Chopper Lift-Out, Vietnam 1967
-Ch 1 helicopter by Kenneth Hayes, AM 1987
Can we help you?

You could be eligible for benefits if:

• you are a veteran.
• a widow, wife or dependent child of a veteran, or
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Veterans’ benefits include:

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• Counseling services
• Pharmaceutical benefits
• Defence Service Homes
  — housing loan subsidy
  — homeowners’ insurance
• Funeral benefits
• Commemoration

FIND OUT WHETHER YOU ARE ELIGIBLE FOR BENEFITS BY CONTACTING THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS’ AFFAIRS ON 425 8222
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President's Message

On Wednesday 4th November 1992, minutes of the meeting held at the time of the War Veterans’ Home at W. Alex’s Park, McLean, took place.

The Prime Minister of Western Australia, the Honourable Dr Gough Whitlam, MLA, performed the opening ceremony and was attended by Governor General Sir M. C., representing the Leader of the Opposition in the Department of Health, Housing and Community Services, Barry C. Ennenga, and his counterpart, representing the Committee’s Commissioner, Stephen D. Honibrook. Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Veterans’ Affairs, Mr. J. A. Galton, represented the Department of Veterans’ Affairs, and his counterpart, representing the Department of Veterans’ Affairs, Mr. J. A. Galton, represented the Department of Veterans’ Affairs.

In 1991 the League opened the first stage of the Home for War Veterans in Mt. Lawley, completed at the time to be one of the best in Australia. Since then standards have improved significantly in order to relative subsidy and assistance from the Government, with recent years being provided with a new series of houses not less than 104 square metres in size that are more accessible to disabled veterans.

Over the past years, the War Veterans’ Home Board has been negotiating with the Minister, Health, Housing and Community Services for the upholding of the War Veterans’ Home in 1992. An agreement was reached whereby we would receive Government funding of $300,000, which would be used to upgrade existing homes. At present the Home can accommodate approx. 270 residents. One of the conditions of the funding was that we would reduce the number of homes in the men’s section from 10 to 8 and transfer the remaining 8 to the Mosler Home where we are building a War Veterans’ Home.

The cost of the Mt. Lawley project was $1.9m
- The Department of Health Housing and Community Services offered a grant of $1.1m.
- The Lottery Commission gave a grant of $200,000.
- The RSL Women’s Auxiliary of WA contributed $25,000.
- The Department of Veterans’ Affairs provided $400,000.
- The Supreme Court gave a further grant of $24,000.
Merry Christmas
to all our customers.
And remember this summer,
USE WATER WISELY.
It's too good to waste.

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We are here for you
Call us between 9am and 3pm weekdays on
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Would you like to know more about the medicines you are taking?
Call the Meditalk Hotline on the above numbers on Fridays between 9am to 5pm, and discuss your medications with a Pharmacist.
All enquiries are treated confidentially!

Enjoy your next holiday at the
AMBLIN
CARAVAN PARK
BUSSELL HWY, VASSE
6kms west of Busselton and fronting on to the Beach...
- MODERN COTTAGES
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- DOGS ALLOWED ON LEASH

Write to Judy and Frank Frimston
P.O. BOX 232 BUSSELTON WA 6280
or Telephone: (097) 554079
President's Message Cont.

The balance of the project at Mt Lawley was made up from Sub-Branches, Unit, and Kindred Associations, the business community and the general public. To each and every one I say thank you for your support and donation. It has made this special project a reality and enhances the lives of veterans and widows in their final years.

It would be remiss of me if at this time I did not pay tribute to the Administrator, Mr Dennis Nelson.

J.P. HALL

RSL MOTORIST PLAN, 1993

New opportunity to join thousands of RSL members already saving 15% on their car insurance

J.P. Hall AM BEM JP, State President

Guaranteed 15% discount on car insurance premiums for RSL members proves huge success.

The RSL 50+ Motorist Plan, launched last year to help celebrate the League's 75th Anniversary, is a clear winner with RSL members throughout Australia. I am delighted to again recommend this Programme, where thousands of RSL members are already saving a guaranteed 15% off their annual premiums. The Programme is available to members aged 50 and over (and their spouses over age 25).

By popular demand, members who haven't already applied now have another opportunity to save money on their car insurance by requesting an obligation-free Quotation. See pages 40 and 41 of this issue of the Listening Post for full details.

Under the Programme, members automatically qualify for this exclusive RSL insurance protection at a guaranteed 15% discount off what they're paying now — giving RSL members and their spouses top quality cover at the lowest possible cost.

How is this possible? Simple yet, statistics prove that the maturity and extensive driving experience of most men and women aged 50 and over make them less likely to be involved in an accident than younger, less experienced drivers.

Because of this, Oceanic General, selected to design the RSL's Car Insurance Programme, has agreed to guarantee that you'll save 15% off your present car insurance premiums, regardless of what you are currently paying. Plus, RSL members will also receive:

- Full credit for any No-Claim Bonus applied to your current policy.
- An in-built "No-Fault" guarantee which protects your No-Claim Bonus should you be involved in an accident caused by another person.
- A 24 hour a day, 7 day-a-week service to help you register a claim.
- Emergency Overnight and Travel Expenses.
- Up to $250.00 for Damage to and Theft of Personal Property.
- A Basic Excess of only $100.00.

The RSL urges every member aged 50 and over to examine the details of this Programme for themselves. All you need do is complete the Request for Quotation Form on pages 40 and 41 and send it, together with your current renewal notice from your present car insurer, to Oceanic General today.

Remember, asking for a Quotation does not obligate you in any way. It simply gives you a chance to see in writing exactly how much you will save on your car insurance premiums by enrolling in the RSL 50+ Motorist Plan. And Oceanic General guarantees that you will save 15%.

Once you receive your Quotation, you can switch your car insurance cover immediately. Or, if you prefer to wait until your current policy expires, Oceanic General will automatically send a duplicate Quotation prior to your current expiry date, still guaranteeing to reduce your renewal premium by 15%. But please note that to qualify for this saving, you must send your Request for Quotation now — even if your next car insurance renewal is several months away.

It gives me great pleasure to announce the new registration period for this Programme to every RSL member aged 50 and over. We believe it is well worthy of its designation as "The Official Car Insurance Programme of the RSL" as it offers the best possible value for our members.

And, there is no obligation on your part. Once you receive your Quotation, compare the benefits and costs of the RSL 50+ Motorist Plan with your current cover in the privacy of your own home. Then decide for yourself whether you wish to take advantage of this exclusive RSL Programme.

But don't miss this opportunity — it will mean large savings for you on car insurance premiums now and in the future.
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A home at Lakeside Retirement Village is a feeling of security and independence. A welcoming alternative to staying in a house which is probably now too big for you.

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There are several villas to choose from. Each single level with one, two or three bedrooms. The completely self-contained villas are offered with the benefits and peace of mind of strata title.

Purchase can be made subject to the sale of your present home.

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TELEPHONE 300 2777
State President Jim Hall thanks the following donors whose contributions have brought the total to $1,231,221. There is still a long way to go and he hopes that more sub-branches will respond to this most worthy cause.

RSL SUB-BRANCHES:
- Darling Range Sub-Branch: $1,500.00
- Margaret River: $50.00
- Riverton: $1,000.00

UNIT & KINDRED ASSOCIATIONS:
- 2/7th Australian Field Regiment WA: $250.00
- Australian Water Transport Association: $50.00
- RAAA WA Div. Inc. Mandurah Branch: $100.00

RSL WOMEN'S AUXILIARIES:
- Belmont: $1,000.00

BUSINESS DONATIONS:
- Brandal & Co Peter A: $20.00
- Crock The Last Menswear: $20.00
- Network 1 Jewellery Assessor: $10.00
- Mt Lawley Golf Club: $500.00
- Naranja Prop. Ltd: $1,000.00
- Rockingham Golf Club: $400.00
- Unkovich D T Lucky Dollar Lottery Kiosk: $10.00

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On purchase of this product a $2 contribution will be made to the Victims of Crime Foundation.
ALSANY'S senior citizens now have access to a product - previously unavailable outside the metropolitan area. John Dekker, owner of Albany Upholstery Service, has brought to Albany a range of chairs designed to assist the elderly and disabled. The Back Care range of chairs includes armchairs for wider support, and the Motorised Recina-Ufit chairs, which automatically lift the users to their feet when they press the button. There is also a model they can move in and out of the chairs by remote control. The Back Care chairs range in price from $300 for the basic model to $1400 for the motorised versions.

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309 2997
That Big 2/33 Battalion Tragedy

Almost a whole Company of the 2/33 Battalion was wiped out by a Liberator Bomber in the marshalling area prior to the Lae Ramu Valley campaign on 7 September 1943. The story is written and re-enters hit the marshalling area on a small hill overlooking the airfield.

Lights of an aircraft could be seen and the thing kept coming. In a second, all about the scene of this frightful disaster could be seen running men. All round the little gullies and re-enters hit the aircraft engines roaring. The left wing sheared off and the fuse-Jage smashed down like an arrow into the trees its engines roaring. The bomber at that instant came crashing through the feet of the gullies and re-enters hit the ground. Bill Crooks was aware of the deep-throated blast and roar of aircraft engines coming. It eventually became airborne but seemed to hang just above the ground. Bill Crooks was aware of the terrible sound of agonising screams of despair that appeared to drown out all else. Within minutes the fire had reached the ammunition in the trucks and it began exploding. Men, charging about on fire, would suddenly disappear as either the ammunition or 2-inch mortar bombs they were carrying in their clothes or equipment exploded.

Certainly none of the survivors of the six trucks of D Company which caught the complete fuselage or any part of the bomber can recall the explosion of the first two 500-pound bombs. Some who were in the rear of the last truck of D Company and was ahead of the first truck of D Company. A third exploding some minutes after the crash. The blazing aircraft had hit five of D Company’s trucks and was ahead of the first truck of D Company. Men of H.Q. Company and was ahead of the first truck of D Company. A number of men were hit with petrol or metal in the second last truck of D Company, which contained 10 Platoon of B Company.

In a second, all about the scene of this frightful disaster could be seen running men. All round the little gullies and re-enters hit the aircraft engines roaring. The deep-throated blast and roar of aircraft engines seemed to drown out all else. Within minutes the fire had reached the ammunition in the trucks and it began exploding. Men, charging about on fire, would suddenly disappear as either the ammunition or 2-inch mortar bombs they were carrying in their clothes or equipment exploded.

So much was happening to so many people within seconds after this calamity. I was in a commanding position on the tailgate of the last truck to see it all, and was much later to give evidence at the Army court of inquiry. The scene of this inferno must have been witnessed by many things being done by a great number of men that it is impossible to record them all. At the time no sound could be heard. The noise of the gullies and re-enters hit the ground. Bill Crooks was aware of the terrible sound of agonising screams of despair that appeared to drown out all else. Within minutes the fire had reached the ammunition in the trucks and it began exploding. Men, charging about on fire, would suddenly disappear as either the ammunition or 2-inch mortar bombs they were carrying in their clothes or equipment exploded.

Certainly none of the survivors of the six trucks of D Company which caught the complete fuselage or any part of the bomber can recall the explosion of the first two 500-pound bombs. Some who were in the rear of the last truck of D Company and was ahead of the first truck of D Company. A third exploding some minutes after the crash. The blazing aircraft had hit five of D Company’s trucks and was ahead of the first truck of D Company. Men of H.Q. Company and was ahead of the first truck of D Company. A number of men were hit with petrol or metal in the second last truck of D Company, which contained 10 Platoon of B Company.

Courtesy: Luh-Watte (Arabic for To-Speak) official magazine of 25 Brigade.
THE AGED

I spent September with my eldest son and his family, basking in the warmth of the sun, enjoying the outdoors and the sea - not to mention the company of friends. I was delighted at the warm reception given to "society" by the residents of the Moonlight Beach Retirement Village, where we were welcomed and enjoyed the company of very nice people.

In the autumn months, I decided to try the RSL Travel Insurance and found it really good. A phone call to the 24-hour number given in "The Listening Post" advertisement got me a quote on travel insurance. I paid the existing disability

RSL TRAVEL INSURANCE

The State President and Executive wish all members and their families a happy Christmas and healthy New Year.
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CORAL SEA CIRCLE CRUISE-(FAIRSTAR) - 18 NIGHTS
Visits 7 ports including Port Moresby, Samarai Island and Honiara as well as Sydney and the Australian War Memorial in Canberra.

NEW ZEALAND EXPLORER CRUISE-(FAIRSTAR) - 18 NIGHTS
Visits 4 ports including the Bay of Islands, Christchurch, cruising Milford Sound, and machine.
Departs: November 1993.

VIETNAM - 10 NIGHTS
25th anniversary of the 1969 TET Offensive. Travelled with Singapore Airlines and visiting Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon), Nha Trang, Nui Coc Dong, Hau Han, Singapore. Includes a visit to the Po Lin Monastery.
Departs: January 1993.

THAILAND PILGRIMAGE TOUR - 10 NIGHTS
Travels to Bangkok, Kanchanaburi, River Kwai and will be in Hellfire Pass on Anzac Day. This tour combines history, leisure and shopping time. Departs: April 1993.

ARMISTICE DAY 75th ANNIVERSARY TOUR
Featuring such places as Bullecourt, Fromelles, Pozieres, Messines, Ypres and Villers-Bretonneux. There will be the option of extending your stay in Europe or Britain. Departs: November 1993.


BORNEO EXPEDITION TOUR Departs: unknown at this stage.

RSL TOURS

- 25th anniversary of the 1969 TET Offensive. Travelling with Singapore Airlines and visiting Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon), Nha Trang, Nui Coc Dong, Hau Han, Singapore. Includes a visit to the Po Lin Monastery.
Departs: January 1993.

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MANDURAH-MURRAY RIVER CRUISES

Experience a delightful and unforgettable cruise through the Mandurah Canals and the vast Inland waterways of the Peel Inlet and Murray River with their natural beauty and wildlife.

THE NEW MAJARAH ARE ALSO OFFERING SURVEY CRUISES WITH TIMES AND VENUES TO SUIT YOUR SOCIAL GROUPS REQUIREMENTS.

TUES/THURS/SUN (August-June)
Depart Peninsula Hotel 9.30am and Town Jetty 10am. Return approximately 2.00pm.
FARES: Adults $26, Australian Senior Citizens $24, Children 6-11yrs $16, Family Ticket (2 adults 2 children) $36. Lunch Included-S decided.
SATURDAY: Cruise me Identity. Depart Peninsula Hotel 8.30am. Return approximately 1.30pm. Fares $15.

The PEEL PRINCESS is also available for charter. Book today!

Arrange your group bookings now.
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Tickets also available Mandurah Tourist Bureau.

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Your holiday includes travel to/from Kalbarri by Westrail's own coach, 6 nights at the Kalbarri Beach Resort with your first breakfast included. A relaxing, discovery holiday break.

KALGOORLIE/ESPERANCE/ALBANY/BUNBURY - 8 days from $580
Includes travel by first class Prospector train and coach plus private facility motel accommodation with light breakfast. Your opportunity for independent sightseeing.

KARRIBANK - HIGH IN THE PORONGURUP - 6 days from $318
A fully inclusive four staying at historic Karrabank Lodge in private facilties with all meals included. Tours of Mt Barker, Albany and Stirling Ranges.

CAPE TO CAPE ESCAPE - 3 days from $267
Fabulous views, marvellous forests, a winery and river cruise plus great food and accommodation at the Noble Grape Country House. A great choice.

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Pioneer rates apply. No job too small.
1992 STATE CONGRESS

Results and Action on Agenda Items

The following is an up-to-date report on all the agenda items that were raised at the 1992 State Congress. The items are numbered as they appeared in the Agenda and Minutes of the 1992 State Congress and should be read with reference to them, particularly as the texts of the resolutions have been abbreviated to save space.

