



THE RETURNED & SERVICES LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA  
WA BRANCH INCORPORATED

Issue 8/2012  
Sub - Branch Signal

# 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@inet.net.au](mailto:rslwahq@inet.net.au)  
Tel: (08) 9287 3799  
Fax: (08) 9287 3732  
Country Callers : 1800 259 799

#### CEO / State Secretary

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

#### Assistant State Secretary

Monday to Friday  
Assist to State President & CEO/  
State Secretary  
Email: [rslwahq@inet.net.au](mailto:rslwahq@inet.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...

### ALBANY ANZAC CENTENARY 2014



### Government Announces Funding For Centenary of ANZAC Commemorative Activities

Last week in Albany State Premier, The Hon Colin Barnett MLA, announced the allocation of \$8m towards the infrastructure and activities associated with commemorative activities to mark the centenary of the departure of the convoys from Albany carrying troops and supplies to the battlefields of the Middle East and Turkey. The funding will allow for the refurbishment of the Desert Mounted Corps Memorial on Mt Clarence and the building of an Information Centre on Mt Adelaide as well as other essential site works. With additional corporate funding the entire precinct, including the existing forts refurbishment and the establishment of iconic walks and pathways will suitably relate the 'beginning of the ANZAC Legend' to visitors, and more importantly, to future generations.

With generous Commonwealth and State Government funding, hopefully supported by private sponsors the place where the 'ANZAC Legend' began will receive worldwide recognition.

The venture is a project initiated by the RSL and is supported by the City of Albany, the National Trust, the Commonwealth and State Government and Lotterywest. There is also unqualified support from many community organisations in the Great Southern Region of Western Australia.

**Cash & Carry**  
WA



**lotterywest**  
supported

**HOLLYWOOD**  
PRIVATE HOSPITAL

**SmartClub**  
SMARTER LIFESTYLE REWARDS ...



**OFFICER TRAINING UNIT, SCHEYVILLE**  
**NATIONAL REUNION - SYDNEY, 25-28 APRIL 2013**

The Officer Training Unit (OTU), Scheyville, was an officer training establishment of the Australian Army. It was established in April 1965 to train officer cadets who had been called up for service under the national service scheme and offered a short, but very rigorous commissioning course for trainees, tailored to meet the Army's need to increase the number of junior officers being produced in order to meet commitments to train national servicemen, and to provide platoon commanders for units serving overseas in Vietnam and other parts of South East Asia. It was closed down in 1973 after the national service scheme was abolished in December 1972.

Whilst the OTU Scheyville, existed for only eight brief years, the experience has impacted on those who shared the 'Scheyville Experience' for more than four decades. To mark the 40th anniversary of the disestablishment of OTU, the third decennial national reunion of the OTU Association will be held in Sydney from 25-28 April 2013.

During the National Service Scheme of 1965-73, some 800,000 young Australians were registered for call up with 64,000 (8%) selected by ballot based on their 20<sup>th</sup> birthday date and called up for two years' service. Of these 64,000 national servicemen, 2,700 (4%) were selected for a 21 week make or break course at OTU Scheyville and, of those 2,700, only 1,880 finally graduated as Second Lieutenants, around

their 21st birthday. Statistically they were a unique group of men.

The experience at Scheyville had, in most cases, a major impact on their lives. For many it was one of the most intense experiences they would encounter. For others it changed their lives forever. Some served with distinction in the Regular Army and Army Reserve, with many reaching senior rank, up to the level of Major General. Many earned gallantry awards in Vietnam and Malaysia. Others went on to make a substantial contribution to Australian society through careers in politics, business, law, public service, education, sport, the arts and sciences and on the land.

This unique group of men won the hard earned respect of the Army and OTU Scheyville has gone down in the annals of military history as one of the Army's great successes.

All former national servicemen and staff who shared the 'Scheyville Experience' are invited to the national reunion in Sydney in April 2013. Events will include participation in the Sydney ANZAC Day March, an ANZAC luncheon, national reunion dinner, Church Parade at Windsor, and a barbeque at Scheyville National Park.

Details of the national reunion and contact numbers may be found at [www.otunationalreunion.com](http://www.otunationalreunion.com). Members are able to upload contact details, search for events, RSVP and pay for events via a secure website.

**ELECTION UPDATE**

After a lengthy period, response has now been received from the Supreme Court Registrar directing the State Congress Election of 26 November 2011 be 'declared a nullity and of no force or effect.' As a result an election is to be convened no later than 30 December 2012.

This documentation was on forwarded to the WA Electoral Commissioner requesting they, as an independent body, conduct the election. A positive response has been received and planning/discussion in place.

All actions taken, resolutions passed, decisions made, powers exercised, functions performed and duties discharged by the State Executive, constituted as a result of the announcement of the outcome of the Election in November shall have the same validity, force and effect as if taken, passed, made, exercised, performed and discharged by a duly elected State Executive pursuant to Rule 33 of the Constitution. **Legal costs to date: \$23,179.85.**

***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**

**Membership Statistics as at  
29 August 2012**

Service: 7,962  
Affiliate: 1,417  
**Total: 9,379**



**Included in this Sub-Branch Signal:**



*Remembrance Day Pack containing Poppy  
Day Appeal Order Form, Collection Points,  
Poppy Day Seminar Attendance Advice,  
Financial Statement. If you are missing any  
of these documents please email  
[reception1@rslwahq.org.au](mailto:reception1@rslwahq.org.au) for your copy.*





## Reminder - Return Dates



Congress Motions: **Friday, 31 August** (No late motions will be accepted)

Poppy Day Order Form, Poppy Day Collection Locations Form: **Friday, 7 September 2012**



Congress Delegate Nomination Form and Payment, Trophy Competition Entry Forms: **Friday, 21 September 2012**

ANZAC Day Grant Application & ANZAC Day Gunfire Breakfast Grant Application: **28, September 2012**

Poppy Day Seminar Attendance Form: **Friday, 21 September 2012**

Congress Dinner Payment: **Friday, 5 October 2012**

### AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL DIRECTOR APPOINTED

The Hon Dr Brendan Nelson has been appointed as the new Director of the Australian War Memorial and will assume the role of Director following the retirement at the end of the month of Major General Steve Gower AO AO (Mil) (Ret'd). Dr Nelson will take up his appointment on 17 December.

