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Peugeot — Renault Distributors in Western Australia.
In my address to the 60th Annual State Congress in July I made mention of a special Committee convened at National level to examine the future of the Returned Services League of Australia — a National Planning and Development Committee.

Each State Branch has in turn appointed a similar committee to look at this question. Their task will be to investigate and examine all aspects of the League to ensure a continuance of worthwhile, appropriate community and national undertakings and our continuing ability to safeguard the rights of our own members and other Veterans.

We are basically a traditionalist organization; this is a good thing, because traditions are essential in any community. Sometimes, however, this attitude produces excessive conservatism, and this can be a handicap in reaching necessary solutions. I was pleased, therefore, to report to Congress that our own Planning and Development Committee have brought to finality a mutually satisfactory agreement for the re-development of the Anzac House site. Under the arrangement we have entered into with the State Government, Anzac House and the land upon which it stands will be surrendered to the Crown.

In return, the State Government has agreed to provide a new Anzac House of two story construction as part of a proposed Government complex, on a 21 year lease at peppercorn rental. The R.S.L. will have the right of renewal for a like term on the same basis and conditions, as long as the League exists, either under our present name, or any other by which we may subsequently become known.

The League will continue to occupy the existing Anzac House rent free, until its demolition and during the period between surrender and demolition, the State Government has accepted responsibility to keep the existing building habitable. During the construction period of the new Anzac House, the State Government has agreed to provide, rent free, temporary accommodation for the League and currently we are negotiating for suitable temporary accommodation.

Under the League's agreement with the State Government, the R.S.L. has already received a cash payment of $130,000; this amount has been invested and will provide part of the necessary finance with which to re-furbish the new Anzac House.

All associated with this project are very conscious of the responsibility and magnitude of the task ahead and — here I quote the Editor of "Straight to the Point", the official journal of the Mundaring & Districts Sub-Branch in the year 1932, when writing of the impending erection of the building that was to be known as Anzac House — "Individually and collectively, this Committee is obsessed with but one ideal — the erection of a building, the completeness of which will find ready and universal approbation, and one which will be well fitted to shelter the headquarters of the W.A. Branch of the Returned Services League".

**VALE**

KENNETH JAMES PINE, 51st Bn passed away in Sydney on 23rd June, 1976. Aged 76 years Kenneth enlisted at Blackboy Hill Camp and leaves a widow and married children.

(This information was sent to Anzac House by his Sister, Miss M.J. Pine of Flat 18, "Rundle Court” 388 Fullarton Rd, FULLARTON. STH. AUST.)
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This chair is moulded on the “supa-stak” shell but is fully upholstered and features a chrome skid base which glides easily over carpets.
PORTRAIT OF A SENATOR

Senator Peter Drew Durack, the Minister for Repatriation, was sworn in as Minister for Repatriation on July 8, 1976. He succeeded Mr. Keven Newman, M.P.

Senator Durack was elected to the Senate for Western Australia in 1970 (his term beginning on July 1, 1971) as a Member of the Liberal Party and re-elected in 1974 and 1975. He was previously a member of the Western Australian Legislative Assembly for Perth from 1966 to 1968.

Born in Perth on October 20, 1926, the son of Mr. J.P. Durack, QC, he graduated from the University of Western Australia as an LL.B. (Hons) and was Rhodes Scholar for WA in 1949. He also studied at Lincoln College, Oxford (BCL). He was a tutor in law at Oxford in 1952-53, was admitted as a Barrister to Grays Inn, London, 1953, and began practising in Perth in 1954.

CHAIRMAN

Senator Durack was Temporary Chairman of Committees from February 1973 to April 1974.

He has served on a number of Senate Committees including the Standing Committees on Regulations and Ordinances (August 1971 to April 1974) and Constitutional and Legal Affairs (October 1971 to December 1974 – Chairman March 1972 to February 1973).

He was a member of a Senate Estimates Committee from October 1974 and a member of the Select Committees on Securities and Exchange from August 1971, Civil Rights and Migrant Australians (May 1973 to April 1974) and Foreign Ownership and Control (from August 1974).

In 1975, he was appointed Chairman of the Senate Standing Committee on Natural Resources.

Senator Durack was a member of the Australian delegation to the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Conference in Malawi in October 1972. As a member of the Opposition Shadow Ministry from June 1974 to November 1975, he was spokesman on PMG matters.

Senator Durack was President of the WA Division of the Liberal Party (1968-71). He is married with two children and lives in Claremont.

Official Opening of the Latest R.S.L. Project for the Retired and Aged

On Sunday 4th July the Official Opening of the Pearson R.S.L. Village was conducted by the State President, Len Phenna. This is the first 26 Units of the 53 the League will build in Patmaster Street, Mt. Lawley.

Application for Australian Government subsidy has been made by the League to complete the project as soon as possible.

No decision has been given down by the Government but as soon as information is to hand all applicants will be advised of requirements for the second stage.

State President, Len Phenna officially opening the Pearson R.S.L. Village. Mr. Pearson is seen on your left.
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R.S.L. TROPHY WINNERS 1975-'76

Newdegate Cup for competition between Metropolitan Sub-Branches was won by Bayswater-Meltham, runner up Millen.

Colonel Collett Trophy for competition between Country Sub-Branches was won by Geraldton, runner up Albany.

The Mary Cornell Trophy for competition between all Sub-Branches, judged on number of Poppies sold in relation to membership was also won by Bayswater-Meltham, runner up Returned Sisters.

The Geraldston Shield for competition between Country Sub-Branches with membership of less than 100 was won by Northampton, runner up Tom Price.

The Merv Williams Trophy awarded to the Sub-Branch raising largest amount for War Veterans' Home, in relation to membership, was won by Bayswater-Meltham, runner up Geraldton.

COMMISSIONER RETIRES

Charles Costello, a leading figure in the Australian ex-service community, retired on Friday, August 6 after 14 years as a member of the Repatriation Commission.

Mr Costello, aged 64, who lives in Torrens, A.C.T. was appointed in June 1962 after being nominated as the ex-service representative on the Commission. From January 1961 he had been a member of one of the War Pensions Entitlement appeal tribunals established under the Repatriation Act.

Mr. Costello served during World War 2 in Britain, the Middle East and in New Guinea with the 9th Division, reaching the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. He also served in a number of pre-war and post-war militia units, finally being appointed Honorary Colonel of his Corps.

The Minister for Repatriation, Senator Peter Durack, said that during his career Mr. Costello had dedicated himself to serving the interests of ex-servicemen and had set very high standards of integrity. Since his appointment to the Repatriation Commission, his experience had proved to be a major factor in policy-making and in general development of many Repatriation functions.

Mr. Costello had been awarded the OBE (Military Division) in 1956 and the Efficiency Decoration shortly after the war.

The WA Branch of the RSL records its sincere appreciation for the achievements of Mr. Costello as the ex-service representative on the Repatriation Commission and wishes both him and Mrs. Costello health and happiness in retirement.

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DEDICATION CEREMONY

ON SUNDAY 7TH NOVEMBER 1976, THE RETURNED SERVICES LEAGUE WILL CONDUCT A DEDICATION CEREMONY AT THE STATE WAR MEMORIAL KING'S PARK, AT 3.30 P.M.

THE OCCASION IS TO DEDICATE A PLAQUE TO COMMEMORATE ALL THOSE WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN THE SERVICE OF THEIR COUNTRY SINCE THE CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES OF WWII.

THE DEDICATION CEREMONY WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A WREATH LAYING CEREMONY, AT WHICH DISTINGUISHED GUESTS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WILL BE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE.


AT PRESENT, THERE ARE NO NAMES ON THE PLAQUE, BUT THESE WILL BE ADDED AT A LATER DATE WHEN RECORDS ARE COMPLETED.


IT IS HOPED THE APPEAL WILL BE A GREAT SUCCESS, AND ENABLE THE WORK OF RESTORATION TO GO AHEAD WITHOUT DELAY.

GRADUATION CEREMONY 96 PILOTS COURSE
R.A.A.F. BASE
PEARCE.

AT THE GRADUATION CEREMONY, MEMBERS WILL BE INTERESTED TO KNOW THAT THE R.S.L. PRIZE WAS AWARDED TO THE GRADUATE WHO DISPLAYED THE HIGHEST QUALITIES IN LEADERSHIP, MID-SHIPMAN C. ALVIANI, R.A.N., WHO WAS BORNE IN LEONORA, AND IS JUST ENTERING UPON WHAT WE ALL HOPE WILL BE A MOST SUCCESSFUL NAVAL CAREER.

YOUR LISTENING POST
PUBLICITY COMMITTEE:

MR. M. HALL, MR. G. STACEY, MR. J. WAGLAND, MR. F. VERDI, MR. E. DRAPE, MR. Z. KWIECINSKI.

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Extracts from

Address to the 60th Annual State Congress
of the R.S.L. (W.A. Branch) by

Mr. L. McPhenna, J.P., M.A.I.W. State President

A STIMULATING AND REWARDING FIRST YEAR

The 61st Annual Commemoration of the landing at Gallipoli was again fittingly observed on Sunday, April 25, 1976.

The Anzac Eve School Children’s Service at the State War Memorial in King’s Park was again most successful. Forty schools were represented by about 3,000 students, and the address was given by State Governor Sir Wallace Kyle.

The success of this Service was due in the main to officers of the Education Department, and we express our thanks to them and to the King’s Park Board.

The Anzac Eve Service at the War Veterans’ Home, Mt. Lawley, was again most successful, with young people from neighbouring schools taking part, supported by the Morley Salvation Army Band.

Under perfect conditions, the Dawn Service was attended by about 3,000 people, many of whom were of the younger generation. More than 80 wreaths were laid.

The United States of America was represented by the US Consul Robert Foulon and Vice Admiral T.B. Hayward, Commander, US 7th Pacific Fleet, who was visiting Perth in connection with the American Bi-Centennial Celebrations.

Our thanks go to the Scouts, who once again provided the all-night vigil at the State War Memorial. I also extend our thanks to all who shared in the organisation of this most impressive service.

The parade and service which followed on the Esplanade was well attended in perfect weather, and a record Sunday crowd of 6,000 participated.

The attendance included junior recruits from HMAS Leeuwin, a contingent of marines and sailors from the USS Oklahoma City and the Seventh Fleet Band.

About 80 Gallipoli Veterans were given seats opposite the dais, and Sgt Harry Riseborough, in the uniform of the Light Horse, and mounted on his police grey, contributed to a most colourful spectacle.

I extend our thanks to all who were in any way responsible for the organisation of the Anzac Day Service, at the conclusion of which Sir Wallace took the salute in the course of the March Past.

Our thanks to the Perth City Council, Main Roads Department, Police Department, the ABC, Channels 7 and 9, for their continued, radio and television coverage, and all other radio stations, the Press including the sponsors of the double-page spread in the West Australian.

Finally, we are indebted to the Navy, Army and Air Force for their continued support, and in particular, to the Air Force for the spectacular flypast which has become symbolic of our Commemoration in WA.

As you are aware, it was my honour and privilege to represent the National President, Sir William Hall, at a special Anzac Day Service held in the United Nations Memorial Cemetery in Pusan, South Korea.

At the Commonwealth Memorial in the village of Kapyong on April 24, I attended a special service to mark the 25th anniversary of the Battle of Kapyong, and later the same day, attended a short but most impressive ceremony at the 3 RAR Memorial, situated in the village of Moktong-ni.

It is of interest to note that the RSL was represented at Anzac Day Services in New Zealand (36), Korea (52) and New Caledonia (27). Four members landed at Anzac Cove.

The Korean welcome was warm and friendly towards a nation that had sent its sons to aid them in their struggle against international communism in 1950 – 1953.

The WA Turf Club and the WA Trotting Association again conducted special meetings on the Monday holiday, the proceeds of which were paid into the Anzac Day Trust, to which the State Government also contributed.

The WA National Football League is again commended for holding a fixture on the Monday, and thus assisting the Anzac Day Trust.

The RSL celebrated its Diamond Jubilee on June 6 this year; it was also the 35th anniversary of the formation of the Women’s Royal Australian Naval Service, and the 25th anniversary of the outbreak of the war in Korea – all in all, a most significant Anzac Day.

On your behalf, may I express our thanks to my colleague and senior vice-president Len Turner and Mrs Turner for their contribution to what was obviously a most successful day.

ANZAC DAY TRUST:

We are extremely grateful for the assistance from this source. In 1975 the League benefited by $20,750., and the Aged Soldiers and Airman’s Fund received $10,375. The total of $56,129 was a record for the Trust, making a grand total of $624,149 received since the Trust came into being in 1961.

We thank all who contributed to the Trust, the chairman, secretary and members, for their time and work to administer the Trust on a voluntary basis.

REMEMBRANCE DAY:

The Commemoration was held at the State War Memorial, and Buglers sounded the Last Post and Reveille at city intersections.

Though the number of poppies sold in 1975 was approximately the same as the previous year, additional generous donations increased the proceeds to $6,089, which is credited to the Aged Sailors and Airman’s Trust Fund.

Half of the net profit from sales of poppies is retained by the Sub-Branch for welfare work within its area.

Many of the new suburban shopping complexes were manned by sub-branches, and information was sent to the media to assist in providing a suitable introduction to the 11 am silence.

WAR MEMORIAL:

Our grateful thanks to the outgoing Warden, Lt Commander J.J. Johnson MBE, for his interest and dedication in the affairs of the Memorial, and the dignity in which he has carried out his duties.

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He has now handed over his duties to Mr F.A. Yeates, OBE, O ST J.

At this point, I would pay tribute on your behalf, to Doug Dargie, who has just completed a record term of 24 years as a sub-warden and deputy warden for the past 12 years.

Doug has carried out this honorary duty with unparalleled loyalty, dedication and dignity, and on your behalf, I sincerely thank him.

We also thank members of the Highgate sub-branch, the Chickety Niners Auxiliary at the Mt Lawley-Inglewood sub-branch and Public Service and Press sub-branch who have provided the sub-wrds.

During the period since November 11, 1975 there have been 13 wreath-laying ceremonies, with eight more pending. There appears to be increased interest by the general public in these Ceremonies.

WAR VETERANS' HOME

It was reported last year that we had sufficient applications for the building of 39 units at the Pearson RSL Village. However, the Commonwealth subsidy ceased in September 1975, which meant that we were able to build only 26 units. These were completed and occupied by November 21.

The Foundation stone was laid by Mr Pearson on Sunday, July 20, 1975.

We convey our deep appreciation and grateful thanks to all those who have generously to the Home: Unit Associations; Women's Auxiliaries; Sub-Branches and private donors; the Red Cross for providing occupational therapy, which has proved so successful judging by the many awards won by residents at the Royal Show; and also the Clergy who give spiritual guidance and comfort.

George Woodhouse continues to manage the Home in an excellent manner, and the League is very proud of this project, which will be an asset worth nearly two million dollars when the Pearson Village is completed.

Many commemorative services have been held in the Chapel, and Sir Wallace and Lady Kyle attended a service at the Home soon after arriving in WA. Several weddings and christenings have been conducted in the Chapel.

