Message for the troops in East Timor

The following message was sent to Major General Peter Cosgrove, Commander INTERFET, on 21 September 1999:

"On behalf of all members and staff of the West Australian branch of the Returned and Services League of Australia, we extend to you and all ranks our sincere good wishes for your success both now and in the future. May God speed your work. Our prayers and our thoughts remain with you all."

K.J. BLADEN Lt Col (Rtd)
STATE PRESIDENT
INFORMATION FOR VETERANS AND FAMILIES

The Department of Veterans’ Affairs provides a wide range of benefits including pensions, allowances and health care.

The Department also runs several programs and provides information to help you to remain active and independent.

The information includes:

- advice about services in your local area
- promotion of healthy and active living
- help and support with social and day clubs
- support for volunteers helping veterans
- assistance with respite care
- support for those in a caring role
- personal financial information
- equipment and appliances for independent living
- Repatriation Transport eligibility
- advice and help to ex-service groups on grants, residential care facilities and funding of commemorative activities

To find out more about the Department and its services

please telephone 9366 8444
or country callers 1800 113304
**The Listening Post**

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The Editor reserves the right to accept, reject, sub-edit and re-arrange material submitted for publication.

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**Contents**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Secretary’s Notes</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State President’s Message</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change Chapel to be Moved</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Regional Summit</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congress Results</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meritorious Service Medal</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northam Dedication</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans’ Affairs</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defence News</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Targets</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can You Help</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Did You Know</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lost Trails</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letters to the Editor</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-Branch News</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Members</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit Associations</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last Post</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DEADLINES**

for contributions to *The Listening Post*

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

If possible submissions should be typed, double spaced. Photographs can be black and white or colour glossy.

This is your journal and contributions are welcome. They should be addressed to:

The Editor
The Listening Post
RSL, PO Box Y3023
East St Georges Terrace, Perth 6832

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Cover pic:
Australian Soldier and Friend in East Timor
*Photograph courtesy of Army Public Relations*
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STATE SECRETARY’S NOTES

This report will see the close of an eventful year for the WA branch of the League and preparation for a bigger year in 2000.

1999 commenced with a flurry of activity with changing staff and, with this, the changing roles of a number of personnel. Whilst these changes have not been readily accepted by all members of the League it was agreed that they were necessary and have provided some positive outcomes.

This was the inaugural year for the Street Appeal for the ANZAC Day Tokens. The State Branch had been investigating this for some time before implementation. The Appeal was not as successful as was anticipated due to a number of factors, many of which have since been overcome.

The main impediments to the introduction were the uncertainty of implementation, and that the collections could be held only on ANZAC Day. It would be quite reasonable to say that these two key factors have been addressed to a large degree.

Those Sub-Branches and Unit and Kindred Associations that participated in the collection were reasonably successful and showed small profits being achieved. Whilst the collection can be conducted only on ANZAC Day in public places, there has been a good response for 2000 collections.

The funds raised from the inaugural Token Appeal will be used to aid the continuing demand for Welfare funds. NO funds will be placed in the State Branch’s general operating account.

ANZAC Day commenced with another outstanding attendance at the Dawn Service followed by one of the biggest parades in recent years with great support from the country. Unfortunately sound, time and space provided some negatives for the overall activities; those problems are being reviewed for next ANZAC Day.

WA State Branch Congress 1999 was quite successful with the outcomes of the motions contained in this edition of The Listening Post.

At the conclusion of all State Congresses, the States meet for the National Congress. Held this year in Tasmania, it was very successful with a substantial number of submissions to be placed before Government representing the views of the membership of the RSL. You will be advised as to the progress of those submissions.

continued on page 4
STATE PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

A Christmas Message from the President

Christmas has long been an occasion of great joy for many of us when friends, relations and loved ones come together for festivities and to celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. In fact, it was our Veterans of past wars who fought to preserve those things which we enjoy today. As we celebrate Christmas 1999 let us remember the ex-servicemen and women and their families who might be in hospital or a nursing home or who are unwell at home. Please try to spare a thought too for Australians who are far away or separated from loved ones.

We especially think about our young men and women enforcing the peace in East Timor or preserving it at Bougainville. We wish them success in their missions and a safe return to their families when their work is done.

On behalf of the State Executive and the WA Branch, I wish all RSL members and their families as well as our hard working staff a wonderful joyous season. Stephanie joins me in extending to you all a happy Christmas and a fulfilling New Year.

East Timor

Few would have predicted 12 months ago that, by October 1999, a Brigade Group of Australian troops supported by the RAN and the RAAF would be deployed in East Timor on dangerous peace-enforcement duties. It is precisely because of the possibility of these sorts of unexpected developments that the RSL has always advocated that Australia’s Defence spending should be maintained at realistic levels.

Perhaps Australia’s involvement in East Timor will serve to demonstrate that as a nation we need to be self sufficient; we cannot afford to rely on outside help, as it may not be forthcoming when we need it. While a number of nations are contributing logistic and/or troop contingents to assist us in East Timor doubtless many Australians were surprised when the United States was not able to render us immediate support in the form of troops and hardware. That Australia is fully committed in Indonesian territory, when we have enjoyed friendly relations and helped that country over many years, also may have come as a surprise to many. Hopefully the events over the past few months will cause a great rethink of Australia’s role in the world and particularly our Defence and security.

We await next year’s Government White Paper on Defence with great interest.

KEN BLADEN
CHRISTMAS CLOSURE

Please note that ANZAC House/Club will close at 3.00 pm on 24 December and re-open on Tuesday 4 January 2000. Emergency contact details during that time are:

Welfare Officer: mobile 0141 549 335
State Secretary: mobile 0417 988 072

The ANZAC Club: This lives up to its name and has endured a number of highs and lows in the past few years. The Club is provided for use by members and their guests. Unfortunately, in recent times, this has not generated sufficient revenue to cover operating costs.

However, like all trained service men and women, we don’t want the problems, we want the solution. We are now addressing some of the problems that have been brought to our attention: the Club has been recarpeted, a quote is now being obtained for repainting and a décor change to improve first impressions.

At the end of the day there is one key component that we cannot solve – income. We need members and their guests to support your Club.

Poppy Day Street Appeal: At the time of going to press we did not have final results of collections. We did however provide more than 200,000 poppies to Sub-Branches, Associations and the community. The annual Poppy Day Appeal has increased by approximately 10% over 1998. This highlights the community awareness of the role of our veteran community and the support and effort of the veteran community. This is the commitment we need for the ANZAC Day Token Appeal.

Without doubt 1999 has been successful for the RSL in WA. The year 2000 should be as busy and progressive with the 2000 National RSL Congress to be held in Perth.

To each and every member we thank you for your support and we look forward to a progressive 2000.

Have a wonderful festive season.

SHANE M. SEERS, OAM

Visions WA

My vision for Australia is that every teenager should have the opportunity to join Cadets and serve for 3-4 years. On reaching the age of 18, I would like to see every young person (male and female) serve two years full time in a National Service Training Scheme, either military or non military, on a compulsory basis, which would be Commonwealth funded and conducted.

National Service would be an investment in our young people, which would pay great national dividends towards Australia’s future. Our young men and women would be taught self-discipline, self respect, courage and loyalty; above all they would become more self reliant and confident. Nationally, unemployment would be reduced, and there would be a downturn in crime and drug usage.

Australia would become a happier place because every young person would stand a better chance of reaching his/her potential.

The cost of National Service (some $100m per year) would be a small price to pay when compared with the $1.5 billion Australia spends each year on overseas aid.

KEN BLADEN, STATE PRESIDENT
Changi Chapel and Museum to be Relocated

The Changi chapel and museum, symbolic reminders of World War II, will soon have a new home. The relocation of these two key memorials to the years when more than 7,000 Allied prisoners of war were interned by Imperial Japanese forces at Changi prison comes as a result of the impending redevelopment of the current prison complex.

The move to the new site provides an opportunity for a major upgrade of the memorials into a more fitting tribute to the POWs of World War II. Both were erected in 1988, with the chapel being a replica of many built by the POWs then, and described in the book The Churches of the Captivity in Malaya, by Reverend JN Lewis Bryan, MA.

The new home for the chapel and museum is a 0.55 hectare site along Upper Changi Road North; about a kilometer away from their current location. It is significantly larger than the existing venue and will be accessible by private and public transport. The relocation plans have the understanding and support of the various High Commissions of the World War II Allied Forces.

Work has begun on the construction of the single-story complex to house the chapel and the museum, which will again exhibit the artifacts and memorabilia contributed by POWs and their families. The current chapel will be de-consecrated before it is removed and reinstated at the new site, where it will stand within the complex courtyard.

The National Heritage Board will provide curatorial and technical advice for the development of the museum which besides World War II memorabilia, will house replicas of the Changi Murals. A British POW, Stanley Warren, painted life-size scenes from the New Testament in the bible whilst recovering from dysentery at Changi Hospital. Mr Warren had been asked to decorate the sparse and simple St Luke's Chapel, which was housed at the end of Block 151 of the Dysentery Wing. Today, the building housing these five murals is part of a military installation.

When the project is completed in mid-2000, the relocated Changi chapel and museum will stand anew as a lasting testament to the endurance and courage of the POWs and help highlight an important part of Singapore's history. They also will join other historic sites such as Fort Canning (the Battle Box), the Kranji War Memorial and Fort Siloso as part of Singapore's historic World War II trial.

For more information, please contact: Sandra Devahasdin, Tel: (08) 9228 8166, Fax: (08) 9228 8290, E-mail: sandra@sandrapr.iinet.net.au  Singapore Tourist Board (WA)

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CAMBRAI VILLAGE
A Veterans Memorial Estate

The Listening Post - Summer 1999
Rockingham Sub-Branch praised in Federal Parliament

The following edited transcripts are from a speech made in Federal parliament by the Leader of the Opposition Kim Beazley. Mr Beazley attended the October dedication ceremony of a Memorial Drive in Rockingham.

"I was enormously moved by a small ceremony I attended in my electorate last Saturday (16 October). The Rockingham Sub-Branch of the Returned and Services League had dedicated a small grove of trees outside its headquarters with 22 commemorative plaques in memory of the 20 servicemen from Rockingham who died in World Wars I and II, and two servicemen who died subsequently while performing peacetime duties for the Defence Forces... approximately 160 people joined the Ceremony.

"It is an enormous labour of love by the Rockingham RSL. In particular I want to congratulate Stan Panting, who is the current President of the Rockingham Sub-Branch, and also two others... Eric Harrod and Robbie Drew who worked tirelessly for this project.