For the past few years, Dr Nelson has been influential in driving the Australian Government's program of commemorations across the Western Front, ensuring Australia's efforts from the First World War are recognised on an international scale.

He has been instrumental in facilitating the loan of the Menin Lions to Belgium from the Australian War Memorial. The Lions, given to Australia by the people of Ieper (Ypres) as a sign of gratitude for the heavy sacrifices made by Australians in Flanders, will return to the Menin Gate in 2017. This gesture will assist the commemoration the battle of Paschendaele in which Australians fought with extraordinary courage.

As Australian Ambassador to the European Union (EU), The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), Belgium and Luxembourg and former Minister for Defence, Dr Nelson brings with him a breadth of experience.

The Australian War Memorial is one of our nation's premier cultural institutions and will grow in importance in the lead up to and during the Centenary of ANZAC in 2014-2018.

The Memorial has embraced new and innovative technology as a way to tell the story of Australians at war. The redevelopment of the Hall of Valor, improvements to facilities and the adoption of interactive technology means the Memorial will continue to be accessible to the younger generations

Ms Nola Anderson will continue in the role of Acting Director until December.

A short biography and image of Dr Nelson is available from the DVA Media Centre [www.dva.gov.au/media](http://www.dva.gov.au/media).

## 96<sup>th</sup> Annual State Congress Dinner

will be held at ANZAC House, 28 St Georges Terrace, Perth at 6.30 pm on Saturday, 27 October 2012

### Menu

Hors d'oeuvres & Pre-Dinner Drinks on arrival in the Club Lounge:

### Gallipoli Room

**Entree:** Julienne of Smoked Salmon, Capsicum & Coriander on a bed of Salad Greens & drizzled with Horseradish Sauce

**Main Course:** Grilled Fillet of Beef with Red Wine reduction served with Marquis Potato & Seasonal Vegetables

**Dessert:** Individual Mango & Orange Cheesecake with Cointreau Sauce

### Served in the Club Lounge

Platters of Cheese & Freshly sliced fruit with Water Crackers & Port with Tea, Coffee & After Dinner Mints

Decorations should be worn – Miniatures

Dress: Lounge Suit / Day Dress

Tickets are limited to 120 on a first come basis. No ticket - No entry. Tickets \$70.00 per head

Please advise us if you have any special dietary requirements when you RSVP

**RSVP: Friday, 5 October 2012**





### COMMEMORATIVE JOURNEY BEGINS FOR VETERANS OF MILNE BAY

A group of Second World War veterans embarked on a special commemorative journey to Papua New Guinea to commemorate the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Milne Bay. These men were among those who inflicted the first defeat of the Japanese on land during the war.

As a result of this the Battle of Milne Bay from 25 August to 7 September 1942, was a significant victory and morale booster for Allied forces serving in the Pacific and across the globe during the Second World War

The 9,000 strong Allies, including Australian infantrymen and RAAF Kittyhawk fighters, repelled the enemy, helping to halt the Japanese advance in the Pacific

Of the 7500 Australians, who served in Milne Bay, 167 were killed and 373 were wounded. The Milne Bay Memorial is located at the site of the Battle and commemorates the Aus-

tralian, Americans and Papua New Guineans who fought and died there.

The visiting veterans visited the sites of old battlefields and memorials commemorating those lost in Papua New Guinea during the war and participated in a range of commemorative activities hosted by the people of Milne Bay. This included a service at the Milne Bay War Memorial, a candlelight commemorative march and several other traditional activities with the local veteran community.

They also participated in Australian services at Turnbull Field, named after Squadron Leader Peter Turnbull, Commanding Officer of the RAAF 76 Squadron, who was killed in action in the Battle, and Port Moresby (Bomana) War Cemetery.

The Minister for Defence Materiel, Jason Clare, accompanied the veterans on their journey.

### Australian veterans attending PNG commemorations:

Name	Unit	Age on Mission	Location
Mr Edwin Bousen (Army)	61 <sup>st</sup> Battalion	92	Upper Mount Gravatt, QLD
Mr William Hansen (Army)	Milne Force Signals	88	Mandurah, WA
Mr Edmond Jones (Army)	2/9 <sup>th</sup> Battalion	90	Waramanga, ACT
Mr Murray Willing (Army)	2/10 <sup>th</sup> Battalion	92	Ardrossan, SA
Mr Arthur Gould (RAAF)	75 Squadron	92	Killara, NSW
Mr Edgar McCulloch (RAAF)	75 Squadron	93	Warwick, Qld
Mr Joe McGrath (RAAF)	75 Squadron	88	Albury, NSW
Mr Gregor McGregor (RAAF)	76 Squadron	89	Blackburn South, VIC

## Annual ANZAC Club Springtime Tea Dance 2012

*Wednesday, 7 November 2012 from 10am to 2pm*

Entertainment to be provided by Bill Louwen & The Sapphires!

Morning Tea, Dancing, Lunch and Bar Services at the usual fantastic value of  
the ANZAC Club.

Reserve your table or group for this fantastic morning of memories

Ph: ANZAC Club on 9287 2714