GERALDTON ANNEXE

The Annex at Geraldton was officially opened in October. Unfortunately, Mr Pearson was ill at the time and unable to attend; the opening was conducted by myself, and a tape recording made by Mr Pearson was used. The opening was well attended by the citizens of Geraldton, Government and local government representatives, and many had the sub-branches who are actively supporting the Annex.

Our sincere thanks to the Geraldton Regional War Veterans' Home Committee, the Women's Auxiliary, sub-branches in the region, and the community for their generous support of the Home.

MISS CROWNING GLORY

Miss Crowni ng Glory is now in its 18th year. Both the RSL and Legacy rely heavily on the proceeds from this annual function. Last year, our share of proceeds was $6,306, as compared with $10,329 in 1974.

It is therefore obvious, with so many appeals being conducted, that the raising of funds by this method is becoming more and more difficult.

Therefore, the sub-branches are requested to support this worthy appeal, as the funds are necessary to assist with the conduct of the War Veterans' Home.

We thank all those who took part in the Quest, and in particular Ted Martin, the energetic secretary of the joint committee.

AGED FUND

A statutory fund is administered by three appointed Trustees in cooperation with the League.

During 1975, assistance was given to 81 cases at a cost of $11,883. Currently, the state of the Fund is very healthy, but it is expected that there will be a greater call for assistance during 1977-1978, when many of our World War 11 Veterans will be at an age when they could be in difficulty.

Our grateful thanks to the Trustees for their co-operation and assistance over the past year.

FINANCE

The League's general account reduced its deficit by $10,906, due mainly to the collection of $10,329 in levies, and savings in wages and salaries of $5,700. This success was due largely to the effect of assisting to offset rises in practically every other expense item.

The financial position of the War Veterans' Home, Mount Lawley, has continued to improve despite a doubt to the introduction at the beginning of 1975 of contract cleaning and management catering.

It is pleasing to note that the RSL Shop has increased its net profit during the year under review, and while future progress may not be as spectacular, progress should be steady.

Demands on the League's Amelioration Account will remain heavy and the most that can be hoped for is not to overdraft, always having regard to funds available.

The Anzac Club continues to operate at little better than break-even, and it is doubtful if this can be maintained, bearing in mind current trends in the particular industry.

The finances of the Geraldton Regional War Veterans' Home cause some concern, brought about firstly by the size of the establishment and its situation geographically, and the fact that to a large extent, it must depend on voluntary help.

YOUTH WELFARE

The League is still actively engaged in the promotion of youth welfare, and continues to sponsor the Perth branch of the Girls Rhythm League who use the facilities of our ballroom for training purposes.

Many of these girls were included in State and national competitions and secured them extremely well.

Sub-branches throughout the State assist youth welfare groups by providing hall accommodation and supervising sporting activities at weekends.

Riverstone sub-branch and Murray sub-branch have continued their interest in the Leeuwin boys, and their sponsorship is greatly appreciated.

OPERATION STAND-IN

Father's Day last year was again a tremendous success, and our thanks to the staff at HMAS Leeuwin for their co-operation in this project.

We also thank the Princess of Fairbridge Farm School, and to sub-branches and auxiliaries who assisted in financing the outing for the boys; and my personal thanks to the staff of Anzac House and members of the State Executive who were in any way connected with the success of the day.

STATE EXECUTIVE

Our congratulations go to former president Percy Pearson on receiving the Medal of the Order of Australia in the New Year's Honours – an award which, we will all agree is richly deserved.

During the year, two successful group conferences were held, one at Rivervale-Carlisle sub-branch for South Metropolitan sub-branches, and the other at Boulder, for Eastern Goldfields sub-branches. These were attended by four vice-presidents, a party from Anzac House and myself.

In addition, we have met with unit associations, kindred organisations and the Brass and Pipe Band associations.

During 1975 there were 11 Life Membership awards, 24 certificates of merit of eight of these being Women's Auxiliary members. There were five awards of the Fifty Year Continuous Service Certificate, and one Certificate of Appreciation to Life Member and country vice-president F. Gomm, who retired in 1975 after 14 years in office.

There have been three meetings of metropolitan sub-branch presidents and secretaries held at Anzac House in the course of the year. All were well attended, and provided a most valuable opportunity for the exchange of ideas and points of view.

I have personally attended 30 sub-branches. The two group conferences referred to earlier gave me contact with a further 21 sub-branches which were represented at these meetings, giving me the opportunity for direct contact with a total of 51 for the year. Official calls, functions and other commitments totalled 78.

There have been innumerable meetings in connection with the Australian Forces Overseas Fund, Miss Crowni ng Glory Quest, Anzac House Planning and Development Committee, and the various internal committee meetings of the League, including the Constitution Committee which, as a result of a resolution of State Congress last year, was charged with the responsibility of re-printing the State Constitution, incorporating all amendments agreed to since Congress 1966.

In view of the proposed introduction of Service Membership and because a number of items on the current Congress agenda could affect the Constitution, this particular project has been delayed.

PUBLICITY

The new book "Listening Post" – our official journal appears to have overcome its problems. The Publicity Committee, under the chairmanship of Mike Hall, and in co-operation with the editor, Jack Lee, have worked hard to make the journal a worthwhile periodical.

The "Listening Post" is now forwarded to all financial members of the League.

Our thanks to the hardworking committee with particular reference to State secretary Doug Bruce for a task well done.

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

Our congratulations to Mrs Rowe, State president of the Women's Auxiliary who was awarded the MBE in the New Year's Honours. She has been a tireless and dedicated worker over many years for both the Auxiliary and League.

Though there has been a decline in the number of branches, this wonderful band of women are always busy assisting veterans where-
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Hospital visiting is the main project, and in the year just past, they have made a total of 4,651 bedside visits to hospitals in the metropolitan area, and 32,445 visits in the provinces and country districts. The other main task is, of course, fund-raising, and here again they do a magnificent job. The Annual Report submitted on June 21 at the opening of their 49th Annual Conference, represents a tremendous effort.

The highest award granted by the National Executive for outstanding services to the League, in June, has been the Certificate of Merit and Gold Badge, for services rendered to the League during the past year. This year the award has been presented to A. W. Sharpe, of Victoria, and to Miss B. T. F. Jones, of Queensland.

Social games are held in Northam, Toodyay, and Wagin, and the Women’s Auxiliary has again supported the Ouse School Carnival, and has provided a daily service, on a roster system at the canteen of the War Veterans’ Home. I express on behalf of the League, our sincere gratitude for their magnificent effort.

MEMBERSHIP

At the conclusion of 1976 our membership stood at 11,115, 497 less than the 1974 figure. About 500 members pass on each year, a loss that is difficult to sustain. The membership committee, under the chairmanship of Jack Wragg during the first part of the year and now under Christopher Briggs, has endeavoured to increase our membership through a vigorous campaign; however, the outlook is not bright.

The Women’s Auxiliary has again supported the Miss Crowning Glory Quest and has provided a daily service, on a roster system at the canteen of the War Veterans’ Home. I express on behalf of the League, our sincere gratitude for their magnificent effort.

WELFARE AMELIORATION

This committee, under the chairmanship of George Larke, does a tremendous job and assists all veterans requiring practical welfare and advice.

Apart from our own Australian veterans, about 52 families of British ex-servicemen have been assisted through our welfare office. About 3,000 interviews have been conducted, many of these requiring emergency housing, lodging and payments of rental arrears. More than 300 food parcels have been provided for those in need, and over 1500 hospital visits have been made to 250 veterans. Many of those we have assisted have rejoined the League once they have found their place in the community again.

The British Commonwealth Ex-Services League in London has provided $2,206 towards the welfare of former British veterans and their families.

We express our appreciation to N.C. Rawton, BCEL welfare officer, who acts as liaison officer between the various service organisations in the United Kingdom.

Our thanks to Roy Bell, who in his capacity as our representative on the Australian Canteen Board in WA, renders valuable service. In addition to the normal welfare and amelioration problems, the Committee has arranged three funerals on behalf of Eastern States relatives who were unable to come to WA. We place on record our sincere thanks to Rotary, the Distressed Personnel Bureau, the Repatriation Commission, Canteen Trust, welfare officers and social workers, Community Welfare Department, the Australian Housing Corporation (defence service homes), members of Parliament and all those people who have assisted us in our welfare endeavours.

R.S.L. BOWLS

The first and foremost, section of the membership of the League is being maintained, and currently the membership is 196 with ten associated clubs. Social games are played against the Air Force Association, Maccabi, Postal Institute, Master Builders, and the War Veterans’ Home. Nine residents of the Home have joined the section.

Members have travelled to Melbourne and the ACT to compete in carnivals and this year will travel to South Australia to compete in the national bowls carnival.

Within the State, successful carnivals have been held at Kojonup and Albany, and every endeavour will be made to conduct similar fixtures in Northern New South Wales, South Australia, and Western Australia.

There is State-wide support for the Morrie Craye Perpetual Fours competition, and the annual triples championships.

R.S.L. SHOP

The Shop continues to serve the League and the public as a commercial enterprise, the profits from which supplement the income of the War Veterans’ Home.

Fred Hastie, the manager, supported by a small but knowledgeable and loyal staff, keeps the Shop well stocked with quality goods that are greatly appreciated by all.

In what was a difficult year for many enterprises, the Shop did exceedingly well, producing a net profit of $27,412, as against a figure of $8,000 in the previous year after considerable writing-down of stock. This figure of $27,412, for the year 1975 is very gratifying, but we should be enjoying more patronage than we receive from League members.

The Board has been greatly assisted in recent years by Bob Moffatt, a member of the Highgate sub-branch, now retired, after being State Manager of C.B. & Co, one of Australia’s leading clothing and manufacturer wholesalers.

Remember — your discount as a member or only modest purchase will cover your League subscription for the next year.

REPARATION

Following lengthy investigations, the independent inquiry into the Repatriation System (the 'Toose Report') has been concluded.

In the League’s view, the length and extent of the inquiry is substantial evidence of the depth and detail of the investigation that was undertaken, making the Report the most exhaustive examination of the Repatriation Commission’s work ever undertaken.

This gives compelling weight to the recommendations arising from the Report, and the Report does much to reaffirm the justice and the validity of the Repatriation System.

Many of the proposals contained in the Report will improve the system. Others will need a closer examination. Such things as the abolition of the Repatriation Boards, while on the one hand, producing perhaps a more streamlined administrative process, would I am certain, be unacceptable to the veteran community generally.

Of the proposals contained in the Report will improve the system. Others will need a closer examination. Such things as the abolition of the Repatriation Boards, while on the one hand, producing perhaps a more streamlined administrative process, would I am certain, be unacceptable to the veteran community generally.

The means test has now been abolished for service pensioners aged 70 and over, but the test is still applicable in relation to fringe benefits.

Of the Appeal Tribunals (both for entitlement appeals) held in Perth for the 12 months ending June 30, 1976, the RSL War Veterans’ Repatriation Hospital was responsible for the preparation, investigation and presentation of 280 appeals.

During the same period, 843 interviews were held by this Officer at Anzac House, dealing with pension enquiries.


The number of hospital visits made by the Corps for the past 12 months was 193. This was fewer than last year, owing to the main to a change in policy of the Repatriation Hospital, in that a large number of veterans are being treated as out-patients.

Our sincere appreciation is extended to the Deputy Commissioner of Repatriation, C.J. Williams, ED, together with his staff, who have so willingly offered advice and assistance during the past year. Also the whole organisation of Repatriation Services, and thanks for their unselfish efforts in assisting ex-service men and women.

The Australian Forces Overseas Fund continues to provide concert parties and amenities on a restricted basis to our Forces in Malaysia, and in the remotest areas of Australia.

In March-April 1976, a contingent visited Oakley Aviation Centre (Queensland), Lavabrack Barracks (Darwin), the RAAF Base (Williamstown, NSW), the Communications Centre, NW Cape (WA), Army Base, Puckapunyal, (Victoria), Air Base, Wagga (NSW), RAAF Base (Loving), Tengah Base (Singapore), Penang and Butterworth (Malaysia).

This was an extremely worthwhile exercise, and one we hope can be repeated.

Regular meetings of AFOF are held at State and national level; those held in Canberra are attended by representatives of the Armed Services.

ANZAC CLUB

The Club has made steady progress during 1976, despite the increase in costs, and though only a small profit was made, the Club has a happy family atmosphere and is an excellent meeting place for members when coming into the City.

We would like more RSL members to make use of the facilities, but we realise it is not always convenient. However, we are fortunate in having about 550 associate and provisional members, mainly consisting...
of men and women working nearby who make full use of the Club, where they obtain a light counter lunch and relax around the pool table.

Many unit associations hold their meetings in the Club, which is a central point at which to meet, and members of other organisations make use of the facilities from time to time.

We thank manager Ted Steele and his staff, for the manner in which the Club is conducted.

STAFF

The staff is a hard-working and happy group, with a fine team spirit. There have been changes over the last year, mainly due to the younger ones taking the opportunity of travel overseas, and to the Eastern States.

Unfortunately, our accountant, Ron May, was forced to retire because of ill health, but we are fortunate in procuring the services of a qualified Accountant in Mrs Val Smith, who stepped into the breach just towards the end of the financial year, and has proved her ability.

John Nolan has joined the staff as war compensation officer, and within a short time was acclimatised, and is doing an excellent job.

The League owes a lot to the staff who are dedicated to the cause, and though there has been criticism from various quarters to reduce the staff and cut costs, we have found we cannot conduct the affairs of the League with a smaller number.

No one realises the amount of work carried out within the walls of Anzac House, or the extent to which the work of the League has expanded.

ANZAC HOUSE FUTURE

It will be recalled that following a deputation to the Premier last year, a planning and development committee was formed by the Executive to meet with a Government committee for the purpose of discussing the future development of the land on which Anzac House now stands.

That Committee met on numerous occasions and studied several proposals put forward by the Government Committee.

The League has now completed negotiations with the State Government for re-development of this site and for inclusion of a new Anzac House in a multi-storey complex to be constructed on this and adjoining land fronting the north side of Irwin Street, between St George’s Terrace and Hay Street.

It is confidently expected that work on this project will begin before the end of the year, and completion is expected about the middle of 1979.

I should like to extend to the Premier and members of his Government, the League’s sincere thanks for bringing to finality this mutually satisfactory agreement.

Under the arrangement we have entered into with the State Government, Anzac House and the land on which it stands will be surrendered to the Crown. The contents of Anzac House will remain the property of the RSL.

In return, the State Government has agreed to provide a new Anzac House of two-storey construction and of 1,210 square metres, as part of a proposed Government complex, on a 21-year lease at peppercorn rental.

The League will have the right of renewal for a like term on the same terms and conditions, as long as the R.S.L. exists, either under this name, or any other by which it may subsequently become known.

The League will continue to occupy the existing Anzac House rent-free, until its demolition.

During the period between surrender and demolition, the Government has also accepted responsibility to keep the existing Anzac House habitable.

During the construction period of the new Anzac House, the Government has agreed to provide, rent free, temporary accommodation for the League, and we are now negotiating for suitable accommodation.