"We Australians take our memorials seriously. They are part of our soul, part of our nation's soul. It is a great thing when small groups like the Rockingham RSL can put such an effort into ensuring that those who well may have been their members had they come home are properly and honourably remembered."

EDITOR

RSL WA Cadet of the Year Awards

It was recently decided that up to three awards might be made by the League from the traditional Cadets i.e. Naval Reserve, Army Cadets and Air Training Corps. The names of winners are to be announced on ANZAC Day 2000 and prizes are to include $250 per Cadet, a three day tour of Canberra and an appropriately engraved RSL wall plaque.

Selected winners also may be given the opportunity to address an official ANZAC Day function. Final selections will be made by the League on the basis of:

• Turnout, Dress and Bearing
• Basic First Aid
• Australian General Knowledge
• The meaning of ANZAC Day to the individual

While a number of Sub-Branches as well as Unit and Kindred Organisations have already contributed to this most worthy cause many are yet to demonstrate their support. Although applications for Awards close on 10 December 1999, financial contributions from Sub-Branches and Unit and Kindred Organisations can keep rolling in right up to ANZAC Day 2000. Please consider making a donation unless you've already done so.

EDITOR
The State President, Ken Bladen, represented the RSL at the above meeting of 280 Delegates, which was held at Canberra. Delegates were from business, community and government sectors that gathered to identify ways to manage change as well as ways to develop a better outlook for regional Australia. The Summit was hosted by the Hon John Anderson, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Transport and Regional Services; all expenses were borne by the Commonwealth

**The Aim and Objectives of the Summit**

- To develop partnerships between the government, business and community sectors to deliver a better future for regional, rural and remote areas which are facing significant change.

The objectives of the Summit were to:

- Develop a national appreciation of the challenges facing regional Australia.
- Gather ideas on how these challenges can be met; and
- Establish a series of goals for Regional Australia and identify the roles that government, the corporate and community sectors could take in achieving these goals.

**Outcomes from the Summit included the following:**

- There are no easy solutions to the problems facing regional Australia. Many countries share these problems.
- Community development will not happen without government, business and community stakeholders each making their various contributions towards locally developed plans within a regional context.
- Communities that have re-invented themselves have identified and capitalised on their natural strengths, resources and self interest to enhance their environmental assets and generate economic and social development.
- Communities want to share responsibility with government for development of their regions. Communities don’t want solutions imposed on them.
- Government, industries and communities must invest significant ongoing resources in training and leadership to develop the human capacity of regional Australia. Distribution of these resources needs to be inclusive of all sectors of regional society.
- Communities want to include and invest in their youth.
- One of the most extraordinary assets of regional Australia is our unique natural environment, a natural heritage that is a rich and evocative element of our national identity. The Summit recognises that mistakes have been made in the management of the natural resources, which contribute so much to our current wealth and quality of life. All Australians share a responsibility to restore the productive capacity of our rural landscapes for the benefit of current and future Australians. Equally, the Summit recognises the great economic and social opportunities our vast, unique rural landscapes offer us to develop new products, services and enterprises bases on world-leading management of our natural resources.
- Governments, industries and communities must ensure affordable, reliable access to telecommunications. Professional advice must be available to maximise the community and economic opportunities provided by rapidly emerging developments in information technology.
- Indigenous people are stakeholders in regional Australia.
- Governments must accept responsibility for facilitating adequate provision and maintenance of basic infrastructure. People in all sectors of regional Australia need equitable standards and access to essential services, including telecommunications, power and energy, water, transport, health and education. Creative ways of providing infrastructure that is widely accessible need to be explored, without imposing unreasonable costs on regional industries or communities.
- Governments, urban business and industry must become more responsive to the unique requirements of sectors and areas of regional Australia in designing and delivering programs and services.
- The three tiers of governments must remove unnecessary regulatory impediments, which increase the cost of doing business and stifle innovation and action in regional Australia.
- Governments must create a climate, including tax incentives, which encourages investments for rural enterprise and philanthropy.
- Key business leaders expressed their support for the idea of partnerships but sought commitment from the Federal Government to “take some risks” which would assist business, rather than create barriers that serve to hinder private sector investment in regional Australia. Their view was that tax incentives were a crucial factor in attracting investment to areas outside the major metropolitan areas.

Expectations in regional Australia have been raised and all parties require vigorous action if regional Australia is not to be disappointed. Delegates look forward to details of an implementation plan before Christmas and regular reports on progress.
Item No. 6
National Constitution - Australian Constitution

That the standing policy of the League viz: clause 17.18 sub clause (1) and sub clause (2) which read as follows be deleted.

1) That any move to change Australia into a republic be opposed.
2) That the league adopts a prominent role in any discussion/debate on the issue of Australia becoming a republic.

Lost (Scarborough)

Item No. 7
National Constitution - Membership

Rule 12.9 of the articles of association be deleted and the new rule 12.9 be included in its stead.

Notwithstanding the provisions of these articles, no person who is a communist shall be admitted as a member nor any person who is guilty of a serious criminal offence and in particular offences such as paedophilia, aggravated sexual assault, rape, criminal assault or home invasion, shall be considered eligible for membership of the RSL.

Lost (City of Rockingham)

Item No. 9
Repatriation - Administration - Gulf War Veterans

That the RSL National Executive lobby the Government, the Department of Veterans' Affairs and the RMA to expeditiously formulate SOPs to adequately cover the medical problems of all Gulf War Veterans.

Carried (Donnybrook)

Item No. 10
Repatriation - Administration - SAS - Hazardous and Operational Service

That the RSL lobby the Federal Government to recognise active service operations training duties of the armed forces as hazardous and operational service, and such recognition be retrospective and be deemed to be covered by the VEA.

Lapsed (Bunbury)

Item No. 11
Repatriation - Administration - Forum of Review for Proposed Legislation affecting veterans; ex-service and serving personnel entitlements

The State Congress urges the RSL National Executive to convene at appropriate times a truly representative forum of review, to include other leading ex-service bodies, DVA, government, opposition and treasury representatives. This forum of review to then study any proposed legislation or regulation change to ensure veteran, ex-service or serving personnel entitlements are not eroded.

Lapsed (Donnybrook)

Item No. 12
Repatriation - Administration - Contract medical officers/organisations to DVA (VAC)

The Returned and Services League opposes any contract medical officer or medical organisation participating in the diagnosis or reporting on disability pension claimants.

Lost (Geraldton City)

Item No. 14
Repatriation - Compensation Benefits - RMA Submissions

That this State Congress urge the National Executive to pursue the RMA to base submissions on military experiences and not those of civilian fields.

Carried (Busselton)

Item No. 15
Repatriation - Compensation Benefits - Increase in T & PI Pensions

That the T & PI Pension entitlement be immediately increased, to equate the average male weekly earnings.

Carried (Highgate)

Item No. 16
Repatriation - Compensation Benefits - Gold Card for spouses/partners of T & PI Pensions

That the spouse/partner of all T & PI and EDA pensioners be granted the Gold Card.

Lost (City of Perth)

Item No. 17
Repatriation - Compensation Benefits - Gold Card for Veterans over 70 years of age

That the Gold Card be issued to all veterans upon reaching the age of 70 years, who have had qualifying service and that the qualification does not depend on which conflict the veteran participated in.

Carried (Mandurah)

Item No. 18
Repatriation - Compensation Benefits - Veteran’s Disabilities - Conflict of medical opinion

Where there is a conflict of medical opinion concerning
a veteran’s disability, the opinion provided by the highest qualified medical practitioner in the field of medicine concerning the particular disability should prevail.

Lapsed (Osborne Park)

**Item No. 19**

**Repatriation - Medical and hospital benefits**

**medicine for health and lifestyle of Veterans**

That viagra become a subsidised drug pursuant to the terms of the VEA and the matter be referred to National Congress to lobby the Federal Government to ensure this is done.

In operation (Rivervale/Carlisle)

**Item No. 20**

**Repatriation - Funeral benefits - Welfare**

With the permission of family, that bodies of Australian service personnel not presently buried in war graves cemeteries be exhumed and reburied in the war graves commission controlled cemeteries.

Lost (Applecross)

**Item No. 27**

**Defence and Foreign Affairs - Defence expenditure**

**- Maintenance of operation capabilities**

That the Commonwealth Government take immediate steps to provide a budget increase in real terms to permit the urgent and accelerated replacement of outdated and ageing operational equipment within the ADF

Carried (Mt Lawley-Inglewood)

**Item No. 29**

**Defence and Foreign Affairs - Human Resource Management - Respite postings**

That the ADF initiate an independent analysis of the impact of contracting out on respite postings to determine if there is any link between the current high level of voluntary releases and training accidents and the decline in availability of rotational respite postings.

Carried (Mt Lawley-Inglewood)

**Item No. 30**

**Defence and Foreign Affairs - Effective support to the Reserves**

That the National and State Governments initiate, publicise and enforce legislation that would:

1. Provide for the legal enforcement of enlistment undertakings in accordance with the freely given oath of service;
2. Enshrine in all employment arrangements within all levels of the public sector the right for two weeks paid annual leave in addition to other entitlements for the purposes of undertaking reserve force training; and
3. Provide appropriate compensation or incentives to private firms extending the same training leave provisions to their employees.

Carried (Mt Lawley-Inglewood)

---

**How planning ahead can help you ease the pain of a family’s loss**

In the confusion and emotional numbness that follows for their loved ones after a person dies, it is sometimes difficult for the grieving relatives to make decisions about funeral arrangements.

An increasing number of people are using Fixed Price Funeral Plans to take responsibility for themselves, in advance, and relieve their family from the difficult decisions like:

- Is it what he or she wanted?
- Is there anything I’ve forgotten?
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Bowra & O’Dea Funeral Directors, wholly owned and operated in Western Australia by the O’Dea family for more than 100 years, is now offering a special service to RSL members interested in Fixed Price Funeral Plans.

They will arrange an obligation-free appointment with a trained consultant to work out arrangements and fee structures. Members can pay off the plan over 12 to 24 months with no credit fees or charges and there are special extras for RSL members:

- Free out of hours transfers
- Free extra Limousine, and
- The administration and trust account setting up fees will be waived.

The total saving by going through the RSL is about $600.