The name of the Sub-Branch that put forward the resolution is shown at the end of the action statement, and that Sub-Branch will be advised of the final outcome of the resolution. Where SC and NC are used they refer to State Congress and National Congress respectively.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>ACTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Constitution -</td>
<td>1. The 1993 and subsequent State Congresses to be held at Anzac House Perth — LOST at SC because the present State Rule allowed the Congress to decide the matter each year (Albany).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. State Rule 12.1 on the State Congress to be amended by deleting the words 'unless State Congress decides otherwise' — WITHDRAWN after Item 1 was Lost (Bayswater-Meltham).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>3. State Rule 12.2.1 to be amended to permit each sub-branch, irrespective of membership, to have only two delegates at Congress — LOST at SC (Kalgoorlie).</td>
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<td>4. The elected State President to serve for a maximum of three concurrent years— LOST at SC (Highgate).</td>
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<td>5. The membership of the State Executive to be restricted to no more than two members from any one sub-branch — LOST at SC (Bayswater-Meltham).</td>
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<td>6. State Rule 16.8 to be amended to allow the issue of State Executive Certificates of Service after a minimum of two years service, or less in special circumstances — CARRIED at SC (State Executive).</td>
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<td>7. State Rule 15.9 to be amended to specify the conditions of Social Membership as stated — CARRIED (State Executive).</td>
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<td>8. State Rule 14.4 to be amended to restrict the accommodation and travel entitlements of delegates to the National Congress — LOST at SC on an explanation of the cost pooling system by the National President (Rockingham).</td>
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<td>9. Ex-Service personnel entitled to the Service Pension, but disqualified by the means test, to receive full medical benefits as applied to WWII veterans, ex-POWs and War Widows — CARRIED at SC, but LOST at NC on cost and priority considerations (Rockingham).</td>
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<td>10. At 70 years of age, all ex-Service personnel to be exempted from the means test and allowed to receive the same hospital, medical and pharmaceutical benefits as the service pensioner — CARRIED at SC and NC (Bedford-Morley).</td>
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<td>11. Medical and hospital entitlement to be extended to all returned ex-Service veterans including the allies of the Australian forces in all theatres of war — LOST at SC (Mt Lawley-Inglewood).</td>
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<td>12. The Veterans' Entitlement Act (VEA) to be amended to lay the onus of disproving a veteran's claim on the Commonwealth, with the veteran being given the benefit of any doubt — CARRIED at SC and NC (Rockingham).</td>
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<td>13. Widow of POWs to be granted a War Widow's Pension — CARRIED at SC and NC and approved in the 1992 Budget (Bunbury).</td>
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<td>14. OVA to assume a more responsive and sympathetic attitude to veterans' pension claims and reviews — CARRIED at SC and NC (Wanneroo).</td>
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<td>15. Section 6(1.)(b) of the VEA to be amended to include continuous full-time service north of latitude 14 degrees 30 minutes south between 19 Feb 42 and 2 Sep 45 as operational service — CARRIED at SC and NC (Bunbury).</td>
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<td>16. The disabilities of veterans involved in the British nuclear tests to be recognized under the VEA and such service to be declared hazardous — CARRIED at SC and NC (Osborne Park).</td>
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<td>17. The travel concessions granted to WWII veterans to be extended to all veterans at 70 years of age — CARRIED at SC and NC (Kalgoorlie). Locally, the WA Government has agreed to investigate the proposal and will advise us of their decision as soon as possible.</td>
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Defence —

18. Both the Federal Government and the Opposition to amend their defence policies to develop an ADF on a total force concept capable of meeting more than the currently planned lower level contingencies — CARRIED at SC and NC (State Executive). |
|      | 19. The Federal Government to direct the RAN to implement equal combat capabilities in the east and west coast fleet dispositions within two years — CARRIED in SC and NC (Rockingham). |
|      | 20. The Federal Government to develop and fund an ADF force structure consistent with the needs of Australia's national integrity and relative to the defence posture of other Asian and Pacific nations — CARRIED at SC and NC (State Executive). |
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Page 18 — Listening Post — Summer 1985
1992 State Congress Cont.

21. A national service scheme in the form of military or civilian service to be established - CARRIED at SC and NC (Bunbury).

22. The Federal Government to be asked to provide full details on the legislation, intentions and program for the Reservists' Reserves and its intended legislation for employer support of the Reserve Forces. Additionally to implement a four step call-out program for the Reserves, and a two-year call-out program - CARRIED at SC and NC (State Executive).

23. That a Coast Guard service be established and separately funded as an element of the ADF, with the primary role of coastal and maritime surveillance - LOST at SC (State Executive).

24. The defence budget to be appropriately funded and the RAAF tasked to undertake the coastal and maritime surveillance of Western Australia in particular the northern sections - CARRIED at SC and NC (Goldsworthy).

25. An exemption from the Equal Opportunities Act be sought to refuse homosexual entry to the ADF on discipline and health considerations. This be become RSL Standing Policy - CARRIED at SC and NC (Appledore).

26. The Australian Government to include New Zealand in all defence exercises as an equal partner - CARRIED at SC and NC (Northampton).

27. That the definition of 'income' in the Social Security Acts be changed - LOST at SC (State Executive).

28. That Congress gives consideration to an amendment to the Social Security Act to be included as an element of the ADF, with the primary role of coastal and maritime surveillance - LOST at SC (State Executive).

29. That the Homeswest legislation be changed - CARRIED at SC and NC (Bunbury).

30. The Australian Government to stop providing financial aid to Indonesia until the forced annexation and slaughter in Timor was stopped - CARRIED at SC, but LOST at NC on the argument that the situation would be better handled through negotiations and other government and diplomatic initiatives (Eastern Hills).

31. The Australian Government to urge the UN to have West Iran, including the islands within the Bay of the Neck, transferred to PNG - CARRIED at SC, but LOST at NC (Northampton).

32. That Congress gives serious consideration to constant percentage of the annual subscription when increases occur - WITHDRAWN (Bunbury).

33. Members' subscription renewal notices be enclosed with their December issue of The Listening Post and that subscriptions be collected by sub-branches - LOST at SC (Mandurah).

34. Monitored gaming machines to be installed in officially authorized RSL clubs in WA - CARRIED at SC (Eastern Hills). The WA Government has replied that under the Casinos (Bunbury Island) Agreement Act 1986, the installation of gaming machines or venue other than the Clubs could not be approved.

35. That a Veterans' Affairs sub-committee be formed with a Chairman, Secretary and representatives from interested sub-branches and affiliated organisations - CARRIED at SC (Mandurah). Currently being actioned by the RSL Veterans' Affairs Committee.

36. That Congress gives consideration to an amendment to the Social Security Act to include New Zealand in all military exercises as an equal partner - CARRIED at SC and NC (Northampton).

37. That the definition of 'income' in the Social Security Acts be changed - LOST at SC (State Executive).

38. That the Homeswest legislation be changed - CARRIED at SC and NC (Bunbury).

39. That Congress gives consideration to the Financial Assistance Scheme to include New Zealand in all military exercises as an equal partner - CARRIED at SC and NC (Northampton).

40. That Congress gives consideration to the Financial Assistance Scheme to include New Zealand in all military exercises as an equal partner - CARRIED at SC and NC (Northampton).

41. The State Branch endeavour to obtain poppies - CARRIED at SC (Northanger). The WA Government has replied that under the Casinos (Bunbury Island) Agreement Act 1986, the installation of gaming machines or venue other than the Clubs could not be approved.

42. The procedures for processing illegal immigrants to be amended - CARRIED at SC and NC (Returned Ex-Servicemen).

43. That Congress gives serious consideration to constant percentage of the annual subscription when increases occur - WITHDRAWN (Bunbury).

44. That the situation would be closely monitored and action taken if considered essential - CARRIED at SC (Northanger). RGH Hollywood to secure ward status - CARRIED at SC (Bunbury). The WA Government has replied that under the Casinos (Bunbury Island) Agreement Act 1986, the installation of gaming machines or venue other than the Clubs could not be approved.

45. OVA to immediately upgrade two more wards at RGH Hollywood to secure ward status - CARRIED at SC (Bunbury). The WA Government has replied that under the Casinos (Bunbury Island) Agreement Act 1986, the installation of gaming machines or venue other than the Clubs could not be approved.
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1992 State Congress Cont.

(Anzac Day) be discontinued—CARRIED at SC (Bunbury). The WA Government has replied that under the majority of industry awards, there is a substitution provision which, when Anzac Day falls on a weekend, transfers the holiday to the next succeeding Monday. A recent application to vary this award by employers was disapproved by Industrial Commissioner Salmon; however, an appeal against the disapproval has been heard by the full bench of the Commission and a decision is expected soon.

Australian National Flag

46. The Australian Government to be advised of the
47. RSL's total opposition to any change to the
48. present Australian National Flag—CARRIED at

SC and NC (Returned Ex-Servicewomen/Bun-

bury/Appin/Foreshore/Darling Range).

All State and Territory Governments to ensure that the Australian National Flag is flown on each working day on all government buildings and instrumentalities, including all schools—CARRIED at SC and NC (Returned Ex-Servicewomen). The WA Government has stated that in their current policy and circular has been issued to all ministers, departments and authorities in an effort to encourage the practice.

General

50. All State Governments to be advised on the need for Australian history to be taught as a core subject in all primary and secondary schools—CARRIED at SC and NC (Returned Ex-Servicewomen). The State Government has responded that Australian history is being taught in primary schools through the "K to 10 Social Studies Syllabus," and the Upper school history curriculum includes two out of seven (in Year 11) and two out of seven (in Year 12) Australian units. Additionally, from 1994 the non-negotiable elements of the WA curriculum will include a section entitled "Heritage and Change" based on the Australian context.

51. The State Government to accept full responsibility for the overall maintenance and upkeep of the State War Memorial—LOST at SC (Kalgoorlie).

52. That Anzac House and the property be sold to the State Government and the State Branch move to a better location—LOST at SC (Cobden).

53. The RSL to investigate the possible acquisition of RGH Hollywood in exchange for Anzac House—WITHDRAWN at SC (Bayswater-Meltham).

54. The Federal and State Governments to introduce programs as proposed to develop a national pride and commitment to Australian history and significance, and hold flag raising ceremonies.

55. The RSL to oppose any moves to make Australia a Republic—CARRIED at SC and NC (Darling Range).

56. That the PM be asked to acknowledge the Queen as Australia's sole constitutional monarch, and the Federal Government to stop all discussion on Republicanism and confirm the current Australian flag as sacrosanct—CARRIED at SC and NC (Esperance).

57. That the RSL support the proposal for New Zealand war service home loans to be made available in Australia for New Zealand veterans—LOST at SC (East Victoria Park — Vietnam Veterans).

NOM 1 Section 85(2) of the VEA to be amended by replacing the words 'malignant neoplasm' with the single word 'neoplasm'—CARRIED at SC and NC (Bunbury).

NOM 2 The Australian Government to pressure the UN to exclude Japan from participating in UN Peace Keeping Forces—LOST at SC (City of Perth).

NOM 3 An Anzac Award Honour Board be erected in Anzac House and all recipients of the award be invited to RSL official functions—CARRIED at SC (Rivervale-Carlisle).

NOM 4 Nominations for election to the State Executive to include the nominee's date of birth—LOST at SC (Como).

NOM 5 The Anzac Day Parade and Service to revert to the pre-1992 format—LOST at SC (Osborne Park).

NOM 6 The intent of a State Congress agenda item submitted by a sub-branch is not to be changed without the written consultation and approval of the sub-branch concerned—CARRIED at SC (Rockingham), noted by the State Executive and the Agenda Committee.

D. H. GIBBS,
State Secretary.
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In October I was privileged to attend the unveiling of the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial in Canberra and the concert on the following day.

The National Memorial was opened to the public after the Dawn Service so we could refresh our memories of Australians at war. Brunch was served before the Vietnam Veterans assembled in their units. After the plaque for the memorial was unveiled, a wonderful marching occurred. Most moving was the parade of Australian flags by next-of-kin of 504 Australians who fell in Vietnam. The parade took three hours to pass and the veterans then went to their various unit reunions.

Next day in the early afternoon in pouring rain, we stood on the lawn in front of the old Parliament House and watched a concert organised by Normie Rowe featuring artists who had performed for the soldiers in Vietnam. An emotional but happy audience entered into the spirit of the concert and joined in linking arms and singing in the rain until after dark. Eighty highly decorated USA Vietnam Veterans were flown in for the parade and concert.

(A young policeman commented that it was the best behaved crowd he had known).

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Interest in the Vietnam War has focused on its global significance and on the domestic political responses which the war engendered. The literature and media comment on Australian participation has paid less attention to the role of the soldier, what there is has been largely in support of partisan stands. This neglect can be traced not only to the nature of the war but to the controversy surrounding the Australian involvement which has discouraged governments from allowing open discourse between servicemen and the public. Now, more than 20 years after the Australian withdrawal, we can begin to recreate the experiences of those who fought in the longest war in Australia's history.

Little has been told to the public of the Australian Army Training Team Vietnam, known as the AATTV, or "The Team". Their remarkable record of service has been largely unheralded, for few journalists found their way to the little outposts scattered over the length and breadth of South Vietnam where these men sought their destiny. Usually they became newsworthy only after one of their many acts of extraordinary bravery was recognised by the award of the Victoria Cross.

The "Team" was both elite and unique. Its members were specially selected, it was small, and for its size it was one of the most highly decorated units in the history of the Australian Army. Its claim to uniqueness springs from a number of factors; it existed only in Vietnam where members joined it from Australia singly or in drafts; its members were mostly officers and warrant officers who operated individually in pairs, or occasionally in groups of normally not more than 10; its task was particularly unusual—training, advising, or commanding a variety of Vietnamese forces. The first Australian unit into Vietnam and the last out, it was operational for 10 years, four months, and eighteen days, achieving the distinction of being the longest serving unit of any service in any theatre of war. Even if only because of its name, it is not likely to exist again. The members of AATTV were spread across South Vietnam that they met as a unit only on Anzac days.

The title "Training Team" is misleading, since many of its members were posted as advisers to commanders of South Vietnamese combat units while others occupied even more hazardous postings as commanders of Special Forces units, semi-regulars, operating independently far into the hinterland. These men were amazingly resilient and, particularly at the height of the campaign, were required to undertake tasks far different from those for which their previous experience had prepared them. Nevertheless, when put to the test they performed with skill and courage and with the distinctive, even unique, style for which Australian troops have long been noted.

Perhaps the most significant attribute of the Team was its superb morale. It is generally found that a soldier's morale tends to vary inversely with his distance from the action, yet even by this yardstick the spirit of these men, who were usually in the thick of it, was quite remarkable. For much of the time they operated in tiny groups sometimes even alone, and it is hard to be brave when alone; but they wore an Australian uniform, they were intensely proud of it, and on no account would they do less than full justice.

The members of the Australian Army Training Team in Vietnam made Australian an honoured name with friends and foe alike among our most sophisticated allies and among those from remote places; people who had never heard the name before. With the Team's service extending over 10 years in every corner of South Vietnam, encompassing such a variety of tactical expertise and embracing many gallant actions, they amassed a wealth of experience and information which is now invaluable in the development of Australian technique for insurgency warfare.

During its life the unit received a total of 704 Imperial and foreign awards, including four VCs. The unit itself received two unit citations: the American Meritorious Unit Citation and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Palm unit citation. It is generally recognised that for its size, the AATTV was the most highly decorated Australian unit in any theatre in any war, including all three Services.

Percy White
(Several segments by courtesy of lan McNeil (1984) "The Team: Australian Army advisers in Vietnam")
A memorial and grove of trees on Hale Oval Kings Park honours No. 460 RAAF Squadron, RAF Bomber Command.

The third Australian Bomber Squadron to be formed in Britain during World War II came into existence on 12 November 1941 at RAF station Molassesworth. On 4 January 1942 the squadron was transferred to Brighton where intensive training continued for new crews under the first CO, Wing Commander A.L.G. Hubbard DFC, and the two Flight Commanders, Squadron Leaders C.L. Gilbert, DFC, and J. Frank, DFC.

Hubbard and Gilbert were both Australians serving in the RAF and Frank was an RAF Officer on loan. He was succeeded by another Australian Squadron Leader, J.W.E. Leighton, DFC.

The squadron's first operation was on 12 March, 1942 when five crews attacked Emden; all returned safely. From this humble beginning, 460 Squadron grew into one of the most successful of RAF Bomber Command.

Members won 360 decorations for bravery but 1073 were killed in action, the heaviest loss of any Australian unit, Army, Navy, or Air Force in World War II. A measure of the casualty rate can be gauged from the fact that a 3 Flight Bomber Squadron of 20 Lancasters would have about 140 aircrew on strength. It means that the squadron lost the equivalent of about eight squadrons!

Initially it was equipped with twin-engine Wellingtons until conversion to the four-engined Lancaster in October 1942, after a brief period flying Halifaxes.

No. 460 was the first squadron in RAF Bomber Command to complete 1000 sorties in Lancasters which it accomplished on 15 August, 1943 and gained another historic milestone in its extraordinary operational record by being the first to complete 5000 sorties in Lancasters. Among other distinguished achievements, No. 460 flew a record 501 sorties in the dreadful winter of 1943-44, a record it broke in the following winter, the last of the war.

The squadron flew a total of 6238 sorties. It lost 169 aircraft on operations and 31 more crashed on return to Britain. It flew the most sorties of any squadron in No. 1 Group and dropped 24,000 tons of bombs on enemy targets, the most by any squadron in Bomber Command.

No. 460's record was a magnificent one, but it is the memory of the young airmen, 12,000 miles from home, who went out night after night against staggering odds, that remains uppermost.

Many West Australians were at the forefront in the squadron, but superimposed over everyone was its station Commander, Group Captain later Air Commodore Sir Hugill Edwards VC, DSO, DFC, the first Australian to win three decorations in World War II. He was one of Bomber Command's greatest operational pilots whose tenacity and courage was the inspiration for the young airmen he led.