Under the agreement, the RSL will receive $130,000 from the Government.

GENERAL THANKS

On behalf of the members, I extend thanks to: Anzac House staff; trustees; police; Federal and State Governments; Perth City Council; other local government instrumentalities; Lotteries Commission; Anzac Day Trust; State Housing Commission; the churches; Torchbearers for Legacy; State Women’s Auxiliary; (including thanks for the supper which is to follow). kindred organisations; Press, radio and television; State Warden of the War Memorial; King’s Park Board; Sub-branches – their members and individuals who have assisted them in their work, and all of those people who have supported and assisted the League in any way throughout the year.

All in all, it has been a stimulating and rewarding first year in office.

THE LEAGUE NEEDS MORE FINANCIAL MEMBERS WHAT HAVE YOU DONE ABOUT IT?

FURTHER EXTENSION OF MEMBERSHIP

R.A.N. CLEARANCE DIVING BRANCH

25th ANNIVERSARY

A major reunion is being planned in Sydney in December, 1976. All Ex-Clearance Divers will be welcome and those interested in attending are requested to contact the Officer in Charge, RAN Diving School HMAS Penguin, Balmoral, NSW, 2091.

FURTHER EXTENSION OF MEMBERSHIP

At the February meeting of National Executive held in Canberra it was resolved to extend membership of the League to those servicemen, with brief periods of service in South Vietnam, after withdrawal of the main troopers in December, 1972.

Sub-Branches are requested to take action on this announcement.
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60th STATE CONGRESS
LAST IN A HISTORIC BUILDING

In what could be the last State Congress held in this historic building, the Lt-Governor Commodore Sir James Ramsay, CBE, DSC opened the 60th State Congress in Anzac House in the presence of a capacity audience.

Sir James said that despite the fact the League, in its 60th year, seems to be at the cross-roads where it has found itself doing more and more good work with dwindling membership.

But it is skilfully negotiating these cross-roads and is doing so with the same quiet dignity that has characterised the League since its inception.

There is something about the serviceman, the ex-serviceman, the returned serviceman - his loyalty or his dedication, he said, which seems to be instilled when he joins up and fostered during his service - and remember his service is to his country - that stays with him and moderates his attitude to community affairs.

In these days of protests, massive protests - of demonstrations - violent demonstrations - of disobedience - civil disobedience - of lawlessness - flagrant flouting of the law - its refreshing to feel the stabilising effect of the mature veteran who is not without views on issues, but who individually or collectively through the League expresses them sensibly and unemotionally.

He went on to say, with such issues as achieving those objectives that lie within its charter, it is good to know that the League exercises its influence or if need be, exerts its pressure on the authorities by such methods as writing submissions, making speeches, sending deputations and so on, while its public demonstrations take the form of religious services, wreath laying and commemorative parades.

Another way of demonstrating is by example, good example, to the community in the form of assistance to members in need and their families such as the Frail Aged and War Veterans Home.

This demonstrates that there is so much good in the League that it must not be allowed to go out of business.

The extension of its new membership rules will go a long way to overcoming the danger of this happening and it is up to the old members to make it work by accepting and welcoming the new members into the League, on the basis, we all hope, that they want to join not so much to obtain a service but to render one.

The Lt. Governor, Sir James Ramsay receiving the message of loyalty from State President, Len Phenna.

60th STATE CONGRESS
BY MIKE HALL

A letter of apology was received from the National President, Sir William Hall CBE, DSO, ED, who, because of other commitments, could not be present. Many local dignitaries political, sectarian and civic, honoured us by their presence. The Minister for Repatriation, The Hon K. Newman, was a notable visitor.

Many sub-branches increased their membership during the year, and pennants were awarded to Arthur River, Bencubbin, Canning, Darling Range, Karridale-Augusta, Merredin, North Beach, Tom Price, Rockingham, Wanneroo and Yokine-Joondanna.

Though another sub-branch, Kununurra, increased its membership substantially, it did not qualify for a pennant. However, a letter of commendation will be sent by the State President.

The first item of note was the Service Membership and, as expected, this was presented by the State Executive and after much debate was carried with few dissensions. The full text of Service Membership can be obtained from Anzac House.

The subscription for 1977 was discussed and passed by Congress. It will be $10.00.

HEATED DEBATE

The matter of State Congress for 1977 created a strong and sometimes heated debate. The date has to be brought forward to bring it in line with National Congress, and it was finally decided to hold it on the third weekend in May - from Friday May 20 to Sunday May 22, 1977.

An important motion that the Executive should have the power to amalgamate sub-branches which are not operating within the Constitution was carried unanimously.

The move to have Life Membership restricted to one per sub-branch was lost, as was the proposal to limit the office of State President to a period of three years.

As 1979 is the sesqui-centenary of Western Australia, Congress voted at full strength to approach National Headquarters to hold the National Congress in Perth in that year.

With the new National Health Scheme operating from October 1, there was some discussion on the effects this would have on pharmaceutical benefits to ex-servicemen on Repatriation lists. The hope was expressed that there would be no interference with the medicines prescribed by local medical officers.

A State Executive proposal that the word "Repatriation" should remain instead of "Veteran" was welcomed vociferously by Congress, and the suggestion that Defence Service Homes and Insurance Scheme, Australian War Memorials and Australian War Graves Commission should be under the control of the Minister for Repatriation was equally well received.

Upper Swan Sub-Branch's motion "that sellers of Poppies be allowed to sell where there is a dearth of sellers on Poppies Day in any area" was supported and received Congress approval.

All Delegates voted definitely that there should be no holiday on the following Monday when Anzac Day fell on a Sunday or Saturday.

Defence topics aroused discussion, the main theme being protection of the North-West of the State.

At the conclusion of Congress, all delegates were invited to Pearson Village for the Official Opening by the State President, and afterwards to afternoon tea at the War Veterans Home.

RESULTS OF ELECTIONS

State president Len Phenna, was elected unopposed to that position, Len Turner is again senior vice-president and Christopher Briggs MBE is junior vice-president.


The Reserves, in order, are as follows:— D. Wiggins, A.E. Johnson, H. Noonan, F. Birnie.

The Trustees are:— R. Ewing, W.S. Lonnie CVO, CBE, M.C., and K. Broadhurst.

The Country vice-president is M. Williams, and the country regional vice-presidents are:—

North-West, A. Spendlove;
Central Wheatbelt, K. McIver;
Southern Wheatbelt, J. Marchesi;
South-West Coast, W.F. Brown;
Great Southern, S. Crook;
Eastern Goldfields, O. Stewart.

Congratulations to all.

Any financial member requiring the full report of Congress is asked to contact his sub-branch secretary, who will be able to supply a copy.
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SUB-BRANCH'S 13th VICTORY

Members of Geraldton and Northampton sub-branches and their Women's Auxiliary celebrated Geraldton's 13th win in the Collett Cup competition for the best rural sub-branch.

The Geraldton women’s auxiliary win in the Country Cup competition for the 14th time as an outstanding country auxiliary, and the Northampton sub-branch's third successive win of the Geraldton Shield for the most meritorious small country sub-branch were other reasons for celebration.

Geraldton’s president Stan Moore extended congratulations and thanks to all associated with the continued successes.

Honours for the second most successful sub-branch in the Collett Cup competition have been shared by Albany and Bridgetown, each with four wins compared with 13 by Geraldton.

FIRST APPLICANT

A Geraldton resident who is the first applicant for membership of the local sub-branch of the RSL under the new Service Membership scheme, Wally Cleaver was welcomed to the July meeting.

R.S.L. Diamond Jubilee

The Returned Service League of Australia commemorates its 60th anniversary as a national organisation on Sunday June 6 next.

In 1916 and early 1918 state organisations of returned soldiers were established as the wounded returned from the battlefields of Europe and the Middle East. On 6 June 1916, the national organisation was formed.

Today, the Returned Services League is an organisation of 265,000 members, 30,000 members of Women’s Auxiliaries, 120,000 youth club members and some 260,000 associate members of R.S.L. Clubs.

In addition, there are approximately 7,000 Service Members who have joined under this new membership category in Victoria and South Australia. This number is increasing steadily.

The National President, Sir William Hall said, “Over the years the R.S.L. has become an integral part of the fabric of Australian community and national life. Its activities had not been confined to assisting veterans and their families but included community projects, youth work, international aid and support for sound progressive national policies affecting the wellbeing and security of Australia.”

Sir William said that as part of its 60th anniversary, the League had hosted a World Assembly of War Veterans, attended by representatives of 40 nations; had developed contacts with veterans’ organisations in other countries, increased international aid and arranged a visit to Gallipoli for two young people to enable them to offer an informed opinion on the future commemoration of Anzac as an Australian National Day. The R.S.L. had also set up a National Committee to investigate all aspects of the future planning and development of the organisation.

Sir William said that the League’s 60th anniversary was an appropriate time for a major reassessment of the R.S.L., so that its work for the community and the nation could continue on an unimpeded into the future.

One Entire Day Disappeared

The night was warm and inviting, and the stars shone in all their tropical brilliance. Captain John Phillips was in a dark corner of the bridge, quietly pulling on a cigar with all the contentment that comes to a sailor when he knows the voyage is half-done.

He ship, the passenger steamer “Warrimoo”, was knitting her way through the waters of the Pacific on her way from Vancouver to Australia. The navigator had just finished working out a star fix and brought Captain Phillips the results. The “Warrimoo’s” position, was spotted at about 6°30’ N and 179°30’ W. The date was December 30, 1899.

First mate Daylton broke in, “Captain, do you know what this means? We’re only a few miles from the intersection of the equator and the International Date Line”.

NAVIGATION “FREAK”

Captain Phillips knew exactly what it meant, and he was prankish enough to take full advantage of the opportunity for achieving the navigation freak of a lifetime.

An ordinary crossing of the line is confusing enough to passengers, but the probabilities he had before him were sure to confound them for the rest of their lives.

The Captain immediately called four more navigators to the bridge to check and double check the ship’s position every few minutes.

He changed course slightly so as to bear directly on his mark. Then he carefully adjusted engine speed so that he would strike it at just the right moment.

The calm weather, the clear night and the eager co-operation of his entire crew worked successfully in his favour. At exactly midnight, local time, the “Warrimoo” lay exactly on the equator at exactly the point where it crosses the International Date Line.

BIZARRE POSITION

The consequences of his bizarre position were many and varied. The forward part of the ship was in the Southern Hemisphere and in the middle of summer, the stern was in the Northern Hemisphere and in the middle of winter.

The date in the after part of the ship was December 30, 1899. Forward it was January 1, 1900.

The ship was not only in two different days, two different months, two different seasons and two centuries, all at the same time, moreover the passengers were cheated out of a New Year’s celebration, and one entire day, December 31, 1899, disappeared from their lives for all time.

BRITISH WAR MEDAL REQUIRED

E. Woodward, 13 Robinson Rd, Eden Hill has had his late father’s British War Medal stolen and would like to replace same, for family reasons. Anyone who has one for sale should contact Mr. Woodward on 79-5705.
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Keeping an Avenue in Order

There are about 1,100 memorial trees in May and Lovekin Drives in Kings Park, and they have been dedicated in honour of members of the Forces who lost their lives during the 1914–18 and 1939–45 and other wars.

At each tree a plaque recording the name, unit, rank and locality where the member died has been placed on the tree, or on posts where new trees have been planted.

In the Honour Avenue register, the names, the plaque numbers, and particulars are recorded in alphabetical, numerical, and unit order. This is a remarkable book, which must have involved a vast amount of detailed work in its compilation and maintenance. If reflects great credit on all those whose efforts have provided such a valuable contribution to the history and maintenance of the Avenue.

REMOVAL OF PLAQUES

The main causes of the removal and loss of plaques may be summarised as follows:

1. **VANDALISM:**
   - This varies from time to time. It is of two kinds. First, the cause is by persons who remove the plaques from the trees, and leave them on the ground at the tree in each case, and secondly those who remove the plaques, throw them into the bush or break them.
   - Plaques have been recovered from such places as a lane in Como, the beach at Cottesloe and the Belmont Police Station.
   - The main raids by vandals during the past two years were, one, at which 21 plaques were recovered from the Belmont Police Station and the other within a day or two after Anzac Day, this year, when 36 plaques were taken off the trees and left on the ground.

2. **NATURAL GROWTH OF THE TREES:**
   - The second cause is the natural growth of the trees which brings pressure on the plaques and ultimately pushes them off and leaves an ugly scar on the tree in each case.

3. **CAR ACCIDENTS:**
   - The third cause is car accidents, but these have been greatly reduced during the past year since, at the request of the committee, the road in May Drive at the Western end has been widened and filling and clearing have improved the curve, from a safety point of view.
   - The scars on the trees indicate that there are 15 trees where smashses have occurred in past years.

4. **MAINTENANCE AND DEVELOPMENT:**
   - Occasional accidental damage in the maintenance of the Avenue occurs, but thanks to the care exercised by the men employed by the King's Park Board, this is not serious.

REINSTATEMENT OF PLAQUES

At a meeting of the Committee held in late 1974, it was decided to reinstate all plaques removed or fallen from the trees, on jarrah posts, each to be firmly secured, with the plaque having about an 8 inch clearance from the surface.

The procedure for reinstatement may be outlined as follows:

1. All plaques which have been recovered are returned to the workshop at Kings Park.
2. Posts and new plaques are ordered by the honorary secretary, Max Brice, and broken plaques that can be welded are sent to Stan Harvey who arranges for them to be welded.
3. Every week members of the Committee carry out work, including the painting of posts, (and plaques when necessary), the attachment of the plaques to the posts with strong screws, and the fixing of the posts in the ground at the trees.
4. The collection of plaques and the recording of the position in regard to reinstatement in the Honour Avenue maintenance book, which is kept up to date each week.

(A section of Lovekin Drive is very well maintained by the Commando.)

There has been very little interference with plaques that have been reinstated on posts; nearly all plaques to be reinstated are off trees.

Members of the Honour Avenue committee are:

- Z.T. Kwiecienski
- M. Brice, Honorary Secretary
- N.B. Brice
- S.A. Harvey
- L. Hangei

A. Todd,
W. Boyd,
F.R. Standring and
W.V. FYFE (chairman).

In conclusion I wish to record appreciation of the work of all who have assisted, including committee members, the King's Park Board and Dr Wycherley and director of King's Park and Botanic Garden, and his staff and men working in the field for their support and assistance.

Our thanks are recorded also for the help of Dr A. King and J. Serich, of the Melville Rehabilitation Centre, for supplying new plaques from time to time, and also to Stan Harvey who, through his department, has carried out the welding of broken plaques and made his office available for our meetings.

The National Bank's annual contribution towards the maintenance of the Avenue is appreciated was enjoyed is the gift of a substantial supply of dressed posts from Millars Pty. Ltd.

All work except the purchasing of posts, paint and equipment is done without cost to the Committee.

This report would not be complete without recording our thanks to Max Brice for his administrative and secretarial work. He has been honorary secretary for 25 years.

W.V. FYFE.

Veterans’ Bowlers’ Presentations

Presentation of the R.S.L. War Veterans’ Home Bowling Club was made at a function at the Home by the Patron the Hon. Ray Connolly, M.L.A., on Friday 20th August, 1976.

