LISTENING POST

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE RETURNED SERVICES LEAGUE WA BRANCH (INCORPORATED)

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Contents

- President's Message
- Veterans' Affairs Committee
- Opening of Annual State Conference
- "Listening In"
- RSL Insurance Programme
- Defence Forces' Records
- The Boat Comes Home
- The Qualities of Leadership Pt. 4
- The Kokoda Track
- Ceremonies — a few facts
- My Tour of Vietnam
- History — Ted Townsend
- Memorial Shield
- Reunions
- Letters to the Editor
- Lost Trails
- Sub-Branch News
- Women's Auxiliary
- Last Post
- Unit Associations

Deadlines
for Listening Post Contributions

- 31 January for Autumn Edition
- 30 April for Winter Edition
- 31 July for Spring Edition
- 31 October for Summer Edition

If possible, submissions should be typed, double spaced. Photographs must be black and white glossy.

This is your journal and contributions are welcome. Post to:

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President's Message

REPATRIATION GENERAL HOSPITALS
WHEN IS A PROMISE NOT A PROMISE?

On 26 April 1966, at the Repatriation General Hospital, Hobart, the Prime Minister stated: "I have guaranteed on a number of occasions that no repatriation General Hospital will be transferred to a State, until such a satisfactory agreement has been reached on matters such as the future and quality of health care for veterans and war widows and unless the interests of hospital staff have been adequately safeguarded, no final decision will be taken if the RSL has reasonable cause for dissatisfaction with the proposed arrangements. There is nothing sequential about these guarantees and there is no secret agenda."

While in Canberra for the National Executive Meeting, the National President of the RSL, Brigadier K. Arnold, and I met with the Prime Minister and the Minister of Veterans Affairs on 7 June, 1966, to have a full discussion on the migration of Repatriation Hospitals into the State system. A lot of discussion took place on hospitals, and it was very interesting to note that the Prime Minister and the Minister of Veterans Affairs indicated to me, and to the National President, that the Government was firmly committed to integration on the best way of securing the future health care of veterans.

Your State and National Executive will continue to represent the decisions and attitudes of you, the people who make up the membership of the League, at any matter of policy or effecting ex-servicemen and ex-servicewomen, serving members of the armed forces and their dependants.

The Listening Post Committee is grateful to Messrs E. Hinchliffe, J. Harper-Nelson, J. Owen and J. O. Ball for allowing themselves and their expertise to be co-opted to the committee. Eric Hinchliffe retired as Superintendent of Publications for the Education Department and has been helping us for the past few years. Len Owen, a journalist, was Press Secretary to Prime Minister Sir Robert Menzies then Chief of Staff of the Daily News and more recently a public relations consultant. John Harper-Nelson, broadcaster, author and publisher, retired from the State Executive in June but agreed to stay on the committee. Journalist and author John Ball completes the foursome.

J.P. Hall
State President
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“YOU’RE RIGHT WITH AMP ROLLOVERS.”

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“SO I THOUGHT ABOUT IT, WHAT DO WE WANT? SECURITY, OF COURSE; THE MONEY HAS TO BE THERE WHEN WE NEED IT. BUT I ALSO WANTED A GOOD RETURN, THE MONEY HAS TO WORK FOR US.”

“IT WAS THEN I REALISED WE SHOULD BE TALKING TO AMP. LET’S FACE IT, THEY’RE THE EXPERTS, THEY’RE BIG AND SECURE, BUT THEY STILL GIVE GOOD RETURNS.”

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AMP
AUSTRALIA WIDE
Veterans’ Affairs Committee

On June 27 a meeting was held at Anzac House for all Unit and Kindred Associations to discuss the proposed integration of Repatriation General Hospitals with the various State hospital systems.

It was pointed out that, after talks with both the Prime Minister and the Veterans’ Affairs Minister, it was evident that the Federal Government was adamant that integration would take place.

The meeting decided that, whilst the veteran community still opposed the integration, there was a need to look at and discuss the best options for the veteran community.

With this in mind the meeting decided to elect a committee to look at the veteran population requirements. The committee was formed from the Returned Services League; Ex-Prisoner of War Association; Legacy; RAAF Association; Naval Association; War Widows Guild; Totally and Permanently Incapacitated and the Vietnam Veterans’ Association.

This committee met on 9 July and decided to seek up-to-date information from the Department of Veteran Affairs and the Minister before serious discussions could be held.

Any person who has specific items that may need to be discussed by the committee (for example transport arrangements, future respite care etc.) should submit them in writing to: The Chairman, Unit and Kindred Associations Committee, GPO Box C128, Perth WA 6001.

ABESTOSIS AND MESOTHELIOMA

With the recent sad news of the death of the Governor of N.S.W., it was decided that the RSL approach the Government to conduct a survey of serving and ex-service personnel (especially RAN) who have been exposed to asbestos.

It was emphasised that the asbestos/mesothelioma personnel should be individually contacted and warned about the extra risks of tobacco smoking, which according to medical advice, may depress the immune system and cause those with asbestos to develop mesothelioma cancer.

A review of the Guide to the Assessment of Rates of Veterans’ Pensions (GARP) is to be conducted by the RSL’s National Veterans’ Affairs Committee in Canberra on August 24 1990.

The RSL, through its lobbying to the Government, has been successful in the abolition of the controversial Lifestyle questionnaire. The Minister of Veterans’ Affairs announced on June 22 1990, at the Queensland State RSL Conference, that “the Lifestyle questionnaire is to be abolished. The change has been made in response to veterans’ concerns about the complicated nature of the questionnaire. I expect the ex-service community all over Australia to welcome the decision”, he said.

The changes will come into effect later in the year after being tabled in Parliament.

LEN KEYNES
Chairman, Veterans’ Affairs Committee
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OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE ANNUAL STATE CONFERENCE

By His Excellency The Hon Sir Francis Burt AC, KCMG, QC Governor of Western Australia

It has been said before — and, no doubt, will be said again — that the Returned Services League is firmly based on the inspirational sacrifices of the ANZACs who fought for this country in World War I. It was the wounded soldiers who returned from Gallipoli who founded the League back in June 1918, and to the ANZAC spirit — the tradition of loyalty to monarch, country and fellow mates — which has since continued to inspire and sustain your members.

Dr. C.E.W. Bean, Australia's great military historian, was one of the first to say that on 25 April 1915 (the date we now celebrate as Anzac Day) "the consciousness of Australian nationhood was born".

Although one might argue that Australia became a nation at Federation (1901), I think it is true to say that it was Australia's involvement in World War I which caused most Australians to think of themselves as Australians rather than as New South Welshmen or Victorians. Federation and only partially developed this feeling.

Today, the League's membership number more than 250,000 in seven state branches and 1,520 sub-branches around Australia. You are a significant group within our community - connected both for your dedication and commitment to the welfare of returned and disabled veterans, and also for your collective willingness to engage in lively debate on some of the most pressing issues affecting this nation.

The RSL has never shied away from conflict — either on or off the battlefield.

Undoubtedly much of the publicity which the League has received over the past 70 odd years has focussed upon the League's public representation upon particular questions which are seen to be of contemporary political interest. This, no doubt, is as it should be but, in the result, the real and vital work which the League performs day by day on behalf of the ex-service community, as well as the wider Australian community, is rarely reported.

That is to be regretted because in the discharge of the League's particular and primary responsibility, which is the care and support given to Australia's returned service men and women and their dependants, the work of the League has been sustained and it has been of the highest quality reflecting an indefatigable commitment.

I find it to be equally regrettable that the work of the League, in maintaining a sense of personal moral responsibility for, and commitment to, the establishment of a just society within Australia, has been constantly overlooked. The League has always stood for the basic social moral values of loyalty, compassion and responsibility for your neighbour.

This commitment, so evident in World War I, was enormously reinforced by the experience of World War II. Whatever may be said about the morality of that war and about the notion of the just war, it must be forever remembered that the challenge to which young men and women responded, in World War II, was the challenge of institutionalised and ideological barbarism. The values which condition the creation of a just society were directly and explicitly under threat. Having met and defeated that threat in battle, it was inconceivable that the sacrifice of those who did not return by — in a fit of absence of mind as they say — sitting on their hands and, by doing, suffering defeat in times of peace. The truth of the matter is that the struggle to create a just society and to maintain a just society is an on-going thing.

The League understands this to be an object embedded in your constitution: "To serve the nation as citizens to serve the nation with loyalty, compassion, and responsibility for your neighbour. To do otherwise would be to deny the sacrifice of those who fought would deny the sacrifice of those who did not return by — in a fit of absence of mind as they say — sitting on their hands and, by doing, suffering defeat in times of peace. The truth of the matter is that the struggle to create a just society and to maintain a just society is an on-going thing.

It seems to me that many of the old values for which we stand and which are today being relentlessly eroded — values such as honesty, loyalty, compassion and responsibility for others, in some quarters, such values are thought to be old-fashioned and all virtue is to be found in material and selfish success.

The League and its members are to be congratulated for standing unflinchingly against this decline in commitment to, and responsibility for, your neighbour. To do otherwise would be to deny the sacrifice and that would be unthinkable. I can only exhort you to stand fast.

I have much pleasure in declaring this Annual State Conference to be officially open.
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Page 8 - Listening Post — Spring 1990
"LISTENING IN"

Latest news from the Defence Service Homes office in Perth is that there are new portability provisions for Defence Service Home Loans.

The Commonwealth Government proposes to extend portability of subsidised loans to those eligible persons who received a DSH loan before 9 December 1987 and were still paying it off at that date, or discharged their loans since that date.

The extension of the portability provisions will not be available to discharge any current non-DSH mortgage or reimburse an eligible person in respect of a home acquired since 9 December 1987.

It is anticipated that the legislation required to introduce the new provisions will be introduced in the parliamentary budget sittings between August and December 1990.

Have you seen the new-look restaurant at the Anzac Club? Took a friend to lunch there and was impressed with the setting, the service, the food and the reasonable cost. Where else could you get roast beef and vegies for $5.60 and a smile from Leslie Finlay?

A "Gallipoli Year Poppy Day Lunch" is being organised by the Returned Ex-Servicewomen's sub-branch for 12.15pm on Monday 29 October 1990 at the Fremantle Sailing Club, Success Harbour. It should be an interesting occasion with Sir Charles Court as the guest speaker, the Band of the 5th Military District providing the music, and the Department of Veterans' Affairs presenting its display of photographs commemorating the 75th Anniversary of Gallipoli. Tickets at $25.00 are available from Mrs Joan Dowson. There is a ticket application coupon and more information in the sub-branch news section.

PAT BALFE

The almost perfect raid

JULY 1940

by P/O D. Bruce, Royal Air Force

Target for the night was the Bayer Chemical Factory - area one mile by two miles - location Leverkusen, seven miles north of Cologne.

A clear moonlight night. Two hours out from England, we were hovering around over Cologne. The silver Rhine acting as signpost. Cologne, tidy out in semi-circle facing the Kohlenhafen Bridge.

A few guns awakening, mines to make it look like a raid than it was. The bombing run up was a dream from bombing school. A fire already started showed up the long factory buildings. Height 6,000 ft - bombing up - bombs gone.

Around we swung and flamed already were leaving us the sky. Straying miles away our tail gunner saw the last of the flames. A good landing and we taxied up to the hangar. Collected all the maps and things that go to swell the bulky navigator's satchel. Went forward to get down the ladder - stepped out - on to nothing. Result. sprained ankle and unmentionable language.

A SONG FROM THE PAST

C.J. Dennis, 1876-1938, wrote "The Sentimental Bloke".

The same bard produced our "toughest" patriotic verses in a lusty song which he termed "A Real Australian Australian", and which became, to some degree, a National Anthem for the diggers of 1914-1918. Adding adjectives to taste they sang it to the tune of "Onward Christian Soldiers".

"Fellers of Australia, cobbers, chaps and mates: Hear the enemy kickin' at the gates! Blow the bugle, beat the drum, upper-cut and out the cow. To Australia, come, come."

From The Life and Times of C.J. Dennis, by Alex H. Chisholm.
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Thousands of RSL members have taken out Cash Accident Cover, and it’s no wonder! More and more RSL members are becoming aware of the rising costs of accidental injury and are looking for the best way to protect themselves and their families from this potential burden.

With this in mind, we are delighted to announce that you now have an opportunity to enrol in the RSL Cash Accident Programme, with new benefits that now provide cash payments for over 40 types of injuries such as broken bones and burns, plus a substantial insurance benefit for fatal and permanently disabling accidents.

The Programme’s popularity among members is due to the secure benefits it provides and to its unique money-back feature. This guarantees a 100 per cent return of all premiums paid if, after 10 years of continuous cover, you haven’t made a claim. That way, if you haven’t used the benefits of the Programme, you get all of your money back.

In addition to the original RSL Cash Accident Programme offered to members aged 50 to 75, a new Programme has been developed for younger members — aged 21 to 49. Both Programmes are guaranteed to RSL members and their spouses. No medical examination or health questionnaire of any kind is required. And if husband and wife apply, they both earn a substantial premium discount.

Of the many RSL members who have taken advantage of this protection, those who have had the need to claim benefits will attest to the easy and efficient claims service. You will find some of their comments on the back cover of this issue. Please note that enrolment is available for a limited time only. To apply, members need only complete the enrolment form which they will receive in the post. And there is no need to send money with the enrolment form. The RSL has arranged for a period of free cover, allowing members to examine their policies carefully before any payment is due.

This service has been of enormous value for RSL members and we urge all members to consider it carefully. See advertisement on the back cover.

If you have any further questions regarding this official RSL Insurance Programme, please call toll-free on (008) 022 5~ for more information.

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DEFENCE FORCES' RECORDS — WHERE AND HOW TO CONTACT

State Branch receives numerous requests from various sources regarding the addresses of Records Offices for Defence Forces, both Australian and overseas.

The following list provided the answers to the most common queries:

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY:
Officer in Charge, RAN Records Office, Department of Defence, Canberra ACT 2600

AUSTRALIAN ARMY:
Officer in Charge, Soldier Career Management Agency, 260 St Kilda Road, Melbourne VIC 3004 (or Box 1932R Melbourne VIC 3001)

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE:
Officer in Charge, RAAF Records Office, Department of Defence, Canberra ACT 2600

MERCHANT NAVY:
Supt. of Mercantile Marines, Ground Floor, 189 Kent Street, Sydney NSW 2000

NEW ZEALAND:
Director of Base Records, Army Headquarters, Wellington C1, New Zealand

UNITED KINGDOM ROYAL NAVY:
Officer in Charge, Grange Road, Gosport, Hampshire PO13 9AX, UK

BRITISH ARMY:
Ministry of Defence, Army Pensions Office, 103-109 Waterloo Street, Glasgow G2 7BN, UK

ROYAL AIR FORCE:
OFFICERS: Ministry of Defence, PM (AA) 1 BRAE, Eastern Ave. Gloucester GL4 7PN, UK

AIRMEN: Officer in Charge, Personnel Management Centre, RAF Insworth, Gloucester GL3 1EZ, UK

To make enquiries, the following guidelines should be adhered to:

Enquiries should be in writing preferably from the ex-member of his/her next-of-kin if the ex-member is deceased.