In May 1944 Prime Minister John Curtin attended the Prime Ministers' conference in London and visited the squadron at Binbrook. He attended a briefing and on a particularly bitter night stood on the side of the runway and waved to the departing aircrews. Each crew received the message in flight "saftey return - Curtin." Seven hours later he saw their return and attended the debriefing.

The squadron participated in all the major campaigns of Bomber Command beginning with the first 1000 bomber raid on Cologne on 30 May, 1942 to which it sent 18 aircraft, all returning. It was a participant in the battles of the Ruhr, Hamburg, Berlin, the invasion of Europe, and the final campaigns of the war.

A grove of five trees was planted by Mrs Ann Boyle, Mrs Ar m Penny, Mr Brian Edwards whose father was KIA on the squadron, and two former members, Messrs Danny Rees CSM, and R. Lawton DFC & BAR.

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SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA—1943
THE CAPTURE OF LAE: PART 4

By Ward Curedale & Eric Stallard

The Nadzab area had become a hive of activity. Paratroops, sappers, planners, gunners and natives, were all at work providing an airstrip. The first aircraft to land was a Piper Cub followed by three were all at work providing an airstrip. The first day was a magnificent job in just three days. The main cargoes for the next few days were engineers and anti-aircraft guns.

And weather south of Tolls Toll prevented planes being flown in on September 6.

On the 7th, a disabled fully-loaded up Liberator crashed into trucks carrying troops to waiting transport planes at Mansella. Eleven were killed and fourteen died later of burns and wounds. Only two others were injured but survived. See page 11.

That Big 2/33 Battalion Tragedy

The remaining members of the 2/33rd were flown to Tolls Toll and then to Nadzab. The next day, when the 2/25th and 2/33rd Battalions were on the strip, the order for the advance down the valley towards Lae was issued. On that day the transport planes landed at Nadzab. The paratroops and engineers had done a magnificent job in just three days. The main cargoes for the next few days were men of the 7th Division.

Early morning of September 9 saw the lead battalion of the 2/25th Brigade (2/25th) advance down the valley towards Lae. Patrols ahead found no enemy and old Munum and Yalu were occupied. Two of the advance revealed signs of recent enemy troop movement, but there was still no contact.

The heavy rain which had stopped the advance of the 8th Division at the Busu River was also hampering the 5th Militia Division which was clearing the Salamaua area of enemy troops. The more placid Markham River was also in flood and dangerous for attempting to cross.

At noon on September 10 a forward patrol of the 2/25th drew fire from a Japanese position near Jensen's Plantation and one man was wounded. By the 12th, there was still no opposition from the enemy, despite being near the enemy garrison. The 2/25th was in a fixed and dangerous position, but from well established positions.

The battle was about to commence in earnest. The Japanese artillery fire from the 2/24th Field Regiment was called. A fierce Japanese counter-offensive was repulsed. The enemy left 30 dead before retreating, eight casualties were incurred by the 2/25th Battalion.

On September 13, 165 aircraft arrived at Nadzab followed by 163 the next day.

This meant that the 2/31st and 2/32nd Battalions could also advance towards Lae. A fierce battle on the Markham Valley road left 103 enemy dead. The 2/25th Battalion casualties so far totalled 26 (10 killed). On the 14th, a patrol reconnoitring Whittaker's Bridge, found much abandoned enemy equipment, including 20mm anti-aircraft guns, 37mm anti-tank guns, heavy machine gun, 48mm mortars and large quantities of ammunition.

The 15th Militia Battalion had met with success.

However, the information did not convey the real facts. The 15th Militia Battalion had been deployed in one large and powerful position to cover likely approaches to the flanks of the 7th Division moving down the Markham Valley. The ambush included enemy troops opposing the 24th's advance, including the withdrawing of the Markham Point garrison. The Japanese attacked three times within an hour during which they involved Militia troops in bayonet and hand-to-hand fighting, some even in the weapon pits.

The Salamaua garrison had not attacked the 7th Division flanks, but had simply retreated towards Lae engaging any Militia troops encountered. It was revealed after the war, by General Adachi that only two men of the Japanese 11/238th Battalion, who had made the stand at Markham Point, eventually escaped to Finschhafen, demonstrating the effectiveness of the ambush positions taken by the 24th Militia Battalion.

Early on September 14, a message from 7th Division Headquarters informed the 25th Brigade Commander that a Japanese operation order received by the 2/25th Battalion had contained instructions to secure the complete evacuation of Lae. This gave the 7th Division an advantage over the delayed 8th Division and Major-General Vasey (GOC 7th Division) was to press on to prevent an enemy advance.
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SWAT INSECT CONTROL
South West Pacific Area-1943 Cont.

escape and to try to be in Lae when the 9th Division emerged from their "big swim".

Vasey was very experienced at dealing with enemy withdrawals. He knew, first hand, that handling the Japanese rearguard in the Papuan Campaign had proved to be no sinecure. He immediately ordered into Nadzab the reserve 21st Brigade and directed the 25th Brigade to "press on vigorously towards Lae."

The III/503rd American Parachute Battalion was moved to the headwaters of the Bumbu River to block that avenue of escape. On the night of the 14th, Headquarters ordered the retreat routes towards Sio to be blocked.

Four destroyers had moved into the Huon Gulf two days before and fired 160 shells into Lae. The fire was immediately returned by shore batteries—which seemed to suggest that the rearguard had not left the town.

On the 15th, Headquarters admitted that the enemy withdrawals could not be effectively contained, because there were just too many escape routes.

The 9th Division was now advancing from the east against very little organised opposition but the 7th continued to meet fierce enemy rearguards, supported by 76mm field guns. However, pressure from the 7th Division troops was too great—"They now had the whip hand."

At daybreak on September 15, troops of the 8th Division were about 12 kilometres east of Lae and advance patrols of the 7th set to enter the town.

The whole Allied Air Force had a "ball" with the town under heavy attack from formations of Fortresses, Mitchells, Bostons, Lightnings and the little Smokermen. Forward patrols of both divisions had to be very cautious, because they had overrun the designated "bomb line". This bombardment influenced the 8th Division momentarily to hold its troops back, but Major-General Vasey's hard-driven 7th Division patrols continued to move closer.

As the 7th Division prepared for the final attack, the air forces began further bombing and strafing and some of their machine-gun fire landed among the forward troops. Two men were wounded. Company commanders quickly responded by laying out white panels in the form of an "X" (forward friendly troops) and "Y" (you are hitting our troops). A Brigade commander signalled to 9th Division headquarters: "Hold up on outskirts of Lae by U.S. Air Force—casualties suffered from strafing."

The air attacks were immediately stopped, but the patrols of the 7th Division had moved in even closer to the town less hampered by the Allied airmen.

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Mr S Montgomery
A Foundation for the Royal Australian Regiment

On 1 January 2001, Australia will celebrate 100 years of its existence as a Commonwealth of States united under one constitution. One of the first bills introduced into the first Parliament was a bill to provide for the defence of the Commonwealth. It would not be unreasonable to suggest that a heavy burden of this defence has fallen on those who serve as infantry.

The Royal Australian Regiment, with its motto "Duty First", was the first regular infantry regiment raised in Australia. The Royal Australian Regiment originated on 23 November 1948 out of the three infantry battalions, which were part of the 34th Australian Infantry Brigade, serving as the Australian Army's major contribution to the British Commonwealth Occupation Force in Japan. The 65th Battalion was formed from volunteers from the 7th Australian Division, the 66th Battalion received volunteers from the 9th Australian Division and the 67th Battalion was formed from volunteers from the 3rd and 6th Australian Divisions. These three Battalions were later designated 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Battalions, the Australian Regiment, but later they became Battalions of the Royal Australian Regiment when His Majesty the King granted the title "Royal" to the Regiment.

To date, some 60,000 infantrymen have served Australia on active service in the Regiment as part of Australia's commitment to the United Nations Force in Korea, the Malayan Emergency, the Confrontation in Malaysia and Borneo, and in Vietnam. The Regiment grew from the original three battalions of 1948 to nine battalions during the Vietnam War.

During the Korean War, the regular officers and soldiers of the Regiment were supplemented by a special enlistment category called K Force; for Vietnam national servicemen supplemented the regulars in the battalions of the Regiment. These young men, who accepted their responsibilities to serve, clearly demonstrated that they had the traditional fighting spirit of the Australian soldier.

Since the withdrawal of 4 RAR from Vietnam, the Regiment has been involved in peacekeeping activities. However, members of the Regiment have served with United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East and Kashmir and have contributed to the Commonwealth Contingent Monitoring Force in Rhodesia and the Commonwealth Military Training Team in Uganda. In May 1987, 1 RAR was warned for operational service to provide protection to Australian nationals in Fiji.

Today, the enthusiasm of those who have served (and those who are currently serving) in the Battalions is reflected in their active participation as members of the regimental associations.

Although the Regiment has a proud and proven reputation in battle and a strong loyalty from those who have served, or are currently serving, in its ranks, it lacks the backing of a supporting organisation that can work for the betterment of the Regiment and the Australian Army. There is no Regimental fund, per se, to finance special Regiment projects or to assist in the collection and preservation of items and data of historical interest to the Regiment. There is no fund by which help can be provided to alleviate hardship experienced by soldiers and their families arising from the exigencies of military service.

It is, therefore, intended that there should be established, by Memorandum and Articles of Association, an institution to be named The Royal Australian Regiment Foundation. The Foundation is designed to serve the Regiment and to work for the benefit of the Battalions which comprise the Regiment, for the soldiers of the Regiment and for their dependants. The Foundation will also serve the Associations of ex-serving members of the Regiment within the terms and conditions prescribed by the Foundation and by the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

When an adequate capital basis has been formed, the Foundation aims to be able to:

- Make loans or grants to the Regiment, to Battalions of the Regiment and, in special circumstances, to the Regimental Associations.
- Provide funds for special items and events of Regimental significance. It is likely that an early
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A Foundation for the Royal Australian Reg. Cont.

objective will be a Memorial to those who died on active service in the planned Soldier's Chapel at Kapooka.

- Assist the Battalions to collect items of Regimental interest.
- Establish and operate a Regimental history and archives organisation.
- Provide, in exceptional circumstances, benefits or supplementary benefits to serving members of the Regiment and their immediate families after account is taken of assistance available from other sources.

The Foundation will be run by a Board of Directors with the Colonel Commandant as Chairman. The Foundation seeks from serving and ex-serving members of the Regiment, and others who wish to contribute, a donation of $10 per year. Contributions in multiples will be encouraged. Those who subscribe will be classed as enrolled supporters and receive copies of the Foundation's newsletters.

An enrolled supporter will be able to apply to the Board to become a life governor of the Foundation and, if accepted, will be required to make a donation of at least $500. The Foundation will also encourage donations from sponsors and anyone who wishes to assist the Regiment.

Further information about the Foundation may be obtained from:
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Travelling Post — Summer 1986
1661 Sergeant J.E.V.K. Ingvarson, DCM and BAR

Jens Edward Valdemar Karl Ingvarson died on 20 October 1997 at the age of 97. He was awarded the DCM and his son, Julius Ingvarson of Geraldton, thinks he was the last surviving member of the 44th Battalion.

The AIF within its ranks had many who distinguished themselves in battle but few allowed the high degree of ability required to be awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal (DCM) and be recommended for the Victoria Cross. It is often stated that the DCM indicates the recipient was distinguished, Sergeant Yak' Ingvarson, there is no doubt he was.

Sergeant and the respect of all his comrades. 'Yak' was called by his mates, through his personal examples of gallantry and leadership, earned the trust of Sergeant and the respect of all his comrades. 'Yak' served in all the engagements with the 44th Battalion and received his decorations for Hamel (July 1918) and Hindenburg Line (September 1918). The citation for the award of the DCM is as follows:

- For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty as a platoon sergeant during an attack. His platoon commander having become a casualty, he led the platoon with great dash and ability, gaining the objective, and establishing a strong point. When the enemy counter attacked, and occupied a portion of the front line trenches, he organised a bombing section to work down the trench and, at the same time, placed a Lewis gun in position to cover the party. This enterprise was most successful, as the enemy were driven from the trenches by the bombers and cut off by the fire of the Lewis gun, suffering many casualties. This NCO showed great initiative, and set a very fine example to his men.

Australian Military Order 129 of 8 March 1919.

London Gazette No. 30983 of 12 March 1919.

The unit history describes the part taken by 'Yak' in this action, Sergeant J.E.V.K. ('Yak') Ingvarson DCM of 'B' Company, was recommended for the Victoria Cross on account of his dash on the first day. He rushed a machine gun which was holding up a company of Americans, killed the gunner and chased the remainder of the crew along the trenches, running along the parapet sniping at the 'Huns' below. However the 44th, as was the case with their three previous recommendations for the fighting man's greatest honour, had no luck again, and all that 'Yak' received was a BAR for his DCM.

After the war he returned to Perth to continue as a dairyman and was married in 1920. On 5 August 1940 James Edward Ingvarson DCM enlisted in the 26th Employment Company and served on continuous full time war service for three years 216 days. 'Yak' tried many times without success to get overseas, but had to be content with knowing his contribution to the war effort. Decorations and medals awarded Sergeant Ingvarson are: 1. Distinguished Conduct Medal with BAR, 2 British War Medal, 3 Victory Medal, 4 1939-45 War Medal, 5 Australian Service Medal.

It is difficult to understand how those to be painted for the War Memorial were selected as no painting has been done of this greatly distinguished soldier, yet the memorial had paintings of much lesser nobles of the AIF.

Sergeant Ingvarson appeared as Celebrities of the AIF No. 96 in the September 1938 issue of Reveille and the following is an extract:

'Yak' was irresistible, in or out of the line. Always happy, care-free and laughing, in moments of crisis he was the very embodiment of all the AIF's fighting men.

London Gazette No. 31225 of 12 March 1919.

Three months later Sergeant Ingvarson was awarded a Bar to his DCM. The citation follows:

1661 Sergeant J.E.V.K. Ingvarson DCM 44th Battalion Citation for Bar to Distinguished Conduct Medal — On 29 September 1918 during operations against the Hindenburg Line, south of Budy, whilst advancing with his platoon against intense enemy machine gun and artillery fire, and finding that the platoon was held up by a nest of enemy machine guns, he jumped out of the trench and rushed a distance of 100 yards in face of heavy fire, firing his rifle as he ran. He threw bombs amongst the enemy, and succeeded in killing many, captured eight machine guns and two prisoners. The splendid courage shown by him, and his prompt action, removed a dangerous obstacle to the advancement of his company. Later, he did excellent work in several bombing attacks.

Australian military Order 83 of 21 February 1920.

London Gazette No. 87228 of 12 March 1919.

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qualities, a storm-trooper out to crush resistance or repel attack at all costs to hinder the enemy. Physically strong, the hardships of two years in France, in every engagement, found him just as full of him in the last fight in October 1918 as he was the first time he went into action in a raid in front of Armentieres. It seemed that he was one of the Vikings of old, reincarnated for the benefit of the AIF and the confusion of its enemies.

Ingvarson was born at Brede, Denmark, in 1894, and at the age of 13 went to sea. He was "in sail" and had a hearty contempt for steam and oil. He took French leave from his wheat ship at Fremantle in 1913, worked about the port for a while, and when war broke out joined the Navy, only to be kicked out when it was discovered that he was unnaturalised. So it was not until 1916 that he was able to join the AIF and leave Fremantle on the transport Seafar with the first reinforcements for the 44th Battalion on 8 June 1916. He was near enough to being an original member of the 44th as the first reinforcements travelled with it to Salisbury Plain and were nearly all absorbed before it left for France in November.

"Yak" was wounded in the 44th's big raid at Armentieres on 13 March 1917, and enjoyed three weeks in a field hospital before rejoining the unit. That was his only spell away from it, barring six or seven of leave. At Mesines in June he was wounded slightly, but carried on. In every operation in 1917 he was a prominent figure, a real inspiration to all those officers and men with whom he came in contact."

I.C. TEAGUE

EXERCISE WESTERN REWARD: A Royal Australian Air Force F/A-18 Hornet from No. 75 Squadron over North West Cape, refueling from a Boeing 707 tanker of No. 33 Squadron during Exercise Western Reward held from 5-17 October, 1992. Photo: RAAF Publication Relations.
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- Up to $150 to cover personal belongings which are stolen from your car or damaged in an accident.
- Up to $100 to cover repair of a caravan or trailer if damaged in a car accident.

Stolen or Damaged Aircraft
If your aircraft is stolen or damaged in an accident, you’ll also collect:

- Up to $250 for damage or theft of personal property.
- Up to $200 in emergency accommodation and travel expenses.
- Up to $250 to cover repairs to a caravan or trailer.
- Up to $150 to cover personal belongings which are stolen from your car or damaged in an accident.
- Up to $100 to cover repair of a caravan or trailer if damaged in a car accident.

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- Up to $200 in emergency accommodation and travel expenses.
- Up to $250 to cover repairs to a caravan or trailer.
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C. PRESENT INSURANCE

If you answer YES to any questions, please give full details on a separate sheet of paper.