**Bowra & O’Dea Funeral Directors**

For more information, call John Ranger at Bowra & O’Dea on (08) 9231 5100.
Item No. 33
Defence and Foreign Affairs - Informed public debate - Personnel reporting
That as an aid to informed public debate, any press releases, announcements or publications containing personnel statistics or commitment levels, provide supporting notes or make it transparently clear which force components (regular, reserve, civilian and contractor) are included to calculate the overall total.
Carried (Mt Lawley-Inglewood)

Item No. 34
Defence and Foreign Affairs - National: Campaign stars and medals
That the RSL National executive use all the means at its disposal to have the Federal Government award the appropriate campaign star/medal e.g. Italy Star, France and Germany Star, (depending on area of operation) to all Australian servicemen who escaped from German or Italian POW camps, or who escaped and were recaptured.
Lost (City of Rockingham)

Item No. 35
Population - Welfare
That Congress press for the maximum sentence to be administered with some form of physical punishment for offences against the elderly.
Lost (Mandurah)

Item No. 37
General standing policy on various matters - Illegal Government and bank charges
That National Congress be requested to lobby the Federal Government to prevent illegal deductions of FID and BAD fees and taxes from DVA Pensions and benefits by banks and governments.
Carried (Rivervale-Carlisle)

Late Notices of Motion
No. 2: Vietnam end of war list - review
This Congress supports the award of a medal of gallantry to those six (6) Australian Vietnam Veterans who were denied it.
In Operation - Awards issued (Geraldton City)
No. 3
That the Federal Government as a matter of urgency carry out a review of the citizenship policies of this country, with an emphasis on the requirements to be met to gain citizenship, and that the review consider the following:
  a. Citizenship should be earned and should be the result of some form of examination that includes such things as knowledge of the constitution, the flag, our customs and history etc.
  b. That it be made clear that citizenship endows a person with responsibilities as well as rights.
Carried (Eastern Regional)

Meritorious Service Medal Presentation
Unable to attend this year's State Congress, Ken Broadhurst was delighted to receive the RSL's highest award, the Meritorious Service Medal, at a ceremony at ANZAC House last month. With his daughter Leone and son Mike present, Mr Broadhurst received the medal from State President Ken Bladen, who congratulated him for his long service to the RSL and the community. (See Spring Edition of the Listening Post p.17.)

A member of the Royal Australian Engineers, Ken's World War II service saw him promoted through the ranks to Lieutenant, finishing his military career in 1951 as a Captain.

During a brief speech of acceptance, Ken said he was fortunate in his early RSL days to have served with members fully committed to the League - men like Jack Rolfe, Bill Lonnie, Percy Pearson, Ron Ewing, Len Turner and many others who, by example, set a high standard of service to all to follow. He added that, 30 years on, it was encouraging to know that the RSL still had leaders equally dedicated to maintaining the principles of the League and planning for its future welfare.

In closing, Ken referred to his recent involvement in the design for the Flame of Remembrance at the State War Memorial as an absorbing challenge.

EDITOR
Cruise to the Dawn Service at Gallipoli on April 25, 2000

Attending the ANZAC Day Dawn Service at Gallipoli on April 25th, 2000, is just one of the highlights of a new 10 day / 9 night "ANZAC Landing Cruise" offered by Kompas Holidays through Scarborough travel agents R&R Travel.

The cruise, which will be hosted by Normie Rowe, commemorates the 85th anniversary of the ANZAC landing at Gallipoli. The MTS Arcadia will depart for Turkey from Athens and will be anchored off-shore the night before ANZAC Day. Passengers will disembark in the early morning darkness and ferried to the shore to take part in the annual ANZAC Day Dawn Service to be held for the first time at the new location at Memorial Park. Later that morning they will attend the very moving and sometimes even more memorable Australian Service held at Lone Pine Cemetery, where around 5000 Australians will gather to commemorate Australian and New Zealand soldiers lost in battle.

Passengers will also tour the battlefields and visit the War Museum which houses memorabilia of the nine-month battle.

Prices range from $1,399 per person in a 4 berth inside cabin up to $1990 for a twin share outside cabin. Air and land packages are also available, some departing on 18 April, and one departing Adelaide on 16 April 2000, flying Singapore Airlines to Athens.

An 8-day "French Connection" extension to the battlefields of Normandy and the Somme is also available with special fares for those who take the Singapore Airlines flight to Athens. This trip takes in the the Mussee Granko Australien, the Adelaide Cemetery at Villers-Bretonneux, leper (Ypres) and many other military sites.

Also featured in Kompas Holidays' ANZAC brochure is the annual 7-day / 6-night "ANZAC Special" coach tour on which passengers tour the Gallipoli battlefields in depth, attending both the services mentioned earlier. This tour offers an extension through Turkey and ending in Greece.

For further information on any of these options for a most memorable ANZAC 2000 tour, contact R&R Travel on the numbers below.

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The Listening Post - Summer 1999
Memorial Dedication in Northam

Captain Hugo Throssell VC

Hugo Vivian Hope (Jim) THROSSELL was born in Northam, his parents being George and Annie (nee Morrell) Throssell. Throssell senior was an Irish orphan who worked in Padbury’s Store at Guildford and went on to become a man of family and fortune and public reputation, being the State’s second Premier when Sir John Forrest joined the Federal Government. Throssell’s mansion, Fermoy House in Northam, is now a school.

Hugo (Jim) Throssell grew up at Fermoy House and went to Prince Alfred’s College at Adelaide for his later education; there he was College football captain. After college he lived and worked in Northam in the office at Throssell’s store and at the family flour mill in Newcastle (Toodyay).

He jackarooed for a time at Ashburton Downs, north of Meekatharra. Around 1912 he and his brother, Ric., developed 1,000 acres for family land at CowCowing 10 miles from Wyalkatche. They scrub rolled and cleared land, built a rough homestead and sank dams all in adverse seasons.

With the outbreak of war Throssell enlisted in the 10th Light Horse and headed a party of 18 volunteers who marched down Fitzgerald Street to the Northam Railway Station en route to the remount depot at Guildford. Popular legend has it that Throssell was captain of the Wyalkatchem Football Team and when he joined up they went with him. Reputedly 11 of the 18 came back from the war. Throssell’s usual pep talk to the team before a game was “We don’t have to kill them fellas, but a bit of maiming will be needed.”

After training in Egypt, Throssell, now a Second Lieutenant (he had been a Sergeant in the College Cadets), volunteered with this group for dismounted service after it became clear that there was an urgent need for reinforcements in the Dardanelles. He landed at ANZAC Beach on 3 August 1915.

By 7 August he was involved in offensives to break the growing stalemate of the campaign and showed immediate leadership qualities. The London Daily Mail carried reports of Throssell putting new heart into his men while waiting to charge by drawing lots with the shells bursting all around them to see who would buy the next round of drinks for the mob — “a bob in and the winner shouts.”

In this particular action half of the attackers were killed or wounded, including Throssell’s brother, Ric. Throssell was involved in major attacks at Walker’s Ridge, Russell Top, The Neck, Table Top and Hill 60. He won his Victoria Cross at Hill 60 and, as they waited to charge, fresh troops came into the line. One who was from Wyalkatchem called out, “Hello Throssell, how are the crops at CowCowing?” “240 acres in and really looking good.” Throssell called back.

Throssell’s Victoria Cross Medal Citation can be read on his memorial.

To recover from his wounds Throssell was sent to England by hospital ship to Wandsworth Hospital. Apart from wounds he suffered from temporary deafness from shell fire and he contracted meningitis.

During his convalescence two significant events occurred. He met his later wife, Katherine Susannah Pritchard, the intellectual and authoress who was in London to receive a major literary award. He also accompanied the former Prime Minister, Sir George Reid, to be awarded his VC by the King.

After a period back in Australia on war work Throssell rejoined the 10th Light Horse (he was now a Captain) and was wounded at the second battle of Gaza in which his brother Ric was killed.

He charged with the Light Horse at the famed charge of Beersheba and was Captain of the Guard of Honour when the Turks surrendered at Jerusalem to General Allenby.

After this he contracted malaria and eventually was sent back to Australia in charge of a party of troops. He was in Melbourne visiting his later wife at Ferntree Gully when the Armistice was announced. After the war he married and lived at Greenmount WA where his old home is now a national monument.

He led the Victory Parade in Northam in July 1919, mounted on a big bay horse and in full Light Horse uniform. That same day he addressed the assembled crowd from a dais put up outside the Tattersalls Hotel. It is at that exact spot that the Hugo Throssells Hotel erected the Throssell memorial.

LLOYD NELSON
Chairperson, Hugo Throssell VC Memorial Fund
Hollywood goes strolling, dancing and exhibiting

An afternoon tea dance, a Hollywood “Stroll” and a stand at the Royal Show - these were just some of the events Hollywood was involved with as part of its sponsorship of, and contribution to, both Veterans’ Health Week and Seniors’ Week.

More than 20 Hollywood staff volunteered to staff the stand at the Perth Royal Show in September and early October, donating their time to meet show-goers, take their blood pressure and spread the good word on Hollywood.

Hollywood was part of the Office of Seniors’ Interests stand, which won the award for best exhibit at the Show.

During Veterans’ Health Week, Hollywood’s afternoon tea dance in October saw 200 veterans and their partners trip the light fantastic.

And as part of Seniors’ Week, in early November, 85 strollers discovered the delights of the Hollywood Reserve, the Perth War Cemetery and Garden of Remembrance, followed by a free morning tea in Hollywood’s Red Cross Hall.

Hollywood also participated in the Mandurah Seniors Expo and State Seniors’ Awards, with Director of Clinical Services Nola Cruickshank presenting the award for best organisation.

Executive Director Kevin Cass-Ryall said Hollywood’s substantial involvement with such events was part of its commitment to making a contribution to the community and being a good corporate citizen.

Hollywood remembers

Hollywood Private Hospital held a special ceremony for Remembrance Day, November 11.

Mrs Anne Leach, a former nursing sister during World War II, laid a wreath during the ceremony with Hollywood Primary School student Sally Briggs. Mrs Leach nursed at Hollywood during the war, when it was a repatriation hospital.

Year seven students from Hollywood Primary School sang at the ceremony and staff, patients and visitors stopped to remember the end of “the war to end all wars”. Chaplains Rev’d Graeme Manolas and Ann Harding co-ordinated the ceremony.

A special guest speaker at the ceremony was Ms Diana Warnock, MLA, Member for Perth, who spoke of her aunt, Jean Ferguson, who was matron at Hollywood from 1947 through to the 60s.

Later that day, students from North Cottesloe Primary School visited the hospital with flowers, to honour the Veterans and War Widows. Scotch College students also donated flowers following their ceremony.
A Chapel For The Future

The Rev'd Graeme Manolas and his fellow Hollywood Chaplains Rev'ds Peter Bianchini and Ann Harding are set to transform the Chapel at Hollywood Private Hospital - and they seek our assistance.