If the enquiry comes from other than the ex-member, it should be accompanied by written authorisation from the ex-member to release the information, or if she/he is deceased the enquiry should state so and give his/her relationship, in all cases the reason for the request should be given.

Most importantly, sufficient information must be given to identify the ex-member's records. All that is required is service number and full name. If this is not available, a record may be fully identified by the following information:

- Full Christian names and surname,
- serial number,
- date and place of birth,
- place and date of enlistment,
- enlistment in and location,
- full name of next of kin,
- address of next of kin on enlistment and
- religion.

The same procedure applies to enquiries on campaign stars and medals except that a Statutory Declaration is required if the campaign stars or medals have been lost, stolen or destroyed.

Keeping the above policy guidelines in mind, the Records Office to provide a swifter answer.

After her participation in the Anzac 75th Anniversary activities, the veteran visited Taormina in Italy, from where 33 officers and sailors were granted a private audience with Pope John Paul II at the Vatican City. The Pontiff called on the men to make a personal contribution in world peace by promoting respect and esteem for all people.

Later she went to South East Asia where she carried out a deployment including participation in the annual "Starfish" Five Power Defence Arrangement exercise involving Australia, Brunei, Malaysia, New Zealand and Singapore in the South China Sea.

The City of Rockingham honoured the officers and crew of HMAS Oxley with a Council Reception on July 28 in recognition of the role played by Oxley in the re-enactment of the 75th Anniversary of the Gallipoli Landing.

VIC JEFFERY
Naval Public Relations Officer (WA)

The Boat Comes Home

To the strains of "Tipperary" and a flurry of banners, the west coast-based submarine HMAS Oxley arrived at the HMAS Stirling fleet-support facility as the last Australian Defence Force unit home from Gallipoli on July 27.

Despite blustery winds and rain squalls, a large crowd of family and friends along with the Band of the 5th Military District were on hand to greet them.

Perhaps the most striking message among the banners and balloons was the one offering something the submariners hadn't had for a while — home cooking!

HMAS Oxley had departed from HMAS Stirling on March 19 and re-traced World War I submarine AE2's voyage to the Dardanelles.

VIC JEFFERY
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4. General Sir Harry Chauvel

Harry George Chauvel was the third in the trio of brilliant leaders produced by Australia during the First World War, a remarkable contribution in view of the comparatively short history of Australian arms.

Chauvel was born in 1865, on a cattle station owned by his grandfather at Tabulam on the Clarence River in New South Wales. He grew up, like many of his contemporaries, in the harsh conditions of the Australian bush, which among other qualities bred a keen eye for country, expert horsemanship, and the type of independence and initiative which are found only in men who are bred to fend for themselves under the most arduous circumstances.

His grandfather was a retired Indian Army officer, and his influence helped to mould Chauvel from a very early age towards the military personality of the man who was to lead the Desert Mounted Corps in an unbroken line of success.

His early life was spent in the comparative luxury of his home in Sydney, where his parents were well known and respected. He attended Grammar Schools, where he was a corporal in the Cadet Corps. In direct contrast to Monash, he showed no particular aptitude for study apart from an avid reading of military history. But he was a keen soldiering. From sport to soldiering is a very narrow gap and, later in life, after his service had been acclaimed throughout the world, and he was nearing the end of his long and triumphant career in Palestine and Syria, he mentioned that the two historical heroes of his childhood were J.E.B. Stuart, famous cavalry leader of the American Civil War, and Saladin, who led the Muslims against the Crusaders. "I never thought in those days that I should take part in a cavalry operation greater than anything undertaken by them," he said.

He began his military service in 1886, by joining the Upper Clarence River Light Horse as a 2nd Lieutenant. He transferred to the Queensland Mounted Infantry Regiment in 1890, with the rank of lieutenant, and was promoted captain in the following year. Except for a brief period as a sub-inspector in the Queensland Mounted Police, in 1893-94, his life was devoted to professional soldiering.

When the South African War broke out he volunteered for service at once and went overseas as major and adjutant of the Queensland Mounted Infantry. Later, he became commander of a composite mounted force which included Queensland, British, Canadian and South African horsemen; his first opportunity to reveal a true capacity for handling men of many different types, temperaments and backgrounds. This quality, together with outstanding initiative, was the main reason for his promotion to command of the Desert Mounted Corps in the First World War. It comprised Australians, New Zealanders, British Yeomanry, Indian cavalry and Spahis and Brevet from French North Africa; in one of the most complex corps commands ever assembled.

His success in handling it may be thought remarkable in that he possessed none of the bumptious qualities traditionally attributed to "leaders of men". In fact, his personality was somewhat converted to that of real Australian military leaders of his era. He possessed a remarkable reserve, which revealed little depression at a reverse or elation at a victory.

He fought through the South African campaigns, taking part in the relief of Kimberley and many other notable engagements, and rose to the rank of lieutenant-colonel in command of the 7th Battalion, Australian Commonwealth Horse. His service was recognised by the CMG, the Queen's Medal with four clasps, and a mention in despatches.

On returning to Australia from the South African War, he was appointed Staff Officer to the Light Horse in South Australia. During the next four years, he held numerous administrative posts in the slowly expanding Australian military forces. Between 1904-11 he was posted to the Imperial General Staff at the War Office.

When war was declared he was still on leave to London and on arrival asked for employment in France. Instead, he was informed of Australia's intention to recruit a division of infantry and a brigade of Light Horse for deployment overseas, and that he was to command the Light Horse.

He began preparing to take up his new appointment, he inspected Salisbury Plain, where the Australians were to be trained. His scheme of the winter training conditions there was largely responsible for the AIF being diverted to Egypt.

Chauvel arrived in Egypt soon after the 1st Light Horse Brigade had landed, and with his wide experience in handling mounted infantry from both the South African War and long peacetime service, he held numerous administrative posts in the slowly expanding Australian military forces. Between 1904-11 he was posted to the Imperial General Staff at the War Office.

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From sport to soldiering is a very narrow gap and, later in life, after his service had been acclaimed throughout the world, and he was nearing the end of his long and triumphant career in Palestine and Syria, he mentioned that the two historical heroes of his childhood were J.E.B. Stuart, famous cavalry leader of the American Civil War, and Saladin, who led the Muslims against the Crusaders. "I never thought in those days that I should take part in a cavalry operation greater than anything undertaken by them," he said.

He began his military service in 1886, by joining the Upper Clarence River Light Horse as a 2nd Lieutenant. He transferred to the Queensland Mounted Infantry Regiment in 1890, with the rank of lieutenant, and was promoted captain in the following year. Except for a brief period as a sub-inspector in the Queensland Mounted Police, in 1893-94, his life was devoted to professional soldiering.

When the South African War broke out he volunteered for service at once and went overseas as major and adjutant of the Queensland Mounted Infantry. Later, he became commander of a composite mounted force which included Queensland, British, Canadian and South African horsemen; his first opportunity to reveal a true capacity for handling men of many different types, temperaments and backgrounds. This quality, together with outstanding initiative, was the main reason for his promotion to command of the Desert Mounted Corps in the First World War. It comprised Australians, New Zealanders, British Yeomanry, Indian cavalry and Spahis and Brevet from French North Africa; in one of the most complex corps commands ever assembled.

His success in handling it may be thought remarkable in that he possessed none of the bumptious qualities traditionally attributed to "leaders of men". In fact, his personality was somewhat converted to that of real Australian military leaders of his era. He possessed a remarkable reserve, which revealed little depression at a reverse or elation at a victory.

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Qualities of Leadership cont.

After the withdrawal from Gallipoli, Chauvel was ordered by General Murray to undertake his first offensive operation. The British Commander General Murray instructed Chauvel to destroy Chaldira with distinction and for the last time before the withdrawal had been in temporary command of the 1st Australian Infantry Division.

In March 1918 he took command of the Anzac Mounted Division which comprised the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Australian Light Horse Regiments and the New Zealand Mounted Rifles Brigade.

Following the British defeat at Cimiez and Kut, Chauvel was ordered to undertake his first offensive operation. The British Commander General Murray instructed Chauvel to destroy Chaldira with distinction and for the last time before the withdrawal had been in temporary command of the 1st Australian Infantry Division.

On 4 August 1918, the Turks attacked Chauvel's Light Horse, and the Australian commander showed himself to be a master of strategy. He had foreseen the Turkish movement, led them towards his own choice of ground, broken them in a pitched battle and followed it up so vigorously that they were driven back to their base at Elarish, losing nearly 10,000 men and half their horses, in the course of fighting.

The Battle of Romani was a brilliant victory for Chauvel and his Light Horse, defeating any chance the Turks may have had in their attempt to take the Suez Canal.

From that time until the surrender of the Turks, Chauvel led his mounted formations in a series of brilliant actions with great victories at Beersheba, Gaza, Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Damascus and the final Battle of Sharon.

When Allenby was appointed Commander in Chief in July 1917, Chauvel was given command of the Desert Mounted Corps which comprised all the Light Horse, Camel Brigade, British and New Zealand mounted troops, Indian and French Colonial cavalry and became the first Australian to be promoted to Lieutenant General.

By 1918 this force comprised the largest body of mounted troops ever used in modern warfare.

With them he became the spearhead of Allenby's outstandingly successful campaign against the three Turkish divisions opposing him.

Chauvel's brilliant leadership was an important factor in Allenby's successes and yet he has received little recognition for being the most outstanding leader of mounted troops in modern history. T.E. Lawrence, whose contribution to victory in these campaigns was largely a member of his imagination and that of a popular British press, became a household name whereas Chauvel and his Light Horse who did so much to break the spirit of the Turks remains virtually unknown.

The folder will encourage people to have their affairs in order and will offer practical suggestions as to how this might be done.

With the help of Ex-Service organisations, a pamphlet is being prepared and will be widely distributed, satisfying veterans how to obtain an information folder.

The folder will include lists of contact numbers within the Department and Ex-Service organisations so that additional information or support can be gained if required.

Charmaine Taylor, the Bereavement Assistance Project of the Department of Veterans' Affairs may be contacted at the Department on 426 6992. Country callers may dial without charge 032 113394, asking for Charmaine on Extension 500.
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Wartime battle call relived

Staff who manned a Battle of Britain Ops Room met up again with wartime pilots to relive old memories in a reconstruction of their original headquarters in May.

The Operations Room was opened at the Imperial War Museum at Duxford, Cambridgeshire, once a vital RAF base in the fight for control of the skies.

It has taken the museum more than two years to reconstruct the Ops Room — which directed fighters to the enemy.

Where the museum was not able to trace original equipment, it instead had made exact replicas of telephones, radios, charts, switchboards and headsets.

Women, as young as 18 years, played the vital role of plotters, tracking movements of enemy and allied fighter planes across the skies.

The reconstruction is to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the Battle of Britain being celebrated this year.

Mr Stephen Woolford, head of education exhibitions at Duxford, said the museum was working on a soundtrack to bring the Ops Room “to life”.

He said: “We used archive material as well as information from the people who worked here who we managed to trace. We worked in close liaison with them to find out what the room looked like.

“The vital role of the operations room is often overlooked — without it an RAF victory in the Battle of Britain would have been unlikely.”

For Mr Ralph Ambrose, a telephone and radio operator, the museum piece brought back happy memories.

He worked at Duxford between August and December 1940 passing information from a controller to pilots in the air.

“We were all very young at the time and it was tremendously exciting. But we had no idea how important a role we were playing,” Mr Ambrose, aged 68, said.

For Mrs Jean Mills, aged 69, from London, who worked in the Ops Room as a WAAF plotter, the memories were still vivid.

“It was so exciting for us. Because of the careless whispers warning we couldn’t even tell our families what we were working on.”

Spitfire pilot Wing Commander Gordon Sinclair, from Salisbury, Wiltshire, said the Battle of Britain would have been lost without the team in the Ops Room.

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QUEEN VICTORIA'S SCARVES

Our correspondent, Fergus McBain of Northampton, has continued his research into the scarves made by Queen Victoria and presented to soldiers whose bravery had impressed her.

He has ascertained that Jack du Frayer, the son of Private A.H. du Frayer (later Major) of the New South Wales Mounted Infantry, died in South Africa in 1983. His enquiries in England have found that the Imperial War Museum only considers events after 1914, but he has had interesting letters from the National Army Museum and the Royal Archives in Windsor Castle which are now reproduced above.

The article by J. Orford, published in 'The Listening Post' of Spring 1995, was sent to Mr McBain by a former South African, Dr John MacKenzie of Mahdurah, who gave him the address of the magazine 'Home Front' in Durban, South Africa. It is clear from the information provided that the du Frayer scarf held by the Australian War Memorial is now of considerable rarity value.

We thank Fergus McBain for bringing this most interesting piece of military history to our notice.

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THE KOKODA TRACK
JULY, 1942

This is part three of Eric Stoddart's "Militia Battalions on the Kokoda Track."

Australian was now in a very serious position, desperately serious, with the Japanese determined to occupy Port Moresby as a base for attacks on the Australian continent.

After the planned Japanese amphibious assault on Port Moresby in May had failed due to the arrival of American and Australian naval units in the Coral Sea, Operation "MO" was changed to a land attack over the Owen Stanley Ranges. This was to be supported by depurting Buna, at the entrance of Milne Bay, then a leap-frog operation for an amphibious invasion of Port Moresby whilst the Australian Militia units were concentrated on the Kokoda Track.

On July 21, the Yokoyama Force of almost 2,000 troops landed on the North Coast, between Buna and Gona, from three heavily protected transports. Two transports were damaged by Allied planes without a significant troop loss. The 4th Militia Infantry Regiment immediately pushed inland along a coastal road through the swampy coastal strip, whilst the Marines began an aerial bombardment.

Captain E.V. Templon's B Company of the 39th Militia Infantry Battalion were the first Australians to engage the invaders on the Kokoda Track, with Major W.T. Watson's patrol of native soldiers, (Papuan Infantry Battalion), 316 at ranks. Attempts to get the full battalion into the mountains quickly were frustrated with only two new aircraft based at Port Moresby and each only able to carry 15 men with full equipment. Bad weather made flying conditions difficult in the range and only two loads of troops were flown into Kokoda on July 28.