The Hon. Ray O’Connor Trophy for Singles was won by Sandy Sheriffs, the A.M. O’Connor Memorial Shield and Trophy, Consolation Plate being won by Mrs. Audrey Tranter.

The Ron Ewng Trophy for Ladies Handicap Singles was won by Mrs. Mary Hayden.

The A.W.A.S. Association Trophy for singles handicap was taken by Phil Rose.

The Robert Finley Trophy “Drawing to the Jack” was won by Lionel Hayward.

The State Executive Women’s Auxiliary for Auxiliary Pairs was won by James Holland and Cliff Herrin.

The Ron Ewng Trophy for Ladies Handicap Singles went to Mrs. Harry Kedward.

The Superintendent’s Trophy for ‘Lightning Pairs’ was won by Lionel Hayward and Eustace Morcombe.

Mr. E. Spiers won the W.S. Lonnie Trophy for Sportsman of Bowling Season.

The R.S.L. Shop Gift for contribution to the success of the Bowling Season was won by Tom Beckham. The Len Phenna Trophy for Novice Singles was also won by Tom Beckham.

Dr. John Olden’s prize for ‘Lightning Pairs’ was won by Harry Kaplin and Cliff Herrin and the L. Ingles Trophy for Ladies ‘Drawing The Jack’ was won by Mrs. Jack Merrifield.

A well attended evening was enjoyed by all with musical interludes by Jack Ward. Among those who attended was the State President, Len Phenna, Mrs. Phenna, Senior Vice President Len Turner and Mrs. Turner, State President Women’s Auxiliary State Executive Mrs. Reeves and Hon. Secretary Mrs. Ford, Mr. Kennedy for the R.S.L. Shop and State Secretary Mrs. Bower and Mrs. Bruce, Mrs. Groves of A.W.A.S., Mr. Frank Berthold, Immediate Past President gave an excellent report on the year’s activities.

Mr. Len Turner, as Chairman of the Board thanked those present for an excellent evening and Hon. Ray O’Connor congratulated the winners, runners up and all who took part to make the Season one of the best.

Members of the Bowling Club provided supper.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Turrell, and George Taylor of Mt. Lawley Sub-Branch, Mike Hall, President of City of Perth Sub-Branch.
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22 — LISTENING POST — SEPT. 1976
Answers to some Nuclear Questions

By Commodore W.D. Marks CBE, DSC, RAN (ret.)

We have recently heard some rather loose statements about the possible future use of Cockburn Sound Naval Support Facility by nuclear warships of friendly nations.

Amongst other matters, we have been warned that this would inevitably lead to the area becoming a prime target for nuclear attack, and we have also heard of the dangers of the dumping of nuclear waste in WA waters, which it is inferred, would inevitably follow.

To the average Australian, these suppositions, if true, must prove somewhat frightening, and the questions might well be asked, "Do we need this Naval Base?" and "Should we open it to nuclear warships of friendly nations?"

It is difficult to answer these questions properly without first examining, in some detail, the many aspects of Indian Ocean strategy including such matters as the intrusion of Russian naval units into the area, the establishment at Diego Garcia of a US naval communications station, and the vital importance of the Indian Ocean sea lanes to the Western nations, including Japan — just to mention three.

However, the first question can be answered briefly in the following terms:

Yes, Australia does need a naval support facility on the West Coast to protect our many and varied interests in the area, such as fishing, mineral and oil rights in our off-shore waters, and to ensure a proper degree of surveillance of our important shipping lanes'.

FUTURE STABILITY

The answer to the second question is:

"Yes, we should open our naval support facilities to the warships of friendly nations, including nuclear-propelled ships, as the future stability in the Indian Ocean will depend on maintaining a proper balance of naval forces in the area, and the RAN cannot achieve this alone.

The term "nuclear warship" requires some definition, as it does not necessarily mean that the ship concerned carries nuclear weapons; but it does mean that she is nuclear-propelled, and has the advantage of almost unlimited range.

For this reason alone, it is extremely unlikely that these ships would ever require 're-fuelling facilities' at Cockburn Sound, as they can well be programmed back to their home base.

In this connection, it should be remembered that the necessary installation for such re-fuelling is both sophisticated and expensive.

So it follows that without re-fuelling there is no nuclear waste to consider, and the problem does not arise.

The dangers of nuclear propulsion are often exaggerated, and with proper safeguards, this form of propulsion is little more dangerous than conventional methods, as the proud record of the US Navy over 20 years can testify.

Finally, the question of Cockburn Sound being a prime nuclear target: the plain answer is that if Australia is to protect her legitimate national interests, then the country must have appropriate defence installations to achieve this protection.

As we have seen many times in the past, no country respects weakness, and appeasement provides no security.

DUX TAKES THREE COURSE AWARDS

Seventeen cadet pilots, members of No 95 Pilots Course graduated at RAAF Base Pearce earlier this month after 15 months of training at Pearce and Point Cook.

During the graduation parade the Hawker de Havilland trophy for Dux of Course was presented to Cadet John Nicholas Blackburn, who also won the S.J. Goble Memorial Trophy, as Most Proficient Pilot and the RSL Prize for Leadership.


He completed one year of a BSc at Melbourne University before joining the RAAF in April 1975.

Luncheon for Wives

BY NORMA TURNER

To meet and entertain wives of delegates to the State Congress of the RSL, a luncheon was arranged at the Gateway Inn.

More than 40 ladies took advantage of the invitation and enjoyed a beautiful repast and after being welcomed by Mrs Pat Phenna, a roll-call was taken and visitors answered, representing many parts of Western Australia.

Mrs Pat Kingsford sang two delightful songs and was warmly received by those present.

The State president of the Women's Auxiliary, Mrs Rowe addressed the gathering on the work undertaken by members and the work yet to be done, and the necessity for Auxiliaries to continue to function so as the needs of ex-servicemen and women can be fulfilled.

Another pair of hands can do so much and Mrs Rowe urged any lady who had an Auxiliary in her district to join up and so assist to keep going the aims and objects of those women who formed RSL Auxiliaries 49 years ago.

GREAT SUCCESS

The luncheon was voted a great success and a repeat was requested for next year. Although invitations had been sent to all Sub-Branches, it was disappointing to learn that in some instances, delegates had not been notified of the function and thus resulted in ladies being denied the opportunity of meeting others with the same interests.

The Associated Ladies Committee (RSL) is hoping that next year a greater number of ladies will be able to take advantage of the invitations, and if sub-branch secretaries assist us in this regard, a bigger gathering should be assured.

We sincerely thank them in anticipation of their co-operation.

LISTENING POST — SEPT. 1976 — 23
Best Wishes to the R.S.L. Movement in WA from . . . . .

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Golden Jubilee Coming Up

Our 49th Annual State Conference was well attended, the agenda items were fully discussed, and everybody enjoyed themselves.

There was a surprise result in the Metropolitan Cup competition, Cockburn Auxiliary winning with 37 points from Bellevue with 34, Armadale coming in third with 30.

The Geraldton Auxiliary won the Country Cup again with 43 points, Kojonup were second with 36 and Perenjori third with 28.

The Ann Stockman Perpetual Trophy was won again by Millen, with Belmont a close second. Congratulations to all, keep up the good work.

We were sorry to have Mrs Buckie retire from State Executive, and welcomed Mrs Baker, from our newest auxiliary, Wanneroo.

Earlier this year, Mrs Lowe and I with our husbands, attended the Unity Cheerio Birthday Party, and this, as usual, was a most enjoyable evening.

Madge and I, together with Mr Rowe, were very proud as we watched the Governor present Veanie with her well-earned MBE during the Investiture at Government House.

State Executive was well represented at the Bellevue Birthday Luncheon, and Mrs Lowe and I attended the Torchbearers for Legacy Annual Meeting with Mrs Rowe and Mrs Rolfe, who are Members of Legacy.

Members of Executive attended the opening of the RSL Congress, and arranged lunches, morning and afternoon teas for the delegates. Mrs Rowe attended the luncheon for the delegates' wives.

Mrs Holder, Mrs Bettridge and I were among the guests at the Salvation Army Home League's "At Home".

Representatives from surrounding auxiliaries and eight members of the Executive were guests of the Mandurah Auxiliary at their Birthday Luncheon.

WHERE IS ELMER LEON HART?

The Veterans' Administration in Washington, USA, has asked whether any information is available concerning Elmer Leon Hart.

Their letter quotes: "This service is conducting an official inquiry to determine the present location of veteran Elmer Leon Hart or the date of his death. A presumptive death claim was filed by his spouse and is pending adjudication.

It is requested that appropriate inquiry be made by your organisation to determine if Hart was or is currently a resident of Australia, or has applied for any benefits while residing in Australia.

Hart was issued a US passport in 1966 to Australia, and files show that Hart was in Western Australia on or about October, 1966, but his whereabouts were unknown.

However, a possibility exists that veteran Hart may still be in the interior of Australia.

Hart was born of August 12, 1918, 1919 or 1920, at Sweetwater, Texas. His US social security number is 449-20-5144, and his armed service serial number is 30714429.

His height was between 5ft 11in and 6ft (1.86m) and his weight was between 142 and 179lb. He is of the Caucasian race, with blue eyes and sandy brown hair.

Your co-operation in this matter is appreciated."

The letter is signed by Vernon H. Drenkow for W.L. Rettew (director, Investigation and Social Security Service), Washington.
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EMU PLUMES

The Aftermath of a Strike

Like the origin of the word “Anzac” and the design of the AIF, the question of where the emu plumes came from that graced the hats of the Australian Light Horsemen has often been the subject of an argument.

But it is fairly clear that Queensland was the State in which emu feathers as a hat decoration first appeared. The following information is from The Australasian of 1933 and attributed to the late Lt. Gen. Chauvel, of Light Horse fame. During the great shearsers’ strike in Queensland in 1891, the Queensland Mounted Infantry were, with some other troops of the Queensland Defence Force, called out to aid the civil powers. They were employed as soldiers — not special constables — and were inland for about five months.

TEMPTATION

In those days, emus were plentiful on the Western plains of Queensland and, for the Mounted infantry patrolling those plains, the temptation to ride down the emus was one way to defeat boredom. It was the Gympie squadron which first seized on the idea of wearing emu plumes in its headdress and, before the strike ended, the entire regiment had them up.

In recognition of their service at the time, the Queensland Government allowed the regiment to adopt the emu feather as part of their uniform and an emu “passant” with the motto “forward” was registered as the regimental crest.

IN SOUTH AFRICA

The emu plume became well-known during the South African War where it was worn only by the contingents of the Queensland Mounted Infantry.

In the early days of World War I it was worn only by the Queensland regiments of the Light Horse but, in March, 1915, the 3rd Light Horse Brigade which did not contain Queensland units, arrived in Egypt with the whole brigade wearing the emu plumes.

The Queensland units protested strongly, and Sir William Birdwood called a conference of brigadiers to decide the matter.

Following a failure to agree, the subject was referred to the Minister for Defence, Senator Pearce.

He ruled that the whole of the Australian Light Horse could wear the plumes, and it has been worn by them and attached units with the exception of artillery.

NEW SERVICE FOR THE PUBLIC

The State Government Information and Inquiry Centre was opened on July 1.

Its function is to give members of the public greater access to State Government departments and instrumentalities, thereby enabling them to make the fullest possible use of the services and facilities available.

It does this by answering queries or by directing the caller on to the appropriate place. In its first month the Centre answered more than 2,500 queries about government.

It does not handle party political questions or matters to be handled by the Parliamentary Commissioner (Ombudsman).

The staff of five comprises the manager, Arnold Hendry, and four information officers — two men and two women, one of whom speaks Italian fluently. Interpreters in other languages are also available.

The Centre’s facilities include access to liaison officers in all government departments and a rapidly-expanding cross-index filing system.

The Centre is centrally situated on the ground floor of the Superannuation Building, 32 St George’s Terrace, Perth, which is on the free City Clipper bus route. The telephone numbers are 265.244 (direct line) and 260.231.

Queries can be made by letter, telephone or in person. The hours of business are Monday to Friday between 8.15 am and 4.30 pm.

Incorporated in the Centre is the Government Printer’s Publications sales office (Parliamentary Papers).

A central office for the payment of accounts to all State Government departments is being established at the Centre. Water Board and State Housing Commission accounts can now be paid there.

Scarborough Sub-Branch News

On Saturday 15th May, SYD and DORIS LEWIS, stepped aboard the AUSTRALIS for a world tour. Sydney gave me a list of the countries and some of the ports of call, believe me its a world tour. We wish you both good luck and a safe return home.

RON and KERRY WATTS, are at present on a safari taking in the North West, Queensland those other states in the East, and back home via the South West. Ron has been working on his caravan and camping equipment for several months, so with good driving and a little bit of luck they should have a good holiday.

The Scarborough Women’s Auxiliary held another successful social evening, on this occasion — the 25th July — Peg Rogers, was the Hostess to about 25 people. A small competition was conducted and the lucky winner was Jean Brown. The prize a Sunday dinner.

In the last edition of the Listening Post it was wrongly stated that our meeting night is the third (3rd) Monday of each month, please take note that we meet on the second (2nd) Monday, and the Women’s Auxiliary meet on the third (3rd) Monday, in the R.S.L., Hall, Brighton Road (between the Shell Service Station and Browns Dairy).

We are having acoustic trouble in the Hall; if any member can help us to improve this situation, then please come along to our meeting and give us your ideas, our meeting nights for the next four (4) months are September 13th, October 11th, November 8th and December 13th.

Any questions — Ring DOUG PIGGOTT 46 1331.

WE NEED YOU — YOU MAY NEED US.

Did you know about badges?

Dress badges can be obtained from Anzac House, Perth, at a cost of $1.25 each.

WHAT IS LOYALTY?

What is loyalty? It is a creed, a duty and a sentiment.

LOYALTY IS A CREED because the loyal person says: “I believe in my organisation; what it is, what it stands for and what it does.” The implication is that he will do his best to keep it going on.

LOYALTY IS A DUTY because it implies allegiance.

LOYALTY IS A SENTIMENT: it implies affection, love and enthusiasm. These are not fully expressed in shouting or barracking.

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MEDIBANK AND YOUR OPTIONS

We believe some of our members may have had some trouble in understanding the new provisions of Medibank and the choices open to those who want medical/hospital care over and above that available through the Standard Medibank. Therefore, one of our staff at Headquarters has made a summary of the choice and costs with which you will be faced in the very near future.

Whether you like it or not, after the 1st October, 1976, everyone in Australia will be covered against medical and hospital bills in one way or another.

You will have the following choices:

**CHOICE 1:** is known as Standard Medibank and is exactly the same as the conditions which applied to the original Medibank introduced in 1975, which in short are:

- Coverage for 85% of Doctors’ SCHEDULED fees PLUS
- Standard Ward accommodation (at no extra cost of the patient) in Public Hospitals with treatment by doctors engaged by the hospital.

Out-Patient treatment at Public Hospitals is free.