"With the approach of the new millennium we believe it is an opportune time to make some changes to the chapel so that it may better represent the mission of the Christian church today," Graeme said recently. "We have established the Chapel 2000 Project through which we hope to make some significant changes."

The Chapel was designed in the early 1940s and had two separate "ends" - with an altar at each, to be used by different Christian denominations, this obviously reflected the church and military practice of the day.

"We seek now to build on the past and to speak to the new millennium with relevance and sensitivity. To do that we want first to show some Christian unity," Graeme Manolas said. "Therefore a central part of the Chapel 2000 Project is to unify the chapel building by creating one area for worship as opposed to the two separate ends. To mark this new beginning in the history of our chapel building, we commissioned a craftsman to build a new altar."

T.H Peters, who is known for his wood work in St George's Cathedral, Perth, designed a simple table altar and he very cleverly used some of the material and shapes of the two previous altars: it was then placed in the chapel. The altar was blessed on Sunday October 24. The new altar represents the past history of the Chapel and provides a sign for the future.

"We are also concerned that the chapel be a welcoming place open to people for prayer, reflection or quiet time and so as a part of the Project, we have commissioned an artist working with glass to design and make a stained glass sanctuary window to be placed in the east wall of the Chapel. We expect the colour and symbolism of the window to bring beauty and focus to the worship area," Graeme anticipates that the window will be installed early in 2000.

To raise some of the money needed for the Project, the Chaplains are inviting interested people to make a contribution, as a special gift to the Chapel.

As a momento of the Project a limited number of inscribed pieces of the old wooden Altar Rails have been made and will be given to those who donate $50 and over to the Chapel 2000 Project, until the pieces run out. This is a unique opportunity to have a special piece of the Chapel history.

If you would like to make a contribution or receive more information on Chapel 2000 Project, contact any of the Chaplains on 9346 6000.

Hollywood’s PCU Wins National Award

Hollywood Private Hospital’s Palliative Care Unit has won a major national award for service excellence.

The Australian Private Hospitals Association Team Award for Service Excellence was presented to Hollywood in October in recognition of its commitment to excellence in providing high quality patient care in Palliative Care.

The Hollywood Palliative Care team provides an essential service to veterans, private and public
communities in meeting the needs of terminally ill patients, their families and friends.

Palliative Care Medical Director, Dr Sarah Pickstock said, “It is an honour for Palliative Care to receive such a prestigious award”.

“The Palliative Care team is outstanding in terms of the level of effort and service it offers and I believe the team is very deserving of this great recognition”, said Dr Pickstock.

The Palliative Care Unit (PCU) at Hollywood is a 22-bed unit set in quiet and peaceful garden surroundings. It offers several lounge areas and an overnight room and tea room where families may make refreshments. Hollywood's PCU offers many unique services including relaxation sessions for patient and families, special monthly family celebration lunches and unrestricted visiting hours.

The Palliative Care Team comprises of medical, nursing, support services and clerical staff, chaplains and allied health staff in addition to trained volunteers.

Medical and nursing care is maintained 24 hours a day, and the availability of on-site pathologists and radiologists helps in the control of patients’ complex symptoms.

Hollywood’s Palliative Care Unit also offers patient home care for those who wish to be cared for in their own home.

Meanwhile, Hollywood’s Human Resources Team was also a finalist in the same awards for its systems thinking approach. Congratulations to both teams!

Royal Australian Air Force in Malaya

Although events in Korea overshadowed happenings elsewhere in the Pacific, a squadron of the Royal Australian Air Force was, as the result of a Government decision, preparing for active service overseas before the Korean hostilities commenced. The mission of this squadron was to co-operate with the Royal Air Force in the fighting in Malaya.

The decision to send this assistance was announced by the Prime Minister in the House of Representatives on 31 May when he said that the aircraft would be Dakota transports to be used for dropping supplies and general transport work.

The squadron selected was No. 38, of No. 86 Transport Wing. This wing, like 77 Squadron, had a distinguished war record, and later pioneered the courier service from Australia to Japan. In 1948 it flew thousands of hours in the Berlin Air Lift.

The advance party departed from Schofields, NSW on 17 June and arrived at Chiangi, Singapore, two days later.

The main body under Wing Commander J. F. Lush arrived at Chiangi on 29 June in two squadron Dakotas and one Qantas Skymaster. The squadron became operative on this day, but the move was not completed until 6 July by when 28,567 pounds of equipment and 138 personnel had been moved in the eight squadron aircraft and two Skymasters.

The squadron was placed under the operational control of the Far East Air Forces, through Air Headquarters, RAF Malaya. The primary task of the RAF in the east was the internal security of the area, and the protection of British and Commonwealth interests. At the time of 38 Squadron's arrival, the main task was the campaign against the Communist guerrillas.

As a forced landing in the dense jungles of Malaya would require special knowledge in order to survive, all flying personnel attended a course in jungle survival before attempting any flying duties. The course consisted of lectures and practical demonstrations, followed by a 36-hour sojourn in the jungle under operational conditions.

In Australia on 27 June, just after the war had started in Korea, the Prime Minister announced that Australia was sending a squadron of heavy bombers to join in the fighting in Malaya. This was No. 1 Squadron, equipped with Lincolns.

For the squadron already in Malaya; active flying began on 12 July, when one aircraft – commanded by Squadron Leader J. B. Fitzgerald - made an air ambulance flight of six hours’ duration. Landings were made at Kuala Lumpur, Ipoh and Taiping – the latter two being jungle strips – where wounded troops were evacuated for treatment at Singapore.

The first supply dropping mission undertaken by the squadron was carried out on 23 July. The dropping zones, besides being mere specks of cleared jungle, are often on the sides of mountains or in deep valleys and, because the Dakotas were not designed for low flying in confined spaces, this type of mission calls for a great deal of skill on the part of the pilot.

Ground troops operating in the almost impenetrable jungle are entirely dependent on air support for all their supplies, and this places an obligation on the air crews to ensure that the goods are delivered whatever the hazards.

Other duties undertaken by the squadron have included target indicating missions involving the dropping of smoke bombs, courier services to Hong Kong, Labuan and the Nicobar Islands, and leaflet drops.

Before the end of July the first four Lincolns arrived at their base at Tengah, on the western side of Singapore Island. The Australian Lincolns joined those of No. 100 Squadron, RAF with which they were to co-operate.

A week later a Dakota captained by Flight Lieutenant L. Hawes, DFC, acted as a marker aircraft for a combined
bombing strike by No. 1 Squadron Lincolns and No. 45 Squadron RAF flying Brigands. The Dakota first of all flew over the target area some time before the bombers were due, passed back a weather report and then landed at Kota Bharu to emplane an observer who knew the area well. Back over the target area the Dakota made a reconnaissance and, when the bombers arrived, flew in dropping two smoke bombs.

Three Lincolns then made a bombing run which was unsuccessful owing to cloud. Two further markers were dropped some minutes later and this time the Lincolns successfully dropped thirty-six 1,000lb. bombs. From here the aircraft moved to another target which was bombed, and strafed with rockets and machine guns.

In addition to bombing by daylight, No. 1 Squadron has also bombed at night. In the first of these night strikes one of the Australian Lincolns had some exciting moments and a narrow escape when the aircraft was over the second target.

The order to release bombs had been given and the load appeared to leave the bomb bay normally. But almost immediately afterwards a blinding flash, sparks, and smoke filled the aircraft. One of the flares had ignited in the bomb rack and the parachute had become entangled in the rear bomb racks.

For a while it seemed that the aircraft would have to be abandoned, but after the contents of several fire extinguishers had, with great difficulty, been played on the flare, the fire was brought under control.

A report describing the incident states that the crew thenceupon brushed their hair back from a vertical position and set course for home. The Lincoln reached base safely, with the still-smouldering flare trailing behind.

For his services on this occasion the DFC was awarded to Flight Lieutenant K. J. Foster.

COURTESY AWM PUBLICATION: As You Were 1950

The RSL and CARE band together to help the people of East Timor

The RSL and CARE again are joined together by a “Partnership for Action” to raise funds to be able to swiftly alleviate the current suffering of the East Timorese people.

The RSL and CARE first forged a partnership to help the people of PNG in 1997 - now they have united efforts to channel assistance to the hundreds of thousands of East Timorese who need Australia’s help.

RSL National President Major General Peter Phillips said that this joint fundraising appeal was in response to RSL members and the people of Australia wanting to do their bit. “We recognise the debt owed by Australia for the support given to Australian troops in East Timor in the dark days of 1942. The East Timorese particularly helped about 400 Aussie men of the 2/2nd and 2/4th Independent Company as well as remnants from the West Timor “Sparrow Force”. The East Timorese were loyal to the end and it is estimated that at least 20,000 and possibly twice that number died during the war years. Now it’s time to repay that debt of honour.”

During the past five years CARE Australia’s presence in East Timor has grown to become one of the leading international aid agencies in the province, with the unique distinction of having aid projects in all 13 districts until recently.

Just before the conflict CARE had projects in the areas of emergency food and assistance, agriculture, education and community development. CARE employed 80 local staff and two internationals based in Dili. CARE has now opened an office in West Timor.

This week CARE formed part of a United Nations assessment that went into Dili from Darwin. A deal has already been signed with the World Food Program and it is expected that CARE will begin distributing 3,000 tones of rice in the coming weeks. CARE does, however, need funds to be able to continue and broaden its work.

Danny Daniels, who served in Timor in the 2/2nd Company as well as in Korea and Japan, attended the launch of the partnership which was held at the Australian War Memorial. He reiterated that the East Timorese have stood by us in the past and now it’s our chance to help them in their time of need. Please help by making a contribution.

JAN ORMÉROD
CARE Australia

NB: Donations can be forwarded to the State Secretary at ANZAC House.
The Quiet Lion Tour, 2000
by Keith Flanagan

Those who were with Sir Edward Weary Dunlop in the prison camps of Asia in World War II believe they have one of the greatest stories of the 20th century to tell and they like to tell it where much of it happened — on the Burma-Thailand railway.

On The Quiet Lion Tour next year (22-30 April) we again will follow the old railway route from Kanchanaburi, with its war cemeteries and the so-called Bridge on the River Kwai to the Three Pagodas Pass on the Burma (Myanmar) border. Five days will be spent on the 200 hectare River Kwai resort of Weary’s Thai admirer Kanit Wanachote, only four km from Hellfire Pass and the POW Museum opened by Prime Minister Howard last year.