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BOOK NOW!
SUNDAY 27/12/42

Last night the people of the Mission put on a concert for us. The native kiddies were the actors and they put on an excellent show, especially as they had no time for rehearsal.

The first item was a skit on Mother Goose. Her part was taken by a native boy who is a very well educated chap. The part of Mother Hubbard was also played by a boy of about 14 or 15. The others, “Boy Blue”, “Little Jack Humer”, “Mary Mary” and “Jack and Jill” were played by boy and girls, the best of them not more than five and the youngest three, but none of them was any longer than their lines.

The concert was held in the school and the place was packed. We were right at the front and the natives lined the rest of the hall. They were packed in like sardines, even up in the rafters. After the first act, the Medical Orderly has started to play his mouth organ and the brothers, who is a carpenter. After this we go for a stroll, have a look at the gardens and the kids wander around here. It’s rather funny looking round the camp just now in the tent, two ships are writing letters and the others are little natives’s writing letters. Another show to watch working on a truck with a donkey and two donkeys will be in front of us. In the next tent to mine, Bert Clark is playing the saxophone, and he has an audience of about nine more kids. You can’t have a show without the singing of the Mission. You see it is often missing 31 times. While up at the Mission, we played the name of the people were playing in the show. The woman was Mrs. Van Tuyk with her baby. Of the men, Hindley was called right, and Blade was called left. The others were Van Brinkman, Van Derburg, Bemtis and Van Horns, members of the crew and passengers.

The others, “Boy Blue”, “Little Jack Humer”, “Mary Mary” and “Jack and Jill” were played by boy and girls, the best of them not more than five and the youngest three, but none of them was any longer than their lines.
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Wartime Salvage Operation at Broome Cont.

27/12/42
This morning we are up early to get all the gear packed and we leave the Whitsun in a big bag, receiving a farewell gift of a dozen pumpkins. We have not travelled more than two miles when we receive a message to stop. The Chev tries to go around us and also goes down. They look quite pathetically small by side in the end, but unfortunately nobody has a camera. After about an hour's wait, we manage to extricate ourselves, but don't go far when the Chev signals us to stop. They are making the decision of a struggle to pull the trailer in the heavy sand and decide to take off most of the load. After doing this, we proceed on our way but have to keep stopping to wait for the Chev, which is still having a struggle to get through the sand, averaging about four miles an hour and two miles to the gallon. We camp for the night at a schoolhouse near the mission after 10 hours travelling.

28/12/42
We arrive at Broome at 11 o'clock today and make camp in the local school house, which is not too bad for the accommodation, as there is plenty to do. We are quite close to the road, though it isn't much of an advantage, as all the shops etc. are deserted. However, it is quite nice to be back in civilization, though we don't think any place could be much more depressing than Broome in its present state, with the exception of Portmarnick. Cuts a lot of houses have been burned or blown down, leaving a tangle of galvanized iron and concrete stumps sticking up from the ground.

Every house here is built on concrete stumps to prevent the white ants getting into the wood. They don't seem to succeed as the ants get there in the ground, and five oxygen tanks, besides two oil cooling radiators. Those parts represent a value of about 200 pounds, so we are doing some profitable work.

29/12/42
Today we work on the aircraft, which we have to salvage. Whole nose is useless of good material. They say the pilot is dead and lost all his shots and ammunition on the beach, believing the Japs might land paratroops. They didn't apparently wait to see if they would.

We came home to lunch today to find we have to shift camp, this time to a private house which the owner has evacuated. It's only in the next street and lucky for us, as there is plenty of space. We work through until seven o'clock at night to make up for lunch at midday as it is so very hot, and there is very little to do in spite of precautions.

30/12/42
Today we start work on the aircraft we have to salvage. Whole nose is useless of good material. They say the pilot is dead and lost all his shots and ammunition on the beach, believing the Japs might land paratroops. They didn't apparently wait to see if they would.

We come home to lunch today to find we have to shift camp, this time to a private house which the owner has evacuated. It's only in the next street and lucky for us, as there is plenty of space. We work through until seven o'clock at night to make up for lunch at midday as it is so very hot, and there is very little to do in spite of precautions.

MONDAY 30/12/42
We arrive at Broome at 11 o'clock today and make camp in the local school house, which is not too bad for the accommodation, as there is plenty to do. We are quite close to the road, though it isn't much of an advantage, as all the shops etc. are deserted. However, it is quite nice to be back in civilization, though we don't think any place could be much more depressing than Broome in its present state, with the exception of Portmarnick. Cuts a lot of houses have been burned or blown down, leaving a tangle of galvanized iron and concrete stumps sticking up from the ground.

Every house here is built on concrete stumps to prevent the white ants getting into the wood. They don't seem to succeed as the ants get there in the ground, and five oxygen tanks, besides two oil cooling radiators. Those parts represent a value of about 200 pounds, so we are doing some profitable work.

TUESDAY 31/12/42
There is very little to tell today, for we have been busy pulling the aircraft apart. From one Liberator we take out the undercarriage leg and pivot shaft, and two wing tanks, besides two of cooling radiators. Those parts represent a value of about 200 pounds, so we are doing some profitable work.

THURSDAY 31/12/42 (NEW YEARS EVE)
Still the same job; today we remove an oil tank of about 50-gallon capacity and numerous other parts.
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Note:
In this advertisement, your settlement papers are accepted with no mention of CSA Settlements — 305 1785
Wartime Salvage Operation at Broome Cont.

Portuguese Man-0-War, a very large jellyfish with long streamers, which give a very painful sting when they come in contact with one's body. The way we swim, there is plenty of body to come in contact with.

Another incident occurs when they are carting some of the useless scrap away from the aerodrome. They have a big load of scrap on the truck and, on top of that, an aircraft engine which is beyond salvage. One of the chaps elects to ride on top of this engine to steady it and, when passing under some telephone wires, he is lifted right off the load, luckily doing no damage to himself, but tearing his trousers considerably.

DEFENCE ISSUES

Coalition announces its Defence Policy

by Peter Firkins,
Vice President and Chairman, Defence Committee

At the time of writing the Coalition Parties have just announced their Defence Policies for the forthcoming Federal election. Space does not permit a detailed review of the Policy but it can be summarised as follows:

- Fast track purchase of airborne early warning and control aircraft.
- Consider purchase of cruise missiles to give Collins class submarines a stand off strike capacity.
- Fast track acquisition of coastal minehunters and consider purchasing six rather than four.
- Upgrade weapon systems of F111 fleet and develop air-to-air refuelling to extend their range.
- Abolish Ready Reserves, upgrade General Reserves.
- Additional troop mobility and heavy lift helicopters.
- Savings worth $500m through cuts in administrative and non strategic defence support areas.
- $300m redirected to lift ADF combat capability.
- Postpone purchase of helicopter support ship.
- Downgrade Leopard tank fleet.

The Opposition policy seeks essentially to do three things — to provide an effective independent deterrent capacity through the F111s and upgraded weapons for the Collins class submarines, to increase radically our defence cooperation with our region, reducing joint exercises and increased defence exports, and to maintain the ultimate ability of the Australian Defence Forces to deny an invader the chance to take control of our territory.

The intention to improve the combat capability of the three services is something the WA Defence committee has been striving for in the last few years in the many representations that have been made to both Federal Government and the Opposition.

Whether the Coalition can achieve this objective while reducing defence expenditure is open to serious question.

It is a pity there is so much silly talk expounded by the Defence bureaucracy in Canberra on defence policy issues, not the least of which is the constant reference to Australia being self-reliant. We are nowhere near being self-reliant. In defence terms because neither political party has the will to allocate the necessary funds to achieve this end, consequently, Australia is still as reliant on our big and powerful friends as ever.

Alan Wrigley, author of the Wrigley's Report in 1990 claimed that a reserve of 52,000 was adequate for Australian defence purposes and relevant to "the prevailing attitudes in the community on defence."

God help us if this kind of attitude is prevalent in Canberra defence circles if and when Australia is ever threatened sometime in the future.

It is illustrative to remind ourselves that at the end of World War II, Australia was the fourth most powerful nation in the world after the US, USSR and Britain with an Army of 600,000 men, an Air Force of 75 operational squadrons and a Navy with over 50 seagoing warships, and this from a population of a little more than seven million people.
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TRUSCOTT REVISITED

by Eric N. McNabb

I have recently returned from what I term a sentimental journey - revisiting the old RAAF Truscott Air Base (58 Operational Base Unit) after an absence of 47 years.

For years I had dreamed of returning to Anjo Peninsula on which Truscott Air Base was situated but this was quickly dismissed as an impossibility because the whole area had become an Aboriginal Reserve and there was no way I would have been given permission to enter the Reserve.

Then out of the blue appeared a not-once in the "Can You Help?" section of the West Australian seeking information from personnel who had served or passed through the Truscott Air Base during 1944-45. The notice had been inserted in the newspaper by Howard Young, President of the Truscott Base Tribute Committee, Kununurra, WA.

I responded immediately and Howard did likewise to my letter. He sent me photographs of the Truscott Air Base during 1944-45, other information and a letter setting out proposed arrangements prior to and leading up to the Truscott Revisited tour by 4WD vehicle over the once-habitable areas for a floating dock on its way to the Reserve.

On the basis of Howard's letter I booked a return flight to Kununurra, with a view to having two days to inspect the base and the use of the Liberators A72-187, which failed to become airborne on the morning of 27 May 1945. The Liberator continued on into the bush at the end of the airstrip and then exploded. It was loaded with depth charges for escort duties for a floating dock on its way to Australia.

As a result of the explosion, there was very little left of the aircraft or its 11 crew members. The Liberator which had crashed at the end of the Truscott airstrip in May 1945, was a 12 Squadron aircraft.

At the Kununurra Carabbin Park I met Bob Allen who had made the journey from Perth to Kununurra by car. Bob had served with 12 Squadron, stationed just out of Darwin and had visited Truscott during World War II. The Liberators which had crashed at the end of the Truscott airstrip in May 1945, were 11 Squadron aircraft.

Then I met Reg Kelly, also a member of the Truscott Tribute Committee. He had organised the Dog River Club, where I met other members of the Committee, Peter Staint and Jim Robinson. I later met Allen and Peter (Pawpaw).

At 0725 hours, Thursday 23 April 1992, Howard, Reg, Jim, Allan, Peter, Andrew (Video Operator) and I boarded the Beech craft aircraft for the flight to Kununurra. It was a pleasant journey, flying at 6000 feet. We passed over Carpentaria and Famou River Stations, Wyndham, Karratha Mission Station and then flew on to the Truscott Air Base.

The Liberator, which had crashed at the end of the Truscott airstrip in May 1945 was shot down by two Spitfires stationed at the Truscott strip. The remains had actually crashed into the sea at Vanisteen Bay after being shot down by two Spitfires stationed at the Truscott strip. The remains had been recovered from the sea and brought to their current resting place. There was not much left. Then we moved on to see the remains of the old Signals Office, Operations Room and the Meteorological office. Nothing much was left except the concrete slab and the mounting blocks for the 200kVA generating units. The old Signals Office was filled with rusted out conduits, fuse boxes, old batteries etc. However, the old manual telephone switchboard was lying on the floor - but burnt in a bushfire that had passed through the area.

We identified what was left of the base hospital by its contents - old steel beds, a badger, etc. Once again through the bush to a fountain, probably where the Officers Mess was. There was a huge Matters stone still there, the outside of iron body still in good shape but the inside metal rusted out. There were old 44-gallon drums lying everywhere, the galvanised ones still being in perfect condition after all the years of lying out exposed to the elements.

The base was completely overgrown by saplings and spear grass and it became a real puzzle to work our way through every piece of debris. Once we had the car a half-mile from the site, it was just too much. The framework of the old cinema screen was still standing. We were going to get it out of the bush with a crane but the bulldozer wouldn't go in enough to turn it. The notice had been inserted in the newspaper - "You Help?" section of the West Australian. Hence, we decided to give it to the restorers or anyway, to the person who could help us to restorers. It was a children's movie, some 30 years old.

The surface of the airstrip was entirely different from when I was stationed there in 1945. Then it was interlocking steel plate laid on top of the sandy surface; now it was specially bound gravel - a much superior surface, thanks to modern technology and soil-binding techniques.

After an excellent lunch, I was taken on a "cook's tour" by 4WD vehicle over the once-habitable areas of the widely dispersed old 58 OBU Base - or what remained of it. It was through the bush to a site which was the last Japanese aircraft to be shot down over Australia. The aircraft had actually crashed into the sea at Vanisteen Bay after being shot down by two Spitfires stationed at the Truscott strip.

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Now under new management
Truscott Revisited cont.

Standing — amazing after all that time. I can remember sitting out under the stars and watching "Going My Way". Harry Searle's Concert Party also gave a show at Truscott.

At the Transport Section there were plenty of abandoned trucks (well and truly stripped), a grader, remnants of a fire tender, and numerous old parts, including a compressor and a pump. All the old trucks were standing for only in a row and will probably remain there rusting out for the rest of their days.

West Bay landing was difficult to identify. The jetty had disappeared and mangroves had taken over along the water's edge. From memory the jetty ran in a straight line down from a beach line, which is still standing there in all its glory. However, we did identify the old station by virtue of its drums and greased tracks. Once again everything was overgrown and it was very difficult to identify specific things. A reliable map would have helped a lot.

At West Bay, back in the scrub, there were more old trucks — amazingly, one still had its motor intact. Then there was a complete road roller just standing there. Again there was a Matilda, standing in the remnants of an old shed just waiting for someone to line it up.

In another section of the base we came across four large antenna-type poles — they were approximately 80 feet in height, guyed and mounted in concrete bases. They formed a diamond — probably HF/DF. Again there were 44-gallon drums lying everywhere — in some places they had been filled with gravel and used to form gutter emplacements. Behind one such emplacement was a bomb dump — no bombs, of course, but literally hundreds of different types of bomb tail-fins just rusting away, some still stored on wire-mesh racks.

In another section of the base we came across hundreds of different types of bomb tail-fins just rusting away, some still stored on wire-mesh racks. In another part of the base we came across a pile of old tin hats, but 47 years had taken their toll on them and they were rusted out.

While we were on the "rocks tour" of the old base, the other boys from Kununurra had been very busy building the plinth in the bush at the end of the airstrip, just in front of the wreckage of the crashed Liberator A72-183. They had made a wonderful job of it out of the natural stone collected from around the site.

The following morning, the building of the second plinth was commenced, just off the apron of the Santos building. Once again the Kununurra team worked hard in the hot conditions, and the result was another first-class job - a credit to all concerned.

By this time more and more people were arriving. An RAAF Caribou brought RAAF personnel who were to drive the four RAAF trucks, already on the Base from Tindal. The original party were to return to Tindal via Kununurra on the Caribou. Another light aircraft arrived from Kununurra carrying Bob Aitken and Dave Campbell (both had passed through Truscott during World War II), and other members of the Truscott Tribute Committee.

The ceremony for the unveiling of the plaque cast on the plinth outside the Santos building was conducted just before dusk on Friday 24 April. It went off without a hitch. At the start of the proceedings, the wreaths were placed at the base of the plinth in memory of the "U" on the tarmac facing the plinth.

A dawn service was held at the plinth erected in the bush at the end of the airstrip, just in front of the wreckage of the crashed Liberator. It was a moving service with the sun filtering through the trees and shining onto the monument. A number of wreaths were placed at the base of the plinth for the memory of the young people who had been so tragically taken.

Then it was a sad farewell, and I left Truscott for Kununurra — homeward bound. I had time to collect my thoughts and wonder whether I would still be around to see it again, possibly in 1994 — 50 OBU's (Truscott) 50th anniversary. I know the Truscott Tribute Committee is planning a celebration.

N.B. The writer served at RAAF OBU from late January 1945, initially in charge of a "watch" in the Signals Office. After an aircraft accident in Vansittart Bay, he was transferred back onto RAAF Small ship O17-29, normally anchored in West Bay.

Father Anscar Vansittart Bay, he was transferred back onto RAAF Small Ship O17-29, normally situated in West Bay.

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1992-93 BUDGET

The Federal Government's 1992-93 Veterans' Affairs Budget was released in August with the commitment to meet the changing needs of the veteran community, especially regarding members who are eligible for Social Security пенсії.

The Government allocated a total of $8.4 billion, an increase of 1.8 percent over last year.

Some of the changes to take place are:

- **SPECIAL PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS OF EX-POWS**
  - This special pension will be granted to the widower or widow of a deceased ex-POW who, at the time of his or her death, was being paid, or was eligible to be paid, a disability pension. The special pension will be equal in value to the war widow's/widower's pension and will take effect from 1 January 1993.

- **CHANGES TO DEFENCE SERVICE HOMES ACT**
  - People eligible for a Defence Service Homes loan will benefit from an easing of restrictions on the use of their homes under changes announced. Loans under the DSH Act can now be used to renovate a home or to discharge an existing mortgage, thereby removing significant restrictions on the use of the loans. The changes will come into effect from 1 January 1993.