The 29th was under the command of Lieutenant Colonel W.T. Owen, a member of the 2/22 Battalion's Rabaul personnel. The 29th was at first held and occupation of Kokoda almost amounted to the 39th to the enemy. However, Horii's forces included a regimental gun unit, a mountain artillery battery and a quick-firing gun detachment, all light enough to be manhandled over the gentler northern slopes and outflanking any Australian weapon on the track. By July 28, heavy damage from the mountain gun, mortars and the efficient Juki machine gun, the defenders were forced to withdraw from Kokoda.

As all information indicated a rapid overland penetration towards Port Moresby, there was no concern at the gravity of the situation. New Guinea Force Headquarters arranged an historic, though unpublished, meeting at the headquarters of the 93rd Militia Battalion in an old cooper's manager's house overlooking Bootless Inlet. With only the 14th and 39th Brigades available to defend this important base, military minds had to be made.

Should Port Moresby be defended or should the Allied forces be evacuated to mainland Australia? From the meeting came orders to move troops forward and defend New Guinea to the last man.

Some diversion was caused by the US Marine landing at Guadalcanal in the Solomon Islands on August 7, requiring the Japanese Kikusui Detachment to assist in that area so that they were not available for the intended attack on Samarai (Milne Bay). The enemy's target was then shifted from Samarai to Gili Gili, a vast, unoccupied plantation previously occupied by Lever Brothers, thought to be occupied by only three Australian infantry companies.

A Japanese force left Rabaul (New Ireland) to set up Milne Bay and land at Rabi, just east of the old Gili Gili jetty, whilst Marines from Buna were to land from barges at Taupota and march over the mountain to Gili Gili. The Buna force was sighted and reported by Australian Coast Watchers and the barges were destroyed by Allied planes when they landed for water at Goodenough Island.

Although lightly defended by Australian Militia infantrymen, the invaders wrongly landed about 10km from their objective in a swampy coastal strip, where the mountains came almost to the water. Their night attack supported by flame throwers failed and at first light they withdrew to the jungle. Further enemy troops arrived from Rabaul with two small tanks, the forerunners to be used in New Guinea. However, the tanks bogged in the deep mud and further attacks failed. The battalion were the 36th, 25th and 61st Militia Battalions (7th Brigade), 52nd Militia Battalion (14th Brigade), 3rd and 5th and 7th AIF Battalions and the 8th Engineer, 2nd Field Regiment, 2/9 and 61st AIF Staff. Australian Engineers of 24th Field Company, 42nd US Engineers and service units. Ground forces numbered 5,324 (Australian Army 755, US Army 356); however, infantry numbered only about 4,500.

The magnificent efforts of the RAAF Number 75 and 76 Squadrons with their Kittyhawks added to the success of the Australian Milne Bay operation together with the all-round support of everyone of the No.1 Air Training Wireless Company (AIF).
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The Kokoda Track cont.

Although further Japanese reinforcements were brought in, they were met by well-positioned heavy machine guns, mortar and anti-aircraft fire and the invader was forced to retreat and eventually to evacuate Port Moresby.

Strategically, tactically and psychologically, this first land battle reflected on the Japanese sense of great honour and the absurd notion in their thrust upon Port Moresby. Now nine months into the Pacific War, for the first time a Japanese invading force had been thrown back into the sea and the defenders had proved themselves, not for man, the equal of the Japanese Army. It was of interest that Military Intrenchmen had taken the initial shock on an uncertain occasion and proved that they were resourceful and determined fighters.

Field Marshal Sir William Slim, then commanding the Kukthin Force in Australia, commented: "Some of us may forget that at all the Allied Forces of the Kokoda Track had the benefit of the Japanese Army — none of us who were in Burma have cause to remember.

The threat to Port Moresby remained and by August 21, the main Japanese force of about 12,000 was landed on the north coast and on August 23 Major General Hurst rode into Kokoda on his white horse.

The 39th Militia boys on the track had been joined by their 38th Brigade of Machine Guns, 88th and 95th, and from the 14th Brigade the 3rd Battalion plus the 14th Field Ambulance. Also the 214 and 218 Battalions, 21st Brigade were moving up to relieve the 39th and support the other troops. The 39th and 397 Battalions could not be sent before the situation at Milne Bay became clear as Fortress Moresby was still under attack.

Engineers had extended to Owen's Corner a muddy road suitable for vehicles with chains and at times, winches were needed to drag vehicles through the heavy mud. From Owen's Corner, the start of the Kokoda Track, a steep almost cliff-face descended to the Libby Plateau. The continual movement of troops carrying weapons, packs, rations and ammunition, plus native carriers with stores, motor bombs, etc., turned this into a dangerous and slippery route where it was necessary to hold roots and branches to make the descent. Almost everyone on the track carried a brush stick (four to five feet long), which was essential to push over wide boulders on the steep slopes, not only to prevent falls, but to allow the arms to help the legs and force the body to achieve the impossible.

The pattern of the track through the 4500 feet high range was difficult to see and doubly so Kokoda itself. Later our engineers tackled the huge ridge spur over 2,500 steps which became known as the "Golden Stairs". To the crest of Magill Range, engineers cut a further 2,500 steps. The real battle was against the constant rain, mud and dampness, the mountains, climate, disease and accident — the horrific conditions demanded more than the body could sustain.

The signal telephone line was the vital communications link as the backpack radio weighting 13kg proved useless and were destroyed and dumped. Satisfactory speech could usually be obtained over a maximum of 15km with "sig wire", and messages had to be relayed many times over almost 100km back to Kokoda. The "red line" over tortuous track became a "Hellfire" in the true sense of the word. Notice our air and troops often used the wire as a handrail or branch to haul themselves up the steep, slippery, muddy mountainside and to assist themselves as they slid and scrambled down. In the pitch dark of the jungle night, the "sig wire" was run through the harness to guide the way. Wires were frequently broken or cut by the enemy and the "sigos".

On August 23, C Company of 2/14 Battalion (21st Brigade AF) arrived at Owen's Corner. C Company of the 39th. The Militia boys were now in bad condition, weak due to continuous climbing of the mountain tracks, wet and cold every night without warm clothing or shelter and barely sustained on outdated rations. An eight-day journey over the difficult track proved disastrous for the supply of rations and ammunition. Supply drops by biscuit bombers were disrupted when a devastating enemy attack on Jackson Field (Moresby 7 Mile) destroyed or damaged the fleet of Dakotas (Douglas DC3 Transports). Air drops were in trial stages, hampered by limited availability of aircraft, bad flying conditions, poor visibility and lack of suitable dropping sites. Supplies were frequently scattered, lost or damaged and retrieval was difficult in the rugged country. The enemy received the benefit of some drops.

Only those men, in top physical condition, could endure the torment of just a few days marching and fighting in this most difficult country. The forces were of no special physical type, yet they met a high standard of courage and stamina from all walks of life, some heavily built, others thin and slimy, some innocent youths with pimples and sandy showing. The execution of sick and wounded also proved most difficult over the long stretches of endless and inhospitable terrain, which tested the strongest. The presence of a large number of men, many of us sick and wounded boys struggling back for medical care.

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Infantrymen and ANGAU (Australian New Guinea Administrative Unit) officers were quick to make desperate repairs.

Although the 39th was reduced to a couple of hundred sick and weary men, they were refreshed when joined by the first platoons of the 2/14 as they brought with them new weapons, their own two-inch mortars and one of the 39th's three-inch mortars and a supply of bombs. There was mutual respect between the "Chocos" and their AIF mates and there was humour (at least for a "Choco") in a yarn by two wounded 2/14 men:

1st digger: "Who said those bastards couldn't fight?"

2nd digger: "You mean the Japs or the Chocos?"

To which his mate replied: "Both."

Rabaul had a relatively short and easy haul to even the most forward Japanese troops.

Against such a strong opponent the forces of Brigade or Potts were meagre. His two AIF Battalions (2/14 and 2/16) were still, in platoons and companies, struggling to reach the battle area. They could do so only by an exhausting trekking through mud and mountains and even when they first set foot upon the track outside Moresby they were understrength, with about only 550 men per battalion.

At Aloha a combined RAP (Regimental Aid Post) handled casualties from any of the four battalions then in the line, (39th, 53rd, 2/14 and 2/16). Captain Steward described the militia boys: "... gaunt spectres with gaping boots and rotting tatters of uniform hanging around them like scarecrows. Their faces had no expression, their eyes sunk back into their sockets. They were drained by malaria, dysentery and near starvation, some had been without rations for days but they were still in the firing line. Facing a much more powerful enemy equipped with much heavier weaponry."

Some indication of the close type of fighting which prevailed is provided by the fact that, up till this time, only one commanding officer of an Australian battalion had been killed in all the Middle East campaigns, whereas the commanding officer.
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The Kokoda Track cont.

...of each of the first three battalions to face the enemy in the Owen Stanley campaign was lost within a few weeks. These officers were Lieut. Colonel W.T. Owen (39th), Lieut. Colonel K.H. Ward (53rd) and Lieut. Colonel A.S. Key (2/14).

The 39th was eventually relieved on September 9 by the 2/27 and Brigadier Potts wrote: "Their courage and fortitude were of the highest order and their fighting prowess was an inspiration to all."

By September 10, the 2/14 and 2/16 had suffered extremely heavy casualties in two weeks of battle and were merged to form a composite unit with a combined strength of only 307, all ranks. To strengthen the position, the 3rd Battalion and elements of 2/6 Independent Company went forward to take up positions on Ioribaiwa Ridge.

The Australian force now under the command of Brigadier Porter was in difficulties, numbering about 700 and opposed by around 6,000 of General Horii's troops now in two groups which attacked alternately.

The 25th Brigade (2/25th, 2/31st and 2/33rd Battalions) disembarked on September 9 and by September 14 had occupied positions in the Uberi / Ioribaiwa area together with the 2/1 Piners.

A composite group (named Honner Force) was drawn from the 36th, 49th and 55th battalions and elements of the 2/6 Independent Company under the command of Lieut. Colonel Honner. They advanced seaward up the Golde River Valley to block any Japanese move towards Port Moresby along that route. Plans to supply Honner Force by pack-horse and air-drops could not be realised on account of the rough country and this force's task was made difficult by its having to carry all supplies from the outfall. The 36th was then patrolling the Low Level Track to Iori and Eilogo, but expected attack did not eventuate and this Militia Battalion was moved up the track to the Uberi/Arikitia area to relieve remnants of 2/14 and 2/16 Battalions.

Now that the Japanese had practically crossed the impassable mountains, the people of Australia suddenly became aware of the very real threat to Port Moresby and to the mainland. On September 17 General MacArthur was thunderstruck to receive the news back at his Brisbane Headquarters that the Australians, even after being reinforced by the 25th Brigade, had withdrawn from Ioribaiwa Ridge to Imita Ridge. That evening he phoned Prime Minister John Curtin to complain that although the Australians now outnumbered the Japanese on the track they were still withdrawing and he bluntly stated that the only reason was that they were not efficient. MacArthur's words to Curtin were: "I fear that the Allies in New Guinea could be forced into such a concentration as would duplicate the conditions of Malaya."

ERIC STALLARD NX 129539
36 Australian Infantry Battalion
Applecross Sub-Branch.

War Veterans' Home Raffle Winners

First prize Ford Laser L in the 1990 War Veterans' Home Raffle was drawn on July 31, Mr Alan Gaer, Manager of Titan Ford who donated the Laser, in whose name, at 2pm, presented the car to the winner, Mr and Mrs T. Bradby of Richmond Street, Woolloomooloo.
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Consumer Forum for the Aged

Consumer Forums for the Aged have recently been formed in each State and Territory by Peter Staples, Commonwealth Minister for Aged, Family and Health Services.

These Forums give you the opportunity to have your say about services you may need, right now or in the future.

The WA Forum is made up of 12 older West Australians who represent the wide range of backgrounds and interests of our community: Mrs. Deborah Kirwan is the chairperson and Mr. John Surridge, who is actively involved with the RSL, is a member.

Forums are the first formal means by which aged consumers and their carers can have their say directly to the Minister on matters within his area of responsibility, which includes:
- care at home
- care in Nursing Homes and Hospitals
- health promotion, and pharmaceuticals.

The success of the Forum rests on its members hearing the views and experiences of older West Australians who are now, or may in the future, be consumers and their carers can have their say.

To obtain more information on services available.

What has your experience been of finding Hostel accommodation which meets your needs?

How successful have you been in finding information on services available and/or Nursing Home accommodation which meets your needs?

The Forum looks forward to hearing your views and would be pleased to attend any Branch gatherings of RSL members.

Contact Sue Campbell, Executive Officer, 426 3679 or toll free on (093) 198 426, or writing to W.A. Consumer Forum for the Aged, GPO Box 9848, Perth W.A. 6001.

Michael Askey writes:

"ANGAU policy dictated that strict procedures had to be followed in obtaining supplies for the Indigenous. A system was set up whereby a native policeman was sent about two days ahead of the boat to notify villages of the Army's requirements. An ASC officer went with the boat and bought the fruits and vegetables according to the price list issued by ANGAU. Main items of barter comprised tobacco, bully-beef and Army biscuits. The bartering process was apparently a colourful affair conducted through the respective village councillors and only in areas controlled by ANGAU.

Ever had to book tickets, find places to stay, or find information about services available? These Forums give you the opportunity to have your say about services you may need, right now or in the future.

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Corvettes — a few facts

By Mr Jeffery, Navy Public Relations Officer (WA)

The first RAN corvette to be launched was the HMAS Bathurst, on 3 August 1940 at Cockatoo Island Dockyard, Sydney. Bathurst was also the first to commission, on 5 December of the same year.

The last RAN corvette to be launched was HMAS Junee on 16 November 1943 at Fairfield Ship 480, Sydney, NSW. Junee was briefly commanded by Vice Admiral Captain Ian Mackinnon OBE, VD, RANR (Pond) in 1946.

The last Bathurst-class corvette to commission was HMAS Parkes, on 15 May 1944.

HMAS Arunta (K34) was the only RAN corvette to be allocated to "K" pennant number; postwar this became M34.

HMAS Arunta was the last RAN corvette to be lost, the only one by enemy action and the RAN's last major loss by enemy action in World War II.

The sinking of HMAS Arunta by Japanese aircraft south of Timor on 1 December 1942 saw the loss of 31 men, 2 officers and 38 ratings. The next greatest loss of life on an RAN corvette was aboard HMAS Pirie which lost an officer and six ratings in action when attacked by Japanese bombers while escorting the British tanker Hanyang while attacked by Japanese bombers.
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Tour of Vietnam cont.

Viet Cong, and they told us how snakes and booby traps were placed in them to deter infiltration. After lunch we traveled to Bien Hoa where we spent Anzac Day own.