**CHOICE 2:** is this Standard Medibank (Choice 1) PLUS an insurance taken out for the purpose of affording extra hospital benefits.

This insurance is referred to as **TABLE 1**:

The benefits are:

(a) Treatment as a private patient with shared room accommodation in a Public Hospital or in a Private Hospital. Currently this is $40 per day (Public) or $56 per day (Private).

(b) Treatment in hospital by a Doctor of one's own choosing.

This choice can be paralleled with the old “Intermediate” cover.

**CHOICE 3:** is in effect an alternative to the insurance offered under Choice 2 and is referred to as **TABLE 2**:

The benefits are:

An additional $20 per day (above Table 1), towards higher cost hospital accommodation which permits:

(a) A single room in a State Government Hospital ($60 per day) or coverage of specified costs of up to $76 per day in a Private Hospital. For example, medicaments, dressing and the like.

(b) Treatment in hospital by a Doctor of one's own choosing (Same as Choice 2 (Table 1)).

**NOTE 1:**

Choices 2 and 3 also offer, in the same manner as Choice 1, coverage of 85% of Doctors’ SCHEDULED fees.

The word scheduled in this context needs to be understood - if the doctor charges you more than the scheduled fee - you will only be reimbursed 85% of the scheduled fee, NOT 85% of the higher fee charged.

**NOTE 2:**

The 85% coverage for doctors’ fees applies also to consultations by participating optometrists and certain services by dentists.

With respect to the dental situation, the coverage only applies to operations in a Hospital theatre or a registered theatre and performed by a legally qualified dentist.

It does NOT apply to such items as extractions, fillings or dentures.

**NOTE 3:**

Public and Private Hospitals’ charges differ in one important aspect. Public Hospital charges are on an “all in” basis, Private Hospitals are not. If you wish to be covered for essential additions which the private hospital will charge, you are offered Table 3, which provides benefits towards the cost of thyroid fees, labour ward, nursery fees, surgically implanted prostheses, and ambulance charges.

Obviously, there are additional premium costs of (currently) $1.00 per week.

**THE COST:**

**CHOICE 1:** is a levy of 2.5% of your Taxable Income. This amount for a family varies according to the family’s income and will cost up to $300 a year or up to $5.80 per week — No more.

Just two examples:

- A family income of $150 per week would cost $3.75 per week.
- $200 a week — $5 weekly. It is important to note that if your family decides on Choice 1 and the combined income is above $230 per week, you will only pay the top levy figure of $6.80 per month. There are no further charges.

**THE COST:**

**CHOICE 2** — (Table 1): — The 2.5% levy referred to earlier and in addition pay to some Medical Fund an insurance premium to cover you for shared room accommodation in a Public Hospital and the Doctor of your choice.

Two examples if your family taxable income is $150 a week, your cost will be for Choice 2:—

2.5% levy on the $150 = $3.75
PLUS
Basic Hospital Only Cover = $2.60

$6.35

If your family taxable income is $200 a week, your cost will be:—

2.5% levy on the $200 = $5.00
PLUS
Basic Hospital Only Cover = $2.60

$7.60

It should be noted that these examples are taken from the Medibank Private Insurance and could vary, up or down, depending on the Private Fund of your choice.

If your family income is higher than the second example, from the financial viewpoint, it will pay you to take the basic cover for both medical and hospital insurance with one of the operating funds.

**CHOICE 3** — (Table 2): — For people contemplating insuring under Choice 3, it is not possible in a paper such as this, to give comprehensive information and you should take the trouble to shop around the various funds. These can vary considerably, particularly when taking into account the supplementary benefit tables which are available.

**NOTE:**

The rates for single persons are half the family rates.

Examples in this paper are all based on the family rate.

Our members should note that if you are a Repatriation beneficiary entitled to full free treatment, you will not have to pay anything for Standard Medibank (Choice 1). If you have dependants who are not entitled to free treatment or who are not privately insured, you will be liable to pay HALF the 2.5% levy on your taxable income.

If you fall in this category or in a category where you do not intend to pay the levy and are a wage earner, you will have to give to your employer a Health Insurance Levy Exemption Claim form.

Repatriation beneficiaries and those pensioners who have no other income but their pension, will not have to pay any levy for Standard Medibank benefits. However, if in the latter category and you do have some additional income, the levy may be payable depending on the sum.

One more point for people on low incomes or Repatriation beneficiaries, if you wish, you can still take out “Hospital Only” Cover for shared or private room accommodation and treatment by the Doctor of your own choice.
Best of Luck to all Fellow Members from . . . .

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**PENSION PAGE**

**WHERE DOES THE PENSIONER STAND?**

The League's office at Anzac House has been inundated with inquiries as to where the pensioner stands with respect to Taxation:

Firstly, all war disability pensions and all war widows pensions are NOT liable for taxation;

Secondly, the recipients of service pensions ARE liable for taxation. However, if the service pension is the only income you receive, you will not have to pay any taxation, as the minimum taxable figure for income earned in Australia is $2,845 for the 1976-77 financial year.

Members should note that for the financial year 1976-77 the concession granted to service pensioners aged 60 to 65 years has now ceased (55 to 60 years for an ex-service woman).

This places all old age pensioners, whether service or civilian, on the same footing from the taxation viewpoint. However the ex-service man or woman can still apply for the service pension five years earlier than his or her civilian counterpart and this, of course, is a very significant and worthwhile concession.

**DISABILITIES**

A number of members suffering from accepted disabilities with respect to their eyes may not be aware of a change in the Department of Repatriation's policy which came into operation late last year.

It is to the effect that if the supply and wearing of spectacles restores the vision, the previously paid pension may be reduced.

The Department recognizes that there is some degree of discomfort or inconvenience caused by the fact that it is necessary to wear glasses to alleviate the accepted disability and, as consequence, pays a small pension for this reason usually 10 percent.

As veterans grow older, it is natural for their eyes to deteriorate and this often leads to an appeal to the Department for an increase in pension.

However, it is necessary for the appellant to be thoroughly aware that his appeal can only be associated with his accepted disability.

Any new eye problem or deterioration in a non accepted eye disability has no effect on his appeal. The Assessment Tribunal can and will consider only accepted disabilities.

This is too often misunderstood by claimants.

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**ZEEBRUGGE SURVIVORS RETURN**

By GUY RAIS in Zeebrugge

In biting North East winds a small but gallant band of 20 survivors of the famous Zeebrugge Raid on St George's Day, 1918, stood bare-headed around the war memorial on the Mole at the Flanders port yesterday.

They were attending a brief ceremony of remembrance for officers and men killed in the action 58 years ago in which 11 VCs were won on one night. More than 500 awards for gallantry were made among the 70 officers and men involved in the raid to block the German U-boat base which Admiral of the Fleet Earl Mountbatten described as one of the Navy's "proudest battle honours".

What makes men in their 70's and 80's make the effort to cross the North Sea in a howling gale for a brief ceremony?

"It's the comradeship", said a widower, Mr. Ralph Wright, 87, of St. Anne's. "There's precious little of it in Britain today, but we try to practise it".

The men, all members of the Zeebrugge Association with an average age of 84, have one ambition -- to attend the special ceremonies for the 60th anniversary in 1978. "It's a goal for all of our 126 survivors", said Mr. Sydney Brown, secretary of the association, a spritely 85.

**MEMBERS IN 90s**

Mr. Brown, of Wembley, said: "Even though it is two years away, I am already receiving requests from our members across the world to be included in the 1978 party.

"Our association will carry on making visits until our last man is gone. Some of our members are in their 90s and we have one who is 97 and still wants to make the trip".

Making his first visit to Zeebrugge was Alfred Fright of Ash, near Canterbury, who, at 19, served on the destroyer Watchful. A mere 77, he only joined the association a year ago, "because I never thought about it before. Now I want to make a return in 1978".

The ceremony on the Mole lasted only 15 minutes -- one quarter of the time of the original battle. But in that tautet hour 700 of the attackers were either killed or wounded, including 353 Marines of the specially formed fourth battalion.

They made a big contribution to victory in the final stages of the 1914-18 war, bottling up German U-boats and torpedo boats for several months.

The service was conducted by the Bishop of Norwich, the Rt. Rev. Maurice Wood, who was accompanied by his wife Margaret. Her two uncles took part in the raid and one of them, Lieut. Richard Sandford, who commanded the submarine C123 which blew up the Mole, was awarded the VC. He was picked out of the water by his brother, Cdr. Francis Sandford, who gained the DSO.

Drawn up across the memorial was a naval guard from the Navy ships of the Inshore Survey Squadron, the Echo Enterprise and Egeria Wreaths were laid by Mr. Leonard Cooper, 79, chairman of the association members of the Belgian Armed Forces and Col. Earle Nicoll, British Defence Attache in Brussels on behalf of the Ambassador, Sir David Muirhead.

**JOIN SERVICE**

More than 500 Belgians attended a joint service at the Roman Catholic Church which ended with the singing of Land of Hope and Glory in Flemish and English.

"Just like the last night of the Proms" said a naval officer. In the adjoining cemetery children of Belgian fisherfolk in national costume laid a long stemmed white carnation on each of the 27 graves.

Before leaving England the survivors laid a wreath at the foot of the memorial to their fallen comrades in St James's Cemetery, Dover, where many of them are buried.

ANYONE INTERESTED CONTACT MR JOHN JONES OF 13 CUNNINGHAM TCE DAGLISH, W.A., who was on board Block Ship HMS THENIS.
THE GOLDFIELDS MEDICAL FUND (INC.)

NOTICE TO MEMBERS
AND INTENDING MEMBERS

HEALTH INSURANCE AS FROM 1ST OCTOBER 1976

The health insurance programme has been revised by the Government, and as from 1st October, 1976 you have three alternatives in regard to Medical and Hospital Insurance:

(1) **Standard Medibank:**
85% of doctors' schedule fee and standard ward accommodation in a public hospital.

(2) **Standard Medibank Plus:**
Cover for private treatment in a public or private hospital.

(3) **Private Medical & Hospital Insurance:**
Available from Goldfields Medical Fund (Inc.) or other registered private funds. Unless you nominate your choice of health insurance by 1st October, 1976 you will automatically pay a levy of 2% of your taxable income. Single persons will be subject to a maximum of $2.90 per week and family $5.80 per week. This levy will cover you for Standard Medibank only.

It is necessary to contribute to both basic medical and basic hospital tables to qualify for exemption from the Medibank levy.

**Supplementary Hospital Tables:**
An additional $10.00 per day may be obtained if you choose to contribute to table 1. This will entitle you to fund benefit of $50.00 per day, plus government subsidy of $16.00 per day, making a total benefit of $66.00 per day.
By contributing to table 2 you will be entitled to fund benefit of $60.00 per day, plus government subsidy of $16.00 per day, making a total benefit of $76.00 per day.

**Medical Gap:** (15% of Schedule Fees)
This table enables you to recover the balance between basic medical and the schedule fee for medical services.

**Ancillary Benefits:**
This table covers you for items which are not covered in any of the basic tables. Included are such items as chiropractor, physiotherapy, dental, spectacles (for dependant children only), trained nurses, artificial limbs and most other items such as psychology. Benefits applicable are as follows:

**Physiotherapist and Chiropractor:**
$4.00 per visit with a maximum of $80.00 for family contributors and $40.00 for single contributors over any 12 months period. This period to commence as from the first day of service.

**Dental:**
(Including Orthodontist) 80% of claim with a maximum of $100.00 for family contributors and $50.00 for single contributors over any 12 monthly period. This period to commence from the 1st day of service. Existing members will receive immediate benefits -new members and members transferring from another fund will serve a 9 months waiting period.

**Spectacles:**
$20.00 per pair (for dependant children only) with a maximum of two pairs per year.

**Trained Nurses:**
80% of account with a maximum of $100.00 per year.

**Artificial Limbs and other Prothesis:**
For accounts up to $100.00 a benefit of 80% is applicable.

**Psychology:**
80% of account with a maximum of $100.00 over any 12 monthly period.

The Goldfields Medical Fund is an agent for Medibank
**GOLDFIELDS MEDICAL FUND (INC.)**

**HOSPITAL – MEDICAL – SUPPLEMENTARY – GAP AND ANCILLARY TABLES**
from 1st October 1976

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**LISTENING POST – SEPT. 1976 – 33**
Now you can go on that holiday of a lifetime with tours especially designed for you the R.S.L. member. Hunts Holidays and the R.S.L. have joined together to create "League Leisure and Travel" just for you. This means you know that you are getting top value for your money while helping your own organisation.

**Look at this month's offers**
Your choice of exciting itineraries visiting the glamorous attractions of Europe, value priced from $1,714 for 27 days. Departures throughout 1977.

**Now look at this exciting special offer**
22 days cruising aboard the luxurious "Dona Monterrat" to Singapore, Java, Bali, Borneo and the Philippines. Most attractively priced at $1,269. Limited space available on our special February 1977 departure.

**In the next issue we will be announcing details of**
"Leisure Asia" and "Leisure Americas" holidays.
For information on how to book these attractive tours, please consult your local Travel Agent, your local Club Secretary or send in the coupon to get the brochure that will open up these new worlds for you.
LEAGUE LEISURE and TRAVEL PTY. LTD.
Announcement of Scheme — Operable October 1, 1976


He said:

"I am pleased to officially announce that the R.S.L. and our Travel Operators, Hunts of the Pacific (Australia) Pty. Limited have formed a joint venture Company with the objectives of creating travel products and negotiating value benefits in goods and services for all R.S.L. members and their families.

The Company, League Leisure and Travel Pty. Limited, in which the R.S.L. and Hunts have equal shareholding, is an exciting new concept for the League.

The Chairman of Directors is our National Secretary, Mr. Bill Keys and our other representative Director is Mr. John Button, our National Solicitor and Trustee. Hunts representatives are their Australian Managing Director, Mr. Tony Durkin, who also will be Managing Director of the new Company and Mr. Bruce Carran, who is the Chairman of the Hunts group.

The League has long felt the need to develop such a scheme with some group in whom they have confidence. Hunts have our confidence and the necessary practical experience, particularly in travel, to operate the scheme on our behalf.

The scheme is one of the most exciting innovations to come along for some time. Negotiation has been tough. The scheme was launched through our R.S.L. publications which are mailed directly to our members. It would be a great help if we all contribute a little to this venture.

The scheme will offer attractive holiday package tours to Europe, Asia and North and South America and other popular travel destinations will be added progressively. These travel products will be available from all Travel Agents throughout Australia and therefore, should be conveniently accessible to all our members. These products will represent good value for money and will be handled by reliable and experienced operators.

Attractive discounts on other services and goods will also be offered in the near future and will be available to the R.S.L. members from our negotiating suppliers. Our R.S.L. badge will be sufficient in most cases to entitle our members to these benefits.

The list of benefits will be added to and amended as the programme develops. We ask that you continue to read your R.S.L. publications and bulletins for these announcements.

We would welcome suggestions as to the type of additional benefits which our members would like to see included in our future releases as obviously, our objective is to try and give members benefits of value to them.

Whilst a number of worthwhile benefits have already been negotiated, to achieve even greater benefits, we will need the full support of every R.S.L. and club member if we are to achieve the benefit of your joint bulk buying power.