- **INCREASES IN ALL PENSIONS**
  - All major pensions (OVA) will increase from 4 February 1993. The increases in service pension rates will have two components. The first is a one-off $2 per fortnight increase in the single-rate pension (or a $1.70 per fortnight increase for service pension couples). Secondly, the anticipated March Quarter 1993 indexation increase is also being brought forward to February 1993. Disability pensions and war widows' pensions also will rise as a result of indexation. The new pension rates will be:
    - Service pension (single) $232.10 a fortnight
    - Service pension (married) $285.30 a fortnight
    - War widow's pension $225.80 a fortnight
    - War widow's pension (married) $279.10 a fortnight

- **NEW HOME FOR AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL TREASURES**
  - Historical treasures of the Australian War Memorial, currently hidden from public view, will be able to be properly displayed with the help of a $2,572,000 Budget grant toward the building of a new home and the cost of running the facility. The Memorial's storage situation has become critical and the display/storage facility will be located at Mitchell in the ACT, beside the current Australian War Memorial annexes.

- **ARREARS PAYMENT TO BRITISH WAR PENSI0NERS PAID BY THE DVA IN AUSTRALIA BETWEEN 1972-1989**
  - The Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) in Australia paid war pensions on behalf of the UK Government between March 1972 and March 1989. Due to constant changes in the exchange rate between the pound sterling and the Australian dollar, the UK Treasury agreed that the Department of Veterans Affairs would pay war pensions in Australian Dollars using a 'fixed' exchange rate. The exchange rate used by the Department of Veterans Affairs remained unchanged and was altered by plus or minus five cents and was then adjusted accordingly. There were time delays before the new rate could be used and sometimes this resulted in an overpayment and sometimes underpayment.

The UK Government has decided to pay the arrears due to those war pensioners who were underpaid between 1972 and 1989. We are examining all current war pension payment records (including all DVA computer systems) in alphabetical order. Therefore, do not write in if you are now in receipt of a British Government war pension as your case will be processed automatically.
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THE THIRD INTERNATIONAL REUNION OF THE EMPIRE AIR TRAINING SCHEME
Adelaide, South Australia — 25 April - 02 May 1993

The Empire Air Training Scheme was an Australian Commonwealth Air Training Plan which trained pilots and air gunners to fight in World War II. The Scheme was established in 1940, and by 1943, over 20,000 pilots and 30,000 air gunners had been trained worldwide.

Over 300,000 young men participated in the Scheme, and despite the intensive training and wartime activity, lifelong friendships were formed with trainees from other lands. These were times of great fellowship and memorable escapades, but also times of great emotional stress and indescribable sadness when mates went away and never came back.

Fifty two years on, we all still think we are twenty one. Yet the years have rolled by and our numbers are diminishing. We in Australia think it is time we all got together again to re-live our memories and to re-kindle old friendships.

We have therefore put together a Reunion programme which we think will capture your heart and mind — a Reunion which coincides with the Anniversary of the first intakes in 1940.

Anyone who enlisted in Aircrew between 29 April 1940 and 03 September 1945 and entered an Initial Training School is eligible. Completion of Training and/or receipt of wing(s) is not a requirement.

Wives or companions will be made most welcome.

Please join me in making this a truly memorable international Reunion — a Reunion which you will never forget.

THOMAS L. SCULLY JP
CHAIRMAN / CONVENOR
Veterans’ Affairs Cont.

We want to hear from those who are no longer in payment but who were in receipt of a war pension paid by the British Government during the period 1972 to 1989. This includes anyone who received a Lump Sum Gratuity.

We would also like to hear from the next-of-kin of deceased war pensioners/war widows who were paid a British war pension during the period stated.

You must be able to supply us with written evidence of their war pension details as files will now have been destroyed.

Not everyone is eligible. Only those cases that we find to have been underpaid between 1972 and 1989 will be entitled to an arrears payment. The arrears payment will vary according to each individual's pension entitlement.

Please understand that staff limitations and the volume of enquiries may lead to some delay in our reply.

Please address enquiries to the address shown, clearly marking our reference W3P1 (LEAP) on the envelope and letter.

Miss J.M. Bone
War Pensions Directorate
W3P1 (LEAP)
Room 6225, North Fylde Central Office
Norcross, Blackpool
England

VETERANS’ HEALTH WEEK 1993

The Ex-Service community and the Department of Veterans' Affairs are again planning next year's Veterans' Health Week which will be held during 15-19 March, 1993. It promises to be a week filled with a variety of healthy activities, information sessions and good fun and company.

The first Veterans’ Health Week, held in May 1992, proved to be a resounding success with a variety of healthy events and activities ranging from tea dances, bowls tournament and heritage walks to "nutritious and delicious" cooking demonstrations, seminars on a range of issues affecting elderly people and plenty of fun for all who attended. Many of these were the result of the active support and involvement of a number of groups including, local Ex-Service Organisation branches, Repatriation and General Hospitals, community agencies and, of course, veterans, war widows and their families. Organizers would like to see all these groups and others, taking part next year.

We would like to hear from people with ideas and enthusiasm who are interested in organizing activities that they or their friends would like to run during Veterans’ Health Week.

The RSL is keen to be involved and to help organize our own events under the Health Week banner. Hans Wynen, RSL project officer for Veterans’ Health Week, has been appointed to co-ordinate the Week at a national level with the Department. He has written to all state secretaries seeking their input and the appointment of a contact to help organize activities at a local level.

If you have any ideas or know of any activities already scheduled that would fit into the Week please advise Hans Wynen, or the Department’s Veterans’ Health Week Contact Officer. They will help co-ordinate and promote events.

Remember, it's your Week. Join in and...enjoy it!

WA Contact Officer is Debbie Hill (09) 425 8462.

WOMEN’S AUXILIARY

The last two months have been busy ones for the State Executive members. In September, Auxiliaries visited included Bedford/Morley, Murray Districts (60th birthday luncheon), Bassendean/Guildford (70th birthday party) and Darling Range.

I was a guest at the opening of the Aged and Extended Care Dept. of Hollywood Hospital. My husband and I attended the RAAF Battle of Britain Memorial Service, and were guests at the Greek RSL Annual Dinner and the Armadale Sub Branch annual dinner.

We are busy now packing and delivering our Christmas Cheer parcels and receiving invitations from friends to join them for festive functions.

This will be my last report for 1992; I thank all who assisted with activities and assistance for our residents in nursing homes. All Auxiliaries for their continued support of our sponsored appeals and the War Veterans Home Building Fund (for the new units at Mt Lawley and Mandurah).

I thank Vice Presidents Mrs Barnett and Mrs Southern, my Secretary Mrs Fisher, all Executive members and our Immediate Past President, Mrs Dayley, who have helped me so much. My thanks also to State President M.J.P. Hall and Mr H. Grimes and staff for continued support. I wish you all a blessed Christmas and good health and happiness in the New Year.

M. TAYLOR
State President.

Listening Post—Summer 1992—Page 10
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**MAXICOM**

**Page 36 —ting Post — Summer 1995**
KOKODA TRAIL

On our first stage up over the "Owens Corner" in Papua New Guinea, whilst enjoying a few minutes rest, I turned to see how the boys behind me were faring. Surprised to see a stranger, I said: "Hello! got yourself separated from your unit?" He replied, "No, I'm a chocolate I'm AWOL and I'm going up to avenge my brother who was killed in Malaya!"

We were on the move again and as he passed me I wished him good luck. He soon caught up to our leaders, passed out of sight and I never saw him again. I assumed he would eventually attach himself to one of our units.

We were very soon to see the indomitable spirit of other "chocos". The wounded from the 39th Battalion, for example, whom we passed on the track making their way back to Moresby. And when we got up to the Battalion and saw their mates were defying the Japanese forward thrust to Moresby, we very quickly realised that these were people of our own kind whom we were happy to have at our side in a fight.

I am pleased that Peter Brune's book, "Those Ragged Bloody Heroes", publicises their magnificent efforts. They really have set an example for Australian military forces (Militia and AIF) and Australians generally to be proud of.

If that militia man is still around I would love to hear from him and exchange experiences.

WX 4180
L. ARMSTRONG
2/16 Bn, and 21 Aust Inf Bde Signals AIF
409 Corrimal Street,
Dianella 6062 - 276 3534.

JAMES PARK WOODS VC

The children of James Park Woods have decided to donate his Victoria Cross and other medals to the Australian War Memorial for public display in the Hall of Valour.

The handover ceremony was held in Canberra on the 20 November 1992 and his six surviving children will be present. The eldest son Gordon was killed in the World War II while serving in the RAAF.

This trip (five of the family live in WA) has been made possible by the sponsorship of Qantas.

My father joined the AIF in 1916 and served in France as Private J.P. Woods, 3244 4th Battalion. He was awarded the VC on 18 September 1916.

After the war he settled in the Swan Valley at Caversham where he had an orchard and vineyard. He married Olive Wilson and they had seven children.

About 1937, my father's health deteriorated due to lung damage suffered in the trenches, probably due to the conditions and gas attacks. I moved to Mosman Park and later moved to Nedlands.

He died in Hollywood Repatriation Hospital on 18 January 1963.

NORM WOODS
55a Mayfair Street,
Mt Claremont, WA 6010.

18 BRIGADE, 28 BATTALION

This has been a good year for the troops, starting with the reunion at the Raffles Hotel. In June we went by bus to Darwin, when we visited the old camp site.

Our next reunion will be held on 4 January 1993 at the WACA ground instead of the Raffles. Don't forget to bring your old photos and memorabilia.

Anyone who is interested in another trip to Kalgoorlie, please contact:
Phil Wilkerson on 330 7263 or
Cliff Tamlyn on 384 5008.

Thanks RSL

I write in connection with my Disability Pension and my appearance before the Appeal Board of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Over the years, Mrs Rowlands and Mr Johnson have given me considerable assistance with making my claim. I appreciate this very much and thank them for their voluntary efforts on my behalf.

Servicemen are fortunate that the RSL has people of their ability to work on our behalf.

JACK ALLEN
RAN 24091.

House exchange

I write to ask if any of your members would be interested in a holiday exchange (ie house for house) for any period.

I am now retired and would like to visit Perth.

And would there be any ex-members of the RAAF in the RSL who joined the RAAF in the UK and Australia. Transit Camp 1942 - Stobart and Martial, Ceylon. Transit Camp 1942 - I stayed and got down in the middle of the night." Just a joke they said. (We got out all right.) They were on their way to the Middle East and I don't know what the Germans made of them, but they frightened us to death.

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OUR FLAG

Congratulations on publishing the article "In defence of our flag" in your last issue. I would like to add a little to the legend of our national flag. As I understand it, in 1800 the Melbourne Evening Herald and the Review of Reviews announced competitions for a design for a Federal Australian flag. This apparently moved the Commonwealth to action and they announced an official competition in The Commonwealth Gazette of 25 April 1901. Two designs were to be submitted by each entrant - a national flag for official use and a merchant national flag. Almost 33,000 entries were received.

Seven judges were appointed, experts in heraldry, art and design, representatives from the Navy, Army, and Merchant Marine. Almost 22,000 designs were received.

Prime Minister Edmund Barton pointed out that the prize money of two hundred pounds was to be equally divided between the two entrants whose designs were almost the same, although it is said that a 14-year-old Melbourne schoolboy, Sir Edward Bevan, was later credited with the best design.

The Union Jack is located in the upper left hand quarter of the flag, next to the flagpole. This quarter represents the current position of honour and represents our historical association with Great Britain.

The Southern Cross represents our hemisphere and is only visible in the southern sky and is believed to be so bright in the Australian right sky. It has been observed among the Aborigines for 40,000 years or more of history as well as the 200 years of white settlement. Each star has a name; from the bottom clockwise, there is Alpha, Beta, Gamma, Delta, and the small one, Epsilon. The large star represents the seven states and territories.

It seems to me almost impossible to create a more appropriate design and, compared with the other flags of the world, ours is surely the most beautiful.

The Australian national flag was flown above the exhibition building in Melbourne on 3 September 1901 and approved by King Edward VII in February 1903, but long before this, on 11 November 1854, the Southern Cross, the main feature of the present flag, was unfurled. The design was approved by King Edward VII while he was in Australia.

The Southern Cross is the main feature of the Australian National Flag. The current design is a grey to sky blue flag with a stylised red kangaroo and the names of their friends who did not return.

AUSTRALIAN POWs - WORLD WAR II

Trying to verify the fate of Australian POWs in Germany who were common by Russian forces during the final offensive, I would like to find out:

The total number of Australian POWs held by Germany during World War II:

Number of Australian POWs reported as having died in captivity:

Total number of Australian POWs eventually repatriated:

I also seek information regarding Australian POWs liberated from Stalag IIA on or after 20 May 1945, along with an account of their experiences and the names of their friends who did not return.

Furthermore, I would like to hear from former POWs in East Asia who escaped from the Russians or who were exchanged any time after 20 May 1945.
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Letters cont.

Finally, I am trying to discover the estimated number of Australian POWs who may have been forced by the Russians to work in Poland or the USSR (it is believed that some may have escaped to Allied lines).

Any information at all would be very much appreciated.

I have found a Korea medal inscribed 2/5701 J.R. Baikie. The owner or next-of-kin is invited to contact me.

W.A. SUTHERLAND
RSM 1932b
Wodonga, Vic 3691.

PHASE TWO OF THE NEW MEDICARE CARD CAMPAIGN

Should you receive enquiries from people wishing to obtain a new Medicare card, it would greatly assist us if you would encourage them to visit a Medicare office.

The Health Insurance Commission began to issue the new Medicare cards early last year to replace old worn cards, they will help process claims more efficiently.

The Commission is now in the final phase of issuing Australian residents with a new card with just 16% of the population still holding an old Medicare card.

The Commission did advertise in the national press, including non-English newspapers from 29 August for a period of two weeks.

Please contact the Health Insurance Commission enquiry line in your state should you have any further questions about the final phase of issuing the new Medicare card.

KEN HAZELL
Assistant General Manager
Health Benefits Division
P.O. Box 1001,
Tuggeranong, ACT 2901.

UNOFFICIAL MEDALS

I refer to an article in the Spring 1992 edition. Unofficial medals have been struck and are available to eligible ex-Service members who want them.

So that medals aren't mislaid, they can be mounted together by putting them on the left of official medals without causing offence.

On Anzac Day, I will wear my own and my father's medals from World War I plus our "Unofficial Medals" (they include the Gallipoli Star, Somme and Front Line Service Medals). These will be worn with pride and I by doing that I am honoring anyone so be it.

ED WOODWARD
50750 Ex 2RAR Malay,
8 May Road,
Eden Hill WA 6054.

HEAVENLY INTERVENTION

This relates to two incidents in World War I referred to as "Angels of Mons."

The first was towards the end of August 1914 at Mons. The British Army was outnumbered three to one and on the verge of annihilation by the advancing Germans. Aware that a "Day of Trouble" had arrived and that only God could help and save, there was a call to prayer throughout Britain and the churches were crowded.
Scale & Anchor Fish Shop
Melville Trade Centre
Leach Highway (Fremantle side of McDonalds), Melville. Tel: 317 2970

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So call RSL Pathfinder first!
Letters cont.

In the ensuing days there were various accounts of the intervention of angels, which caused panic and disorder amongst the Germans who retreated and enabled the British and Allied armies to re-form and fall back on a line of defence.

In 1918 at Bethune, there was a similar intervention of angels as a result of a call to national prayer in both Britain and the United States. In this incident, the angels were said to be white cavalrymen on white horses. They advanced at a trot in parade-ground formation in bright sunlight led by a man whose head was bare, his hair like spun gold and by his side a great sword. Heavy artillery and machine gun fire was thrown at this “white cavalry” but it came on irresistible.

As happened at Mons in 1914, the German units turned and fled, panic-stricken. This enabled the Allied advance between Bethune and Ypres during the ensuing weeks of July 1918, which resulted in the capture of some 385,000 prisoners and more than 5,000 guns and the signing of the Armistice on 11 November.

Would anyone who has any knowledge, however seemingly remote, of the “Angels of Mons” please contact me.

TIM HARGREAVES
(2290 2992 Kings Royal Rifle Corp & ‘Cth Bn Parachute Regt.)
Post Office
Shark Bay WA 6617.

Christmas Greetings to all from...

PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS
The Australian Legion of Ex-Servicemen and Women

BOOK REVIEWS

A BOMBER COMMAND SURVIVOR
By Squadron Leader Stanley E. Harrison, DFC, DFM

Stanley Harrison is a gentle, softly-spoken man who lives quietly in the Perth suburb of Shelley, where, besides other things, he spends much of his time growing roses.

One would not suspect this most modest of men of having had such an illustrious career as a bomber pilot—but that is exactly what he was in those dark days of World War II.

Stanley Harrison has just published his book “A Bomber Command Survivor” which encompasses the most frightening period in living memory.