On Anzac Day we went on the road by 4am, as it was quite a long drive to the site of the Long Tan Cross - erected in honour of those who served and fell at this battle site. At 5am a simple but very impressive dawn service was held, just a small crowd of local people, our group of 13, the Australian Ambassador to Vietnam, Mr Graham Afflick; Mr John Sanders, a Vietnam Veteran now residing here, originally from NSW, and Mr Huy, a former Viet Cong platoon commander. The service included the placing of baskets of flowers at the base of the Cross and Mr Huy was invited to take part in the ceremony. The Viet Cong are remembered by a plaque next to the Cross and, too, lost many men at the Battle of Long Tan.

After the service we were invited by Mr Huy and his Viet Cong friends to partake of some refreshments before visiting a Memorial in honour of the Viet Cong and located in the Long Boi War Cemetery. Our group leader placed a basket of flowers on the Memorial and, as a form of respect the remainder of the party lit joss sticks. Then, with Mr Huy, we went to the battle area known as the Horsehoe where one member of our party had been badly wounded. After visiting our Viet Cong hosts farewell, we went to the city of Vung Tau where we spent three nights. Vung Tau, on the coast, is a delightful spot and full of memories for our Vietnam Veterans.

On the Thursday we visited the site of the No. 1 Australian Field Hospital where the wounded were taken and cured for before being referred to Australian, if fit, were returned to active service. The main beach was of special interest to our Vietnam Veterans as the RSL and Recreation League were spent at the Servicemen's Club which is still in use. We visited the Peter Badcoe Swimming Pool, named after a winner of the Victoria Cross; sadly the pool has been neglected.

After lunch we went to Nui Dat and Laconcent street. We had a special guide with us but to the disappointment of our Veterans, were not allowed to go to the top of the Nui Dat Hill to see if the SAS Flaque was still there. That evening, as a goodwill gesture, we invited the Chairman of the People's Committee, a former Viet Cong General, and the manageress of the hotel to dinner.

On the Friday we headed back to Ho Chi Minh City, on route exploring the Long US Mountains, where some working activity took place. Late in the afternoon we arrived at the comfortable Rex Hotel, in the heart of Saigon, for a three-night stay.

On Sunday night we enjoyed a 75 kilometre drive to My Tho and a cruise on the Mekong River.

The next day — the anniversary of what the Communists call 7th Liberation of Saigon in 1975 — we watched the procession, not a great deal to see really, but crowds of people were in the streets all day and children were dressed in their Sunday best.

We also visited an old French sporting complex with soccer grounds, tennis courts and swimming pools.

On Tuesday, before leaving for our return flight to Bangkok, we joined a large newsmagazine where we did some shopping before going to the War Museum. In the hall were pictures and stories of atrocities that were committed and in the grounds guns, planes and tanks plus a guillotine 4.5 metres tall, with a blade weighing 50kg. It was brought to Vietnam at the beginning of this century and executed around the province; the last victim was executed in 1959.

Vietnam's hotels are State owned and some are sadly in need of maintenance in the 'facilities' area. The staff are happy, smiling and attentive to one's needs. (As a point of interest the floating hotel that was built in Queensland and anchored on the Great Barrier Reef 70 kilometres from Townsville was taken to Vietnam in December 1989 and is now established in the Saigon River). It has accommodation for 250 guests and looks very clean and modern; Ho Chi Minh is a city of bicycles, cycles — pedal-power with one passenger — scooters and cars. It was a little frightening when one was being pedalled along in a cycle with traffic on either side. The people are poor but hard-working and resourceful. Our Vietnam Veterans all agreed that it was a terrific tour despite the memories it evoked.

Then I was back to Bangkok for a three-day stay where the highlight was the visit to the River Kwai and Death Railway. After an early start we had an interesting journey through Thailand to our destination — the famous Bridge. We all walked across it. Only a portion of the bridge built by the prisoners of war remains. We saw the Death Museum, where the prisoners were forced to live during those dreadful years. The name of the hotel where we stayed was quite a long drive to the site of the Long Tan Cross — erected in honour of those who served and fell at this battle site. At 5am a simple but very impressive dawn service was held, just a small crowd of local people, our group of 13, the Australian Ambassador to Vietnam, Mr Graham Afflick; Mr John Sanders, a Vietnam Veteran now residing here, originally from NSW, and Mr Huy, a former Viet Cong platoon commander. The service included the placing of baskets of flowers at the base of the Cross and Mr Huy was invited to take part in the ceremony. The Viet Cong are remembered by a plaque next to the Cross and, too, lost many men at the Battle of Long Tan.

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Tour of Vietnam cont.

museum, established in 1977, represents the abbreviations of the countries involved — Japan (J), England (E), America and Australia (A), Thailand (T) and Holland (H). Death replaced the word Death because it sounded too horrific. The next stop was the Australian War Cemetery which is very well kept; sadly I saw many familiar names. Lunch was followed by a short walk to the station and a ride on the train back to the Bridge. The railway line built by the POWs clinging to the mountain-side. After a quick boat ride on the River Kwai we returned by bus to Bangkok. This area is a popular tourist attraction but to people of my generation it will always be a sad pilgrimage.

On the Friday it was time to say farewell to Thailand. At the airport the ladies were given presents and returned home after a very enjoyable and well-organised tour.

MOLLY CLARKE
WFX5500, 66th AGH.

The author with Vietnamese host at Long Tan.

The author with Vietnamese host at Long Tan.
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All you need to know about the Central Army Records Office

Due to the large number of enquiries received by the Central Army Records Office, it has been decided to provide some information on what the Central Army Records Office does, its limitations on the release of information and some of the ways in which they can assist you.

CARO does not hold any records prior to World War I, such as the Boer War, Miners' War and PMF. A lot of these records are now located at either the Australian Commonwealth Archives or State Archives, and application to search these records should be made to these authorities. The records maintained by CARO are of a personal nature only and do not include information regarding unit activities, battles, areas of operation, campaigns, histories, personnel, war graves, honours, personnel or natural deaths or medical records. Therefore, this return should be directed to the War Graves Commission, the Department of Veteran Affairs or the Australian War Memorial as applicable.

However, the War Memorial puts the onus on individuals to conduct their own research or hire an approved researcher.

Enquiries received each day.

1. I HAVE LOST MY MEDALS, CAN I GET THEM REPLACED?
   Yes, you can; however, written application must be made and a statutory declaration must be completed including the names you have taken to try and recover the items. This replacement will normally only occur once, so it is better to ensure your medals are always held with a person likely to be recorded as the next-of-kin, eg parents, wife, brother or sister.

2. CAN I CLAIM UNCLE JOE'S MEDALS?
   If Uncle Joe is deceased and the medals have not previously been listed, then the eldest surviving person in the following enlistment order may write to CARO giving all relevant details on the member, stating the member's relationship and, if possible, a claim form will be forwarded accordingly:
   a. Widow/Widower
   b. Son
   c. Daughter
   d. Step-son
   e. Step-daughter
   f. Grandson
   g. Grand-daughter
   h. Brother
   i. Sister
   j. Half-brother
   k. Nephew
   l. Niece
   m. Half-sister
   n. Step-child
   o. Other person named as next-of-kin in official records.

3. CAN I GET ANOTHER COPY OF MY DISCHARGE PAPERS?
   If your discharge papers have been lost or destroyed, then CARO can issue an ex-member's certificate of service. This certificate is not as detailed as the discharge period of service, typical of service and any decorations, medals or commendations awarded.

4. WHERE CAN I OBTAIN REPLACEMENT RIBBONS OR MINIATURES?
   a. Address:
      J. Burridge, 31 St Kilda Road, Swanbourne WA 6010.

5. I WOULD LIKE TO OBTAIN COPIES OF SERVICE RECORDS ON SEVERAL FAMILY MEMBERS, AM I ABLE TO DO THIS?
   The records we maintain are personal; therefore, if one member is still living then only that person is entitled to a copy of their service record. If the ex-member is deceased, then you must be a direct relation prior to CARO considering your request.

CARO is not a genealogical service; our priorities are with the serving and ex-serving soldier. If you require information for your family then we can only provide what CARO holds. However, the War Memorial puts the onus on individuals to conduct their own research or hire an approved researcher.

8. POINTS TO NOTE
   a. All requests must be of a written nature and contain the following information:
      1) Full given names of the service person
      2) Army Regimental number
      3) Period of service if known, and
      4) Date of birth if known.
   b. If you are unable to provide all of the above information then at least some of the following information should be included:
      1) Date and place of birth
      2) Date of death if applicable.
   c. Enquiries must be addressed as follows:
      1) For pre-1947 enquiries:
         Historical Research Section, CARO/SCMA, 360 St Kilda Road, Melbourne Vic 3004.
      2) For post-1947 enquiries:
         Historical Research Section, CARO/SCMA, 360 St Kilda Road, Melbourne Vic 3004.
      3) For post-1947 enquiries:
         Historical Research Section, CARO/SCMA, 360 St Kilda Road, Melbourne Vic 3004.

5. There is no point contacting CARO or someone else on their behalf, as regulations prevent releasing information to you. We must have the written authorisation of the member concerned or, in the case of the member being deceased, the written authorisation of the closest next-of-kin.

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AN ARTILLERYMAN'S NIGHTMARE

Right: During World War I, Germany bombarded Paris from a distance of 90 miles using an immense gun nicknamed "Big Bertha" by the Allied forces. France responded by building an even bigger gun, but whether it was ever fired is not known. This photo came from the Australian War Museum when it was located in Prince Alfred Park, Sydney, near Central Station. I imagine that it is now in the National War Museum, Canberra.

Left: This gun, known as the Armstrong Gun after its maker (later to become one of the great arms manufacturers of the world, Armstrong-Vickers) formed part of the defenses of Valetta, capital of Malta from the early 19th century. It weighed 90 tons (pre-metric) and its diameter at the widest part was over seven feet.

The breech was mounted on rails and when the gun was fired, its recoil sent the whole structure back along the rails. It was reloaded in this position, then returned to the firing position by means of tackles and tackle blocks attached to the breech ready for re-firing.

On the right of the picture is a hose and nozzle, duplicated on the other side, and used for cooling the barrel after firing. This particular gun was sited near the rifle range, and was one of many similar guns around Valetta's coastline.
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Memorial to the Women's Services

The above memorial to wartime service-women depicts a young woman of the early forties era in civilian clothes, joining the WRAF, AWAS or WAAAF. The statue was fashioned in metal by sculptor Dennis Adams and was erected this year at Gateway Park, Sydney.

First of the regular women's services to form in March 1941 was the WAAAF (Women's Australian Auxiliary Air Force). At its peak 28,000 women were serving, although total throughput during the war years exceeded that figure. It is interesting to note that the wartime WAAAF was numerically greater than today's RAAF.

One month later the WRANS (Women's Royal Australian Naval Service) was formed. Its total enlistment was 2,617 young women.

The AWAS (Australian Women's Army Service) developed by September 1941 and enlistments reached 24,000.

These servicewomen learned many new skills as signallers, typist clerks, meteorologists, telegraph operators, flight mechanics, instrument technicians, cooks, anti-aircraft gunners, clerks, cooks and sick-quarter attendants — to name a few of them. In all, about 65 new tasks were learned and new responsibilities accepted by the women of the armed services. Around 80,000 women served in the wartime Navy, Army and Air Force of whom some 3,000 were our highly respected nursing sisters and their helpers in the women's medical services.

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THE HISTORY OF THE TED TOWNSHEND MEMORIAL SHIELD

Early in 1954 a social evening was held at the Glen Forrest Branch attended by Sub-Branches from Chidlow, Mt Helena, Mundaring and Darlington. The aim of the evening was to foster greater interest in the RSL and, in particular, the Hills Branches.

At this gathering were the late W.B. Lunnis and Ted Townshend, then liaison officer for the Hills Sub-Branches. Many ideas were put forward but the idea proposed by Ted proved to be the most exciting, he offered a Shield for a competition between the Hills' Branches to see who could interest the Branches in the RSL. Little did he know that the competition would continue - uninterrupted - for 27 years. The Shield was named the Ted Townshend Trophy for Competition by Hills Branches of the RSA and ANLA presented by E.C. Townshend.

The Shield was originally known as the Townshend Shield but on Ted's death became known as the Ted Townshend Memorial Shield.

YEARLY WINNERS OF THE E.C. TOWNSHEND MEMORIAL SHIELD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Winner</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1954</td>
<td>Glen Forrest</td>
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<tr>
<td>1955</td>
<td>Mundaring</td>
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<td>1956</td>
<td>Darlington</td>
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<td>1980</td>
<td>Upper Swan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>Upper Swan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 1952 he was elected to the WA State Executive and, at the time of his death, was chairman of the War Veterans' Home Board, was on the Membership Committee and the Staff Committee.

He was also Assistant Delegate of the State War Memorial to the Returned Sailors' & Soldiers' Imperial League. He was also Assistant Delegate of the State War Memorial to the Returned Sailors' & Soldiers' Imperial League, a member of the Council of Social Service Ex-Servicemen's Committee, a member of the League between the League and the Red Cross and a member of the Asian People's Anti-Communist League.

His MBE was conferred in the 1961 New Year's Honours List for service in the interests of recreation.

The Shield was originally known as the Townshend Shield but on Ted's death became known as the Ted Townshend Memorial Shield.

The Shield was originally known as the Townshend Shield but on Ted's death became known as the Ted Townshend Memorial Shield.

The games season started in September and each Sub-Branch played host for two sets of games played at each Sub-Branch during the season.

The Shield was originally to be won outright by the Sub-Branch that achieved three times in succession. Chidlow achieved this effort in 1961 and, with the approval of the donor, redonated the Shield in perpetuity. Glen Forrest also won three times and both Sub-Branches received a replica of the Shield.

During the early years John Ellis of Mt Helena Sub-Branch won the Shield three times in succession. Chidlow achieved this effort in 1961. Ted Townshend, then liaison officer for the Hills Sub-Branches, after 1966 saw an interest in the games and carried on until 1981. Special thanks go to the many Sub-Branch members for their participation in ensuring that the games continued in the spirit in which they were intended. Early games saw only the men attending but later their wives were invited to participate and this added to the enjoyment of the games and helped maintain the interest.

Ted and his wife Thelma always attended the final to the year's games and presented the Shield. Ted's legacy is that the Shield was moved annually to Chidlow.

Ted, who served in the Great War with the 4th Battalion (NSW) and later with the 1st Machine Gun Company, took part in the Gallipoli landing and served later in France. He lost a leg in the fighting at Ploegsteert in 1917.
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Townshend Memorial Shield cont.

Other Sub-Branches were invited to join the competition and Upper Swan became a regular competitor. The injection of new blood kept the competition going and eventually Upper Swan won the Shield in 1981 for the first time.