We first met Kanit on The Weary Dunlop Tour in 1985. Going upriver in longtail boats, we called in at his houseboat under the impression it was a river cafe. Kanit who, like many Thais, is a fan of the David Lean film Bridge on the River Kwai was elated to have one of the protagonists of the real story arrive on his doorstep. He plied us with drinks and his wife, Khun Oonjai, cooked a curry.

When we took Weary up again in 1987 to dedicate the Hellfire Pass Memorial Walk to all who had died on the railway, Kanit invited us over for a banquet and a light and sound show that he and his sons had put together for the occasion. Weary stayed on for a day as Kanit’s guest.

When Weary died in 1993, Kanit helped us float his ashes down the Kwai in a candlelit boat launched by John and Alexander Dunlop, while a Scotch College piper John Prowse played The Flowers of the Forest. There was the usual light and sound show and banquet and then a fireworks display with Weary’s name spelt out in letters of fire across the hillside.

We thought he had reached the height of heights. But next year Kanit had created a splendid Weary Dunlop Park, overlooked by an ancient locomotive and rolling stock on a track cut into the hillside. Below, where we dined al fresco on the lawn, replica POW huts house, in the half light, ‘live patients’. On a full scale replica of part of the bridge, strobe-lit ‘prisoners’ worked as some of those watching had done more than 50 years before. The focal point of it all was a wooden statue of Weary carved by Kanit’s artisans and unveiled that night by Weary’s granddaughter, Isabelle Dunlop, and Kanit’s grandchildren.

Kanit is now one of us, an honorary member of the 2/3 Machine Gun Battalion Association. We now stay with him on his estate, dine in restaurants overlooking the Kwai, and venture out for excursions to the POW Museum and the Memorial Walk trail, Weary’s Hintok Mountain Camp, the Three Pagodas Pass, and the Hindat Hot Springs, and to drift down the Kwai on a houseboat.

On ANZAC Day, we are up for the Dawn Service in Hellfire Pass, perhaps the most moving of dawn services anywhere, and then on to the ANZAC Day service in the Kanchanaburi War Cemetery where most of the 13,000...
The Quiet Lion Tour 2000 continued

Kanchanaburi War Cemetery where most of the 13,000 prisoners who died on the railway are buried. We visit the shop, still there, where Boonpong Sirivejapham risked torture and death to smuggle medicines in with the vegetables he was supplying to the prison camps and cashed cheques that could only be redeemed after the war.

On our last day in Thailand, we travel north to Ayutthaya, the Thai capital for 400 years, which was completely destroyed by three invading Burmese armies in 1767. One of those armies came through the Three Pagodas Pass and down along the valley of the Kwai Noi. When the Burmese pulled out they took 90,000 prisoners with them, including the then Thai Royal Family. Perhaps some of those prisoners, too, went through the Three Pagodas Pass. History does have a way of repeating itself.

There are other places on the itinerary such as the Ban Kao museum near where a Dutch archaeologist, Dr. H. R. van Heekeren, found a Stone Age axe while working on the railway and joined a Danish expedition after the war.

A WILL TO FIGHT CANCER

Have you ever thought of making a small bequest in your Will to help the Cancer and Leukaemia Research programme?

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ERRATA

On page 37 of the Spring edition, the article on Commonly Awarded Medals twice incorrectly showed the year 1943 as 1948.

Montevideo Maru

George Hill’s letter reported that his father “served” on the Montevideo Maru. This was an obvious mistake we should have picked up. His father was aboard as a prisoner, not as a member of the crew. Our sincere apologies to George and his family. EDITOR

to excavate what had been a settlement in Neolithic times. Not far away are the ruins of a 12th century walled settlement and temple. Nobody knows who built them or lived there. Their origin has been lost in time. In a burial pit outside the walls are the skeletons of two people who lived there even earlier. The woman is still wearing, on skeletal arms, the bracelets that adorned her 2000 years ago.

These visits are followed by a ride on what is left of the ‘Death Railway’ over the Wampo Viaduct where the line skirts steep cliffs on towering wooden trestles. We have put the story covered by the tour into a booklet with a foreword by the Prime Minister and an article on youth leadership by the Governor, Major General Michael Jeffery, AC MC.

Veterans, their families and anyone interested in a great Australian saga are warmly welcome to join the tour. We also aim to get younger people there to hear about their history and heritage. Fares for them are below cost—$1250 as opposed to $1700 for seniors. Youth sponsorship is now being taken up by RSL Sub-Branches. Three Springs sponsored seven students last year, Wongan Hills five and Exmouth one.

The tour and a multimedia show on Weary’s life and times, also called the Quiet Lion, is supported by the State RSL, the Office of Youth Affairs and the Department of Veterans’ Affairs. For more details about the tour, contact Keith Flanagan (9299 6351, Bill Haskell (9330 3523) or Dirk Arkeveld (9271 0065).

City of Perth Sub-Branch

CARAVAN PARK — POINT PERON

Ideally situated with a beach frontage to Cockburn Sound. Sites are available to financial members of the League at a cost of $8 per night, or $50 per week. You will require your own van.

Please contact the caretaker on

(08) 9527 8551 for reservations
An outline history of the Armed Forces in WA during World War II (Part 3 The Navies)

by Lindsay J. Peet
Research Officer of the Defence Heritage Committee, National Trust of Australia (WA)

This is the final of a 3-part series on the impact of war on the lives of Western Australians. The first part, on the activities of the Air Forces, appeared in the Winter 1999 edition of The Listening Post, and the second part in the Spring edition 1999.

PART 3 – THE NAVIES

Apart from the Royal Australian Navy (RAN), other Allied naval forces were involved with WA, including the United States (USN), British (RN), Dutch (RNN), French and New Zealand (RNZN) navies.

Just prior to the outbreak of war in September 1939, the light cruiser HMAS Sydney was ordered to its War Station at Fremantle and for the next nine months it carried out training and convoy work. Upon the declaration of war, WA Naval Reservists were called up to join ships or to guard naval and port facilities.

Because of WA's strategic position in relation to the eastern Indian Ocean, and to the shipping focal (or 'choke') point of Cape Leeuwin, Fremantle became the assembly point and supply base for many wartime convoys, the first one leaving in January 1940. Later convoys sometimes had Fremantle-based RAN warships escort them to the limit of the Australia Station in the vicinity of the Cocos Islands. Fremantle was to see a variety of warships based there or visiting for the remainder of the War.

Because of the importance of the trade routes, commencing in November 1939 and continuing into January 1945, Allied and neutral shipping in the Indian Ocean was subject to attacks by enemy surface ships and submarines. From 1942 to 1944, both German and Japanese (IJN) submarines were active there, torpedoing a large number of ships. In fact, during January-March 1944 the greatest number of sinkings of Allied ships occurred in the Indian Ocean rather than in the Atlantic. This enemy activity caused the diversion of many Allied naval resources as well as requiring air patrols. Many merchant ships departing from Fremantle or sailing to it were sunk, and many survivors from sinkings were landed there.

The first enemy intrusion near WA was in September 1940 when a German commerce raider laid dummy mines just off Albany. In October-November, a number of Allied ships were sunk or captured off the WA coast by another commerce raider.

By January 1941, the Fremantle port defences had been strengthened with the installation of anti-submarine and anti-torpedo booms across the mouth of the harbour and the installation of an 'indicator loop' between Swanbourne and Rottnest to warn of any ships passing over it. At the same time the Naval Auxiliary Patrol was formed and based at the Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club. Aimed at releasing full-time naval personnel and ships for more important tasks, it was made up of volunteer yachtsmen using their own vessels to patrol swept channels and harbour anchorages.

Early in 1941 an Area Combined HQ and a Combined Operational Intelligence Centre (with its own mercantile movements section) was established at Fremantle to ensure naval and air co-operation of trade defence in the nearby focal area. There was also a Combined Defence HQ to co-ordinate all three armed services in the defence of the vital Fremantle port.

Illustration by Commander F.R.J. after the passing of Christmas mail between HMAS Adelaide and HMAS Kanimblan November 29, 1942. From the book HMAS Mk II published by the AWM.
In November 1941, the clash between HMAS *Sydney* and the HKS *Kormoran* took place near Carnarvon with the loss of the *Sydney*’s entire complement of 645 and the subsequent capture of 315 German survivors. The exact circumstances of the engagement and the reasons for no *Sydney* survivors (or bodies) are still controversial more than fifty years later.

With Japan’s entry into the War in December 1941, naval defences at Fremantle were further strengthened. With the loss of its major naval base at Singapore in February 1942, the British Government decided to build a substitute base at Cockburn Sound for its Eastern Fleet. So urgent was the project that work went on round the clock until 1944 when it was stopped because the Pacific war had moved well north of Australia. Work completed included dredged channels, an anti-submarine boom between Woodman Point and Garden Island, coastal guns and defences, anti-aircraft defences and even five airfields for carrier aircraft.

With the fall of the Philippines and the Netherlands East Indies (NEI), surviving ships and submarines of the USN’s Asiatic Fleet moved to Fremantle where a submarine base was set up with an ancillary base at Albany. In 1943, the USN also established an advanced refuelling and revictualling base at Exmouth Gulf to extend submarine patrols. During World War II, 125 USN, 31 RN and 11 RNN submarines visited or were based at Fremantle. From Fremantle, USN submarines made 356 War Patrols, the RN 57 and the RNN 14, for the loss of 11 USN submarines. They caused a major disruption to Japanese shipping which slowed Japan’s ability to fight the war. They also carried out ‘Special Missions’ such as landing commando or clandestine groups or agents in enemy-held territory, also rescuing people from such areas.

During 1943 the Allied Services Reconnaissance Department (SRD) established a secret commando (‘Z’ Special Unit) training base at Careening Bay on Garden Island. It mounted two daring raids against Japanese shipping at Singapore in 1943 and 1944 (Operations *Jaywick* and *Rimau*). The first (from Exmouth) in the Krait was successful. The second (by submarine from Fremantle) was intercepted by the Japanese before it made its attack and none of the 23 Army and Navy men survived the war. In 1944, as part of clandestine projects involving Timor and nearby islands, the SRD set up a supply base at Krait Bay near Cape Voltaire in the northern Kimberley with smaller supply dumps on three islands in the Timor Sea.

In March 1944, it was feared that a Japanese aircraft carrier force was going to attack Fremantle. All the shipping in the harbour was moved to Gage Roads or Cockburn Sound, some even went to Albany. A ring of Allied submarines was positioned to cover the likely approach of the enemy, and the port and coastal defences were placed on the alert. But nothing happened: there was no Japanese task force headed for WA, the alert being a misinterpretation of intelligence and other information!

