



THE RETURNED & SERVICES LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA
WA BRANCH INCORPORATED

Issue 11/2013
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
Email: 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
Tel: 9287 3799

Assistant State Secretary

Monday to Friday
Assist to State President & CEO/
State Secretary
Email: rslwahq@inet.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
WA Sailors, Soldiers & Airman
Relief 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

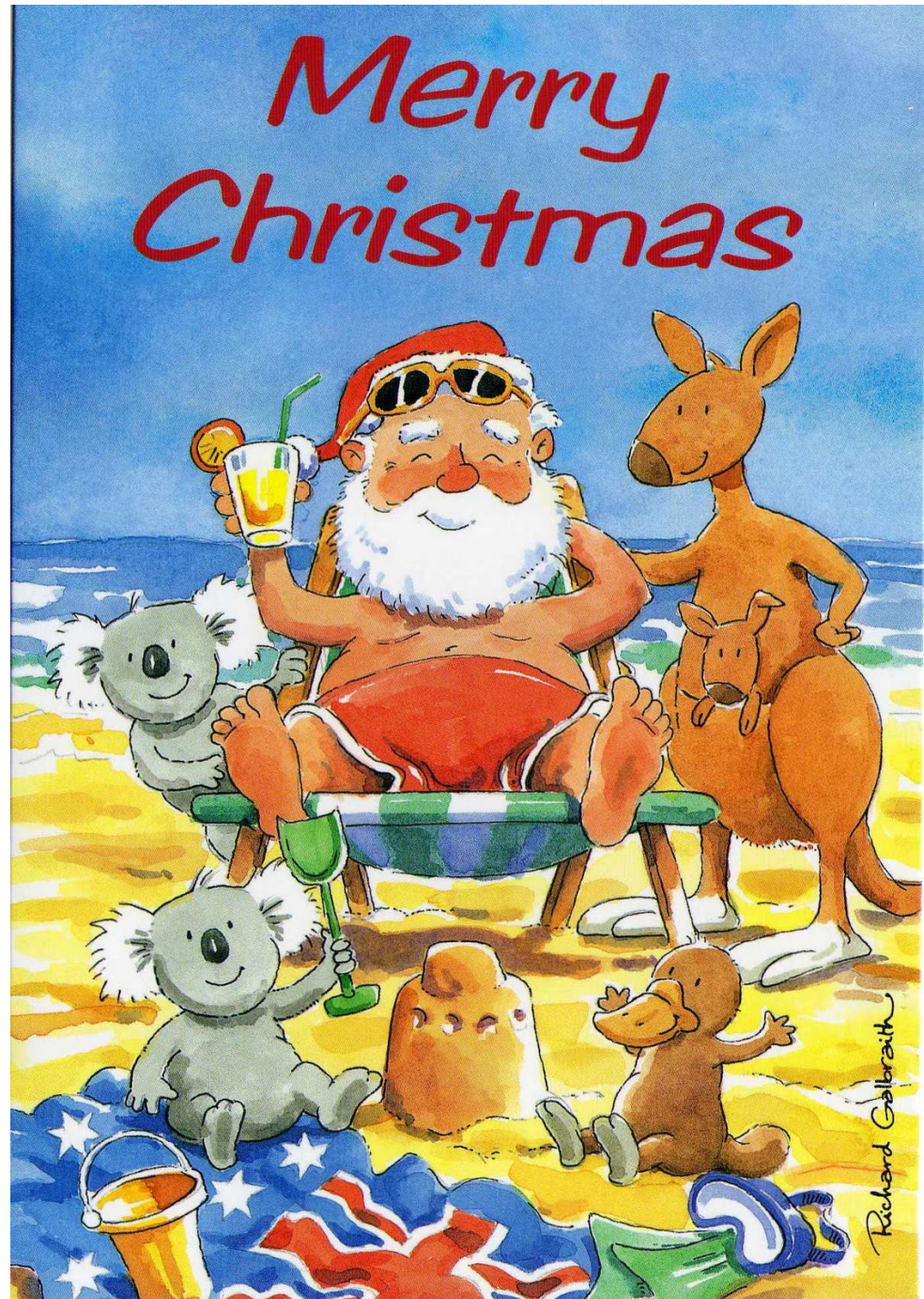
ANZAC Club

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...



The State President, Graham Edwards AM, State Executive, and ANZAC House Staff wish all Sub-Branches a Merry Christmas and a Safe and Happy New Year!

HOLLYWOOD
PRIVATE HOSPITAL



lotterywest
supported



ANZAC House Christmas Closure
ANZAC House will close from 3.30 pm Friday, 20 December 2013 and will
reopen at 8.30 am Monday, 13 January 2014.