We ask for and have confidence in believing that we have the support of you all, at all levels, whether it be National Council, State Branch or at State Sub-Branch, together with the support of our affiliated Leagues Clubs and our other Associated Organisations.

Help us help ourselves by supporting this, our League Leisure and Travel Pty. Limited.

Your National Executive and I, the National President, heartily endorse the concept and the Company and we trust that with your support, the Company will prosper for our common good!"

---

VALE

ARTHUR (NIPPER) JONES — Marble Bar Sub-Branch.

Mention the name of Nipper Jones to a number of old or young residents of Marble Bar district and there would be very few who knew his Christian name, Arthur. I know of no one who could replace him or rob him of the title of The Most Loveable Citizen! Nipper died in August in Pt. Hedland Hospital and with his passing a feeling of great loss was felt all around, no matter what tins their skin had.

His favourite quotation was "There's gold in them there hills". Of late he was saying "His last shaft wasn't far away".

Nipper was an early reinforcement of the 11th Bn. in Egypt and saw service on Gallipoli and right through France to the Armistice. He continually suffered from war disabilities but made light of them. He loved life and companionship to the end at 82 years of age. At all times there was room in his heart for new friends.

This man, of small stature and a big heart will leave the Marble Bar district with an irreplaceable symbol called 'Mate ship'.

(Contributed by Wally Nicholas).

SAM KENNEDY — Marble Bar Sub-Branch. 11th Bn.

Sam Kennedy is one of the 3 oldest members of the Marble Bar sub-branch to answer the last call this year.

He was a man of high principle and exacting honesty of purpose.

May God rest his Soul.

(Contributed by Wally Nicholas).

JOHANNO JOHNSTON — Marble Bar Sub-Branch, 16th Bn.

Johnno joined the famous 16th Bn in France in 1916. He was at that time quite well known as a man of great sporting qualities in the cricket and football games of Perth, as he had been in top calls at St. Pat's and the University.

Johnno quickly rose to the rank of Sergeant and then Lieutenant, gathering in a Military Medal in the process.

He married in England after the Armistice and farmed at Frankland River on his return to State, where he and his lovely wife added 5 boys and 1 girl to the population.

Johnno had a penchant for machinery together with Progress, with the Civil Construction Corps during the WW2. After its conclusion he started tin mining in the Shaw River area near Marble Bar. Here too he pioneered the Tin Industry with machinery and gave a lead which was quickly taken up by others in the big alluvial fields of the district.

The sale of his share quite early in his ageing, gave this wonderful family man and his life's sweetheart a chance to grow older in comfort which they richly deserved.

Johnno died in August, aged 84 and is survived by his wife and all children.

May God rest his Soul.

(Contributed by Wally Nicholas).
SERVICE MEMBERSHIP

SERVICE MEMBERSHIP OF THE R.S.L. IN W.A. IS NOW CONFIRMED, AND WE ARE ACTIVELY RECRUITING FOR THIS CLASS OF MEMBERSHIP WHICH IS OPEN TO EX-SERVICEMEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE BEEN MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF AUSTRALIA, OR HER ALLIES.


PLEASE RECRUIT A SERVICE MEMBER NOW !!!

FILL IN THE TEAR OFF SLIP BELOW, GIVING THE NAME OF YOUR NOMINEE, AND AN APPLICATION CARD WILL BE SENT TO HIM.

---

SERVICE MEMBERSHIP

I WISH TO NOMINATE .

HIS ADDRESS IS .

FOR SERVICE MEMBERSHIP OF THE R.S.L.

PLEASE SEND HIM AN APPLICATION FORM.

(IF YOU HAVE MORE THAN ONE NOMINEE, PLEASE ATTACH ON A SEPARATE SHEET).

---

THE RETURNED SERVICES LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA
W.A. BRANCH (INCORPORATED)

NOMINATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

I HEREBY APPLY to become an ordinary member of the Returned Services League of Australia and submit the following particulars in support of my application:

Name of SUB-BRANCH

Surname .................................................. Christian Names ..................................................

Address .................................................. Rank .................................................. Unit ..................................................

Campaign, Star or Medal Entitlement ..................................................

Return from Active Service Badge No .................................................. Discharge Certificate No ..................................................

Areas of Service ..................................................

World War I, World War II, Other Wars—From .................................................. To ..................................................

I CERTIFY that an inspection of relevant documents reveals eligibility for membership.

(Doubtful cases should be referred to H.Q's) ..................................................

Introduced by ..................................................

S/B. Secretary ..................................................

Date ..................................................

I HEREBY DECLARE that I am not a COMMUNIST and I AGREE to be bound by the Memorandum and Articles of Association of The Returned Services League of Australia.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT .................................................. DATE ..................................................

NOTE: Service credentials and British Naturalisation Certificate, where applicable, must accompany all nominations for Membership submitted by other than Australian Returned Ex-Servicemen.

New Badge Issued, No .................................................. If you hold a League Badge, state No ..................................................

ALL DETAILS MUST BE GIVEN. INCOMPLETE CARDS NOT ACCEPTED. 

---

36 - LISTENING POST - SEPT. 1976
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Geraldton — A. R. Masotto
Port Hedland — Gary Schwab

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“Just an honest deal”

Recommended to all RSL Members
Important Information for Sub-Branches

By Doug Bruce, State Secretary.

CHANGE IN PRINTING OF LISTENING POST:
As State Congress will be held on the 20th May, 1977, the Publicity Committee have decided it will be necessary to change times for the printing of Listening Post. New times will September, December, March and June, commencing in September 1976.

Publicity Officers are requested to have all copy, typed and double spaced, at Anzac House no later than the last week of August, November, February and May.

The above changes will assist all Sub-Branches, Unit Associations as information relating to Anzac Day and State Congress will be published in the March issue.

REMEMBRANCE DAY
Although only a few weeks away, Sub-Branches are requested to commence organising the Poppy Day Appeal. It may be necessary to obtain approval from Suburban Shopping Centres but if Sub-Branches do not receive the co-operation please advise Anzac House and an official approach will be made.

Should any Sub-Branch not be able to man or not have sufficient collectors to cover shopping centres the neighbouring Sub-Branch may operate in the area. Secretaries are requested to contact each other on this matter as it is important that the sale of Poppies is as wide spread as possible. Complete co-operation between Sub-Branches is required for this most important appeal.

A list of all Sub-Branch Secretaries is published in this issue.

"OPERATION STAND-IN"
On behalf of the Junior Recruits of H M A S Leeuwlin, the State Executive thank every Metropolitan Sub-Branch who financially subscribed to the entertainment of these lads for their annual Father's Day outing on 5th September.

This is the fifth year the State Branch has appealed to the Sub-Branches for funds to stand in for Fathers who are a long way from their sons. The Recruits certainly appreciate the hospitality on this day and the Commodore and his Staff, who are very co-operative in the arrangements, also wish to thank all concerned for the very fine gesture shown by the League and its members.

SERVICE MEMBERSHIP
All Sub-Branches now have the new application cards and capitation returns for the new Service Membership. It is now up to all members of the League to ensure the work of the RSL continues – it is therefore up to all concerned to enrol.

R.S.L. Sub-Branch Directory

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<th>SUB-BRANCH</th>
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<td>ALBANY:</td>
<td>Mrs. I. Caddy, P.O. Box 241, ALBANY, 6330. H. 098-41-2302.</td>
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<td>W. Gray, 47 Regent St., MT. PLEASANT, 6133. 60-3167.</td>
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<td>B.O. O'Shannassy, 4 Riverside Dr., SOUTH GUILDFORD 6056. 65-1762.</td>
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<td>J. Wragland, 16 Aughton St, BAYSWATER, 6053. H. 71-5295.</td>
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<td>R.C. Mellar, Robinson Rd, GREENMOUNT, 6056. 94-6271.</td>
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<td>E. Benporath, P.O. Box 70, BOULDER, 6432.</td>
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<td>BOYANUP:</td>
<td>C. Knott, Ray St, BOYANUP, 6237. 097-31-5167.</td>
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<td>G.R. Ferguson, Proctor St, BOYUP BROOK, 6244.</td>
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<td>E.W. Davis, 3 Rowley St, BRIDGETOWN, 6255. 097-61-1008.</td>
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<td>BRUCE ROCK (PRESIDENT):</td>
<td>N. Gillard, BRUCE ROCK 6418. 090-61-1073.</td>
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<td>D. Davis, Hurd Rd, BULLSBROOK EAST, 6084.</td>
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<td>BUNBURY:</td>
<td>C. Hickmott, P.O. Box 125 BUNBURY, 6230. 097-21-2773.</td>
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<td>BUSSELTON:</td>
<td>R.W. Perry, P.O. Box 294, BUSSELTON, 6280.</td>
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<td>R.N. King, CALINGIRI, 6569. 096-28-7071.</td>
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<td>A.R. Harris, 61 Treasure Rd, CANNINGTON, 6107. 68-6636.</td>
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LISTENING POST – SEPT'76 – 39
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46 – LISTENING POST – SEPT. 1976
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It can be an offence for anyone to engage in, trade or commerce, in conduct "misleading or deceptive". In particular Section 53 contains prohibitions from doing any of the following in connection with the supply of goods or services or in connection with the promotion, by any means, of the supply or use of goods or services:

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LISTENING POST — SEPT. 1976 — 47
The 60th National Congress of the League was held in Canberra from October 27 to 31, 1975, and Governor-General Sir John Kerr officially opened the Congress.

In the course of the Congress, the League re-affirmed its policy that there should be proper and adequate forces, civil and scientific, Naval, Army and Air, provided and maintained by the Australian Government on a basis necessary for the defence of Australia.

It was further resolved that the League should take immediate steps to form a Planning and Development Committee to ensure the continuing assessment of the RSL for as long as possible, as an effective, beneficial and influential authority for all veterans and serving members of the forces.

Each sub-branch will receive literature relating to this all important subject. In the near future, all sub-branches are requested to study the papers and question the closely, and ensure all members are acquainted with the contents and contribute to the discussions.

It is of interest to note there were 189 items on the Agenda; of these 62 were repatriation matters, 54 defence and 30 defence service homes - food for thought for those who believe our work has finished.

A major decision of Congress was the introduction of a new category of membership – Service Membership – agreed to by our State Congress in 1975 and finally ratified at the recent Extraordinary Congress held in May this year.

There are about 7,000 Service Members in the Eastern States at the present time; we are hopeful that a like number will join in WA.

I express my appreciation to my co-delegate, senior vice-president Len Turner, and state secretary Doug Bruce, who accompanied me, for their support and co-operation.

The forthcoming Congress will be held in Canberra from September 20 to 24.

DEFENCE

During the business session of Congress, this matter will be debated at length, consequently I do not propose to dwell too long on the subject just now.

It is easy to be critical in these matters, but this is not the League’s aim; our aim is to address ourselves to the problems as we see them in a constructive and realistic manner.

The importance of community involvement in defence cannot be over emphasised.

Firstly, because this involvement is an essential element in any planning, both for external defence and internal security; and secondly, because historically, the average Australian, for a variety of reasons, is monumentally indifferent to defence issues.

The RSL believes that the following measures are essential to a satisfactory defence programme for Australia:

1. A continuing campaign to place before the Australian community the defence needs of the nation, and the individual responsibilities that all citizens must accept.
2. A realistic aim to ensure that at least 3.5 percent of the Gross Domestic Product is available for defence purposes in Australia. In our view, the minimum acceptable is 3.5 percent.
3. Diplomatic initiatives aimed at strengthening the United States alliance in every possible way, including support for American bases in Australia and the development of Diego Garcia as a US defence installation; closer liaison with non-communist nations in our region of special interest; and contacts with Communist countries based on our demonstrable capacity to contribute realistically to our own defence and the defence of the non-communist world.
4. A Defence Force for Australia to include:
   (a) Regular Army Field Force of one division, with the necessary supporting arms and logistic services;
   (b) Regular Navy Reserve Force of two Divisions;
   (c) Regular Air Force capable of:
      (i) providing transport in support of the Army-Air Force;
      (ii) an Air Force capable of:
         (i) in conjunction with the Navy, a coastal surveillance and strike capability in defence of our sea lanes and coastal areas;
         (ii) protection of vital points from air attack;
         (iii) offensive and transport air support for the Army;
      (d) plans for a programme of National Service to be implemented at any time at short notice if required.

JUBILEE FUND

The RSL continues to demonstrate its concern for peace by means of grants from this fund. We will, in 1976, expand our international aid activities by awarding a scholarship for competition between secondary school students in the Kapyong district of South Korea, to commemorate Australians who gave their lives in the Korean War.

This will be in addition to the wide range of activities the League is undertaking in its own regions.

Our overseas aid programme for 1976 will include youth leadership programmes for students from Singapore and New Guinea, secondary school scholarships and a contingency assistance programme for secondary school and university students in Papua-New Guinea; the adoption programme for Malaysian widows and orphans; a special welfare grant to assist with welfare work in African countries; and the Carribean and Cyprus and post graduate medical training for graduate doctors from Indonesia, Fiji and Papua-New Guinea; plans for providing coaching for swimming instructors for Indonesia; and welfare assistance to Veterans and their families in Singapore.

ESSAY COMPETITION

The League conducted an essay competition during 1975, the subject being changed slightly to “The future commemoration of Anzac Day as an Australian National Day”.

Many entries were received and the winners, Janis Wilson, of Melbourne and Donald Jender, of Canberra, made their tour of the Middle East, visiting Greece, Turkey, and in particular, Anzac Cove, last April of this year.

The past 18 months have witnessed a critical deterioration in the military capabilities of the West, vis-à-vis the Communist countries.

Former US Defence Secretary James R. Schlesinger warns that “at no time since the 1930s has the Western World faced so formidable a threat to its survival”.

An analysis by the Library of the US Congress indicates that the balance of military power is tipping so definitely towards Russia that the US may have to re-assess its position as a world Power.

China, Russia and Vietnam are committed to supporting wars of “national liberation” in Burma, Thailand, Malaysia, the Philippines and Indonesia. With the opening of the Suez Canal, Russia’s position is strengthened in the Indian Ocean.

China has developed a nuclear capability and is working on intercontinental ballistic missiles, with ranges up to 3,000 nautical miles, and on the development of nuclear propelled attack submarines, carrying missiles and nuclear warheads.

India has developed a nuclear capability and has close alliances with Russia. Her population growth constitutes an ever-deepening crisis, and increasingly raises the possibility of a “peaceful” invasion of empty land areas.

The United States, in the wake of the demoralising involvement in Vietnam, has enunciated a military co-operation programme determined largely by the extent to which potential allies are prepared to contribute to their own defence.

President Ford has indicated that expenditure of anything less than 3 percent of the Gross National Product is an inadequate contribution.
extend my sincere thanks; and viable and this can be a handicap in reaching necessary solutions.

CLOSING THOUGHTS

Earlier, I made mention of a special committee convened at national level to examine the future of our organisation — the National Planning and Development-Committee.

Each State branch, has in turn appointed a similar committee to look at this question. Their task will not be an easy one.