Sadly all good things come to an end and, due to lack of members able to participate, it was decided to end the competition in 1981. The final winners that year were Upper Swan and to them goes the honour of holding the Shield until, hopefully, it can be revived in the future. Since the Shield's inception, it has come what Ted Townshend set out to achieve—an appeal of keeping mateship and membership in the RSL together.

D. CRUDEEN
Upper Swan Sub-Branch

RSI, Pioneers Revolutionary Travel Insurance Plan

After many months of talks and detailed planning, the RSL has launched a new travel insurance plan especially designed to meet the needs of RSL members.

Known as RSL Pathfinder Travel Insurance, the plan possesses a key feature which has never before been reflexively addressed by the insurance industry. And it brings together in one policy other features which few other single plans can offer.

The most crucial point of difference is that the plan can cover travellers with Known Pre-Existing Conditions—that is, medical conditions, illnesses or physical defects which are known at the time of departure.

Other 'across-the-counter' travel insurance plans will not provide cover in respect of such conditions if medical treatment or advice for treatment has been obtained in periods ranging from 30 days to six months before departure.

RSL Pathfinder Travel Insurance requires only that if you have a 'Known Pre-Existing Condition', your medical practitioner must fill out a short form to declare that you are medically fit to travel. Most travel insurance policies today offer the provision of a certificate of fitness, but Pathfinder Assistance Services provides an important 'fail-safe'.

The RSL Pathfinder Travel Plan provides full cover for evacuation or curtailment of the journey, baggage and personal effects, emergency medical evacuation and repatriation, overseas medical and hospital expenses, accidental death and personal liability. In these areas, it matches the cover provided by most other policies, but the fact that it can cover 'Known Pre-Existing Conditions' increases its value. What is more, it matches all this at a premium which is definitely among the most competitive available in Australia, thanks to the buying power of the RSL membership (and kindred organisations) for which it was designed.

The policy document itself represents a great stride forward: it is written in plain English Instead of legal jargon, and sets out very clearly what is covered and what is not. Furthermore, the type is large enough to be easily read.

The RSL Pathfinder Travel Plan is underwritten by Mutual Community General Insurance of Adelaide, one of Australia's most solidly-established and respected insurance groups. It has the full endorsement of the RSL; in fact, it came into being as a direct result of the personal concerns of the National President, Brigadier Alf Garland, and research by Commodore 'Nobby' Clarke that existing insurance plans were inadequate for the needs of members. In the second major RSL initiative in the insurance field, the RSL Householder Insurance Plan launched some time ago is now strongly accepted in many states.

In introducing the RSL Pathfinder Travel Plan at a recent RSL function, Brigadier Garland said "This is a most significant breakthrough in travel insurance as it affects the welfare of members travelling overseas."

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REUNIONS

2/13th Field Ambulance AIF

Ex members and wives are invited to attend our 50th anniversary at a reunion at Anzac House on Friday, 26 October 1990 commencing at 7 pm.

For further information contact: Mr L. McCarthy, 31 Marradong Street, Coolbinia 6152, phone 444 1927 or A. Jamieson, 55 Valenica Avenue Churchlands 6018, phone 446 481

50th Anniversary - 2/4th MG Battalion

November 27, 1990 is the 50th Anniversary of the formation of the 2/4th Machine Gun Battalion in Northam, and the week's celebrations will begin with a memorial service at 2.30pm on Sunday 25 November at St George's Cathedral, Perth.

The Battalion will form up at the Esplanade at 1.45pm and march up Barrack Street and St George's Terrace to the Cathedral. We will be accompanied by the 5th Military District Band who will also play during the service. Afterwards, the ladies of the Cathedral will provide afternoon tea.

Tuesday, 27 November - a luncheon at Beau Rivage Restaurant, Gloucester Park Trotting Ground, will start at 12.30pm with pre-luncheon drinks served from 11.30am. Cost $35.00 per person, widows $20.00. There is ample parking in the trotting ground.

Thursday 29 November, 11.00am - a wreath-laying ceremony will be held at the POW Memorial in May Drive, Kings Park with the service conducted by member Stan Lance. This will be followed by a picnic lunch in the grounds opposite the Memorial BYO.

We have asked Pat Kenny, of the Savoy Hotel, to allow us to use the lounge on the first floor as a meeting-place for the week, so whoever is in town will know where they can catch up with mates. Their wives are included.

The committee has put in a lot of time and effort to make the week successful but it can only be so with your cooperation, so please make a special effort. There will be only one 50th.

We would like to see more members, sons, daughters and their wives and husbands come along not only to the luncheon, but to the other events during the week.

For those members who are incapacitated and have no transport the Association will provide same if you contact the Secretary. We must restrict this assistance to those living in the metropolitan area.

Closing date for luncheon bookings is 14 November and money to accompany applications. Please remember the date as we have to provide numbers for catering.

Please bring your own name badge if possible.

LES KEMP

Back to Barracks Night

After the last very successful Back-to-Barracks night held in April 1989, I have pleasure in announcing another informal get-together of RSL members and serving members of the Services: a chance to get to know one another, talk, and find out the views of those who are not yet members of the RSL.

Open to all Members, their wives and friends: Venue: 7th Field Battery Holbech Artillery Park, Irwin Barracks, Karrakatta, UWA. Friday 9 November 1990. Start: 7.30pm in tenters. Cost: $5 per head in pre-luncheon

Please notify numbers attending by Tuesday 6 November to Neil Fancourt, 32 Pioneer Drive, Edgewater 6027, telephone 306 1168 (home) or 325 0241 Ext 206 (work).

Ex-Signal Corps members who served in Japan with BCOF/BCFK 1945-55

It is proposed to hold a national reunion of ex-Army Signalers who served in Japan. The proposed reunion will be held in 1991 or 1992, would most probably be held in Sydney, Melbourne or Adelaide, and wives and partners would, of course, be welcome.

If there is firm support for the reunion from members in WA, group travel could possibly be made at a cheaper rate either by air or coach. Similarly, a rebate on accommodation for the two or three day event would be negotiated.

There is considerable interest in the proposed reunion as the last one was in 1955 in Melbourne. Further details are available by contacting Major Kel Weir, 1/31 Ostend Road, Scarborough 6019, or telephone 341 1199 after 4.30 pm.

Front Line Infantry Medal

The 2/12 Battalion Association has given notice it intends ending the above medal project at the end of 1990, so this is the last opportunity to obtain one.

To be entitled to the medal, it is essential to have been on the ration strength of an infantry battalion or attached to one whilst in action: eg, engineers, pioneers, machine gunners, commandos, or attached signallers or medical corps.

The medal is available through Arthur McGrath, Medal Specialist, 16 Mann Way, Bassendean 6054. Phone 328 0568.
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Letters To The Editor

'Discovered' Trail

Dear Editor,

As a result of my letter (2/4th Infantry Battalion) in the Lost Trails Section, I was contacted by one of the unaccounted for 2/4th Battalion members who lives in Albany; I also had telephone calls from two who were reinforcements to other units with whom I did my early training.

After about 40 years, it was very pleasing to have our lost 2/4thers come back into the fold of our little WA Association and to hear from my other two comrades-in-arms.

On behalf on the WA 2/4th Infantry Battalion Association members, I record my appreciation for publishing our letter.

DOUG SLINGER
WA Vice President
2/4th Infantry Battalion Association
55 Hotham Street,
Bayswater.

Sinking the Anshun

Dear Editor,

I read with interest the article on the sinking of the Anshun in Milne Bay in 1942 ('Milne Force Signals' Winter 1990) and would like to add a postscript to the story.

I served in the New Guinea Solomons areas in the Commonwealth Salvage and rescue ship Caledonian Salvor, a US lend-lease vessel taken over by an Australian crew in San Francisco in 1943. The Salvor helped to keep Allied shipping in the Pacific Unsinkable. One of her major jobs was to assist in the refloating of the Anshun at SIIL GILL. Anshun was towed to Sydney by another of our Salvor ships where she was refitted. After she was refitted, the Salvor sailed off the Australian coast until her eventual retirement.

Included in the Caledonian Salvor crew was Ben Firkiri, a cook from WA who had been in the crew of The Anson when she was sunk. Ben was also aboard the WA government ship Anson which was sunk in Wyndham in 1942 by Japanese torpedoes. Salvor's last job before being decommissioned and returned to the US in 1945, was an attempt to refloat the Koomala at Wyndham.

For Ben, the wheel had turned full circle.

J. (Mick) GIGGINS
242 Canning Highway,
East Fremantle.

Cheering response

Dear Editor,

Thank you for putting my request in your journal. Quite a few of my old army mates have been in touch. I have spoken to several on the phone and have had some letters. It really cheered me up as I am a West Aussie myself, but moved to Sydney in 1944 and lost contact with all my mates. It was just great to hear from them, and I hope that more will respond.

Thanking you once again,
RON METCALFE
16 Rolleston Avenue,
Kingsgrove NSW 2008

Old man's downfall...

An 85-year-old man decided to bridge the generation gap and marry a 20-year-old girl. Before the big day, he visited his doctor and explained the situation. "Not to worry," said the doctor, "I'll fix you up with some pills. Now these are pretty powerful, so you have to be careful with them. Take one every other day. Go 'ta that? Every other day. Take one on Sunday, skip Monday, one on Tuesday, skip Wednesday, one Thursday, skip Friday and so on."

Two weeks later the doctor met the young bride dressed in widow's black. "Was it the pills?" he asked. "No," she replied, "It was the skipping."
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Lost Trails

Names wanted

Could you please help me in my search for former mates who served with me from May 1962 until September 1966 in 2 Field Troop Royal Australian Engineers which was part of 11 Independent Field Squadron Royal Engineers based in Terendak Camp in Malacca, Malaysia, as part of the 28th Commonwealth Brigade.

During our tour of duty we served in Thailand as part of Operation Crown as well as going to Sarawak on rotation to support 3 Battalion Royal Australian Regiment and work on airfield and road construction tasks. This was the period of the Indonesian confrontation with Malaysia.

There were about 50 members of the Troop so far we have managed to locate. When we find the rest, we are planning to have a reunion at a central location.

J.S. WILSON
10 Jolliffe Street,
Busselton 6280
Phone 097 522935

Information wanted

I have a bronze badge of 'The King's Royal Rifle Corps'. Can anyone identify and give me any information regarding this badge? It is similar in shape to a Maltese Cross, and has the crown on top, with past battles named on the cross.

STEPHEN BELICKE
Rockingham Sub-Branch
20 Frederick Street,
Bunbury WA 6230

Northam veterans

Northam Sub-Branch is in the process of updating its Roll-of-Honour Board and would like to hear from the relatives or friends of Northam (born or stationed there) service personnel who paid the supreme sacrifice in the following campaigns: Malaya (1948-1960), Borneo/Sabah/Sarawak (1962-90), Malay Peninsula (1962-1966), Korea (1950-1953) and Vietnam (1962-1973).

Please contact secretary Kevin Watson, Northam Sub-Branch, P.O. Box 252, Northam 6401, phone 096 223373.

Calling Denis Chadney

I am trying to trace a wartime Catalina navigator and old comrade in the UK and SEAC Flying Officer Denis John Chadney, RAAF (attached to the RAF). If anyone could let me have his address, I would be very grateful.

J.M.D. BURKE
7 Coolangatta Terrace,
Dromana Vic 3916
Phone 059 871701

SUB-BRANCH NEWS

Geraldton

Australia's Defence

This Sub-Branch has expressed concern that Australia's ability to defend itself against a force of even 10,000 invading enemy soldiers has been cast in doubt by prominent military thinkers. It will, therefore, urge State Congress to continue to press for the re-introduction of National Service as an important measure of contributing to Australia's defence capabilities.

The Sub-Branch also decided at its April meeting to be associated with a feasibility study into the possibility of reintroducing the Army Cadet movement, and at its July meeting decided to accept, in principle, a proposal to sponsor the formation of a community army cadet unit.

The Sub-Branch was a strong supporter of the Army Cadets when they operated at St Patrick's College and Geraldton Senior High School and was a combined unit.

A State Congress motion from Geraldton seeks an additional clause to a section of the Aged Persons' Homes Act. The clause is designed to give increased financial support towards the management of RSL Hostels and Nursing Home Establishments.

The National President, Brigadier Alf Garland, will attend our annual reunion dinner on September 8, following the National Congress in Perth.

National Committee has sent a letter of congratulations to our Women's Auxiliary, which won the Country Cup as the outstanding country Auxiliary in WA. The Geraldton Auxiliary has now won the Cup 24 times in a competition which is based not only on service to the RSL and allied organisations but also to the community generally.

A vacancy on the Sub-Branch Management Committee has been filled by Vietnam veteran Bob Sandy.
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UNFAIR CRITICISM

At our May meeting, what was referred to as unjust criticism of the RSL concerning Vietnam veterans was expressed. This referred to an Anzac Day interview in which a Vietnam veteran said among other things that there were men in Geraldton who wouldn't have anything to do with the ex-service movement.

The Sub-Branch has been saying for years that it has nothing but admiration for all those who served in Vietnam, and that it was always appreciative of their efforts under the extremely difficult circumstances. As far back as 1966 Geraldton was providing Christmas parcels for national servicemen in both Vietnam and Malaysia. In addition, the servicemen were made honorary members of the RSL and their parents were visited by Sub-Branch representatives to give help and advice as required.

One of the 1966 Christmas parcels' recipients, Private C.A. Smythe, wrote from Vietnam: "lt is good to know there are some people at home who are behind the Australian servicemen in their efforts. We thank the Sub-Branch for its support and understanding." Another recipient had said that the Christmas parcels gave a terrific boost to morale of servicemen.

The end of Australia's involvement in Vietnam had been marked by the inclusion of two Vietnam veterans in the party on the saluting dais on Anzac Day, 1972, and by having other Vietnam veterans lead the parade. The RSL's supportive attitude towards Vietnam veterans continued when the Sub-Branch financed the attendance of two veterans at the Welcome Home Parade in October 1988 during Australia's Bicentennial year.

Everyone associated with the outstanding success of Anzac Day 1990 is thanked.

Vietnam veteran Chris Smythe set a splendid example to his colleagues by becoming Junior Vice-President and then Senior Vice-President - a position previously held by Vietnam veteran Derek Andrews.

PETER BARDEN, P.R.O.

WANNEROO & DISTRICTS

Greetings to all our fellow members and ladies of Auxiliaries throughout WA.

It is pleasing to note that Doug Bruce is on the mend and should be home by the time this goes to press. Cec Bruce has been a tower of strength and is still able to contribute in her role with the ladies. These two people are truly what the RSL is all about - they care for their fellow man and so splendidly set an example of the true Aussie spirit of "giving your mate a hand". Thank you, Doug and Cec, and "Good-on-ya!"

