Annual General Meeting.

Should you have any problems in this regard you are asked to contact the State Accountant, Peter McGlade, for advice and assistance.

### INDEXATION ISSUE

At the recently held Queensland State Congress the National President reported that little progress had been made with the Government on the matter of indexation of military pensions. This was an unacceptable situation; however, he reported that should there be a change of Government at the next election the situation would be favourable for achieving our objective.

From the other side of politics at a meeting at Bendigo RSL with the leaders of the RSL and other ESOs, the Leader of the Federal Opposition, the Hon Tony Abbott MHR, reaffirmed the Coalition's commitment to the fair indexation of DFRB and DFRDB military superannuation pensions.

### ANZAC CENTENARY

Planning continues for the Commemorative activities planned for Albany in 2014 with significant funding becoming available for the building of the Information Centre on Mt Adelaide. Information sessions have been held with commercial and industry leaders to secure their support for the extensive building program and associated activities planned for this once in a lifetime event.

Considerable interest is also being shown by the general public which are keen to be made aware of the nature of the events to be conducted. Shortly we will be meeting with the WA Government to fully brief them on the progress of the project and arrange for an official launch of this very special occasion – a milestone in Australian history.



## [THE AUSTRALIAN VETERANS' CHILDREN ASSISTANCE TRUST](#)

(AVCAT) is a national independent charity helping the children and grandchildren of ex-service men and women to a better future through higher education. Through the help of generous donors, AVCAT administers scholarships for the children of those who have served our country in peace and war in the Australian Army, Navy and Air Force. Scholarship selection is on a need and merit basis.

Students attend universities, TAFE colleges and other approved tertiary institutions around Australia. The Australian Veterans' Children Assistance Trust is an independent organisation sponsored by the principal Australian ex-service associations. It was established in 2003 by the former Vietnam Veterans Trust, as a lasting legacy from Australia's use of the Agent Orange Funds.

**Applications will open on 18 August 2012.** To apply for a scholarship please contact us to add your name to our expression of interest list. **Applications strictly close on 31 October 2012.** All applications should be received by this date.

[www.avcat.org.au](http://www.avcat.org.au) Phone: (02) 9213 7999

Fax: (02) 9213 7307 Email: [avcat@dva.gov.au](mailto:avcat@dva.gov.au)



### Reminder - Return Dates

**Commemorative Mission to Timor-Leste  
70th Anniversary of the 1942 Timor Campaign  
(August 2012) -**

**Nomination Forms due: Monday, 2 July 2012.**

**Commemorative Mission to North Africa  
(October 2012) -**

**Nomination Forms due: Friday, 20 July 2012.**  
(Forms available on the web)

### Pro Rata Rates (New Members only)

July - September: \$20.00

October - December: \$40.00

(Makes financial until 31 December 2013)

## [MEMORIAL TO REMEMBER AUSTRALIA'S WORST MARITIME DISASTER](#)

The unmarked Japanese prison ship *Montevideo Maru* was sunk by an American submarine off the Philippines on 1 July 1942 and more than 1,000 Australian soldiers and civilians perished. It remains Australia's worst, and least known, maritime disaster.

Seventy years on, hundreds of relatives will converge on Canberra to attend the dedication of the Rabaul and *Montevideo Maru* Memorial on Sunday, 1 July 2012. The service at the Australian War Memorial will be attended by the Governor-General.

The Australian soldiers were taken prisoners of war (POWs) in the aftermath of the Japanese invasion of Rabaul and the New Guinea Islands on 23 January 1942. They were members of the 2/22nd Infantry Battalion, the 1st Independent Company, and the New Guinea Volunteer Rifles along with small associated units.

The civilian internees were officers of the then Australian Administration, businessmen, bankers, planters, missionaries and merchant seaman. They included relatives of some well-known Australians - Kim Beazley's uncle was a builder with the Methodist Mission; Peter Garrett's grandfather was a planter; and one time Prime Minister Sir Earl Page lost a brother who was the senior government official in Rabaul.

Women and children had been evacuated to Australia in the weeks preceding the Japanese invasion and for many it was not until 1945 when the war ended that they learned whether their husbands and fathers were alive or dead.

About 400 Australians did manage to escape but many died trying to do so. Some were captured and summarily executed; others died from illness and starvation, or drowned crossing fast flowing rivers.

Apart from the dedication service at the Australian War Memorial, there will a luncheon at Rydges lakeside on Saturday 30 June and a concert that evening by the Salvation Army's Melbourne Staff Band.