The members will have to investigate and examine all aspects of the RSL to ensure a continuance of worthwhile, appropriate community and national undertakings and our continuing ability to safeguard the rights of our own members and other veterans.

Not only will they have to look into the future with broadmindedness and imagination, but they must also devise ways in which proposed, and in many cases, urgently needed changes, will receive the endorsement of a majority of RSL members.

We are basically a traditionalist organisation, and this is a good thing, because traditions are essential in any community.

Sometimes, however, this attitude produces excessive conservatism, and this can be a handicap in reaching necessary solutions. I think it is the responsibility of all of us to assist our State branch in every way we possibly can.

I am convinced that we need to take a close look at the alternatives to the requirements for membership. We must choose between the gradual phasing out of an ineffective organisation or a continuing, viable and strong organisation that could serve the nation well in the future.

Finally, I desire to express my gratitude to the two vice-presidents and the State secretary who have given so much of their time and cooperation.

To the chairmen of committees and to all members of the State Executive for their time and energy spent in the service of others, I extend my sincere thanks; and last, but by no means least, my grateful thanks to an understanding wife and family for their support and encouragement.

LEN PHENNA.
OPERATION STAND-IN

FATHERS’ DAY — 5TH SEPTEMBER, 1976

Once again Fathers’ Day has come and gone. The R.S.L. entertained over 120 Boys from H.M.A.S. Leeuwin.

We must thank all the Metropolitan Sub-Branches who so kindly donated funds towards the function, and express our sincere appreciation to the Naval Commodore and his Staff for their magnificent co-operation in making this function such a success.

The League’s representative was down at “Leeuwin” bright and early to meet the Staff and Boys.

The buses arrived approximately 8.30 a.m. Everyone boarded and we left at 9.00 a.m. sharp, expecting a very wet day. Before we arrived at Mandurah the sun shone through and we could not have had it better.

At Mandurah the boys got out, stretched their legs and purchased cigarettes, lollies, fruit and soft drink. Mandurah seemed very delighted to see such a number of lads from Leeuwin patronising their shops, it certainly was a fast invasion – we came and went – and pushed off to R.S.L. Hall, Pinjarra, arriving right on time.

The Sub-Branch President, Mr. J. Birbeck, of the Murray Sub-Branch welcomed the boys and visitors to Pinjarra and hoped they would enjoy their day’s outing.

From here the boys were taken for a trip through the foothills of the Darling Ranges to the Lookout above Alcoa-Refinery. Here the young visitors relaxed and enjoyed the beautiful scenery across green pastures and the Aluminium Refinery.

From the foothills the buses went to “Fairbridge” and the Murray Sub-Branch members had prepared various types of barbecues, and their Ladies Auxiliary were busy preparing a wholesome barbecue luncheon.

Each boy received a meat pack comprising steak, 2 chops, 2 sausages and 2 hamburgers, then were issued with bread rolls, butter, salads and a tin of cool drink.

The boys and visitors hopped in and cooked their own lunches.

Lads are always hungry. When lunch was over, we all proceeded down to the football oval where swimming costumes would have been more appropriate than football togs. Fine weather prevailed and the two teams, displaying all colours, some Victorian teams were represented, and the game was umpired very professionally by the P.T. Instructor from H.M.A.S. Leeuwin. The best team won. 54 Division v 56 Division.

Following the game the boys returned to Fairbridge Club where the Ladies Auxiliary provided a delightful afternoon tea. Mrs. Paul, the President of the Ladies Auxiliary, welcomed the visitors and expressed the pleasure of the Ladies being able to participate in making the day a memorable occasion as most of the lads come from Interstate. Very short work was made of the afternoon tea and Leading Junior Young expressed a vote of thanks to the Sub-Branch President and members of his team who had made their day so enjoyable.

Following his colleague, Leading Junior Recruit Haines passed a special vote of thanks to the Ladies Auxiliary who had done so much to make sure the “inner man” was not forgotten. Mrs. Paul and Mrs. Symington suitably responded.

All the visitors left Fairbridge at 4.30 p.m. on route to Anzac House where High Tea was served. Mr. Len Turner, Senior Vice-President of Returned Services League welcomed the boys to State Headquarters on behalf of the State President, who was representing the League in Albany on this occasion, and hoped that they had enjoyed the hospitality of Murray Sub-Branch and the day’s outing in the country.

After High Tea, Chief Petty Officer Spooner in charge of the party expressed sincere appreciation on behalf of Commodore N.A. Boase of H.M.A.S. Leeuwin and the boys assembled in the Ballroom for such a magnificent day spent in the country, and the most enjoyable High Tea. Leading Junior Recruit Young supported Chief Petty Officer M.T.P. Spooner’s remarks and the boys showed their appreciation whole heartedly.

Following High Tea we all walked from Anzac House to C.S. Harper Hall, which was provided by courtesy of the Superintendent, W.A. Deaf and Dumb Society, where Mrs. J. Thomas presented a very well organised Concert which was thoroughly enjoyed by all present. The R.S.L. expressed its appreciation by kind remarks from Senior Vice-President Mr. Len Turner and the League President and members of the Staff.

The League in W.A. extends its gratitude to the Chief Petty Officer and Petty Officer for the wonderful behaviour of the Recruits throughout the day. They were a credit to Australian Youth and especially the Organisers from Leeuwin who sponsor these boys out into various homes throughout the year.

We are very thankful to the following members of the State Executive for their wonderful co-operation on this day — Brigadier George Larkin, Mr. Len Turner, Mr. Jack Wagland, and Mr. Z. Kwiecienski for representing the Executive at the High Tea.

Mr. George Ashman, Murray Sub-Branch Secretary with Chief Petty Officer Spooner explaining the surrounds of the Darling Ranges and Alcoa Aluminium Refinery.

Murray Sub-Branch President, Mr. J. Birbeck, relaxes with the Leeuwin boys during barbecue lunch.
ON POPPY DAY

By the time these words are in print POPPY DAY - a day which deserves and needs the active assistance of every League member — will be almost upon us.

Every year sees a willing and eager body of ex-servicemen and women working hard to dispose of poppies, but the work done is confined to a few willing horses.

If you are not an active worker on Poppy Day — perhaps accustomed to contenting yourself with the purchase of one poppy on the way to work — why not try buying at least a couple, or better still, one for each member of your family.

Even better than that would be to secure a few orders in advance from those neighbours of your who don’t get out on Poppy Day and usually don’t even think of buying a poppy.

It should be remembered that the proceeds of Poppy Day help Sub-Branch Amelioration Funds, the W.A. Aged Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen’s Fund, the R.S.L. Relief Fund and the War Veterans’ Home.

In other words, the money goes to outstanding causes. Do your best to make this year’s Poppy Day one of the best ever held.

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Rescue drama

Search and rescue, involving civilians as well as servicemen, is an activity in which the Services have traditionally applied their specialised knowledge, equipment and manpower. Often their contribution makes the headlines—helicopter searches for missing people, assistance in times of crisis such as floods, are more spectacular examples. Just as often though a rescue is made quietly and efficiently without any headlines being written. That does not make the effort any the less in the eyes of the stricken person who owes his well-being to alert young men and women in uniform. The accompanying picture-story describes one such all-in-a-day’s work rescue. Story: Steve Adams. Photographs: John Gardner.

Having just finished a day’s fishing, a young “rock-hopper” lay dazed and injured at the foot of a cliff on rugged coastland near Jervis Bay after a 20-metre fall. His mates alerted police who asked for assistance from the nearby Naval college.

A four-wheel drive vehicle and a Navy ambulance could not get any closer than two miles from the spot, but the Police-Navy team “bush-bashed” their way through carrying a stretcher and first-aid equipment. Members of the team made a careful descent to the cliff base.

The fisherman, 21-year-old Peter Ryan of the Wollongong suburb of Fairy Meadow, had bounced off a ledge in his fall and had taken the full force of impact on his right arm. A protruding bone, swelling and a deep gash pointed to a severe fracture near the wrist.

After placing the patient’s injured arm in a makeshift splint and giving him a painkilling injection, the rescuers placed him in a Niel Robinson stretcher for the long haul up the cliff. The cliff was almost vertical with few rope-anchoring points. Yet 20 minutes after the team reached the scene, the lift was completed.

It took another hour to carry the patient through the thick bush to the ambulance. From there he was taken to hospital in Nowra, but because specialist surgery was needed, he was transferred to Sydney’s Prince of Wales Hospital—in a Navy Iroquois helicopter—where he was admitted just under six hours after he had lost his grip while climbing.
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For twenty five years she had nagged him, and on their silver anniversary she bought him two ties.
With new hope in his heart he put one on and went downstairs. His wife met him with an icy glare. "Oh", she snapped. "And what's wrong with the other one?"

Dad and Dave were spending a holiday on the coast. They were so taken with the great expanse of water that one of the local characters suggested they take a bucketful back to the farm.
When they arrived back home, Dave went around telling all the neighbours about the seawater they had brought home with them.
The following year they went to a part of the coast where the tide receded a great distance. For half a mile from the shore there was nothing but sandbanks and little pools — moored boats lay high and dry everywhere.

Dad gazed over the scene, then suddenly turned to Dave and said "Well Dave, perhaps this will teach you to keep yer flamin' great mouth shut in future!"

During the war, a young American pilot landed his plane on an aircraft carrier and rushed up to the skipper. "What a day I've had!" he exclaimed. "I've shot down seven enemy planes, sank twelve destroyers, and left a cruiser listing". "Velly good, Yankee", replied the skipper, "but you made one mistake".

Girlfriend: "Don you think you're Santa Clausa?"
Boyfriend: "No, why?"
Girlfriend: "Then leave my stocking alone!"

Doctor: "Well, and how are your broken ribs this morning?"
Patient: "Quite well, but I've had a stitch in my side all day".
Doctor: "Well, now, that's excellent. That shows the bones are knitting!"

A slightly drunk man went to catch the train for home, and, while waiting for it, wandered up to the signal box. He watched the signalman pulling the levers over, and a great beam of joy lit up his face. "Make mine a beer!" he exclaimed.

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58 — LISTENING POST — SEPT, 1976
ASSOCIATIONS OF EX-SERVICEMEN

GALLIPOLI LEGION OF ANZACS
Meets in the Visitors Room, Anzac House, on the third Tuesday of the months of February, May, August and December, at 11 am. Secretary, G.D. Shaw, 95 Epson Avenue, Belmont, 6104 (65-2342). Treasurer, J. Anderson, P.O. Box 164, Claremont, 6010.

16TH BATTALION AND 4TH BRIGADE ASSOCIATION
Committee meets third Monday at 2 pm Railway Institute, Wellington St. Secretary, H. Gannon, 11 Fothergill St, Fremantle, (35-2458). Women's Auxiliary meets same time, same place.

2/16TH BATTALION ASSOCIATION

44TH BATTALION ASSOCIATION
Committee meets when called. Annual Reunion Show Week Monday. President, Roy Collins, 134 Rosebery St, Bedford (71-4448). Secretary, A.J. Williams, 13 Kanimbia Way, Morley (76-3283).

EX-SERVICE ASSOCIATION OF WA
President, E.W. Wallin, 69 Constance St, Nollamara, 6061 (49-1409). Secretary, P.R. Tonkins, 2 Deviling Place, Morley, 6062 (76-8514). Treasurer, D.A.C. Quinn, 5 Hadley St, Safety Bay, 6169 (095-27-3385).

32ND MINER'S ASSOCIATION
Meets Anzac House 4th Wednesday each month. President, J.P. Hall, 12 Lockhart Street, Como (60-3552). Secretary-Treasurer, F.C. Pennell, 21 Siddons Way, Booraagoon (64-1097).

11TH AND 2/11TH BATTALIONS

2/4TH M.G. BATTALION AIF ASSOCIATION
President, E.W. Wallin, 69 Constance St, Nollamara, 6061 (49-1409). Secretary, P.R. Tonkins, 2 Deviling Place, Morley, 6062 (76-8514). Treasurer, D.A.C. Quinn, 5 Hadley St, Safety Bay, 6169 (095-27-3385).

3RD NINERS' ASSOCIATION
Meets Anzac House 4th Wednesday each month. President, J.P. Hall, 12 Lockhart Street, Como (60-3552). Secretary-Treasurer, F.C. Pennell, 21 Siddons Way, Booraagoon (64-1097).

5TH BATTALION AIF ASSOCIATION

2/28TH BATTALION - 24TH ANTI-TANK COY ASSOCIATION
President, J.N. Lethlean, 208 McDonald St, Joondanna, 6060 (24-3431). Secretary, W. Goggins, 17 Elizabeth St, Bayswater (71-3748). Annual Reunion Show Week.

LIMBLESS SOLDIERS' ASSOCIATION
("Wingies and Stumpies")

48TH BATTALION ASSOCIATION

2/28TH BATTALION AIF ASSOCIATION
Meets Anzac Club (Visitors' Room) 2.30 pm second Tuesday. President, G.D. Shaw, 183 East Parade, Applecross (65-2342). Secretary, H.K. Kahn, 2/42 Rutland Ave, Victoria Park (61-8230) Annual re-union Tuesday of Show Week at 2.30 pm.

1940 DUNKIRK VETERANS ASSOCIATION
WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BRANCH
Meets first Friday each month at Anzac House 7.30 pm. President: W.E. Horn, (49-7576). Secretary, A. Gillespie, 20 Princess Road, Claremont. (31-3117)

PARTIALLY BLINDED SOLDIERS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA, WA BRANCH INC
General meetings held in Railway Institute Retired Officers Room, Wellington Street, Perth, at 8 pm on first Thursday each month except January. President, W.H. Grant, 70 Hobbs Avenue, Como (67-4471). Secretary, L.J. Carter, 99 Thompson Pl, Nth Fremantle, 6158.

2/32ND BATTALION ASSOCIATION (WA)

FEDERATED TB SAILORS, SOLDIERS AND AIRMEN'S ASSOCIATION (WA BRANCH)

ROYAL ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION OF WA
Meets third Monday at Anzac House at 8 pm. President A.G. Jones, 59 Guildford Road, Mount Lawley (71-4206). Secretary, Alan Heales, 25 Willowcock Street, Applecross (64-1317).

51ST BATTALION AIF ASSOCIATION
President, E. Julian, 11A Loma St, Cottesloe (31-1927). Secretary, N. More, 31 Minora Rd, Dalkeith (86-2702). Meetings quarterly, 1st Tuesday each month - next meeting 1st June 2.30 pm.

BRITISH EX-SERVICE ASSOCIATION
President, Mr C.A. Hines (28-4072). Secretary, Mrs M. Wollockt, PO Box 130 Claremont, 6010 (31-9280). Council meets 1st Tuesday each month, 8 pm, Anzac House. Annual General Meeting July/August, Anzac House. Annual reunion nearest Friday to Remembrance Day (11 November).

KOREA & SOUTH- EAST ASIA FORCES ASSOCIATION
Meets quarterly on second Monday in February, April and July in Anzac House basement 8 pm. President, Jack Gerke, 1 Gerald St, Como, 6152. Admin, Vice President, Max Filer, 5 Valentine Ave, Dianella (Phone Bus, 68-0548, Pte, 76-8513). A11 CORRESPONDENCE MUST BE SENT TO STATE PRESIDENT.