Once again we are the proud recipients of the "Merv Williams Trophy". And we thank the Ladies Auxiliary for their tireless efforts in helping us achieve this.

It is with pride that I report on a very successful Anzac Day service held in Wanneroo this year. The numbers attending are growing each year, with enthusiastic involvement by the youth in the district.

We also welcome the Burma Star Association into our ranks - it is a pleasure and privilege to have you gentlemen.

"In our government's system we lack the mechanism for correcting mistakes until they become disasters". The RSL throughout Australia can prevent this if we speak as one voice. Remember: together then, together now.

NEIL FANCOURT

SATURDAY, 24 NOVEMBER, 1990
ANZAC HOUSE
AT 6.30 P.M.
Pre Dinner Drinks 6.00 p.m.
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Members accepting, with partners, to notify.
Hon. Secretary
City of Perth RSL Sub-Branch
G.P.O. Box C128, Perth 6001
Tel. 448 3812 or 277 4091
Closing Date: 21 November 1990
DRESS INFORMAL

CANNING DISTRICTS - VICTORIA PARK

The membership of our Sub-Branch (on the corner of Wharf Street and George Way, Cannington) is increasing and our social activities are very popular. We are proud of our happy atmosphere and new members are made most welcome. Carpet bowls, pool and darts are available for members and our beer garden with BBQ facilities is very popular during the warmer months.

Members are reminded that our Remembrance Day Service will be held at 11 am on Sunday, 11 November 1990 at the Memorial, corner of Albany Highway and Manning Road, Cannington, and the AGM will be held at 11 am Sunday, 2 December 1990. Last year saw a large turnout at both and it is hoped that this will continue.

President Bob Hill recently paid a warm tribute to Jim Redmond and Norm Simmons. Jim has been our Bunbury volunteer barman for many years, and...
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Members are reminded that the Sub-Branch has an interesting library at the North Beach Bowling Club. More than 60 volumes contain diverse subjects, with a good selection of military matters including the Time/Life series "Australians at War".

Books may be borrowed, the key is available from Sub-Branch Secretary, Joe O'Byrne, or the Secretary of North Beach Bowling Club, Alf Price.

NORTHAM

The 75th Anniversary of Gallipoli was special for us as one of our members, Merv Carter, is a Gallipoli veteran. Merv (who is 95 and now lives in Wongan Hills near his daughter) is quick to point out that he was not at the landing, but arrived with the 5th reinforcements in August, 1915, and served with the 16th Bn.

Twice wounded, he then served with the 4th Bn in France and was on a hospital ship bound for home when the Armistice was signed. Merv still vividly recalls the relief he felt when he heard that the war was over. This sprightly veteran was given pride of place at our 1990 march and led us down Fitzgeorge St (before a record crowd) in a vehicle, accompanied by a Legion band.

Merv assures us that he will be here in 1991 and, judging by his activity last year, we could disagree with him.

KEVIN WATSON
Hon. Secretary
096 221975.

OSBORNE PARK

The Sub-Branch continued to enjoy a renewed interest of former members coming back to the fold, and at the July meeting our Secretary reported that membership had increased to 104 members. This is very encouraging and we extend our sincere gratitude to everyone who has encouraged new members and former members to join.

Owing to the increased number of members, the Sub-Branch was entitled to have three delegates at the 1989 State Congress instead of two. Congress proved to be a most successful being of exceptionally high standard and generating very interesting debates. Congratulations to all who presented proposals and the delegates who spoke on the various subjects. I was honoured to be one of the delegates from Osborne Park, and I am sure that other delegates found the proceedings as full of interest as I did.

The Building Committee, formed to investigate the possibility of selling off part of our property at Osborne Park, has met several times to consider what would be the best procedure to adopt, including rezoning the existing hall area without altering it in any way. This however, proved to be too expensive and the option was rejected by members at a general meeting.

The Building Committee is now looking at retaining the whole of the land — that is, the three blocks that we own — and approaching the City of Stirling to fund the project. At the same time, the State Government was asked to give support to rebuilding the hall; a reply from Dr. Capper Lawrence (in her capacity as the member for

UTTENRING POST - SPRING 1990 - PAGE 67
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Sub-Branch News

Glendalough indicated her support and added that she had written to the City of Stirling. We have met with one of the city's recreation officers explaining how we would like to redevelop the property and that financial assistance from Council would be appreciated. A start has thus been made towards achieving our goal, but there will, no doubt, be many setbacks. We sincerely hope that you all go along with what we are attempting to do; if any members wishes to speak about the project, do come along to a general meeting.

BILL SULLIVAN
President
94B 2/87

SCARBOROUGH

Our trip to Alcan, organised by Secretary Ron Elms, was a very pleasant day's outing. Those of us who had been on previous visits were surprised to see how the regeneration front planned by Alcan had advanced. If more of this work were done by others, we feel that the forest would be back to original or even better standards. It is worth a mention that Alcan has received a United Nations Award for its reforestation.

Mr AL Parker spoke to the pupils of Deanmore Primary School on the meaning of Anzac Day. He mentioned that, though he had missed out on the Anzac Day commemoration trip, he was on the reserve. Not many men of the 1914-1918 war are left; preparation was made around these days to give accounts of the Somme and Villers-Bretonneux with their foul and bloody conditions.

Mr Len Hall, the 83-year-old veteran and survivor of Gallipoli and Mrs Alice Furze, a war widow, who went on the Gallipoli trip, spoke of their experiences. Len, who was in the 4th Light Horse, gave a graphic account of the landing at Anzac Cove, the passage there in the lifeboat, and the crisp orders of the young naval officer: "This is where you get out, Gall!"

He told of his later life in an aircraft and his subsequent transfer to the Flying Corps. He's exchanged his horse for a Sopwith Camel and enjoyed the change, although he had fond memories of his horses (three of them were killed). There must be a story somewhere on the origins of the Light Horse and Artillery of those days.

Mrs Furze spoke of the kindness and attention given by the tour organisers and her surprise at the enthusiasm of the young Naval officers: "This is where you get out, Gall!"

Don Phillips and D. Sweetman. The last time Scarborough won was in 1972. Congratulations were given as Dudley Docking held the trophy - the Maurice Cheve Trophy - for all to see.

Our membership is growing, with new members and others transferring to the Sub-branch. Amongst them is Len Hill, who lives in the area and becomes our 309th member.

After a spell in hospital, Jos Barlett is now back with us and ready for bowls again. Our welfare lady, Mrs Joy Reed, is in hospital again and our best wishes to go her. Mrs Dorothy Devaney carries on the good work.

Douglas Pigott and Secretary Ron Elms met with the City of Stirling Mayor and City Manager regarding the proposed moving of the War Memorial to the new Bowling Club site. Progress will be reported in due course.

The Treasurer gave an account of investments and what we can afford from the interest received. The RSL Triple Bowls was won by the Scarborough team of Dudley Docking, Jim Hazel, and Wayne Williams - who assured us that there will be more frequent visits from HQ Agricultural to the Sub-branch. The last time Scarborough won was in 1972. Congratulations were given as Dudley Docking held the trophy - the Maurice Cheve Trophy - for all to see.

The Doubleview Bowling Club Carnival will again be sponsored for $500 and organised by the Doubleview Bowling Club Match Committee.

Warrant Officer Rod Carpenter of 22 Construction Squadron, who recently returned from United Nations service in Namibia, gave a talk on conditions there and the involvement of the Australian Army in the UN Peace-keeping Force. He described the problems of the Namibian people (most of whom had never seen a water-tap before) and carried out other essential health work, leaving Namibia in a better condition than before. We don't appear to read much in the media of what our UN forces are doing in UN-aided countries. Rod's talk was much appreciated by approximately 80 members.

JIM HUGILL

BUSSELTON

There was a very good attendance at this year's AGM when we were pleased to welcome three representatives from UWA - Gary Collins, Ron Milne and Wayne Williams - who assured us that there will be more frequent visits from HQ advisers in the future.

In his address, President Roy Young said that the past year had been very successful and encouraging, with good meeting attendances and the enrolment of several new members. Members continue to take part in various local activities and all our social functions were well organised and successful.

We now have in the hall a couple of display cabinets kindly donated by two of our hard-working junior members, Graham and Anne Jones, who (unfortunately for our) have left this year for New Zealand.

Lest We Forget. The book "Lest We Forget", the history of the RSL, is now available to those who wish to borrow it.
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Sub-Branch News

Guinea (where Graham has been transferred by Telecom).

Our big get for 1990 is the proposed extension to the hall and kitchen. Frank Oates has had the plans drawn up and will now concentrate on fundraising for the project.

Mr Young, who addressed the select group of members for their support and co-operation over the past year, was elected unopposed as President for 1990, as were Secretary Fay Pike and Treasurer Bert Rogers. Frank Oates is Senior Vice President and Jan Granville Junior Vice President. New members of the committee are Simon Wilson and John Van Eldik.

Last year's Poppy Day was the best ever, with supplies of poppies running out before closing time. The response from the Busselton public is very gratifying.

After publicity in the local paper regarding the 75th Anniversary of Gallipoli, our Anzac Day ceremonies were better attended than ever before, with more marchers and organisations taking part. During the service at the Memorial, a plaque in memory of Pte S. Barnett of 4RAR, who was killed in Vietnam, was unveiled by his mother and nephew. In the afternoon our bowling stalwarts managed to wrest the Perpetual Anzac Day Trophy from the bowling club.

Soon we hope to show a video of the Anzac Day service and march, and we have already heard an address by local girl, Naomi Byler, who accompanied the Anzac veterans to the Gallipoli ceremonies as a representative of WA Youth.

Congratulations to our long-serving member, Mr John Cooper, who was recently elected President of the Busselton Shire Council.

JOHN JOYCE
Publicity Officer.

EASTERN HILLS

This Sub-Branch, centred in Mundaring, is the result of the amalgamation of many Hills Sub-Branches (Mundaring, Glen Forrest, Darlington, Citoow and Mt Helena). There were numerous reasons for the final decision — natural movement, declining membership, travelling distances to meetings, age and sickness and other factors. The amalgamation has proved to be successful and we have some 75 members, although from a wide area. We have already heard an address by local girl, Naomi Byler, who accompanied the Anzac veterans to the Gallipoli ceremonies as a representative of WA Youth.

Congratulations to our long-serving member, Mr John Cooper, who was recently elected President of the Busselton Shire Council.

JOHN JOYCE
Publicity Officer.

We are currently running a Joint Venture programme so that every member receives a news and information letter hand-delivered each month — the object being to keep in touch with all members at all times.

The newsletter is called "The Eastern Hills Sub-Branch Bugler" — sub-head "Sounding the up-to-date news". Feedback is a problem — it is so necessary to keep a newsletter of this type alive. We are still trying to strike the right chord. Those to whom we have helped have been grateful but the main object is to keep in touch for the benefit of all. We will keep on trying — who knows, perhaps the balloon will burst and we will have a flood of news.

Recruiting new members has been slow but we have managed to earn two recruiting pennants for the Sub-Branch.

As the years roll by, age and sickness take their toll but this must be happening in most branches. The "Listening Post" helps to keep us in touch with other Sub-Branches and interesting events.

JOHN O'BRIEN-HILL
Honorary Secretary.

MAXDURAH

VISIT BY NATIONAL PRESIDENT

Our National President, Brigadier Alf Garland, and State President, Jim Hall, visited us on 1 September. A special meeting of the Sub-Branch was called and delegates from 14 Sub-Branches in the south-west region were invited.

ANNUAL STATE CONGRESS

Vice-President John Ralph, who led our delegation of eight, ensured that members were given a good briefing on all important issues at our July meeting and our monthly newsletter. He was also pleased to announce that, as a reward for our efforts, we were given a Membership Pennant for 1989 acknowledging an increased membership of 10% plus.

SECRETARY'S RESIGNATION

Well-known and well-liked Secretary Keith Dhu decided to stand down from the arduous duties of Secretary from the end of June. Although recently recovered from a serious illness, Keith is still very actively involved with Sub-Branch business and we also been appointed President of the new Hall head Bowling Club in Mandurah.

Vice-President John Ralph has taken over as secretary until the end of the year along with his other duties, which include welfare assistance to club members.

MANDURAH CADET UNIT

Under our Sub-Branch sponsorship, 5/4 Mandurah Cadet Unit has been created and is a fine and healthy body. The unit officially came into existence on 9 July 1990.
We would like to invite all R.S.L. Clubs to join us for their next outing or day tour you may be planning.

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KEEP OUR COMMUNITY TOGETHER

Jesus People's Donated Goods Centre is located at Unit 2/28 Munt Street, Bayswater. Goods generously donated by the public are collected from donor homes or delivered by our centre on Saturdays from 8.00am to 4.00pm Monday-Friday.

Donated Goods Centre provides low income earners access to second-hand furniture and household goods. Also provided — AT NO COST — are meal-ready kits and young people's study packs. Request for assistance is based entirely on need and our ability to meet at the time of the request.

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For more information contact:
Colin White, Phone 272 4496 or
Jean Crawford, City Youth Centre, Phone 325 4677

Jesus People Welfare Services Inc.

Peter Grover and Staff welcome all R.S.L. Members and their families to join us for a drink or meal — perhaps even stay a while in our units.

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Sub-Branch News

An active and well-organised Parents' Committee has been formed and is hard at work raising funds for the purchase of equipment not supplied by the Army and other consumables needed during training.

The Parents' Committee applied for and has been granted the sum of $2,000 towards the provision of worthwhile facilities and assistance to the young people of Mandurah. In a combined exercise the Sub-Branch and the Parents' Committee have purchased a second-hand steel shipping container for about $1,000 that will be fitted up as an armoury and receptacle for controlled stores.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

A barbecue on the Saturday evening of the week when our regular monthly social held here now become an established feature. Carpet bowls every Monday afternoon are popular and bingo starts at 1.30pm on the Tuesday of the week after service pension day. An evening at the Mandurah Greyhound Park in June attracted a good crowd, and we are now looking forward to our Christmas in July at Araluen.

T.A. MILLS.

HIGH GATE

VALE — Thomas Charles Bedells

Tom enlisted soon after war was declared, carrying the service number WX 14 and took part in the early campaigns in the desert and in Greece and Crete. He escaped from Crete with a party of about 80 in an underpowered landing barge. After a series of brushes with the enemy, including an Italian submarine, Tom finally reached Axis coastal near Mersa Matruh with three bullet wounds.