Exmouth Gulf was used in May 1944 to refuel a large Allied task force before and after making a surprise carrier attack (Operation *Transom*) on Surabaya in eastern Java. This attack supported the Allied landings at Sarmi and Wakde in New Guinea and involved 35 combat and support ships from six Allied navies, including three battleships.
and two aircraft carriers. There were also eight Fremantle-based submarines stationed around Java for rescue and alerting purposes.

Enemy submarines were active off the WA coast during 1942-45. An IJN submarine laid 39 mines in the shipping lanes in the Joseph Bonaparte Gulf off Wyndham in January 1942. Another passed around Cape Leeuwin in February. Three other IJN submarines patrolled along the WA coast in March 1942, two loitering near Cape Leeuwin, Fremantle and Shark Bay where there were convoy and shipping routes, sinking two ships and shelling two others. In August 1942, the armed passenger liner Katoomba fought a deck gun duel with an IJN submarine some 300km south-southeast of Esperance, which afterwards passed around Cape Leeuwin on its way back to its base at Penang. In January 1943, an IJN submarine was ready to shell Geraldton at night when it saw RAAF aircraft flying overhead; instead it shelled the jetty at Port Gregory further north. This submarine also made two more reconnaissances off the north-west coast of WA, one in September 1943, the other in May 1944.

By 1945, it was thought that the eastern Indian Ocean was fairly safe, however a German U-boat based at Batavia (Jakarta) torpedoed an American merchant ship, the Peter Sylvester, some 1300km southwest of Fremantle in February. The search for and the subsequent rescue of the survivors involved RAN, RN, USN, RAAF and RAF resources, mostly WA-based.

The RSL records its appreciation of the generosity of the author, Lindsay Peet, in sharing his work and adapting it for use in The Listening Post. Lindsay is a professional historian and heritage consultant specialising in defence sites. He is currently undertaking a higher degree at the Research Institute for Cultural Heritage at Curtin University of Technology.

Can you identify any of these soldiers from 2/6th Field Park Coy?

Soldiers of the 2/6th Field Park Coy prior to leaving for overseas service. Sgt C Blewett is second from the right in the front row. Other names are required. Please contact the Editor via ANZAC HOUSE if you can assist.
Day Clubs are about Fun, Friendship and Support

The DVA Day Club Program is a joint project between Ex-Service Organisations, who sponsor the clubs, Veterans' Affairs and local communities. Currently there are 14 Day Clubs in WA: Bullcreek, Cannington, Como, East Perth, East Victoria Park, Mount Lawley, Nollamara and Rockingham and in the country areas of Carnarvon, Donnybrook, Manjimup, Nannup, Pinjarra and York.

For more information about joining a club or starting your own contact Jumae Atkinson at DVA on 9366 8355 or 1800 113 304 (country callers).

COURTESY THE WESTERN VETERAN

Financial Information Service

The Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) provides free personal service to assist veterans and their dependants in making more informed decisions about their financial situation. The service allows pensioners and pre-retirees access to an experienced department officer, in private and confidential surroundings, to discuss issues that are relevant to them.

Some of the topics that may be discussed are:
- DVA benefits and entitlements;
- New initiatives such as the Pension Bonus Scheme;
- Sale of property and effect on pension;
- Rules relating to hostels or nursing homes;
- How various investments affect pension payments;
- Investment options, including superannuation; and
- Basic taxation issues including effect of tax reform on pensioners.

To arrange a personal interview please call Sandy Vidot on 9366 8362 or 1800 113 304 (country callers).

COURTESY THE WESTERN VETERAN

Government gives $50,000 for new POW memorial

Fundraising for a memorial dedicated to all Australian POWs received a substantial boost when the Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Bruce Scott, announced the Federal Government would provide $50,000 towards the project.

Launching the Australian Ex-Prisoners of War Memorial appeal, Mr Scott said the funds would be provided through the Federal Government's Their Service - Their Heritage program.

“This memorial will acknowledge the suffering and extraordinary sacrifice made by Australian ex-POWs. I encourage businesses and individuals to contribute whatever they can to raise the $620,000 needed for the memorial.”

Donations of $2 or more toward the appeal are tax deductible.

The memorial will be built in the Botanical Gardens in Ballarat and will include the names of nearly 35,000 Australian ex-POWs since the Boer War. Their names - including those of 8,684 Australian ex-POWs who died in captivity - will be engraved into the memorial's granite wall.

Projects throughout Australia have received grants totalling more than $2m under the Government’s commemorative Their Service - Their Heritage since its launch in March 1997. Donations for the Ballarat POW memorial should be sent to Ballarat RSL, 2 Lyons St Sth, Ballarat 3353 or tel: (03) 5332 3300.

COURTESY VETAFFAIRS
RSL Veterans’ Affairs Priority List 1999/2000

Gold Card
The Gold Card be issued to Australian veterans over 70 years of age.

Funeral Benefit
Veterans’ funeral benefit be increased to $1,500.

Defence Service Homes Loan
The Defence Service Homes Loan be increased to $80,000.

EDA Criteria
EDA criteria be eased on impairment from 70 to 65 points, and the lifestyle rating from 7 to 5 points.

Disability Pension
Disability pension not be regarded as income in assessing pensions and allowances.

Nursing Home Charges
Removal of nursing home charges for entitled veterans.

Widows of Intermediate Rate (IR) Pensioners
Widows of veterans receiving an Intermediate Rate pension be classed automatically as War Widows.

British Commonwealth Occupation Force (BCOF)
Veterans who served with BCOF up to 30 June 1947 be entitled to all benefits, including the Service Pension, under the Veterans’ Entitlements Act.

Aged Care
All veterans and war widows/widowers continue to receive a high standard of care in their old age.

War Widows’ Pension
The War Widows’ Pension be reinstated to those widows who remarried prior to May 1984.

Spectacles
The Government honour its commitment without delay to improve the quality and range of spectacles available to veterans.

Legal aid
Legal aid for matters before the Administrative Review Tribunal be placed on consistent and equitable basis Australia-wide and, if resumption of direct responsibility is necessary to achieve this, that the Government so direct.

Allied Veterans of World War II
British and allied Ex-Servicemen receiving the service pension and entitled to the fringe benefits receive the Gold Card.

Payments Under VEA
The adjustments to the payments under the Veterans’ Entitlement Act be related to the Average Male Weekly Earning (AMWE) instead of CPI.

Documentary Series to Honour Veterans
Production is expected to begin soon on a new television documentary series, Australians at War, honouring the service and sacrifice of Australia’s service personnel.

The Federal Government allocated $5 million in the 1999-2000 Budget for the project, which is expected to premiere around Anzac Day 2001, marking the centenary of Federation.

The Minister for Veterans’ Affairs, Bruce Scott, said the documentary series would cover the major wars and conflicts in which Australia had participated this century and explore how the Australian experience of war has contributed to the development of the nation.

Some of Australia’s leading documentary makers figure among the 21 tenders for the project.

“I am excited by some of the concepts proposed, and there is every indication that the series will prove to be a landmark event in Australian television,” Mr Scott said.

“While there have been several previous documentaries which examine the contribution made by Australia’s servicemen and women in wartime, none thus far has had the breadth and scope envisioned for this series.”

The Department of Veterans’ Affairs will commission the series in co-operation with the Australian War Memorial.

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Wally Dennison, Member of Nollamara/North Perth RSL

The Listening Post - Summer 1999
The Boer War Remembered

In the presence of His Excellency the Governor, Maj-Gen Michael Jeffery AC MC, dignitaries, defence force personnel, descendants of Boer War veterans, ex-service men and women and members of the public gathered in Kings Park on October 12 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the departure of the first contingent of Western Australian troops to South Africa.

The recently restored monument was the centre-piece of the colourful ceremony which was ably conducted by Captain Keith Wheeler, Senior Army Chaplain and Dr John Shepherd, Dean of Perth.

Adding to the sense of occasion, khaki uniformed members of the Pinjarra 10th Light Horse Memorial Troop flanked the 500-strong assembly while their well-trained mounts swished their tails at the swarm of photographers.

Forty four men of the approximately 1200 who sailed to the war from Western Australia died while on service. The remembrance of those men and the re-dedication of this unique memorial at the time when another contingent of Australians was active much closer to home marked a century of Australian involvement in foreign conflicts.

CHRIS BROOKS
An edited transcript of the Governor’s address after the commemoration follows:

There were really two Boer Wars. The first, in 1880-81, began after British Prime Minister D’Israeli annexed the South African Boer Republics, the Transvaal and the Orange Free State, in 1877. After making repeated attempts to repeal annexation the Boers, under Paul Kruger, revolted and secured limited self-government. But when gold and diamonds were discovered in the Transvaal, tensions between native Boers and British “Outlanders”, aggravated by guerilla raids and the repressive policies of the British governor of the cape, became more intense.

After the Boers attacked cape colony and natal in October 1899, the second war, which lasted until 1902, was underway. British forces at Ladysmith, Mafeking, and Kimberley were surrounded and besieged until relieved by counter-attacks by forces under Lord Roberts, the British Commander-in-Chief who had been the hero of the Indian mutiny.

Militarily, the conflict between Boer and British forces can be divided into two phases. There was a period of Boer commando successes as the British troops were not prepared for the type of fighting that confronted them. They still used archaic forms of warfare and leadership that effectively made them sitting ducks for the Boer guns and rifles. Britain had greatly underestimated the Boers. As Denis Judd writes in The Boer War, “The average (British) infantryman was still expected to obey rigid instructions to the last syllable, to keep splendid order, and to let his superiors do the thinking for him, whereas each Afrikaner was his own general.” Although relatively few in number, the Boers were highly mobile and versatile, and the war would see the birth of guerrilla warfare, which was to prove highly successful in this and other conflicts across the globe. The Boers were trained, fit and rugged horsemen, who conducted speedy, well-reconnoitred attacks by small groups of what they called “commandos” on ground that they knew well. The British suffered terribly.

The situation was quickly reversed after the arrival of the main British force in January 1900, which captured the republican capitals between March and June. Then came a guerrilla phase when the Boer forces regrouped after the fall of Pretoria and carried on the conflict for two years before reluctantly accepting peace terms from the British in May 1902 in the Treaty of Vereeniging.

The Boer War was, quite simply, something of a dirty war, that affected all south Africans in some way, Boer women and children, who were evicted from farms or villages put to the torch by the British, were sent to what they termed “concentration camps”, a term that we all know, where many died from disease. Those who escaped endured the exposure of a commando life in the African veld.