His involvement as an RAF bomber command pilot covered a training period followed by two full operational tours over Europe. He was among the fortunate five per cent who emerged physically unscathed and who always got home.

During his Service he flew the Tiger Moth, Miles Magister, Hawker Hind and Audax, Avro Anson, Bristol Blenheim and, on operational duties, the Handley Page Hampden (first tour), and Avro Manchester and Lancaster (second tour).

He commenced his first tour with RAF 61 Squadron in 5 Group in July 1940 with an operation to Essen. On 26 August he was on the first attack on Berlin in reply to the Luftwaffe Bombing of London. During the Battle of Britain, besides attacking targets in Germany, he bombèd German landing craft in Boulogne Harbour (his on his 21st birthday).

Stanley’s second tour was completed in June 1943, having operated on Avro Manchester and Lancasters on 97 Squadron, and being on the first 500-bomber raid on Cologne on 15 May 1942.

This book gives the factual account of the trial of an operational airman and details the rigorous ordeal faced by young men who had to deliver a deadly load of bombs on the enemy forties while at the same time attempting to evade intense anti-aircraft fire, searchlights and night fighter attacks.

The thrills, anguish, hope and relief of each operation are vividly captured, together with a glimpse of social life in wartime England. The development of aircraft and various innovations of the period are covered.

“A Bomber Command Survivor” reveals the experiences of a young pilot, it is honest to the point and without the unnecessary dramatis that cloud so many other works of this kind.

You will find it hard to put this book down until you have finished it.

“A Bomber Command Survivor” costs $16.00 cash or $20.00 posted, and is available from Stanley Harrison, 17 Abrolhos Close, Shelley, WA 6155, Telephone 3541354 or from the RAAF Association Aviation Museum, Bullcreek.

LES GORDON

SPORT OF KINGS
by Tom Griffith

The Listening Post has received a “book with a difference” written by RSL member Tom Griffith of Victoria Park. Tom has written “Sport of Kings” and other stories from his own hands-on experience in civilian life—mostly in the horse-racing game. The style is Damon Runyon and it is good for a laugh.

Available from Aquarius Publications, PO Box 1113, East Victoria Park, WA 6101 at $6.00 including postage.

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Page 04 — Listening Post — Summer 1992
General H. Norman Schwarzkopf,
The Autobiography,
"IT DOESN'T TAKE A HERO",
Written with Peter Petro.
(Published by Bantam Books in USA. Available from Transworld Publishers, 40 Yeo Street, Neutral Bay NSW 2089, ISBN 3286531.

The book was published in October 1992 following the retirement of the 67-year-old general on 30 August 1991 after 35 years army service, thus obviously been a pressure production to meet the publisher's deadline and take advantage of the general's topical fame and/or notoriety. I understand the advance payment and myself on the book are sufficient to improve the lifestyle of the general considerably!

Nevertheless, it is a very readable, personal and analytic account of the life and times of a post World War II American career soldier.

In 1943, aged 12 years, the young H. Norman joined his colonel father in Tehran — leaving his alcoholic mother and two older sisters in New Jersey. Before entering West Point in 1952, Norman was an 'Army Brat' accompanying his father and being educated in Tehran, Cairo and West Germany-based Army and international schools.

At this impressionable age he mixed with Arabs/Muslims and European youngsters, learned to speak French and German and seems to have acquired an understanding of their culture and philosophies — which was to benefit him in his career and, especially, as Commander of the UN Coalition Forces.

Incidentally, his name is simply an initial and chance for his older name and people are Americans!

I found the chapters on his two tours in Vietnam of greater interest than the subsequent account of the Gulf War. Initially he was a Special Forces Adviser with the South Vietnam Army when he saw considerable action and had great sympathy for them and their cause. He expressed great disassociation with the US Army of that era and was a strong protagonist of the volunteer all-professional regular force which evolved after the war.

He was the senior army participant in the Grenada operation. Though accorded had only as an 'observer' he assumed wide responsibilities. He initiated the interservice peacekeeping and gave a revealing insight into the US intrusion into that Commonwealth country.

The grand finale, of course, his account of 'Desert Shield' and 'Desert Storm'. It is difficult to understand the recent reported criticisms of the book by the Saudi Arabian Co-Commander, General Prince Khalid Sultan, that 'Stormin' Norman' "exaggerates his own role whilst running down the role of everyone else" (as reported in West Australian 20 October 1992). I certainly did not find this to be so. Indeed, General Schwarzkopf gives an objective and factual account and limits it to his own activities and decisions — giving full and, at times, diplomatically neutral references and credits to his coalition partners. The only direct criticisms are those levelled at US politicians and his subordinate US Commanders; there are also recorded differences of opinion with his own Chief, General Colin Powell.

His account of the Gulf War is well illustrated with simple maps and does not get involved in the tactical plane of other services and subordinate formations. His initiatives regarding the employment of Reserve Units and Formations (as opposed to individual reservists) are worthy of note in the Australian context and differ from other post-war reports I have read.

Australia is mentioned only twice that when Norman is introduced to 'hostile by Aussie adventurers in Vietnam; second, in a picture caption showing him as a Brigadier Planner with Brigadier General (sic) Neil Paramour in Canberra. This should have read Brigadier Neil Paramour — who is on the right in the picture and not to the left as printed!

Question? How did Norman acquire five rows of medals before becoming a colonel when his active service up to then had been two tours of duty in Vietnam?

Altogether it is a book which should be read by those with an interest in defence matters and to supplement their more serious studies.

BRIGADIER ABLE DACRE (Retd.)

CRY CRUCIFY
by Verdun Walsh

"Cry Crucify" is the story of 'G' Force, one of many forces created among prisoners-of-war after the fall of Singapore. In this case its members were mostly from the 2/15 Artillery Regiment of the 8th Australian Division.

Written by one of its members, the book tells of their experiences in Singapore and its surrender, coming to terms with the tragedy of their circumstances and more importantly coming to terms with the savagery of their Japanese captors.

On 25 April 1942, 220 members of 'G' Force were transported from Changi to the docks where they assembled with 1600 Dutch and 800 British POWs for transfer to Japan aboard the Kyakko Maru. Conditions on board were abominable but they survived and duly landed in Japan where they were put to work in factories in Osaka, Osaka and Kobe.

Verdun Walsh gives a very detailed account of their experiences and of the wonderful comradeship of the Australian POWs in supporting one another.
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CAN YOU HELP?

2 FIELD AMR
I am trying to trace friends from the unit who served with 2 Field Amb in Woodside SA, Puckapunyal and Vietnam. I have tried to contact past members but have had no success in WA. It seems to be the only member here.

G.A. MAETTUS RUZECKA
P.O. Box 222
Gosnells WA 6110.
Ph: 459 2787.

43rd LANDING Co.
I wish to locate a very good friend, Mr Peter Holthusen (WX 36666) who served with the 43rd Landing Co. Peter's last address in the 1950s was the Westfield Sheep Station at Frankland River WA.

B. POWELL
1075 Safety Bay Rd,
Rockingham WA 6168.

AUSTRALIAN WATER TRANSPORT RAE
The Australian Water Transport Association WA Branch would like any Water Transport personnel interested in joining the Association to phone the Sec/Treasurer Bill Thomas on 364 3008 between the hours of 8.00 and 10.00 AM or anytime PM.

KYUSHU ISLAND POWs
Would ex-members of BCOF who were held prisoner on Kyushu Island, Southern Japan in the early period of the Occupation please contact me:
I have information that may benefit them concerning injuries and health problems caused by their detention. In particular, I would like to hear from the transport driver who was based at Hakusen Sanso Beppu.

Below are names of ex-BCOF members who also may be interested in attending a reunion:

William Pettit - RAAF
L.V. Moore - RAAF
Col Braun - RAAF 451 SQN BOFU
R.L. Williams - RAAF 451 SQN BOFU
L.R. Nogent - RAAF
Col Roberta - Gordon Highlanders
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Sister on Trent "Sleepy"
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REUNIONS

HMAS LEEUWIN

A reunion for ex-HMAS Leenwin's companies will be held at the Quality Longby Hotel on Sunday, 13th June, 1993 from 11.30am.

This is the 53rd anniversary of the Junior Recruits' Training Establishement and will be a great opportunity to renew old acquaintances.

ENQUIRIES:
Giles Curson 09) 384 3079
Jim Oates 09) 310 3929

HMAS ASSAULT ASSOCIATION

Members QLD, NSW, VIC, SA, WA, Calling or assault personnel.

Inquiries contact Hon. Secretary Ron Zeuschner, 54 Yarri Street, Southport, Vic. 3234, Ph: (09) 450-9508, National Reunion - Nelson Bay September 1993.

T.K. LLOYD
Tel 527 1817.

Training Establishment and will be a great fund-raising event is essential. Details will be given.

An auction on Gala Day at Yorke Bowling Club will be held on 13th June, 1993 from 11.30am.

T.K. LLOYD
Public Relations and Welfare Officer
Tel 527 1817.

WA RSL BOWLS

The half-yearly meeting will be held at Kitchener Park Bowling Club on Wednesday, 16 December 1992 at 7.30pm. All members are requested to attend.

On December 20 the touring party leaves to the National Championships in Adelaide. The test matches will be played at Holdfast Bay.

To compete in the National Championships, all members must be financial; this means you must have your 1993 RSL Crown on the Badge or a receipt for your 1993 subscription. You must also be a financial member of a Bowling Club affiliated to the RWAABA, it is advisable to take with you your Badge or receipt and your Bowling Club membership card.

Les Fynmore advises that the social Committee will hold an auction on Gala Day at Yorke Bowling Club, Friday, 5 February 1993. Your support for this fund-raising event is essential. Details will be given in a later newsletter.

An excellent day of bowls was provided by the Wickham Club members, and Doug Lind and his team were the eventual winners of the metropolitan trophies presented by the annual sponsor Colin Powy.

The annual challenge match at the Manning Bowling Club in October took place in sub-zero temperatures. The winning team was 'skipped' by Max Coughlin and the RSL were the overall winners by 5 rinks to 1.

Forty-four members travelled to Bruce Rock for the Sedgwick Trophy. Following an excellent day of hospitality and bowls, the metropolitan team, skipped by Reg Ashford, was the outright winner with 31 wins and 31 shots up. Assisted by the Club President, Marie Sedgwick presented the trophies.

Forthcoming Fixture Dates:


Friday, 6 February. Gala Day Yorke B.C. Team Nom.


Friday, 10 & 19 March. Town & Country Fours. North Beach. Team Nom. Robert Son. All team members must be financial.

Wednesday, 17 March. RSL North & South (Venue to be advised).

Friday, 26 March mixed 4s South Mandurah/Old Park. Team Nom.

Tuesday, 20 April. Ladies Day. (Details to be advised).

Wednesday, 29 April. Moore Crown Fours Doubles. Team Nom. All members of team must be financial members of RSL.

Saturday, 1-2 May. RSL State Executive Mixed Fours. Manning B.C. Team Entry. Presentation of Trophies.

Check with RSL Bowls State Secretary Ted Philp, Tel. 400 4323 to ensure you are financial with the section and eligible to play.

Nominations to Reg Axford (Secretary Captain Tel 387 2251).

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RIVERTON

Saturday, 15 August was the day we had been working towards for at least three years, the installation and official opening of our chair lift. This facility is available to all members of the League.

Attending the opening was our patron and founder member Mr Merv Schofield, State President Mr Jim Hall, Mr Tom Bateman from the Lotteries Commission and some 130 members and wives.

Thanks were extended by President Harry Lowe to everyone who had contributed including the Guards Association, the Pegasus Association, Normandy Veterans, local business houses and, of course our members.

After the opening ceremony a cheque for $1,000.00 was presented to the State President towards the War Veterans' Home Building Appeal.

Our club rooms are fully licensed and open from 3.30pm every day and from 12 noon Fridays.

A. BRUCE

CITY OF ROCKINGHAM

The past year has been a good one with the membership growing to more than 500. The attendance at our memorial services and the healthy turn-out at the monthly meetings show the continued community and member support for the branch.

Our social club has proved successful and an invitation is extended to visiting members to drop in. The hall is on Oleander Drive, Point Peron and the bar is open on Fridays between 5pm and 10pm and on Sundays between 9am and 4pm.

There is still considerable concern amongst veterans for the future standard of medical treatment. Although the OVA continues to make statements in regard to this matter, there seems to be a lack of commitment on their part to alleviate members' concerns. It is up to all members and, as members of the armed forces, to voice their concerns at every opportunity and use every means at their disposal to have this incongruous situation corrected.

JVA representatives visit our hall on the last Friday of the month, and appointments can be made by phoning (008) 113 304 or by contacting our welfare officer Stan Panting on 497 3130.

Rockingham meets on the first Sunday at 11am, so come along and see how the sub-branch of the future works.

A. CROWThER
Vice President.

Returned Sisters

VALE: Thelma May Walters, nee Jolly, WFX 32873

After training for her general nursing certificate at Fremantle Hospital, Thelma Jolley gained wide experience in hospital nursing both in the country and the city before being appointed to the Australian Nursing Service following the outbreak of war.

In 1942 she was posted to the 118th AGH at Northam and then to the 25th AGH which was finally based at Mount in the south west Pacific until the cessation of hostilities.

Following her discharge from the army in 1946, Thelma married Iswyn Walters and acquired a "ready-made" family who accepted her with great affection.

After the death of her husband, she continued to live in the family home where she died suddenly on 8 August 1992.

"Jol", as she was affectionately known to her friends, enjoyed travelling in Australia and overseas. She kept in close touch with her nursing colleagues and attended the 90th AANS birthday party in Government House ballroom last July.

She will be greatly missed.

VALE: Maude Annie Violet Stent, WFX 33993

Maude Stent spent her younger years in Wooroloo village where her father was a staff member of the newly-completed sawmill. It was a closely-knit and caring community which influenced many of the girls to become nurses.

Maude trained for the general nursing certificate at Fremantle Hospital before training in midwifery and infant health at King Edward Memorial Hospital. She later was the highly-esteemed matron of St Anthony's hospital at Donnybrook.

After being discharged in 1944, Maude joined the Schools Medical Service, then under the umbrella of the Department of Health. She found this demanding but rewarding work, necessitating travel in remote areas often under adverse conditions.

Maude, who lived at Rowethorpe in her later years, died on 21 September, 1992. A memorial service was attended by her nursing colleagues and a wide circle of friends.

VICTORIA HOBBS.
**BELMONT**

Sadly, Ian Hardy, who wished to spend several months in Melbourne for a heart transplant, has passed away. Many members attended his funeral, and our deepest sympathy is extended to his wife Trish and family in their time of bereavement. We are all grateful to Bert Dean who was able to attend to many matters on their behalf.

"The Belmont Ringer" is always available at the Club; our welfare officer Bert Dean sees that all members who are sick at home or in hospital receive a copy when he visits them with Bill Sharpe.

We wish Len Haynes, a speedy recovery to good health after his recent heart attack. He and his wife Anne have contributed so much to the RSL and with so much dedication that they are an inspiration.

Our Branch has a merry band of hard workers who devote much of their time to the Club to keep it looking spotless and attractive. Whether it is erecting a lightpole or getting out the lawn-mower, some members are not able to do as much as they would like. Sometimes someone has a wife with Alzheimer's disease, and the member is the main carer. Once a week he may go to the Club for a drink but the rest of his time is spent looking after his wife. We are all getting older and we don't know what is in store for us.

We extend best wishes to everyone for a merry Christmas and a happy and healthy new year as well as thanks to all members for giving us much support to our fine club which is open Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays between 15.00 and 22.00.

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**MANDURAH**

With the help of the members, the extension to the bar/lounge is now complete. The front of the building has been matched up with the portico over the front entrance, and we hope to extend the western side of the building as soon as finance is available.

Sadly I have to report the demotion of the Memorial on the forecourt; unfortunately two very capable and eagle-eyed members were able to salvage the pieces from its watery grave in the marsh land nearby.

When we moved from our Picton Road address, some of our minutes went AWOL. If anyone knows where we can be more than pleased to hear from them.

We regret that Marion Mills has had to resign from the Women's Auxiliary due to Eric's ill health. Thanks Marion for all your hard work over the years as president.

Visitors are most welcome at our hall. The bar is open most days of the week from 16.00 hours and a social evening on the first Wednesday in the month at 17.00 hours and a BBQ on the third Sunday of every month at 11.00 am.

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**BICTON PALMYRA**

There was an error in the Spring Issue of "The Listening Post"; our Sub-Branch meets on the second Sunday of each month except January commencing 11.00am.

We have been busy updating our premises; a carpet and stools have been purchased for the bar, a PA system for meetings and social events installed, and other equipment installed with gas in the kitchen and the exterior of the hall painted.

Social activities, including "Games Nights" and "Carpet Bowls", have been organized by Clive Minar, our social secretary. The annual lunch on October 17 was a success, though we would have liked 100,000 & more members attending.