In civilian life, Tom was an accountant with the T & G Insurance Company. Pre-war he represented the State at hockey in the 1938 Carnival in Adelaide. Post-war he concentrated on the administrative side, particularly umpiring, and achieved international status when he umpired Olympic matches in 1954 and 1960. Joining Perth Legacy in 1948, Tom served faithfully for 27 years on various committees and as sub-Branch President until 1975.

VALE — Campbell Ernest Rederich

Cam served with the RAAF 1940-1949, mainly flying Beaufighters in the Pacific area and was awarded the AE (Airman's Efficiency). He married Middy in 1943, and they registered the name 'Ad Astra Dry Cleaners' in September 1949, commencing business three months later.

Cam was a Sub Warden (State War Memorial) and a past President of the Highgate Sub-Branch RSL, and also a member of the Air Forces Association, Air Crew Association RAAF Club London and the Masonic Lodge.

Cam was involved in numerous other activities including being past Vice-President of the Subbaan Football Club (1960s).

THE RETURNED EX-SERVICEWOMEN'S Poppy Day Lunch for men and women

Monday, 29 October 1990 Fremantle Sailing Club

Half proceeds to restoration of State War Memorial

Tickets $25 RSVP 23.10.90

APPLICATION FOR TICKETS

Gallipoli Year Poppy Day Lunch

Mrs J. Dowson, Ticket Secretary

Returned Ex-Servicewomen's Sub-Branch RSL,

3 Bay View Terrace

MOSMAN PARK WA 6012

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WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

STATE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Our 83rd State Conference, held on May 29 and 30, was well attended by delegates and observers.

The State President of the League, Mr. J. Hall, officially opened the Conference marking all Auxiliaries for their continued support. He then presented Mrs. Audrey Jackson, of the Peel Region Auxiliary, and Mrs. Pat Mathews and Mrs. Elsie Hains, of the Wembley-Floreat Auxiliary, with Certificates of Merit and Gold Badges. A Certificate of Appreciation was also presented to Mrs. Wessie Rows, our Past State President, in recognition of the 40 years she has served on State Executive. Congratulations ladies, you truly earned these awards.

A cheque for $18,000 was presented to the League towards the building of the Mandurah War Veterans' Homes. A donation of $2,000 was also made towards the maintenance of the State War Memorial. The money had been donated by all Auxiliaries.

Delegates assembled after lunch for an informative road-laying ceremony at the State War Memorial, our Bugler this year was from the 5th Military District Band and the Deputy Warden, Mr. B. Crook, led the "Ode".

On the Wednesday Conference re-assembled when our guest speaker, Constable Charles Cassey from the Crime and Prevention Squad, gave a most informative talk on security in the home. His advice was most appreciated by delegates as there are so many elderly members who are now living on their own.

Thanks are extended to members who donated raffle prizes and to Auxiliary members for good for our fund-raising activities which again were a huge success, the money raised being put towards Conference expenses.

Our two Patronesses, Mrs. Stockmin and Mrs. Ames sent messages of regret that they were unable to attend our Conference luncheon due to ill-health.

The election of officers for 1990-91, held on the second day of the Conference, resulted as follows:

- State President: Mrs. A. Cayley
- Immediate Past President: Mrs. J. Ford
- Past Past President: Mrs. V. Rowe, MRE
- Senior Vice President: Mrs. T. Taylor
- Junior Vice President: Mr. R. Barnett
- Hon. State Secretary: Mrs. M. Sullivan
- Hon. State Treasurer: Mrs. H. Holder

Committee: Madames G. Rolfe, BEM (Bellevue), C. McPartland, M. Jok, L. Ryniker (Bassendean-Guildford), A. Cooke (Armadale), T. Cinotti (Cockburn), C. Hains (Wembley-Floreat), T. Crispin, N. Clifton, Sheila (Belmont), M. Fisher, N. Dave (Rivervale-Carriag), J. Southern (Kalamunda-Nth Perth),

Reserves: N. Hammond (Subbies), Mrs. Jacksic and Mrs. Norris (City of Perth).

The winner of the Country Cup was Geraldton, the Andrew Shield went to Mt Barker and the Tray to Bunbury. The Metropolitan Cup was won by Fremantle, the Anne Shield to Bassendean-Guildford and the Tray to City of Perth. Encouragement Certificates were presented to Boulder, Narrogin, Darling Range and Subiaco Auxiliaries.

On Thursday May 1, with Madames McPartland, Bettridge and Dawe, I attended the Kojonup Auxiliary's luncheon. It was a most enjoyable day and we extend our grateful thanks to Mrs. Kath Norris from the City of Perth Auxiliary with an appreciation certificate for its many years of dedicated service.

On May 9 and 16 Diment and Armadale respectively held fund-raising days and luncheons.

On May 19 Mrs. Taylor and I were guests of the Bunbury Auxiliary's 55th birthday luncheon. It was a most enjoyable day and we extend our grateful thanks to Mrs. Kath Norris for her kind hospitality. Executive members were guests of the Narrogin Auxiliary for their birthday luncheon where our Senior Vice President, Mrs. Taylor, presented the Auxiliary with an appreciation certificate for its many years of dedicated service.

On May 9 and 16 Diment and Armadale respectively held fund-raising days and luncheons.

Our State Secretary, Mrs. Sullivan and I attended the League's Congress where I read my annual report and the presentation of our agenda items.

In June, with Mrs. Sullivan and Mrs. Taylor, I attended the Mandurah Auxiliary's 55th birthday luncheon and, with State Executive, was a guest of the Wembley-Floreat Auxiliary birthday luncheon.

In July I attended the fund-raising day at Rivervale-Carriag Auxiliary with State Executive and members of visiting Auxiliaries and their husbands. We had the pleasure of being served with a fine meal! Dinner prepared and served by Sub-Branch men. Thank you gentlemen, for the wonderful effort you give to your Auxiliary.

At our State Executive meeting, Mrs. Marie Kays from Tasmania spoke on the work she and other volunteers do for the Bay Care Centre at the Rehabilitation Hospital in Hobart. Mrs. Jacksic and Mrs. Norris from the City of Perth Auxiliary were our guest at the meeting.
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Women's Auxiliary Cont.

Mrs Sullivan is organising the items for our Christmas Cheer parcels. Could I appeal to members to donate a little more to this worthy cause?

The very cold weather put many of our members on the sick list and we wish them a speedy recovery.

In conclusion I take this opportunity to thank all Auxiliaries and Sub-Branches for their continued co-operation, help and generous donations during the past year.

ALLISON CAYLEY

BULLSBROOK AND DISTRICTS

Bullsbrook is a very small branch with only a few members able to attend our meetings held on the first Wednesday of every month at 8.00 pm in the anteroom of the RSL Memorial Hall in Hurd Road. That is the same night as the Sub-Branch meetings in the main hall.

As the Sub-Branch is carrying our committee to the Memorial Hall, we are trying to help financially. We hold monthly Bingo nights where we have a lot of fun and raise a little money.

At Christmas we held a very successful raffle with three separate hampers as prizes. During the year we donated new curtains to the hall — they have a very patriotic design in navy blue with red and white of Australian Flags as the general motif — and two fans for use in the hot summer months.

Some members always participate in our Anzac Day Dawn Service, organised by our Sub-Branch, from a handful of people attending the first service five years ago, attendance has grown annually with well over 100 this year.

DIZZY AUBREY SPOONER
Acting Secretary

BUNBURY

Anzac Day in Bunbury was a great success and the observance is getting bigger every year. Our Auxiliary started with the early morning "cups" before the Dawn Service and provided the luncheon for members, friends and visitors after the march.

We again catered for the 10th Light Horse Reunion and have been asked to do the same again next year.

About nine of our ladies attended the 5-year State Conference, some for the first time, and found it very interesting. More Auxiliary members should share the experience.

Approximately 200 people attended the RSL annual dinner at the Lord Forrest Hotel with Brigadier Alf Garland our guest of honour.

On a sad note, I have to inform you that some of our Sub-Branch members have passed away in the last few months.

JUDY PAULETTE, Secretary

Last Post

MAY

BALLINGALL, S., WX7663, Collie-Cardiff, 2/28 Aust Inf En
BLECHYNDEN, R.A., WX018, Busselton, 2/11 Aust Inf En
CANNAM, R., 238375, Yokine-Joondanna, Ayrshire Yeo 161 Rtd Regt
CAMPBELL, J.E., WX19217, Canning Dist-Vic Park, 2/28 Aust Inf Br
COPE, C.M., WX13890, Rockingham Districts, 8th Mech Workshops AEME
COWDELL, W.E., 4363, Rockingham Districts, 77 Sqn RAAF
COWDELL, W.E., W2281, Rockingham Districts, RAAF Base
DIXON, J.W., 16180, Mandurah, RAAF

JUNE

Ferguson, G.H., WX36468, Boyup Brook, AEME
Hollins, G., WX172, Bunbury, RAAF
Kaminski, S., WX4457, Busselton, Navy
Miller, A.G., WX6414, Mandurah, 2/7th Aust Inf Bn
Peggs, D., WX16625, Canning Dist-Vic Park, 137 Aust Transport Company
Sansome, H.F.M., 745946, North Beach RAF Aircrew
Upson, A.E., WX9571, Capel, 2/23 Fd Regt
Warnier, H.F., WX5099, Riverton, 1 Corps Patrol Tanks

PETERSON, G.H., WX36468, Boyup Brook, AEME
HOLLINS, G., WX172, Bunbury, RAAF
KAMINSKI, S., WX4457, Busselton, Navy
MILLER, A.G., WX6414, Mandurah, 2/7th Aust Inf Bn
PEGGS, D., WX16625, Canning Dist-Vic Park, 137 Aust Transport Company
SANDOE, H.F.M., 745946, North Beach, RAAF Aircrew
UPSON, A.E., WX9571, Capel, 2/23 Fd Regt
WARNER, H.F., WX5099, Riverton, 1 Corps Patrol Tanks

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<td>RAN</td>
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<td>WX38288</td>
<td>City of Perth, Aus Adv</td>
<td>BAEAR</td>
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<td>Bunbury</td>
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**Unit Associations cont. from page 80**

**460 SQUADRON RAAF ASSOCIATION (WA)**
President: W.E.M. (Gerry) Bateman, DFC, 221 South Terrace, Como 6152. Tel: 367 3063. Secretary: B.A. Johnson, 63 Kirwan Street, Floreat Park 6014. Tel: 387 4229. Treasurer: T.R. Gallop, 19 Felstead Crescent, Hamersley 6022. Tel: 447 4037. Meetings are held four times a year.

**1940 DUNKIRK VETERANS ASSOCIATION**
Western Australia Branch
Meets first Tuesday each month at North Perth Bowling Club 1300. Vice President: W. Cross. Tel: 279 1014. Secretary/Treasurer: P. W. Hessell. Tel: 344 1756.

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President: Mr W.B. Plewright, 23 Kenwick Way, Balga, 6061. Tel: 342 6718. Secretary: Mrs D. Jackson, PO Box 411, Midland, 6056. Tel: 294 1054. Treasurer: Mr W.F. Sullivan, 74 Federal Street, Tuart Hill, 6060. Tel: 349 2797. Meetings: 2nd Monday, February, April (AGM), June, August, October & December at Hollywood Repatriation Hospital, Vermont Street. Meets at 9.00am.

AUSTRALIAN SPECIAL AIR SERVICES ASSOCIATION (WA BRANCH)
President: Mr Mick Ruffin, 50 Myrtle Avenue, Sorrento, 6020. Tel: 448 1683. Secretary: Mr Ian Gay, 29 Lennoxtown Road, Duncraig, 6023. Treasurer: Mr John Griffiths, 15 Hadnott Crescent, Greenwood, 6124. Tel: 448 5487. Meetings: 1st Tuesday each month, 7.00pm, same location - Welcome.

AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S ARMY SERVICE ASSOCIATION (AWAS)
President: Mrs Alice Corry, OAM, 4 Nottingham Street, East Victoria Park, 6101. Tel: 361 2824. Secretary: Mrs N. Angwin, Unit 7/6 Mt Henry Road, Como, 6152. Tel: 450 1833. Treasurer: Mrs P. Gilchrist. Tel: 272 8662. Meetings: 1st Floor, Anzac House on the 1st Thursday of the even months, 10am-12 noon.

BCOF ASSOCIATION OF WA

BLIND SOLEIORS OF ST DUNSTAN'S WEST AUSTRALIA
President: Mr A.J. Dean, 31 Lamond Street, Melville, 6156. Ph: 330 5458. Secretary: Mr F.C. Wooller, 2 Rhagodia Court, Heathridge, 6027. Ph: 401 8130. Treasurer: As above. Meetings: 2nd Tuesday alternate months, February onwards at 1.45pm, Red Cross House, Murray Street, Perth.

BRITISH EX-SERVICEMEN ASSOCIATION (INC)
President: C.A. Hines, Unit 20, 196/198 St Kilda Road, Rivervale, 6103. Tel: 277 7699. Secretary: J. Alborn, MM, 112 Edward Street, Bedford, 6052. Tel: 276 8964. Treasurer: D. Williams. All correspondence to PO Box 66, Maylands 6051. Council meets second Tuesday of each month at ANZAC House at 2.00pm.
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EX-PRISONERS OF WAR ASSOCIATION OF WA - LADIES AUXILIARY
President: Mrs. G. M. Brown, 21 Cyril Street, Bassendean, 6054. Tel: 279 6753. Secretary: Mrs. P. Duncan, 40 Kennedy Street, Melville, 6156. Tel: 338 3174. Meetings held on 1st Thursday of each month (except January) at 1.30pm at ANZAC Club, Perth.

AIRMEN'S ASSOCIATION
President: Mr. F. Hamilton, 35 Clement Drive, Karrinyup, 6018. Tel: 271 4703. Secretary: Mrs. Grace Jones, 23 Willow Road, Joondanna. Tel: 410 0942. Meetings held quarterly at Anzac House, 71 West Perth. President: Mr. J. Duncan, 40 Kennedy Street, Melville, 6156. Tel: 338 3174. Meetings held on 1st Thursday of each month (except January) at 1.30pm at ANZAC Club, Perth.

FLEET AIR ARM ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (WA)
President: Mr. Frank Hamilton, 35 Clement Drive, Karrinyup. Tel: 271 4703. Secretary: Mrs. Grace Jones, 71 West Perth. Tel: 410 0942. Meetings held quarterly at Anzac House, 71 West Perth. President: Mr. J. Duncan, 40 Kennedy Street, Melville, 6156. Tel: 338 3174. Meetings held on 1st Thursday of each month (except January) at 1.30pm at ANZAC Club, Perth.

GUARDIANS ASSOCIATION OF WA
President: Mr. B. Higginson, Secretary: Mr. P. Britton, Tel: 646 1432. All correspondence to: 43 Shiel Court, Maddington, 6109. Meetings held on 1st Thursday of each month (except January) at 1.30pm at ANZAC Club, Perth. WA, 6000.