As part of the British Empire, the Australian colonies offered troops. Although shortly to become a nation under Federation, Australia was a British society. Great Britain was our background socially, racially, and economically, and as a people our psyche was to assist the mother country in retaining and strengthening her empire across the globe. As individuals, Australians knew they were good bushmen, and any opportunity to prove that ability was taken with gusto. At least 12,000 Australians served in contingents raised by the six colonies or (from 1901) by the new Australian Commonwealth (about a third of men enlisting twice); and many more joined British or South African colonial units in South Africa. At least 600 Australians died in the war, about half from disease and half in action. The first contingents of West Australians sailed from Albany on 7 November 1899, but all subsequent contingents sailed from Fremantle. In all 1,229 west Australians served in South Africa, some in more than one contingent. Thirty West Australians were killed in action and a further 14 died of accidents or disease, six Victoria Crosses were won by Australians, five while serving with Australian units and one with the South African constabulary. Lt Fred Bell VC, a West Australian, won his VC at Brakpan in Eastern Transvaal on 16 May 1901. Australians served mostly in mounted units formed in each colony, often known as ‘mounted rifles, bushmen or Imperial bushmen’. They fought in both the British
counter offensive of 1900 which resulted in the capture of the Boer capitals, and in the long, weary guerrilla phases of the war lasting until 1902. Colonial troops were valued for their ability to shoot and ride, and they performed well in the open war on the veldt. On a small hill near the town of Colesberg, 29 West Australians under the leadership of Captain Moore held off around 400 Boer commandos all day. The British commander was so impressed by their feat that he named the hill “Western Australian Hill”, and so it remains to this day. Although the hill is now located in a farming property, Sam Dallywater and the Australian Veterans Defence Services Council are working to place two tablets, one on the hill and one in Colesburg to commemorate the battle.

Although the age group for volunteers was 19 to 23 years of age, young Anthony Forrest, the son of our first Premier, Lord Alexander Forrest, enlisted at the age of 16. He was commissioned immediately, making him an officer and commander of troops at 16 years of age, but sadly he was killed during the conflict. The Boer War concluded with the signing of the peace document at Melrose house, Pretoria on 31 May 1902 in what is known as the Treaty of Vereeniging. The Boer War Memorial in King’s Park was dedicated to the memory of those who served in South Africa on 22 July 1901, and I was pleased to lay a wreath at the memorial during a rededication service this morning. Importantly today’s parade also commemorates 100 years of nursing in Australia’s armed services. St John Ambulance sent approximately 1800 Australian men to South Africa during the Boer war, of whom 61 died, mostly of disease. None were killed in action. They mostly served in base hospitals where they were able to replace army medical corps men for service at the front. The high incidence of disease caused by unhygienic and primitive conditions caused great loss of life among soldiers, civilians and medical staff alike. As a soldier myself, I know the debt of gratitude that we owe those who have served as nurses in all theatres of war; their skill, companionship and compassion saved many who would have succumbed to their wounds or disease in South Vietnam.

My own company of 120 men suffered 60 or 70 wounded in action, but out of all those casualties none died of their wounds, because of the speed of their evacuation and the magnificent care they received from our nurses and doctors. As their commander I remain eternally grateful that last week in Canberra one of Western Australia’s best known and loved service nurses, Vivian Statham, or Sister Vivian Bullwinkle as she was known, attended the dedication of a national memorial to our wonderful nurses, which proudly commemorates their devoted and enduring service, many people today may wonder why it is that we take the time to commemorate the Boer War and nursing services. We cannot expect younger generations who have never known war to understand fully what those who came before saw, heard and experienced in combat, and it is our fervent hope that they never will. However recent events have shown us that conflict is never far from us, and while we are no longer an expeditionary army, 100 years later we still play an important role in a number of the world’s hot spots.

The many proud young West Australians who are doing a magnificent job as peacemakers in East Timor are a fitting legacy of our State’s first fighting units who sailed off to South Africa all those years ago. Back then our young men showed their enthusiasm for service to their empire, and now our young men and women still serve their country with courage, tenacity and ability. We are here to remember men who served in a foreign country 100 years ago and the nurses who have supported all our military operations. And although none of our Boer War veterans are with us any more, I feel proud that we are able to
acknowledge their work and sacrifice in a very public way. Each year more and more people take part in ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day activities. This is because we are now realising that these occasions are not a glorification of war, but a ‘thank you’ to those who have served, and to those who have fallen; in short given everything to serve their country, in the process displaying the courage, spirit, mateship, discipline and loyalty which we now proudly call the ANZAC spirit and which defines our national ethos and values. These commemorative events have become a wonderful vehicle for our young people, as evidenced by the presence of our guides, scouts and cadets, to show that the spirit of service is alive and growing in Western Australia. These young people are our future; they are commemorating our past, showing that they are ready to take a responsible place in our future. If we meet our responsibilities to each other and our country, including our veterans and our children, we will build a brighter future for all Australians and our best days will be yet to come. Thank you.

MAJOR GENERAL MICHAEL JEFFERY, AC MC GOVERNOR OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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**Flame of Remembrance: Progress Report**

Recent visitors to the State War Memorial will have seen construction work on the Flame of Remembrance and Pool of Reflection. Designed by the RSL’s Honorary Architect Ken Broadhurst, the Flame will be situated in the Court of Contemplation at the base of the stairway at Fraser Avenue. Memorial plaques honouring Western Australian Victoria Cross and George Cross winners will be installed around the Pool of Reflection.

Flame of Remembrance work in progress at the State War Memorial

Due for completion in the New Year, the Flame will be lit from the one used by the Fremantle Dockers during the Len Hall match. This flame originates from the Eternal Flame at the Australian War Memorial in Canberra and is currently in safe keeping with Alinta Gas in its Technology Park headquarters.

As custodians of the Precinct of the State War Memorial, the RSL wishes to thank the State Government, the Department of Veterans’ Affairs, the Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority, Alinta Gas, Hollywood Private Hospital and the Fremantle Football Club for their valuable contributions.

The completed Pool of Contemplation awaits the flame.
HMAS Perth decommissioned.

Guided missile Destroyer HMAS Perth DDG 38 was decommissioned at Fleet Base East on October 15 after 34 years of service with the RAN. Following the removal of $100 m. worth of weapons, electronic systems and other equipment for spares the 4700 tonne Perth will be prepared for towing to Western Australia where she will be sunk off our coast as a dive site.

On a visit in August the ship's company exercised their right of freedom of entry to the City of Perth. The officers and men marched through the city with swords drawn, bayonets fixed, drums beating, band playing and colours flying. The enthusiastic crowd provided a sincere and sustained applause during the march.

HMAS Perth saw action on three operational tours of duty during the Vietnam war and has since taken part in many allied exercises and deployments. ANZAC Day 1999 saw the Perth in Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon) and during the return voyage a memorial service was conducted in the Sunda Strait to commemorate the loss of her predecessor a 6800 tonne light cruiser. The previous HMAS Perth was lost in action in February 1942 with more than 460 of the ship's crew. A frigate due for commissioning in 2004 will again bear the name HMAS Perth.

CHRIS BROOKS

Collins Class Submarine Project - The Facts

by Commodore Bob Trotter RANR

Over recent months, the Collins Class submarines being introduced into the Royal Australian Navy have been the butt of much criticism in some sections of the media. All Australians should rightfully be concerned if the reports are indeed true but, they are not! I say that with the confidence of someone who served 35 years in the RAN mostly in the submarine force. I stay in touch with active submariners and I can assure you that those who go under the sea in these ships, and may be required to go to war in them, do so with the same confidence. Also, I am proud to say that I was involved with many aspects of the project to replace the Oberon Class from its genesis in the late 70s until my retirement in 1998. This included specification and project work at senior management level during the period leading to the construction of the Collins Class.

The media debate has been notable in its neglect of any consideration of where procurement risk should lie. This is regrettable because it is quite fundamental to the way in which Australia provides the equipment for its Defence Force personnel. It must be debated as it forms the difference between accepting some degree of risk for the tax payers dollars or accepting that the Defence of this fine country and the lives of the men and women of the Australian Defence Force be put to a greater degree of risk. Does Australia want to achieve 100% success in its management of Defence equipment procurement projects? If so, then take the safe, off-the-shelf path of buying existing equipment designed by and for countries to meet their own needs. Or, does Australia want to give its Defence Force the ability to fight and win here in our region and for its members to survive and come home? This means that we have to use our imagination and think about what it is we need to provide rather than look at how the international defence equipment supermarket might match our needs. It means that we have to risk the tax dollar so that we can give our people the best for the job. It means that there will be failures that will cost money to fix.
Initiative, imagination and innovation aren’t free but this country is. To keep it that way I know where I would like to see the risk lie. I’ll put my money on the Collins Class.

Using my own experience and facts provided by many sources, I have assembled this fact file to better inform readers so that when they read or hear any Collins’ stories, they can draw their own conclusions rather than those of the commentator.

Firstly, let me simply say that Collins is a first rate submarine. She and her sisters are coming into service via a project which, when the contract was signed in 1987, introduced a management approach that was innovative and at the cutting edge of major programs for government capital equipment. The benefits that have flowed to Australia through the design and build of them have been numerous and far-reaching. Australian industry has risen to standards of quality and given Australia a degree of defence self-reliance, never previously achieved. This uniquely Australian undertaking will come to be viewed as one of the great technological achievements of our time. The Collins Class submarines built here in Australia, by Australians, will serve us proudly, well into the 21st century. New standards have been set in many, many areas and the project is deserving of the support of all Australians.

Through this project, Australia equals or surpasses world’s best practice in development of ship control systems, sound absorbing tiles, high strength steel manufacture and welding, submarine safety and other submarine related technologies. Such advancement could never have been realised if, as some have suggested, we had bought an “off-the-shelf” submarine from an overseas supplier.

The Facts

Underwater, the submarine’s maneuverability is outstanding, exceeding the contracted requirements in many aspects. It dives deeper, goes faster and turns quicker than any known submarine of its type.

The software based ship control and management system, regarded originally as one of the higher risk areas, has been a great success. It is the only known, fully automated ship control system in existence, evincing a great deal of interest in it from our allies.

The onboard living standards are equal to or better than any other conventionally powered submarine.

There are development problems, the most serious regarding noise and the combat system. But, in an undertaking of this scale and complexity, it is reasonable to say the these were not unexpected and when resolved, the submarines will be world-beaters. The report of the Government’s investigation into the project, undertaken by John Prescott and Malcolm McIntosh, stated that “Apparently sensible remedies for nearly all defects have been presented to us, which gives us confidence in the ultimate performance of the boats. The main issue is to improve the managerial and contractual structures so that the deficiencies are recognised and addressed much more quickly and robustly.”