The President and Committee extend an invitation to all our members to attend our last meeting for the year on 13 December at 11.00am and then join us afterwards for a "Sausage Sizzle".

ALAN MEYER, Secretary

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**GERALDTON**

75TH ANNIVERSARY REUNION

There were many reminiscences when men and women gathered at Birdwood House on October 17 for the 75th anniversary reunion of our Sub-Branch. Participants included World War II personnel of both sexes and those who took part in subsequent wars.

Mrs Norma Lyons group photos of Royal Australian Air Force women (taken when Geraldton was a training base) attracted considerable interest.

The reunion got underway at the Memorial when wreaths were laid by President Allan Elion, Mayor Ted Wheeler and Administrator Dennis Nelson of the War Veterans' Home at Mt Lawley. The Ode at the Memorial was recited by Regional Country Vice-President John Spence, proudly wearing the Meritorious Award regalia he received at State Congress in June.

Grace was said by Mayor Wheeler prior to the dinner which was arranged by the Women's Auxiliary and served by a group led by Mrs Lyn Stakes. Drinks were served by an Army Reserve group under the leadership of Tania Yaksich, the Roll Call was led by Vietnam Veteran Bob Bandy, and the Ode of Remembrance was recited by Junior Vice-President Dennis Moir who also proposed a toast to the Auxiliary.

Organ music was provided by Lish McCready, both during the dinner and for the selection which took place beneath an unobstructed French pediment. This belongs to Derek Andrews who made many jumps in the Australian Army, the Rhodesian Army, and the South African Pathfinder and Reconnaissance Special Forces.

Former membership officer Rob Hoffman and his wife, broom of Marion, were among those renewing old acquaintances during the evening.
**Sub-Branch News**

**GALLIPOLI RELIC**

A relic of the Gallipoli campaign during World War II, an Australian flag, is in the news again. It was brought home by a veteran of that campaign, the late Dave Harton of the Chapman Valley area.

The flag was used by the RSL for services on Anzac Day at Nabeeka for many years before being displayed across a doorway on the old Road Board building, at Nanson where the Historical Society holds its meetings.

RSL State Congress this year agreed that the Gallipoli relic be refurbished and framed at an estimated cost of $1,500.

The sub-branch is having new name badges made; these will consist of the miniature RSL logo badge attached to a gold-coloured strip, which will have the member's name and sub-branch embossed upon it in black. These will probably cost around $5 and can be ordered from Secretary Fred Guenni on 349-2403.

**Cockburn**

This year's annual dinner was a huge success with an accent on the Navy, we thank to Vic Jeffery who supplied material for decorating the hall, and to our Navy person, Jack the Ripper. We were pleased to welcome President Jim Hall and Mayor Don Magill.

A contingent of our younger members attended the Consecration of the Vietnam Conflict Memorial in Canberra; from tales told, it has left a lasting impression on participants.

I myself attended the well-organised 50th anniversary of the formation of my old unit, the 2/6 Commando Squadron, held in Wagga Wagga during October. I had not seen most of the Boys since December 1945.

Now it is back to reality with the opening of the new building, the children's Christmas party and various seminars and meetings. Our meetings are still attracting about 100 members, and the community work and continual maintenance of the hall and grounds is always attended to. Thank goodness for a staunch crew of Monday workers who seem to be able to manage anything that they wish to manage.

On behalf of the Cockburn Branch, I send best wishes to everyone for the Festive Season and a good health in the New Year.

**OSBORNE PARK**

We have had several setbacks this year regarding our memorial hall. The main problem is that the hall has been practically impossible to obtain in the right price so we can sell off part of the property and proceed with the redevelopment. A recommendation was placed before members that it would be ideal to name the hall as it now stands and upgrade the kitchen area and build two new toilet blocks at the rear of the property, these to be linked to the hall by covered walkways. These of course will not require the amount of money that was necessary for the original plan.
AUGUST

WX7949, Angus, D.E., Scarborough, 2/16 Aust Inf Bn.
FX326676, Barrington, H.J., Beccles, Royal Naval.
WX27458, Birch, H.D., Warram, 8/7 Fd Coy.
WX17360, Boswell, L.D., Albany, 3/10 AIF.
WX16200, Bull, R.J., Wingham-Fingal, RAAF.
WX27580, Bissett, L.D., Albany, 2/8 AIB.
WX27978, Gilmore, J.A., Mandura, 2/11 Aust Inf Bn.
281519, Gillies, A., Claremont, RACS Royal Sigs.

OCTOBER

WX2721, Addison, E., Murchison Park, 2/7 Fd Arty.
1630, Rixton, W.I., Bassendean-Guildford, RAAF.
42873, Blackwood, F.J., Weeklands-Railways, RAAF.
WX32651, Stapelton, W.G., City of Perth, 80 M.L. Bty.
WX32259, Greaves, F.I., Busselton, RASC.
WX32345, Godfrey, T.J., Armadale, 2/23 Aust Inf Bn.
CN11656, Hughes, R., Bedford-Morley, RN.
WX2777, Hunt-Smith, W.R., City of Perth, 16 RAAF.
WX12733, James, C.J., Mandurah, 9 Sqn RAAF.
WX27956, King, R.N., Caringlai, 2 Aust Arty Bty.
WX17163, Lamb, F.J., Claremont, RASC.
WX2777, Lawrence, A.A., Mandura, Royal Naval.
12518, Martin, C.J., Bunbury.
WX1777, Mulloly, J.J., Bassendean-Guildford, 26 Inf Bn.
WX1506, Roe, R.J., Wembley-Forrest, RAAF.
WX1777, Royalwealth, H.H., Highgate, RAAF.
WX12015, Stave, A.K., Mandurah, R.N.A.S.
33869, Thomas, M.B., Mandurah.
WX6108, Thompson, S.T., Albany, 3 Inf Bn.
WX32373, Wallace, L., Returned Soldiers, 2/9 AIF.
C6632001, Wastby, J., Nollamara-Nth Perth, Royal Navy.

SEPTEMBER

441874, Anderson, A.W., Central, RAAF.
81982, Appleton, P.R., Highgate, RAAF.
WX34891, Baker, L.T.G., Harvey, 2/25 Aust Inf Bn.
WX27248, Barrett, J.H., Applecross, 2/4 Aust Inf Bn.
WX4150, Bertram, A.H., City of Perth, 2/11 Aust Inf Bn.
162033, Broadbridge, H., City of Perth, RAAF.
WX26752, Bower, L.R., Eastern Hills, 3/46 Aust Inf Bn.
WX25165, Byass, A.K., Mt Lawley-Irig wood, 5th Aust Bap Dept.
WX31445, Cooper, C.J., Bassendean-Guildford, 2/16 Aust Inf Bn.
S4906, Curry, M.A., Central, Div Sigs.

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UNIT ASSOCIATIONS

AUSTRALIAN EX-SERVICE ATOMIC SURVIVORS ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED
President: Mr. W.B. Plewright, 23 Kenwick Way, Balga, 6061. Tel: 342 6715. Secretary: Mrs. D. Jackson, PO Box 411, Midland 6056. Tel: 294 1054.
Treasurer: Mrs. D. Thomas, 41 Parkfield Road, Kelmscott 6111. Tel: 390 6758. Meets third Monday February, April (AGM), June, August, October, December at Belmont RSL Hall, Lease Street, Belmont, Bus 305 to Perth Bus Station.

AUSTRALIAN LEGION OF EX-SERVICEMEN & WOMEN (INC.)
State President: Mr. L.G.W. Huddings, 99 Knoll Street, Joondanna. Tel: 444 3390. State Secretary: Mr. Alyn Rayner, Tel: 401 5219.

AUSTRALIAN SPECIAL AIR SERVICE ASSOCIATION (WA BRANCH)
President: John Griffith Tel: 242 2961. Secretary: Charley Hunt Tel: 450 6334. Meets first Thursday of each month at Campbell Barracks (The House) Swanbourne at 1800hrs. Social meetings held on the last Friday of each month at SAS Regiment Mess 1800hrs, drinks, snacks etc. Ladies most welcome. All correspondence to: Regimental Headquarters, Campbell Barracks, Swanbourne, 6010.

AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S ARMY SERVICE ASSOCIATION (AWASA)
President: Mrs. Alique Corry, OAM, Tel: 361 2824. Secretary: Mrs. N. Angwin, Unit 7/6 Mt Henry Rd. Como 6152 Tel: 450 1833. Treasurer: Mrs. P. Bell, 17 Bedford St, Bentley 6102 Tel: 451 2204. Friendship Meetings 1st Floor, Anzac House on the 1st Thursday of the even months 11am - 12 noon.

BCOF ASSOCIATION OF WA
President: Len Bland, PO Box 639, Balcatta 6021, Tel: 349 4189. Secretary: Doug Spark, 110 Daglish Street, Wembley 6014, Tel: 381 614. Treasurer: Greg Flanders; 98 Manning Road, Manning 6152, Tel: 450 3511. Meets fourth Monday (if Mon' holiday meets next day - Tuesday) 11.00am from Feb to Nov at Belmont RSL Hall, 24 Great Eastern Highway and Leake Street, Belmont, Bus 305 to Perth Bus Station or add 45 cm Phal St and St George's Terrace.

BLINDED SOLDIERS OF ST DUNSTANS WEST AUSTRALIA
President: Mr. W.A. Waiters, "RSL Retirement Village", Third Avenue, Mandurah, 6210. Tel: 535 3602. Secretary: Mr. F.C. Wooler, 2 Rhogadia Court, Heathridge 6027. Ph: 401 8130. Treasurer: as above. Meetings: 2nd Tuesday alternate months February at 1.45pm, Red Cross House, Murray Street, Perth.

BRITISH EX-SERVICES ASSOCIATION INC.
President: Mr. D.E. Clarke, Tel: 309 1046. Secretary: Mr. C. Naylor, PT 201 5251. Meetings are held on RSL Club in Perth House on the second Wednesday of the month, commencing at 11.30am. Correspondence to GPO Box 217, Perth WA 6001.
Catalina Club of Western Australia
President: Mr Brian Buzzard, 39 Robertson Street, Henley Street, Como WA 6052. Tel: 212 2459. State Secretary/Treasurer: Mr Eric Carpenter, 21 Kenmore Drive, Dainga WA 6001. Tel: 342 2775. Meetings: 2nd Monday each month at Amec House, 28 St Georges Terrace, Perth or 7:30pm (unless otherwise advertised).

DEFENCE RESERVES ASSOCIATION (WA Branch)
President: Mr Peter Monkman, 2/260 Scarborough Drive, Como WA 6061. Tel: 341 6258. Treasurer: Mr Helen Cope, 2/260 Scarborough Drive, Como WA 6061. Tel: 341 6258. Meetings held monthly— all members welcome to attend. For further information please contact Secretary.

EX-FORCE RESERVES ASSOCIATION
President: Mr B. Martin, 105 Banksia Street, West Perth, WA 6005. Tel: 339 1826. Meetings: Mid-year general meeting and Christmas Day functions.

EX-PRIISONERS OF WAR ASSOCIATION OF WA
President: Mr J. Linton, Unit 3, 25 Third Avenue, Mt Lawley WA 6050. Tel: 271 1826. Meetings: 2nd Wednesday each month except January at 7:30pm at Amec House, Perth.

HEAVY ANTI-AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION (WA)
President: Mr R.L. Limo, 25 St George's Street, Waterford Rd, Balga WA 6065. Tel: 339 1826. Secretary: Mrs S.G. DeGraaf. Meetings: 2nd Monday of each month except January, 7:30pm.

Korea & South East Asia Forces Association of Australia (WA Branch)
President: Mr A. Collins, 23 Reynolds Road, Mt Lawley WA 6050. Tel: 339 1826. Meetings: 2nd Wednesday of each month except January, 7:30pm.

Linley's Soldiers' Association of WA (INC)
President: Mr B. Collins, 23 Reynolds Road, Mt Lawley WA 6050. Tel: 339 1826. Meetings: 2nd Wednesday of each month except January, 7:30pm.

Linkless Sailors' Soldiers' & Airmen's Association
President: Mr Frank Hamilton, 39 Clement Drive, Karrinyup WA 6018. Tel: 339 1826. Meetings: 2nd Monday of each month except January at Amec House (otherwise advertised).

Fleet Air Arm Association of Australia
President: Mr Frank De Vries, 90 Cali Road, Scarborough WA 6019. Tel: 339 1826. Meetings: 2nd Wednesday of each month, 7:30pm at Amec House, Perth.

Guards Association of WA
President: Mr Peter Muirman, 113 Century Ave, East Perth. Tel: 339 1826. Meetings: 2nd Monday of each month at Amec House, 28 St George's Terrace, Perth or 7:30pm (unless otherwise advertised).

NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA, CITY OF FREMANTLE SUB-SECTION
President: Mr P. Rumble, 249 Alfred Street, Fremantle WA 6160. Tel: 339 1826. Meetings: 2nd Wednesday of each month at the Navy Club, Marine Terrace, Fremantle, Tel: 339 3015.
Unit Associations cont.

NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA, CITY OF PERTH SUB-SECTION
President: Mr B. Edmondson, 5 Monosee Place, Shenton WA 6156. Tel: 457 5690. Secretary: Mr D.J. McCollin, 885 Hackett Road, Jandakot WA 6163. Tel: 444 3912. Meets fourth Tuesday of each month commencing at 8.00pm at 71 Beach Parade, East Perth. All correspondence to the Secretary please at the above address.

NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (WESTERN AUSTRALIAN SECTION) INC.
State President: Mr Jack Aplby, 143 McDonald Street Joondalup WA 6026. Tel: 444 3286. State Secretary: Miss Ann Whiten, 42 Bernard Manning Drive, East Fremantle WA 6155. Tel: 448 6201. All correspondence to Fun. State Secretary, PO Box 224, Stirling Street, Perth 6009.

NETHERLANDS EX-SERVICEMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC.
President: Mr L. Kramer, 22 Marriott St, Trigg 6020. Secretary: Mr A. L. G. Roberts, 11 Dooloos St, Murdoch 6150. Tel: 207 3437. Meetings to be held on 1st Tuesday each month at 8.30pm at the Air Force Memorial Estate, Bull Creek Drive, Bull Creek, where a fully licensed club is open to members daily. Further information from State Secretary, PO Box 33, Belmont 6154.

NORMANDY VETERANS' ASSOCIATION
President: Mr J.E. Mayers, 15 Finlay Court, Rivervale, WA 6153. Tel: 477 4071. Secretary: Mr P. Bruce, 248 Percy Road, Rivervale, WA 6030. Tel: 369 1387. Meetings to be held on 1st Tuesday each month at Australian Ymca Football Club, Wanneroo Ave, Wanneroo. Entrance to building opposite no. 27.

PARTIALLY BLINDED SOLDIERS' ASSOCIATION WA BRANCH INC.
General meeting held at Armistice House, 27 St Georges Terrace, Perth at 1.30pm first Tuesday of each month, except January. Secretary: Mr Maurice, John Rinckel (WA), 35 Wanneroo Road, Spearwood, 6169 Tel: 369 1391.

PEGASUS (AIRBORNE FORCES) ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA (INC.
President: Ken Barman Secretary, Bert Harris, 54 Flinders Rd, Rivervale WA 6156. Ph: 357 9922. General meetings held at the Rivervale H.S. School Hall, 885 Hackett Road, Jandakot WA 6163. Tel: 444 3912. Meetings to be held on 1st Tuesday each month at Anzac House, 28 St Georges Parade, East Perth. All correspondence to the Secretary please at the above address.

PERMANENT AIR FORCE BRANCH
President: Kenneth Harris. Tel: 405 3287. Secretary: Ray Allen, Tel: 321 6676/ 830 9701. Meetings held on the 4th Friday of each month in the R.E. White Room at the Air Force Memorial Estate, Bull Creek Drive, Bull Creek. State correspondence to the Secretary please at the above address.

POLISH EX-SERVICEMEN'S ASSOCIATION W.A. BRANCH No. 9
President: Dr K. Gurski, Tel: 322 4924. Hon. Secretary: S. Zawiecki, Tel: 374 6260. Hon. Treasurer: Mrs I. Pleszczykowska, Tel: 330 9416. All correspondence to 53 Eighth Avenue, Mayland WA 6061.

RAAF 467-469 LANCasters SQUADRONS ASSOCIATION WESTERN AUSTRALIA
President: Mr N. Jarratt, 7/120 Powell Street, Joondalup WA 6026. Tel: 444 6260. Secretary: Mr R.J. McMahon, Unit 6, 52 Keymer Street, Belair, WA 6153. Tel: 349 0740. Treasurer: WO2 B:F. Cooper CD (W). Tel: (H) (09) 401 4402, (W) 421 4444. Treasurer: Mrs A. Smith, 58 Ocean Drive, Quinn's Rock, WA 6030. Tel: 382 4230. Meetings to be held as required at 113 Fld Parade, East Perth. Meetings are open to all members, and members of affiliated Associations.