RECOGNITION OF YOUNGER VETERANS

The 12 months since election to the position of SP have flown. It has been a busy year with some runs on the board but a lot more to chase.

RSLWA is in good shape with strong work being done in and around our sub-branches and membership base. This is being complemented by the work of Phil Orchard and his team at ANZAC House.

Numerous positive decisions have been taken which will carry us into 2014.

Importantly these include the decision to acknowledge our younger veterans by inviting them to lead our March next year.

This will be an Australia wide ANZAC Day RSL initiative and each State RSL has agreed that we need to take this opportunity to recognise all who have served post-Vietnam through various deployments from Somalia right through to Afghanistan.

While the logistics are still being worked through it is important to provide this recognition and acknowledgement next year because the following years will see the strong focus on the Centenary of ANZAC.

If this recognition and acknowledgement of service is not shown next year it just may not happen at all. Above all the RSL must not repeat the cold shoulder offered to Vietnam Veterans and as always we must earn from our mistakes of the past.

VALE

It is of great sadness that we learnt of the passing of Mandurah Sub-Branch stalwart Wally Holding.

Wally served in the 2/4 Machine Gun Battalion and was taken prisoner when Singapore fell. Like so many of his mates he suffered on the Thai/Burma railway and in Changi prison as a POW.

He joined the RSL early after his return to Australia and through a life of service to our organisation, the local cadets, his fellow members and mates he was recognised with Life Membership and the Meritorious Service Award.

I remember listening to an argument Wally had with a mate after a recent ANZAC Day Service. One had worked on the Thai end of the notorious railway and the other on the Burma end. They were arguing over which group had built the best railway line. All in jest of course but the humour was so characteristic of Australian who did it tough.

Something Wally said that day has stuck in my memory ever since because of the passion with which he said it.

He simply said "if you didn't have a mate you didn't survive."

Rest in Peace Wally and I am sure when the Pearly Gates open there will be many a "mate" to greet you.

POPPY DAY

Like many of you I was appalled, disgusted, angered but above all saddened to learn of the Poppy Day snatch and grab of a collection tin from 93 year old war veteran Mr Alby Passmore.

Mr Passmore has for many years collected on Poppy Day at the Gosnells shopping centre.

This year he was subjected to a crime he could not have anticipated nor contemplated.

His collection tin was snatched from his table and the offender bolted. Unable to chase he could only watch as his mate Don Blanchard tried to give chase but fell.

The Coles employee who did give chase and caught the offenders was beaten and the offenders escaped with the tin containing several hundred dollars. The employee was injured but I understand has now recovered and I will write to him on behalf of RSLWA to thank him for his endeavours and wish him well.

The money was not important compared to the wellbeing of Mr Passmore and those who assisted him.

This was a crime he should never have been subjected to and a crime which should raise the hackles of every decent law abiding Australian.

I believe Alby is entitled to the mateship, support and comfort of knowing that we in the RSL stand with him share his anger at this unacceptable experience.

Should he have to attend court to give evidence against the accused then I believe a strong showing of RSL members, well dressed and wearing their medals, should attend with him to show him, his mates, his sub-branch and the broader community that he does not stand alone.

This was a despicable crime against an aged digger. Indeed not just against an aged digger but a crime against a community tradition and a community standard.

A crime that we should not allow to be glossed over.

It is unacceptable to us that one of our aged, respected and dedicated members was so treated and so too it should be unacceptable to our community.

FESTIVE GREETINGS

As this is the final *Sub-Branch Signal* for 2013 I want to take the personal opportunity on behalf of Noelene and myself, to wish you and your families a peaceful and gentle Christmas which we hope will bring an opportunity to relax and enjoy this special time of the year with loved ones, family members and your " mates "

Thank you for your support throughout the year and I will welcome 2014 with enthusiasm, a sense of challenge and confidence knowing that RSLWA has much to look forward to.

Graham Edwards
 State President
 RSLWA



What is included in your Sub-Branch Signal!

(Sub-Branch Edition)

ANZAC Day Package

Nomination for ANZAC of the Year Award

ANZAC Commemorations Update Form

Letter from the CEO / State Secretary regarding Unruly Behaviour

Press Release from Senator Michael Ronaldson

ANZAC App information request

D-Day Landings Application

What is included in your Sub-Branch Signal!

(Unit & Kindred Edition)

ANZAC Day Package

Press Release from Senator Ronaldson

ANZAC App information request

D-Day Landings Application

If you are missing any documentation that is listed above that you require please contact RSL WA to arrange for a copy to be sent to you

Volunteer wanted!