HEAVY ANTI-AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION
President: Mr. D. F. Busby, 31 Wicks Street, Eden Hill, 6109. Tel: 364 3481. Meetings held on 1st Thursday of each month (except January) at 1.30pm at ANZAC Club, Perth. WA, 6000.

HMAS RANFORD VETERANS ASSOCIATION WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BRANCH
President: Mr. K. T. Kenyon, 10 Nicholas Avenue, Cottesloe, W. 6020. Tel: 506 5732. Secretary: Mr. R. R. Bowler, 48 Shortland Street, W. 6010. Tel: 324 3022. Treasurer: Mrs. M. D. Storer, 16 Dowell Place, Bibra Lake. Tel: 417 9468. Address for correspondence: GPO Box 929, Perth. WA, 6000.

KOREA & SOUTH EAST ASIA FORCES ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (WA BRANCH)
President: Mr. P. R. C. Cleary, 179 Ashmore Road, Zuccoli, W. 6152. Tel: 450 6455. Postal Address: Bag Lot No. 2, PO Box, Como, WA, 6152. Meetings held on 1st Thursday of each month (except January) at 1.30pm at ANZAC Club, Perth. WA, 6000.

NATIVE ENLISTED SOLDIERS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (INC)
President: Mr. J. H. Swaby, 15/19 Second Avenue, Mt. Lawley, 6050. Tel: 330 2174. Treasurer: Mr. A. Robinson, 15/26 Pinaster Street, Menora, Tel: 271 4739. Meetings held on 1st Thursday of each month (except January) at 1.30pm at ANZAC Club, Perth. WA, 6000.

NAVY ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (WA BRANCH)
President: Mr. R. E. H. Hobbs, 32 Purley Street, Bayswater, 6053. Tel: 332 5723. Treasurer: Mr. D. R. Sweetman, 8/44 Davies Road, Claremont, 6010. Tel: 384 4485. Details of venue and times of meetings please contact any of the above.

NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA, CITY OF FREMANTLE SUB-SECTION
President: Mr. H. M. McDonald, 16 Warragul Crescent, Joondalup, 6023. Tel: 338 3411. Secretary: Mr. S. G. Thomas, 23 Coleman Crescent, Melville, 6156. Tel: 338 6611. Treasurer: Mr. D. E. Swanston, 164 Dawes Road, Claremont, 6010. Tel: 354 2483. Details of venue and times of meetings please contact any of the above.

NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA, CITY OF PERTH SUB-SECTION
President: Mr. J. R. Appleby, 100 Rankin Road, East Perth. Tel: 338 3411. Secretary: Mr. S. G. Thomas, 23 Coleman Crescent, Melville, 6156. Tel: 338 6611. Treasurer: Mr. D. E. Swanston, 164 Dawes Road, Claremont, 6010. Tel: 354 2483. Details of venue and times of meetings please contact any of the above.

NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (WESTERN AUSTRALIAN SECTION) INC
State President: Mr. B. Gibson, 30 Wanneroo Avenue, North Fremantle, 6159. Tel: 338 4777. Secretary: Mrs. M. W. Winton, 42 Bernard Street, Fremantle, 6160. Tel: 341 8601. All correspondence to Hon. State Secretary, PO Box 829, 71st Street, Perth, 6000.
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Tel: 295 4756. Secretary: Mr. H. Revell, 363 Union Street, Wanneroo.
Tel: 348 2224. Meetings: Third Tuesday of each month, at Anzac House, Perth, 7.00 pm.

Partially Blinded Soldiers' Association of Australia (WA Branch)

General Meetings held at Anzac House, 33 St. George's Terrace, Perth, at 7.30 pm on the second Friday of each month.

Pegasus Association of Western Australia

President: Mr. P. Swan, 273A Riverton Drive, Bassendean.
Tel: 445 8844. Secretary: Mr. J. Hallett, 40 Edgar Street, Bassendean.
Tel: 279 3133. Meetings: Second Tuesday of each month.

Pegasus Association of Western Australia (Sub-Branches)

President: Mrs. A. Cooper, 48 Albert Street, Bassendean.
Tel: 279 3133. Secretary: Mr. H. Revell, 363 Union Street, Wanneroo.
Tel: 348 2224. Meetings: Second Tuesday of each month.

Royal Australian Air Force Association (WA Branch)

President: Mr. N. Janetz, 201 Montana Avenue, Wanneroo.
Tel: 349 0450. Secretary: Mr. G. Campbell, 222 Riverton Drive, Bassendean.
Tel: 445 8844. Meetings: First Tuesday of each month.

Royal Australian Army Nursing Corps Association (WA Branch)

President: Miss L. Pearson, 4 San Rosa Road, Bayswater.
Tel: 341 3486. Secretary: Mr. B. Edmondson, 3 Moness Place, Bassendean.
Tel: 279 3302. Meetings: Third Monday of each month.

Royal Australian Engineers Association (WA Branch)

President: Mr. B. Edmondson, 3 Moness Place, Bassendean.
Tel: 279 3302. Secretary: Mr. B. Edmondson, 3 Moness Place, Bassendean.
Tel: 279 3302. Meetings: Third Monday of each month.

Royal Australian Engineers Association of WA

President: Mr. B. Edmondson, 3 Moness Place, Bassendean.
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President: Peter Lofdale, 31 Gravdal Crescent. High Wycombe 6020. Tel: 457 2630. Secretary: Bullock, 8 River Avenue, Maddington, 6109. Tel: 455 2032.
Treasurer: Bruce Jewell, Carina Gardens Care Park, 288, Brookton Road, Bayswater 6053. Tel: 447 6370.
Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm at ARMS House.

ROYAL MARINER ASSOCIATION WESTERN AUSTRALIA
President: Mr. Norton, 52 Summer Street. Balcatta, 6021. Tel: 447 6370. Secretary: Mr. W. E. Pearson, 19 Barellan Place, Maddington, 6109. Tel: 457 6157.
Meetings: second Wednesday of every month at the Headquarters of the Royal Australian Signals Association.

THE SUBMARINE OLD COMRADES ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
President: A. Jobson, 290 Morley Drive East, Eden Hill. Tel: 434 4466. Secretary: Mr. J. P. Bosas, 19A Patula Street, Nollamara, 6067. Tel: 527 2859.
Meetings: 1st Monday of each month at 7.30pm.

THE AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION OF TOTALY AND PERMANENTLY INCAPACITATED SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BRANCH INC.
TPI Memorial House, Bag Lot 2 PO Box, Como, WA 6152. President: E. J. Ahern. Tel: 450 6428. Annual General Meeting. Second Tuesday in December. 1.00pm. TPI House. Secretary: H. Davey.

THE AUSTRALIAN WATER TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION, WA BRANCH
President: Mr. Jack Parkinson, USA Grove Isle Way, Gwelup, 6021. Tel: 428 9128. Secretary: R. Thomas, 2 Queen Street, Mosman Park, 6015. Tel: 428 9368.
Meetings: first Monday of each month at 300 Club 1190, when Monday is a public holiday.

THE BURMA STAR ASSOCIATION WANNEROO BRANCH
Chairman: Mr. E. A. S. Cohn, 52 Tristan Way, Swanbourne. Tel: 922 3854. Secretary: Mr. W. E. Pearson, 19 Barellan Place, Maddington, 6109. Tel: 457 6157.
Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Headquarters of the Royal Australian Signals Association.

THE BURMA STAR ASSOCIATION (WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BRANCH)
President: Mr. R. E. J. Johnstone, 31 Gravdal Crescent. High Wycombe 6020. Tel: 457 2630. Secretary: Mr. W. E. Pearson, 19 Barellan Place, Maddington, 6109. Tel: 457 6157.
Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Headquarters of the Royal Australian Signals Association.

THE ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION PERTH (WESTERN AUSTRALIA) BRANCH
Chairman: Mr. Royal Warner, 7 Andrie Road, Safety Bay, 6152. Tel: 450 6428. Secretary: Mr. R. T. Roberts, 19A Patula Street, Nollamara, 6067. Tel: 444 4914. Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Headquarters of the Royal Australian Signals Association.

THE ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION ROCKINGHAM AND DISTRICTS BRANCH
Chairman: Mr. Royal Warner, 7 Andrie Road, Safety Bay, 6152. Tel: 450 6428. Secretary: Mr. R. T. Roberts, 19A Patula Street, Nollamara, 6067. Tel: 444 4914. Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Headquarters of the Royal Australian Signals Association.

THIRTY NINERS' ASSOCIATION
Chairman: Mr. J. B. Bell, 13 Tribent Way, Braeside. Tel: 434 4466. Secretary: Mr. J. P. Bosas, 19A Patula Street, Nollamara, 6067. Tel: 527 2859.
Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Headquarters of the Royal Australian Signals Association.

TOOT STEAKS INCORPORATED WA BRANCH
President: Mr. Jack Parkinson, USA Grove Isle Way, Gwelup, 6021. Tel: 428 9128. Secretary: Mr. W. E. Pearson, 19 Barellan Place, Maddington, 6109. Tel: 457 6157.
Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Headquarters of the Royal Australian Signals Association.

VIETNAM VETERANS ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
President: Mr. J. B. Bell, 13 Tribent Way, Braeside. Tel: 434 4466. Secretary: Mr. J. P. Bosas, 19A Patula Street, Nollamara, 6067. Tel: 527 2859.
Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Headquarters of the Royal Australian Signals Association.

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President: Mr. J. B. Bell, 13 Tribent Way, Braeside. Tel: 434 4466. Secretary: Mr. W. E. Pearson, 19 Barellan Place, Maddington, 6109. Tel: 457 6157.
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2/3RD FIELD REGIMENT ASSOCIATION OF WA
President: Mr John Higgs, 3 Cashel Way, Waterford 6152. Secretary: H.M. Backson, 1410 Kinch Park, Mt Hawthorn 6106. Meetings held on second Wednesday each month. ANZAC House, 11.00am.

2/3RD LT.A.A. REGIMENT ASSOCIATION
Chairman: W.G. Conroy, 8 Rose Place, Spenewood, WA 6163. President: W.G. Conroy, 8 Rose Place, Spenewood, WA 6163. Secretary: R.J. Bishop, 35 Milgate Street, Bayswater, WA 6007. Meetings held when called. ANZAC House, 10.00am.

2/3RD MACHINE GUN BATTALION ASSOCIATION
President: R.R. Everitt, 31 Tranquil Road, Karrinyup, 6021. Secretary: R.J. Bishop, 35 Milgate Street, Bayswater, WA 6007. Meetings held when called. ANZAC House, 11.00am.

2/3RD MACHINE GUN BATTALION AIR ASSOCIATION
President: P.R. Tomkins, 2 Daring Place, Morley. Tel: 276 8514. Secretary: G.J. McPhee, 29 Rosedale Avenue, Bassendean. Tel: 377 8532. Meetings: Third Tuesday each month at 10.00am.

2/3RD AUSTRALIAN FIELD REGIMENT ASSOCIATION
President: Mr J.P. Jones, 22 Carrick Street, Applecross, WA 6153. Secretary: Mr W. Biscoe, 459 Pearson Avenue. Bassendean. Tel: 276 8514. Meetings: Third Tuesday each month at 10.00am.

Z/5TH FIELD AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION
President: A. Jamieson, 53 Valentine Avenue, Canning Vale, 6156. Secretary: L. McCarthy, 51 Marradong Street, Canning Vale, Tel: 446 5801. Meetings: Second Tuesday each month at 10.00am in the Australian War Memorial Hall, 53 Valentine Avenue, Canning Vale.

2/1ST BATTALION ASSOCIATION
President: C.C. Ingram, 356 Federal Street, Town Hall, 6060. Secretary: C.W. McCarroll, 356 Federal Street, Town Hall, 6060. Meetings: First Sunday each month at 10.30am in the ANZAC Club, 356 Federal Street, Town Hall, 6060.

2/2ND COMMANDO ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
President: Mr D. Tingley, 26/31 Harman Street, Myaree 6152. Secretary: Mr J.W. Cossey, 330 8881, Meetings held on second Tuesday of each month at 10.30am at ANZAC Club.

2/2ND COMMANDO ASSOCIATION (WA)
President: F.J. Curran, 165 Shepperton Avenue, Balcatta 6021. Secretary: T.G. Driscoll, 23 Halley Street, Innaloo 6018. Meetings held on second Tuesday of each month at 10.30am at ANZAC Club.

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President: Mr John Higgs, 3 Cashel Way, Waterford 6152. Secretary: H.M. Backson, 1410 Kinch Park, Mt Hawthorn 6007. Meetings held on second Wednesday each month. ANZAC House, 11.00am.

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President: Mr J. Cameron, 26/31 Harman Street, Myaree 6152. Secretary: Mr J.W. Cossey, 330 8881, Meetings held on second Tuesday of each month at 10.30am at ANZAC Club.

2/2ND MACHINE GUN BATTALION AIR ASSOCIATION
President: P.R. Tomkins, 2 Daring Place, Morley. Tel: 276 8514. Secretary: G.J. McPhee, 29 Rosedale Avenue, Bassendean. Tel: 377 8532. Meetings: Third Tuesday each month at 10.00am.

2/2ND MACHINE GUN BATTALION AIR ASSOCIATION
President: R.R. Everitt, 31 Tranquil Road, Karrinyup, 6021. Secretary: R.J. Bishop, 35 Milgate Street, Bayswater, WA 6007. Meetings held when called. ANZAC House, 11.00am.

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President: R.R. Everitt, 31 Tranquil Road, Karrinyup, 6021. Secretary: R.J. Bishop, 35 Milgate Street, Bayswater, WA 6007. Meetings held when called. ANZAC House, 11.00am.

27TH BATTALION THE CAMERON HIGHLANDERS ASSOCIATION OF WA
President: Mr B. Ashley, 20 Eton Street, Northbridge, WA 6003. Secretary: Mr J.W. Richardson, 6 Elizabeth Street, Northbridge, WA 6003. Meetings held on second Wednesday each month. ANZAC House, 11.00am.

2/1ST BATTALION ASSOCIATION
President: C.C. Ingram, 356 Federal Street, Town Hall, 6060. Secretary: C.W. McCarroll, 356 Federal Street, Town Hall, 6060. Meetings: First Sunday each month at 10.30am in the ANZAC Club, 356 Federal Street, Town Hall, 6060.

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President: C.C. Ingram, 356 Federal Street, Town Hall, 6060. Secretary: C.W. McCarroll, 356 Federal Street, Town Hall, 6060. Meetings: First Sunday each month at 10.30am in the ANZAC Club, 356 Federal Street, Town Hall, 6060.

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