REGULAR DEFENCE FORCES WELFARE ASSOCIATION WA BRANCH
President: Mr R. Jordan, 210 Mount Doreen, WA 6016. Tel: 321 6676/ 830 9701. Meetings to be held on 1st Tuesday each month at 9.00am at Anzac Club. No formal invitations to attend. No members of Associations who participated in the Tobruk siege.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION (WA BRANCH)
President: Lt Col F.V. Hayes, 24 Shelldrake Way, Mirrabooka, WA 6061. Secretary: Mrs A. Bland, 104 Watershed Road, Claremont, WA 6010. Tel: 349 0740. Treasurer: Mr G. Horsley, 11 Celestine Street, Wanneroo, WA 6065. Tel: 390 9074. Meetings held as required at 113 Fld Parade, East Perth. Meetings are open to all members, and members of affiliated Associations.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMY NURSING CORPS ASSOCIATION (WA BRANCH)
President: Mrs J. N. Harrower, 7/120 Powell Street, Joondalup, WA 6026. Tel: 444 6260. Secretary: Mr R.J. McMahon, Unit 6, 52 Keymer Street, Belair, WA 6153. Tel: 349 0740. Treasurer: Mr J. D. Daykin, 6 Trosper Street, Datchelor, WA 6010. Tel: 366 2766. Meeting held as required at 9.00am at Anzac Club. Further information from the Secretary.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMOURED CORPS ASSOCIATION (WA BRANCH)
President: Mr R. J. Milne, Unit 5, No. 1 Hilda Street, Shenton Park, WA 6008. Tel: 386 3522. Meetings held as required at 113 Fld Parade, East Perth. Meetings are open to all members, and members of affiliated Associations.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMY ORDNANCE CORPS ASSOCIATION (WA BRANCH)
President: Mr J. N. Harrower, 7/120 Powell Street, Joondalup, WA 6026. Tel: 444 6260. Secretary: Mr R.J. McMahon, Unit 6, 52 Keymer Street, Belair, WA 6153. Tel: 349 0740. Treasurer: Mr J. D. Daykin, 6 Trosper Street, Datchelor, WA 6010. Tel: 366 2766. Meeting held as required at 9.00am at Anzac Club. Further information from the Secretary.

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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION OF W.A.
President: M.J. Ryan, Tel: (08) 321 3606, 327 2385. Secretary: T.R. Beard, Tel: 367 3002. Meets second Sunday in February, April, June, August and December at Florentine Gardens, cnr Washington Street and Canning Highway, Victoria Park at 10.30am.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY CORVETTES ASSOCIATION (WA)
Chairman: Mr. P. Norris, 72 James Street, Gosnells, 6110. Tel: 339 7375. Meets first Tuesday. All ex Water Transport welcome.

ROYAL REGIMENT OF FUSILIERS ASSOCIATION (WA)
Chairman: Mr. P. Norris, 72 James Street, Gosnells, 6110. Tel: 339 7375. Meets first Thursday of each month at 7.00pm except January.

ROYAL REGIMENT OF FUSILIERS ASSOCIATION
Chairman: Mr. F. Norma, 12 James Street, Gosnells, 6110. Tel: 322 8022. Secretary: Mr. S. Kent, Unit 2199 Anzac House first Thursday of each month at 1100hrs. Meetings first Tuesday each month at 10.30am. Contact either of the above for more information.

ROYAL REGIMENT ASSOCIATION ANZAC HOUSE
President: Mr. Jack Patterson, 15A Greville Way, Joondanna, Address: 80 Henley Street, Como 6152. Phone: 450 1404. Meetings: February, May, August and November.

ROYAL NAVY ASSOCIATION

ROYAL NAVY ASSOCIATION PERTH
President: Mr. N. Bell, Unit 2/14 Joseph St, Maylands 6051 Tel: 370 6775. Secretary: Mr. Scott MacClennan, 36 Mandem Way, Singleton 6175. Meetings: committee meeting monthly at Navy Club Inc., 28 Marine Terrace, Fremantle at 1900hrs second Monday of each month (except January) - Contact the Secretary for details of venue and timing.

THE ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION PERTH (WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BRANCH)
Chairman: Mr. D. C. Ferguson, Lot 4 Connell Ave, Martin 6152 Tel: 341 3323. Secretary: Mr. David Lee, 13 9 Castile Street, Wembley Downs, 6019. Tel: 446 3742. Meetings: arranged monthly at members homes.

THE ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION (ROCKINGHAM AND DISTRICTS) BRANCH
Chairman: Mr. D. C. Ferguson, Lot 4 Connell Ave, Martin 6152 Tel: 341 3323. Secretary: Mr. David Lee, 13 9 Castile Street, Wembley Downs, 6019. Tel: 446 3742. Meetings: arranged monthly at members homes.

THE ROYAL MARINES ASSOCIATION (WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BRANCH)
President: Peter Lofdahl, 1/B Brecknock Way, Harvey 6225 Tel: 401 9304 (H) 300 1582 (B). Secretary: Don Hitchenson, Lot 156 Forest Hills Pde, Bindoon 6502.

THIRTYNINERS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
Chairman: Mr. D. C. Ferguson, Lot 4 Connell Ave, Martin 6152 Tel: 341 3323. Secretary: Mr. David Lee, 13 9 Castile Street, Wembley Downs, 6019. Tel: 446 3742. Meetings: arranged monthly at members homes.

THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION
President: M.J. Ryan, Tel: (08) 321 3606, 327 2365. Secretary: T.R. Beard, Tel: 367 3002. Meets second Sunday in February, April, June, August and December at Florentine Gardens, cnr Washington Street and Canning Highway, Victoria Park at 10.30am.

THE ROYAL MARINES ASSOCIATION (WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BRANCH)
President: Mr. P. Norris, 72 James Street, Gosnells, 6110. Tel: 339 7375. Secretary: Mr. Scott MacClennan, 36 Mandem Way, Singleton 6175. Meetings: committee meeting monthly at Navy Club Inc., 28 Marine Terrace, Fremantle at 1900hrs second Monday of each month (except January) - Contact the Secretary for details of venue and timing.

THE ROYAL NAVY ASSOCIATION (PERTH)
President: Mr. N. Bell, Unit 2/14 Joseph St, Maylands 6051 Tel: 370 6775. Secretary: Mr. Scott MacClennan, 36 Mandem Way, Singleton 6175. Meetings: committee meeting monthly at Navy Club Inc., 28 Marine Terrace, Fremantle at 1900hrs second Monday of each month (except January) - Contact the Secretary for details of venue and timing.

THE ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION PERTH (WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BRANCH)
Chairman: Mr. D. C. Ferguson, Lot 4 Connell Ave, Martin 6152 Tel: 341 3323. Secretary: Mr. David Lee, 13 9 Castile Street, Wembley Downs, 6019. Tel: 446 3742. Meetings: arranged monthly at members homes.

THE ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION (ROCKINGHAM AND DISTRICTS) BRANCH
Chairman: Mr. D. C. Ferguson, Lot 4 Connell Ave, Martin 6152 Tel: 341 3323. Secretary: Mr. David Lee, 13 9 Castile Street, Wembley Downs, 6019. Tel: 446 3742. Meetings: arranged monthly at members homes.

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UNIT ASSOCIATIONS CONT.

VIETNAM VETERANS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA WA BRANCH INC.

Nancy Carlson, 241 Leston Road, Lynwood 6147. Tel: 457 3984. Address all correspondence to Box 6149, Carey, 13 Stoddart Way, Bateman WA 6155. Tel: 6155, 457 8628. Secretary: Mrs J. Blanch, 24 Graphic Rd, 6157. Meets second Wednesday each month, 11.00am at the Air Force Memorial Estate at Bull Creek.

WAR BLIND MEMORIAL GROUP
PO Box 21, Maylands 6051. Chairman: LA. Preedy, 152 Keightley Road, Shenton Park 6008. Tel: 341 1737. Meetings held at Anzac Club.

Chairman: Rob Cox, 307 4864. Meetings held at 8.00pm on the first Tuesday of each month in the Meg Olive Room at the Air Force Memorial Estate at Bull Creek.

WRAAC ASSOCIATION (WESTERN AUSTRALIA)
President: Mr. C. Staley, 250 Mars Street, Hamersley WA 6060. Tel: 341 2960. Secretary: Mrs W. H. Black, 92 Graphic Rd, 6157. Meetings held on the first Wednesday each month at 10.30am.

WRAF BRANCH - RAAF ASSOCIATION
President: Mrs H. Southam, 31 Lumbar Road, Wiltshire WA 6062. Tel: 347 2838. Secretary: Max J. Brand, 2 Graphic Court, Beedon 325 0218. Meetings held on the first Tuesday of each month in the Map Office Room at the Air Force Memorial Estate at Bull Creek.

Z SPECIAL UNIT ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Z SPECIAL UNIT INTERNATIONAL (INC.)
PO Box 490, Kalamunda, WA 6076. Chairman: Jack Waters, 5 Catseye Street, City Beach, WA 6015. Tel: 377 5838. Secretary: lan Hunter, Tel: 276 2146. Secretary: Mrs B. McPherson, 54 Rosenvale Avenue, Bodegord WA 6063. Tel: 332 5652. Meetings held on the first Wednesday each month at 10.30am.

2/1-2/2 PIONEERS WA
Chairman: L. A. Preedy, 162 Kelmsley Road, Spearwood. Tel: 330 3946. Secretary: Mrs C. Anderson, Tel: 401 6662. Treasurer: Barry Sue, Tel: 274 6619. Meetings held on the first Wednesday each month at 10.30am.

2/3RD BATTALION ASSOCIATION (WA BRANCH)
President: Mr. P. J. Smith, 184 McDonald St, Joondana 6152. Tel: 444 4748. Secretary: T. E. Gregory, 12 Karrinyup Road, Karrinyup 6015. Tel: 330 3631. Secretary: Mrs C. Anderson, Tel: 401 6662. Treasurer: Barry Sue, Tel: 274 6619. Meetings held on the first Wednesday each month.

2/28TH BATTALION AND 24TH ANTI-TANK COY.
President: A. J. Smith, 184 McDonald St, Joondana 6152. Tel: 444 4748. Secretary: T. E. Gregory, 12 Karrinyup Road, Karrinyup 6015. Tel: 330 3631. Secretary: Mrs C. Anderson, Tel: 401 6662. Treasurer: Barry Sue, Tel: 274 6619. Meetings held on the first Wednesday each month.

2/3RD MACHINE GUN BATTALION ASSOCIATION
President: Mr. P. J. Smith, 184 McDonald St, Joondana 6152. Tel: 444 4748. Secretary: T. E. Gregory, 12 Karrinyup Road, Karrinyup 6015. Tel: 330 3631. Secretary: Mrs C. Anderson, Tel: 401 6662. Treasurer: Barry Sue, Tel: 274 6619. Meetings held on the first Wednesday each month.

2/6TH BATTALION AND 2/3RD TM BATTALION ASSOCIATION
President: A. J. Smith, 184 McDonald St, Joondana 6152. Tel: 444 4748. Secretary: T. E. Gregory, 12 Karrinyup Road, Karrinyup 6015. Tel: 330 3631. Secretary: Mrs C. Anderson, Tel: 401 6662. Treasurer: Barry Sue, Tel: 274 6619. Meetings held on the first Wednesday each month.

2/16TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION AIF ASSOCIATION
President: A. J. Smith, 184 McDonald St, Joondana 6152. Tel: 444 4748. Secretary: T. E. Gregory, 12 Karrinyup Road, Karrinyup 6015. Tel: 330 3631. Secretary: Mrs C. Anderson, Tel: 401 6662. Treasurer: Barry Sue, Tel: 274 6619. Meetings held on the first Wednesday each month.

2/43RD BATTALION ASSOCIATION (WA BRANCH)
President: Mr. Fenton Smith, 184 McDonald St, Joondana 6152. Tel: 444 4748. Secretary: T. E. Gregory, 12 Karrinyup Road, Karrinyup 6015. Tel: 330 3631. Secretary: Mrs C. Anderson, Tel: 401 6662. Treasurer: Barry Sue, Tel: 274 6619. Meetings held on the first Wednesday each month.
Unit Associations cont.

7 ARMY TROOPS COY RAE ASSOCIATION
President: Jack Benari, 38 Rosedale Drive, Manning WA 6152. Tel: 450 3876. Secretary: Alec Wallace, 38/11 East Street, Fremantle WA 6160. Annual reunion last Friday of September. Past members most welcome.

11TH DIVISION SIGNALS ASSOCIATION
For enquiries contact—President: Lt Col O.R. Videan, 23 Halley Street, Innaloo 6018. Tel: 446 6304. Secretary: Rob Hutchings, 21 Melbourne Way, Morley 6162. Tel: 276 3158. Regular meetings held at 150 Harbourne Street, Wembley.

11TH 1914-1918 & 2/11TH BN ASSOCIATION

16TH BATTALION, THE CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF WA ASSOCIATION
President: Mr Bob Woods, 32 Marjorie Avenue, Shelley WA 6155. Tel: 457 2229. Secretary: Mr Jim Richardson, 6 Ian Street, Melville WA 6156. Tel: 330 5405. Members advised re meetings by written letter as required.

44TH BATTALION ASSOCIATION
Committee meets when called. Annual Reunion on advice. President: R. Collins, 134 Roseberry Street, Bedford. Tel: 271 4448.

48TH & 2/48TH BATTALION ASSOCIATION
President: D. Mclean, Unit 2/50 Endeavour Avenue, Bull Creek 6155. Secretary: D.A. Hamilton, 80 Stoneham Road, Attadale 6156. Tel: 330 2923. Meetings and luncheon held at the Carlton Hotel, 248 Hay Street East at 1 J. 30am on the third Monday of each month.

460 SQUADRON RAAF ASSOCIATION (WA)
President: W.E.M. (Gerry) Bafeman, DFC, 221 South Terrace, Como 6152. Tel: 367 3063. Secretary: N.B. 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
Meets first Tuesday each month North Perth Bowling Club 1.30pm. President: A.H. Penny, V.F.A., City of Perth. Secretary: J. H. Soper, 122 Pink Street, Burswood. Tel: 302 4112. Meetings are held four times a year.

KEEP THE FLAG

Book Reviews cont. from page 65

Before joining the AIF Walsh was a typical decent country boy with a strong faith in the Catholic religion given him and a great knowledge of Henry Lawson's poems— which he frequently quotes as analogues to their hardships as POWs.

One of the interesting aspects of the book is the leadership qualities that emerged from a select group of the men, particularly Sergeant Keith Kingsford Smith and Private Jim Carr who had undertaken a St John's Ambulance First Aid Course before the war and in the absence of proper medical staff became responsible for the sick under the awful conditions they endured.

When victory finally came, the men at Tukula assumed control of their own duties during the several weeks before they came under direct Allied control. Verdon Walsh who had made several trips to a Japanese naval depot to renew supplies as a POW went back after the surrender in the name of General MacArthur and drew generous supplies of food and sake for the POWs which quickly restored their spirits and health.

The men finally returned to Australia on HMAS Formidable, a Royal Navy aircraft carrier.

The book is available for $35 including postage from Val Walsh & Associates, 11 Regent Street, Ryde, NSW 2112. Phone (02) 893 2957.

PETER FIRKINS

Last Post cont. from page 74

NF388020, Newman, S.R., Kojonup, AWAS HOL HQ
427540, Nurse, J.R., Scarborough, RAAF
226566, Parson, A.H., Albany, Leopold Highlands
BB894, Parroty, E.E., Busselton, RAAF
WX1356, Pollard, V., Riverton, 1 Supply RAAF-6 Div.
WX32167, Quarly, Y., Wembley-Floreat, 1 Supply
WX2946, Reeves, M.G., Wembley, 11 AIB
WX32785, Siemon, P.W., Eastern Hill, 26 Inf Bn.
WX355048, Siemon, H.G., Nannup-N. Perth, Technical
ABRD 1265, Smart, R.B., City of Perth, Sub A
103230, Stewart, J.M., Gnamatugup-Borden, WAAAF
WX37702, Taylor, W.C., Wembley-Floreat, RAE
10078, Titchell, D.R., Como, RAN
WX28997, Thompson, R.H., Canning Dist-Victoria Park, 2/3 Aus Inf Bn.
7101, Welch, S.I., Reviver, RAAF
710, Westbrooke, J., Manning, Aust Army Vet Corps.
WX17698, Wragby, L.E., Wembley-Floreat, 9/11 Aust Inf Bn.
F2840, Wilson, C.H., Osborne Park, RAN
55019, Woodhouse, M., Mundaring, RAAOC
WX38745, Wooding, L.M., Mount Barron, 30 AIB.
30 Classic Cars
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☐ Which is the fastest: the Ferrari F40 or the Lamborghini Countach?

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<table>
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<th>Coverage</th>
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| Contents Insurance | $20,000 | $68.25 | $88.04 |
| $40,000 | $105.11 | $135.58 |
| $80,000 | $200.66 | $258.84 |

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