It is with regret that we announce the retirement of Barbara Clinton as the RSL WA representative on the Veterans' Children Education Boards. Barbara has held this position for 10 years.

As a result of Barbara's retirement, a process of recruiting a replacement is now required. The Veterans' Children Education Board is established in the capital city of each State. Each Board shall consist of not less than five members and no more than fifteen members, each of whom are to be:

- (a) nominated by an organisation that is interested in the educational welfare of eligible students including eligible children under the MRCA Children's Scheme;
- (b) personally interested in, and able to contribute to, the educational welfare of eligible students including eligible children under the MRCA Children's Scheme; and
- (c) appointed by the Commission.

Board members shall serve in an honorary capacity but the Commission may reimburse them for expenses incurred in connection with the Scheme during their term of appointment. A member of a Board who incurs a legal liability in the performance of his or her duties as a member of the Board is in the same legal position as an employee of the Department.

Appointment - Board members are appointed by the Commission for an initial period of 3 years. The Board members may then be reappointed by the Commission for such further period as the Commission determines. Appointment of members to the Board shall be on the basis of a selection procedure whereby:

The Board Secretary and Chairperson shall inform the nominating organisations of the nature of the Board's contribution to the Scheme; and nominating organisations shall:

- (i) select individuals on the basis of the direct contribution they could make to the VCES in terms of interpersonal skills and educational contacts and relevant, educational experience;
- (ii) provide more than one nomination wherever possible; and
- (iii) provide a full resume for those nominated.

The Board Chairperson and a person nominated by the Commission shall interview prospective nominees to inform them of the functions of the Board and the commitment expected from Board members. The appointment of a member to a Board shall be made by the Commission subject to the MRCC approving the appointment. The Commission is to notify the MRCC of a proposed appointment to a Board and the MRCC is to notify the Commission of its approval or rejection of the proposed appointment.

Meetings will be at least four times in each calendar year.

If you are interested in the position or would like more information, please contact ANZAC House on 9287 3799.



Information regarding the ANZAC Centenary

ANZAC Centenary Report

Copies of the Centenary Report are available from DVA now or from www.anzaccentenary.gov.au

All Sub-Branches and Associations are encouraged to make themselves familiar with this document.

Regional Shires are all allocated with \$125,000 towards the Centenary, so please discuss this with them to ensure your Sub-Branch has a say!!!

Lotterywest

Sub-Branches and Associations are also encouraged to visit the Lotterywest Website www.lotterywest.wa.gov.au/grants/grant-types to familiarise themselves with Grants available for the Centenary.

Brochures regarding Lotterywest Grants are also available from ANZAC House.

2014 ANZAC Shirts

Included in the October Sub-Branch Signal was an Order Form for the 2014 Special Limited Edition ANZAC Shirts. Please distribute this to your members. A sample of the shirts is available at ANZAC House

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**

welfare@rslwahq.org.au

ANZAC of the Year Award

It is requested that all Sub-Branches actively pursue nominations for the ANZAC Awards for 2014, particularly by highlighting the existence of the awards at Sub-Branch Meetings and in Sub-Branch Newsletters.

Australian Charities and Not-For-Profits Commission ("ACNC") Update

We provide a brief update in regard to registration of RSLWA Sub-Branches under the new ACNC legislation.

As previously advised, RSLWA HQ had engaged the services of Mr Noel Harding of Harding & Thornbury, Accountants & Auditors, to assist with / lodge / oversee all matters in regard to compliance with the ACNC legislation.

Whilst registration with the ACNC is voluntary such is a prerequisite for charities (Sub-Branches) to access charity tax concessions with the ATO.

One of the outcomes of the new ACNC legislation has been the requirement that an RSLWA Sub-Branch have an Australian Business Number ("ABN") from the ATO.

Mr Harding and his team have been actively progressing the registration of Sub-Branches both with the ATO in regard to ABNs and the ACNC as a charity.

The Application processes have had difficulties however, with Mr Harding's persistence in resolving the issues that had arisen, considerable progress has been achieved to date.

Sub-Branches will receive written advice direct from the ATO in regard to the issue of an ABN (and possibly a Tax File Number). **We request that when received, a copy of the ATO Advice be forwarded to RSLWA HQ please.**

We remind Sub-Branches that once registered as a charity with the ACNC, there will be ongoing obligations which must be met including amongst other requirements:-

Notifying changes (for example – office bearers) within a specified period.

Maintain financial records to show financial transactions, position.

Reporting to the ACNC in the required ACNC format / statement. (for example, the yearly Annual Information Statement).

Sub-Branches will be kept informed as matters progress.

**ANZAC Day Forms are included in this Sub-Branch Signal.
Please contact RSL WA if you DID NOT receive these forms!**