TOTTALLY & PERMANENTLY DISABLED SOLDIERS' ASSOCIATION

REGULAR DEFENCE FORCES WELFARE ASSOCIATION (WA BRANCH)
For all enquiries contact President, Group Captain K.M. Dee, DFC, 116 Joel Terrace, Mt Lawley, 6050 (71-1016). Secretary, Liet E.C. Lunn-Garner, R, 9 Davies Crescent, Kalamunda (93-1409).

RATS OF TOBRUK ASSOCIATION (WA BRANCH)
President, C. Bell, 17 Bedford Rd, Bentsly. Secretary D. Le Fevre, 86 Lamond St, Alfred Cove (30-2420). The committee meets 2nd Tuesday each month.

EX HMAS CANBERRA, SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION (WA DIV)

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN REGIMENT ASSOCIATION
Meeting every 4th Wednesday, Cameron Barracks, Canning Highway, Victoria Park, President, W. Smith (67-9082). Secretary, K. Trent (68-5928). All correspondence to Cameron Barracks.

HOUSEHOLD BRIGADE OF GUARDS ASSOCIATION OF WA
Meets in Visitors Room, Anzac House, on third Friday every month at 8.00 pm. President, Mr Don Cross (46-3211). Secretary, Mr T.W. (Bill) Scott (57-9402).

NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC. (WA SECTION) CITY OF PERTH SUB-SECTION
Meets fourth Tuesday of each month, No. 4 Brisbane Place, Perth. President, Joe Wallace (67-4582); past president Vic Gibson (64-4277); vice-presidents, George Rigby (49-1481), Ted Johnson (71-9452), Mrs픕 (71-9613), secretary, Roy Ward (71-2451); treasurer, Alf Noon (71-4080).

LISTENING POST - SEPT, 1976 - 59
FREMANTLE CITY
Meets on the last Monday of each month unless it falls on a holiday, in which case the meeting is advanced a week. Navy Club, Marine Terrace, President, Ray Edward, Vice-Presidents, Don Needham, W.A. (Buzzy) Bee, George Westman, Secretary, P. Metcalf J.P. (96-2340), Treasurer, A.H. Hewitt J.P. (B. 35-6133).

WRANS
Meets on the third Tuesday of each month in the CTA Building, (2nd Floor). President, Mrs. Dot Needham, (30-3411), Vice-Presidents, Miss Pam Johnson, Mrs. Avi Kenny, Secretary, Mrs. Gwen Hewitt, Assistant Secretary, Mrs. Jill Croker, Treasurer Miss Amella Travers.

CARNAVON
Meets on the second Tuesday of each month in a hall to be selected. President, Reg Harrison, P.O. Box 428, Carnarvon. Vice-President, Bev Trouchet, Secretary, W.A. McLeod. Entrance Fee $1.50. Annual Subscription $3.00.

SUBMARINE OLD COMRADES ASSOCIATION OF WA
Meets in Anzac Club fourth Wednesday at 8 pm. President, C. Brown, 387 Canning Highway, Como (68-9465, 68-9466). Secretary, N. Wade, 81A Kampenfeldt Ave, Marmion (47-3839). Treasurer, B. Hay 211 Harborne St, Wembley (87-5560).

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What's the Percentage?

The wide boys, the spivs and the blackmarketeers have a saying: "What's the percentage?" This means, "What's in it for me?" But we would give the same words an entirely different meaning when applying them to the League and its members.

What's the percentage of the ex-service personnel in your district who are members of your sub-branch?

Some sub-branches pride themselves on the fact that a very large proportion of the ex-servicemen in their district belong to the League. This is most commendable. But what is the percentage in YOUR sub-branch? Do you know? Have you tried to improve it? Will you be doing anything about it this year? Are you approaching the newcomers to your district?

Heavens! the questions we could ask you are legion, but the question now uppermost is this: Will you please take some notice of just what we are saying? That is not only a question, it is a request. For the League needs new members, and each present member can do his bit towards getting at least one more ex-serviceman interested.

What's the percentage of the time your sub-branch gives to constructive work—work of importance to ex-serviceman and the community in general?

Some sub-branches pride themselves on the fact that a very large percentage of their meeting time is given over to really constructive work, while much good is done by officers and members outside the actual meetings. Again, what is the percentage of YOUR sub-branch? Do you know? Have you tried to improve it? Will you be doing anything about it? You know that we could repeat these questions over and over again. And we still ask: Will you please take note and do something about it?

The League, it must be borne in mind, is known largely by the general public by what it does in its local districts. In short, each sub-branch has a vital part to play. If YOUR sub-branch fails to attend to matters of import, then in turn the League suffers.

What's the percentage of what YOU yourself are doing? Are YOU attending your sub-branch meetings with reasonable regularity? Are you pulling your weight in the various jobs your sub-branch undertakes? Are you really ACTIVE members of the League?

One final question: Are you financial?

Make sure and certain that you wear the 1976 crown.

LISTENING POST — SEPT, 1976 — 61
THE GREAT SEA BATTLE THAT SAVED AUSTRALIA

The mammoth clash, now known as the Battle of the Coral Sea, saved Australia from invasion. It was the nearest Japanese convoys ever got to Australian shores.

It has become a naval classic as the first major sea action fought entirely by carrier based aircraft.

For four furious days the battle raged over wide expanses of sea between ships hundreds of miles apart.

The Pacific War was in its fourth month when the Japanese armada of 62 ships left Truk under the command of Rear Admiral Inouye, commander in chief of the Japanese South-Eastern Fleet.

Inouye's command included three aircraft carriers – the modern Zuikaku and Shokaku and the light carrier Shoho.

In addition, he had 13 cruisers, 32 destroyers, gun boats, seaplane carriers and a host of smaller auxiliary warships.

Captured documents show that Inouye's immediate objective was to occupy the Solomons, land troops at Port Moresby, and crush its small Australian garrison. He was then to give the Allied forces a pre-invasion softening up with a carrier-based air bombardment.

The Japanese had good reason to be confident of victory. To their 48 fighting ships the Allies had only 26 in Australian waters – most American.

They included the carriers Yorktown and Lexington, much of the main American fleet was still battered wreckage in Pearl Harbour.

After leaving Rabaul, the Japanese armada split into two. One group swung to the west to assemble a Port Moresby invasion fleet near Deboy Island, on the southern tip of New Guinea.

The main fleet, which included the carriers Shokaku and Zuikaku, steamed to positions above the Solomons to cover landings at Tulagi.

The Japanese fleet guarding the Port Moresby convoy was itself formidable. It included the light carrier Shoho, six cruisers, a seaplane carrier, four gunboats and destroyers.

To meet the threat the American Commander in chief Pacific Admiral Nimitz, organised an American force to consist of the carriers Lexington and Yorktown, with an escort of five cruisers – the Minneapolis, Astoria, Chester, Louisville and Portland.

The Australian naval squadron under the command of Rear Admiral J.G. Crace, sped north from Sydney to join the Americans.

Crace's force included the cruisers Australia and Hobart, and the USS Chicago.

Junction of the Allied forces occurred about May 1 in the Coral Sea. Rear Admiral F. Fletcher of the US Navy, assumed overall command in the Yorktown.

Two days later Japanese troops began streaming ashore on the white beaches of Tulagi.

The same afternoon a lone scout bomber from the Yorktown broke from the clouds high above Tulagi Harbour and saw the invasion in progress.

As there had been no land opposition it was proceeding leisurely. Undetected, the pilot tarried long enough to assess the Jap strength. He then flashed back the historic message: "Joan to carrier: Concentration of enemy shipping Tulagi Harbour". It was the signal for the opening of the Battle of the Coral Sea.

That night the Yorktown bored in at high speed towards the Solomons.

As dawn broke, waves of bombers and torpedo planes thundered from her deck. Tulagi was only 75 miles away.

The Japanese were taken completely by surprise. They were calmly unloading men and supplies as the American bombers screamed in over the tree tops, spattering bullets as they came.

By nightfall most of the 15 Japanese invasion ships at Tulagi were sunk and the others reduced to battered wrecks.

Admiral Fletcher wasted no time there. He sped south to rejoin the rest of his fleet.

The Japanese carriers, too far from Tulagi to protect their troops had been caught off stop.

Smarting under the humiliation of the American attack, the Japanese sweated down from the Solomons into the Coral Sea.

For the next two days a grim game of hide and seek went on with furious scouting activity on both sides. Both knew that the first to find the other would have enormous tactical advantage.

By May 7 the fleets were closing together for battle. Realising that desperate decisions had to be made to meet a desperate situation, Fletcher decided to split his forces.

Fletcher detached a small, hard hitting force to guard the approaches to Port Moresby, through the Jomard Passage, then boldly advanced to smash the invasion fleet and engage the enemy carriers.

Fletcher chose his last ditch force well. He sent Crace with the Australian, Hobart, Chicago and 10 destroyers to intercept any Japanese shipping that got through Jomard Passage.

Luck stayed with the Allies. At 8.15 a.m. on May 7, American scouts sighted the Shoho group off Misima Island.

By 10.30, 93 Allied planes were in the air, streaking northward. Again the Japanese were caught unprepared. Except for a few Zeros and floatplanes in the air at the time, the Shoho had her aircraft on deck and was running downwind.

The first American 1000 pounder was a near miss, but its blast swept some of the Shoho's planes into the sea.

Then followed a tense 30 minutes.

They scored time and again with direct bomb and torpedo hits. The stricken carrier sank in a few minutes, a mangled, fiercely blazing wreck.

While the Shoho was in her death struggle Japanese planes had found and attacked a US fleet oil tanker, the Neosho, and her destroyer escort Sims, and incorrectly reported them as the carrier force.

In a few hours the full weight of the Japanese carrier born attack struck the two ships. The Sims broke in halves and sank. Empty oil tankers kept the Neosho afloat though she was reduced to a buckled hulk.

Survivors lived on her for four days until an American destroyer took them aboard and sank the wreck by shellfire.

About the same time, patrolling Japanese land based bombers sighted Crace's force cruising off the Jomard Passage.

They attacked with bombs and torpedoes but the warships were handled with such skill and their guns with such accuracy that the torpedoes passed harmlessly by.
Shorty after 11 a.m., waves of low flying Japanese bombers flew in on the Lexington and Yorktown. The Lexington took two torpedoes on the port side. They had scarcely exploded before dive bombers screamed down and landed two bombs on her deck. The doomed carrier was abandoned.

Yorktown was more fortunate. She avoided the Japanese torpedo attack and was hit by only one bomb. The bomb went deep into the ship and killed many men but did little structural damage. The three-hour battle had ended at noon. The Japanese had lost 80 aircraft and 900 men and the Americans 66 aircraft and 545 men. The battered Japanese fleet was running for home under cover of tropical squalls. Japan’s bid to conquer Australia had failed.

ANXIOUS TO PLEASE
The young Protestant man had fallen in love with a lovely young Catholic girl and to please her he had agreed to go with her to church, even though, as he warned her, he would not know what to do.

"I’ll tell you", she promised. During the first half-hour she was persistently whispering ‘stand up’... ‘kneel’... ‘cross yourself’... ‘sit down’... and so on, till he adopted that half-crouch position popular with reluctant churchgoers.

“What’s the matter?” asked the girl. “Is your zipper undone?”

The chap embarrassed, looked down. “No, it’s not”, he said. “Should it be?”

GOING TOO FAR
It wasn’t the same young man, but it was a similar situation, and the girl, Mary, asked her relatives to pray for his conversion.

They kept praying, the boy continued to receive instructions and everyone kept hoping that his conversion would be completed.

Until one day when the girl rushed to her family in great distress. “Stop your praying”, she begged. “The prayers are working too well. Now he wants to become a priest”.

OBVIOUS CASE
During the riots in Belfast, a Catholic was found with 45 bullet wounds in his body. The coroner, a Protestant, said at the inquest that it was the worst case of suicide he had ever come across.

SAYINGS

* A pacifist is a man who can take part in a peace conference without getting into a fight.
* An ounce of suggestion is worth pounds of command.
* Germs or no germs, kissing is dangerous. It has put an end to a lot of bachelors.
* Some people have concrete opinions — thoroughly mixed and permanently set.
* She was born in the year of our Lord only knows.

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LISTENING POST – SEPT, 1976 – 63
The State President (Mr. T. Sten), accompanied by Mr. W.S. Lonnie, attended the annual reunion of the Bunbury Sub-Branch to present the League charter. Prior to the actual handing over of the charter, Mr. Gordon called on Mr. Syd. Horne, one of the oldest members of the Bunbury Sub-Branch, to accept the charter on behalf of the members.

A feature of the evening was the handing over by Mrs. S. Horne, president of the women’s auxiliary, of a cheque for one hundred pounds towards the funds of the sub-branch.

The reunion was well attended. Collie and Donnybrook Sub-Branches were represented, while visitors were also present from Narromine (N.S.W.), Armadale and Broome, Mr. Frank Guthrie, M.L.A., also attended.

Referring to the activities of the League generally, Mr. Sten said that the defeat of the Anti-Communist Bill was one of the biggest blows that had yet struck Australia. He referred to the fight which the R.S.L. had ahead of it to defeat communism and said that it would only be accomplished by every decent Australian pulling his weight in the work.

Speaking on the importance of the charter, Mr. Sten said it represented in detail just how long the League took to build up. The League did not just grow, but was built up by “a crowd of chaps who started from nowhere and they turned around and built up an edifice which is worthwhile”. Stressing the necessity for vigilance, Mr. Sten said that in 1913 and 1939 the world relaxed its vigilance and paid the price.

When accepting the charter on behalf of the local sub-branch, Mr. Horne recalled the earliest days of the League in Bunbury, and told of the hardship which was experienced in establishing the organisation.

He recalled many well-known identities who had worked wholeheartedly in the interests of the R.S.L. throughout the years, and said that it was a pity that with the number of able office-bearers who had been elected the sub-branch should not have achieved greater success than it had. Mr. Horne spoke at length on the activities of the Women’s Auxiliary and Younger Set, and stressed the necessity for a greater working effort of the sub-branch members themselves.

When handing over the cheque for one hundred pounds to the president (Mr. Alan Gordon), Mrs. Horne stipulated that fifty pounds was to go to the sub-branch’s general fund and the remaining fifty pounds to the building fund. The toast to the auxiliary was proposed by State Executive member Mr. W.S. Lonnie.

Great credit was due to the auxiliary members who worked so tirelessly in preparing the excellent dinner which was provided, and a vote of thanks, with acclamation, was accorded—From The South-Western Times, May 1951.

Two Pertinent Questions

Are You an Active R.S.L. Member in Your Area—
For Your Sub-Branch

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Gill Boine Real Estate, at Northlands Shopping Plaza; Whiftords Drive-in Pharmacy; Western International Travel, at Victoria Park & Midland. Gavin Smyth, 2223 Albany Highway, Gosnells.
Agencies in most country centres. Phone 21 8911 for the latest agency information.