## WANTED – VOLUNTEERS FOR THE STATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Chairperson of the RSL WA State Headquarter's Finance Committee is looking for a suitably qualified Sub-Branch member to fill a position on the Committee. The Chair, Mr Phillip Draber, is supported by Mr Bill Gaynor, State President; Mr Philip Orchard CEO/ State Secretary and Mr Peter McGlade, State Accountant. The Committee meet on a monthly basis, usually at 0800, on the second Wednesday of the month at ANZAC House. The outcomes are then tabled at the Board of Directors/State Executive meeting the following week.

The position is for a volunteer, no expenses paid, who wishes to be involved in moving the RSL WA forward.

Our ideal volunteer/committee member will have CPA/CA status, significant experience at senior management level and a strategic outlook.

Additionally,

- Tertiary qualifications and membership of an appropriate professional body;
- Board experience as a senior accountant; and
- Well-developed interpersonal & communication skills.

Volunteers should forward their CV and a brief resume of experience (1 side A4) by **20 July 2012** to:

### **Philip Orchard**

Chief Executive Officer / State Secretary  
The Returned & Services League of Australia  
WA Branch Incorporated.

## **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!

## STATEMENT ON GALLIPOLI 2015

The Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Mr Warren Snowdon MHR, said the Australian Government is working closely with the governments of Turkey and New Zealand to determine how the Gallipoli centenary will be commemorated in 2015.

"Careful consideration is being given to ensure the dignity and solemnity of the centenary commemorations at Gallipoli, and I expect to make an announcement when arrangements are finalised between all three governments," Mr Snowdon said.

"Gallipoli has special significance to many Australians and the upcoming centenary commemorations in 2015 will be particularly poignant.

We want as many Australians as possible to have the chance to pay tribute to the sacrifices of those brave soldiers who landed at Gallipoli and we know many Australians will want to make the trip.

However, as anyone who has made the trip would know, there are size and geographic constraints – the terrain on the peninsula does not allow for any expansion of the current maximum visitor numbers which is 10,500.

Australians will have an opportunity to share their thoughts on who they believe should be allocated a place for the 2015 Gallipoli Dawn Service later this year through a community consultation.

An announcement regarding arrangements for the service will be made following this and the finalisation of discussions with the Turkish and New Zealand Governments."

### Membership Statistics as at 25 June 2012

Service	7,666
Affiliate	1,208
Total	8,874

### **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**



## [DVA GOES ONLINE IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA](#)

Clients of the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) in Western Australia can now use a new service which gives veterans online access to DVA services.

MyAccount offers Western Australian veterans a more immediate way of conducting business with DVA, giving access to services anytime and anywhere. All you need is a registration number, a computer and an internet connection.

If you are an eligible DVA client, you can use MyAccount to:

- Update your contact details;
- View payments and card information;
- View the status of your claims;
- Apply for additional entitlements;
- Book transport to medical appointments;
- Lodge claims for travelling expenses;
- Request replacement cards, and
- View and request forms.



More services will available in the future.

With the introduction of MyAccount, DVA is responding to the changing needs of the veteran community. Ex Service Organisations in Western Australia have responded enthusiastically to the new service.

MyAccount will not replace traditional means of communicating with the DVA. You can still contact DVA by phone, fax, email, mail and face-to-face.

Visit [myaccount.dva.gov.au](http://myaccount.dva.gov.au) for more information and phone 1800 173 858 during business hours Monday to Friday to register.

## [Online Veterans' Service Now In Western Australia](#)

MyAccount is an online service that offers veterans a new way of conducting business with the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) anytime and anywhere.

It is now available to DVA clients in Western Australia.

Using MyAccount you can book transport to medical appointments; view payments and card information; lodge travel claims; change contact details; and view the status of your claims. More services will be available in the future.

Watch the MyAccount video at [myaccount.dva.gov.au](http://myaccount.dva.gov.au) and then phone 1800 173 858 during business hours Monday to Friday to register.

## [UPDATE ON LATEST VANDAL ATTACK ON LIBYAN WAR GRAVES](#)

Reports last week of further vandalism attacks at a war cemetery in Benghazi, Libya have now been investigated. The damage has been confirmed at the Benghazi British Military Cemetery, not the Benghazi War Cemetery, as initially reported.

There are no Australian graves in the Benghazi British Military Cemetery.

The damaged headstone at the British Military Cemetery was that of a British citizen. This cemetery was also damaged in the same attacks that affected the Benghazi War Cemetery in February.



**7 Wellington (Wellington's own) Hawkes Bay  
Battalion Group**

**Alpha Coy Reunion**

ALPHA COY 7 WNBH REUNION

5 – 7 OCTOBER 2012

GISBORNE

NEW ZEALAND

Open to all past and current serving Regular and Territorial Force members posted or attached to Alpha Coy. Interest can be registered with SGT Su Gingles on 0064210383835 or email [gary.grant@xtra.co.nz](mailto:gary.grant@xtra.co.nz) for a registration form.

Close off date 7 Sep 2012.