There is no secret report by the United States Navy that describes Collins as “noisy as a rock concert”.

Even now, the Collins Class submarines are very quiet and effective and any potential enemy who thinks otherwise is in for a nasty shock.
The Australian Submarine Safety system (SUBSAFE Program) introduced for the Collins Class is probably the most comprehensive and well-documented system of its type in existence. Anechoic tiles absorb or attenuate the active sonar transmissions from enemy forces guarding against submarine attack (Asdic for the older readers) and they therefore improve the stealth and survivability qualities of the submarine. Collins Class tiles are designed and developed specifically for Australian operating conditions by the Defence Science and Technology Organisation (DSTO) and have so far proved a great success.

Based on a Swedish formula, the steel in the Collins class has been locally developed and produced. It has taken the production and welding of high strength steel in Australia to higher levels. Welding carried out by Australian welders building the submarines has a rework rate of between 0.1 and 0.3 percent against an industry standard of 3%. Australian welders are performing between 10 and 30 times better than their overseas counterparts.

Australia has never built a submarine before. That it has delivered a new and unique class within 20 months of the original schedule compares more than favorably with the experiences of major submarine building countries such as USA, Britain, Germany and France.

Before this project, the level of Australian industry content in major Defence projects seldom exceeded 12-15%. The initial goal for the Collins Projects was 60%. The Government eventually contracted for 70% and has actually achieved some 72%.

Many companies that were required to raise their quality control and assurance to international standards in order to participate in the project are now finding that their quality accreditation has resulted in their winning other competitive tenders on the world markets.

The Australian technology knowledge base, even in those areas where problems have been experienced (noise and combat system), has received an enormous boost through this project. The skills and technologies now embedded in Australia as a direct result of the project are invaluable both for new projects and in-service support of Collins.

There was no "off the shelf" submarine that suited Australia's unique operational requirements, nor would such a course of action have allowed Australian industry to offer strategically necessary "through life support" for the boats.

Critics of the Collins Class have often quoted purchase of the British Upholder Class as a better option. So let's look at some of the facts regarding the UK option. Firstly, the unit cost of the Upholder, as offered to Australia in 1983, was significantly greater than Collins. The Collins has a significantly greater range, endurance and battery capacity and dives deeper, and it goes and turns faster; all characteristics essential to Australia, where our submarines need to operate independently many weeks away from their home base. Of the seven initial proposals, the British were the least enthusiastic toward an Australian build program and the lack of Australian content was one of several significant factors that resulted in the rejection of their bid. HMS Upholder, the first of its Class, was 40 million pounds ($100 million) over budget and three years late. There were significant problems with the main propulsion system and with the torpedo discharge system leading to only a limited capacity to fire torpedoes. The British decommissioned all the brand new Upholders three years ago following a Defence Review. No country was willing to buy them until the Canadians were convinced to take them for a "peppercorn" price.

The greatest contribution made by a modern, highly capable submarine force to the defence of Australia is as a deterrent. Mere absence from port by one or all of the force creates great angst in the mind of a potential aggressor and requires a totally disproportionate response to counter even the possibility of their presence. Any potential belligerent knows that at any time, at almost any place, Collins Class submarines can strike or retaliate against any interference with Australia's national interests. They achieve greatest value if never used in anger. The Collins Class submarine, a remarkable Australian achievement, will live up to this vital national requirement.

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This tour links with the Gallipoli & Western Front tour group in Paris. Attend Villers-Bretonneux ANZAC ceremonies on 29 Apr before commencing the Western Front Battlefield Tour through Northern France and Belgium. 27 Apr - 8 May 2000.

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Catlet Challenge

Interstate and country cadets joined forces with hundreds of locals early in October to participate in a display of skills and to enjoy two days of competition and companionship.

Organised by the Office of Youth Affairs, the Challenge has ensured a higher profile for Cadets in WA, something the RSL has been pushing for many years.

Thirty seven Sub-Branches in this State are active in their support of the Australian Services Cadet Scheme (some for more than 40 years) and a further nine Sub-Branches support other Cadet units such as SES, Police Rangers, Fire Services etc. Earlier this year the State Branch announced details of RSL Cadet of the Year Awards 1999 to recognise excellence and outstanding performance of individuals within the Australian Services Cadet Scheme. Prizes include a visit to the Australian War Memorial during a three day tour of Canberra (see Spring edition of The Listening Post p. 57).

The Minister for Youth, Mike Board JP MLA, in a letter to the State President, said:

"Please be assured that the support provided by the Returned and Services League and its Sub-Branches to the cadet movement in this State, particularly the Australian Services Cadet Scheme (ASCS), is acknowledged and greatly appreciated. The League's decision to sponsor a "Cadet of the Year" award for the ASCS is a fine example of how the RSL is working to encourage the further development of cadets in this State, as well as reinforce the meaning of ANZAC and the ANZAC tradition.

Members of No.8 Flight ATC Northam at Langley Park.

L.Cpl Drury, 11/28th Battalion, Sig Platoon, and daughter Rebecca, a Police Ranger

“You may be interested to know that, as a result of the National Youth Development Conference and the announcement by the Commonwealth Minister that he will support the development of a national cadet movement based on the WA model, the cadet movement in this country is on the verge of a new era of expansion.

I believe the RSL has an important role to play in supporting this expansion and I look forward to continuing co-operation between the Government, the service cadets units and the RSL.”

According to an Office of Youth Affairs spokesman, WA has more than 7,000 Cadets with Services Cadets making up almost half of the total.

If the camaraderie and enthusiasm shown by the Cadets during the Challenge is spread to others within their peer group and at schools across the State, Cadet numbers are sure to grow quickly.

CHRIS BROOKS

Australian War Memorial’s Travelling Exhibition

The exhibition that will open in Western Australia soon is the very moving Vietnam Exhibition entitled Impressions: Australians in Vietnam. It will be on display at the Museum of the Goldfields in Kalgoorlie from 17 December 1999 - 30 January 2000. From Kalgoorlie the exhibition will travel to the WA Museum in Perth, the Geraldton Regional Museum and, finally, the Albany Residency Museum.

There will be a second exhibition in Western Australia next year – 1918: Australian in France. This will be on display in Perth, at the WA Museum, from 11 November - 4 February 2001.
The spirit of

LEGACY
is service

Christmas Greetings . . .

... from the Presidents of Perth and Fremantle Legacy Clubs and the Chairman of Torchbearers For Legacy In Western Australia

Running out of time to bake?

Why not buy one (or more) of Legacy’s famous Christmas puddings, available now for collection and sale at $7.00 each or $84.00 a carton. These quality 800g puddings are made locally by Mills and Wares (100% Australian-owned). You never know, you could win a trip for two to Conrad Jupiters Casino on the Gold Coast! Each purchaser is eligible to enter the draw for a prize of a holiday for two, flying Qantas and enjoying five nights’ accommodation at Conrad Jupiters Casino. (Meals are not included in this package.)

Individual puddings can be purchased from Home Building Society and ANZ Bank Branches and Legacy House in South Perth and Fremantle. For orders of whole cartons (12 puddings) with free delivery throughout Western Australia, contact Terry Healy, Fundraising Manager, on 9367 5799 or order by fax on 9474 2528.

Ninth Militaria Auction

Our next Militaria Auction will be held at Legacy House, 64 Mill Point Road, South Perth, on Sunday March 12, commencing at 10.00am. Items of Militaria, such as badges, swords, uniforms, buttons, medals, hats, war souvenirs, documents, or any item you believe may be suitable should be delivered to Legacy House, by Friday March 3. A receipt will be issued.

Items sold at auction will directly benefit Legacy with 20% of the sale price going to Legacy and 80% to the vendor.

It is believed this auction will attract many Militaria Collectors, so please check your cupboards, drawers and garage for any item you believe suitable and support this project. Who knows – you may have a fortune in that old trunk which you can turn into cash!

INSPECTION TIMES:

SATURDAY, MARCH 11: 10.00AM – 4.00PM
SUNDAY, MARCH 12: 9.00AM – 10.00AM

For further information, contact Terry Healy, Fundraising Manager, on 9367 5799.

JOT DOWN THIS DATE

Legacy’s Badge Day Appeal next year will be held on Friday, April 14.
Membership Targets

After new Sub-Committees were formed following Congress 1999, I decided to address the problem of our declining membership.

Our apparent inability to attract younger ex-service members from the ADF and Reserve and those currently serving, the women who served in a variety of military categories and ex-national service members has to be seriously addressed. A barrage of critical points of a political nature in the meantime has done nothing to improve the situation. A considerable number of last year’s members have not yet renewed.

Other difficulties identified relate to the demography and geography of the state. There are 130 Sub-Branches in WA – 51 in the greater metropolitan area and 79 in country and regional areas. 70% of our current memberships are in the 51 Sub-Branches within the former. It is costly to visit and support country Sub-Branches on a regular basis as they are spread over 2.7 million-km². Communication and liaison has always been a huge problem. Many Sub-Branches do not actively recruit and lack of support from State Branch has no doubt contributed to this.

Giving consideration to the problems mentioned, I have identified the following needs and the current committee is working towards achieving the following - some are currently before executive for budget and approval and some have already been approved. The first need was to build a committee from the State Executive and co-opted members who have the skills and willingness to work cooperatively to realise a substantial increase in membership. This has been formed and I acknowledge the hard work committee members are doing for the league. We can build as many hard working committees as we like but, without your support, we go nowhere.

From this point we will:
- form and periodically deploy recruiting teams comprising members of the Membership and Regionalisation Committee and Veterans’ Affairs Committee to assist Sub-Branches with recruiting in their respective areas or regions equipped with the appropriate aids;
- design and launch a public campaign through community newspapers initially with the view of expanding into community radio and TV. This is designed to reach the tens of thousands of people eligible to join the league but haven’t - approx. 110,000;
- identify and appoint a suitable person as a “roving recruiter”, initially to attend ADF resettlement seminars and ADF and reserve units. It is intended that he will have later involvement with other service and ex-service organisations. (ESOs);
- formulate and implement strategies that offer incentives to members to sign up new members. This is currently proposed by way of a trade promotion lottery “RSL Achievers 2000”, offering attractive prizes. (See article in this edition);
- examine and implement ways to disseminate information to members and Sub-Branches that are more timely, productive and cost effective. It is hoped that this will in time involve video conferencing;
- liaise with unit and kindred organisations and other ESOs to initiate visits by State Branch Committee Members to talk on the benefits of double badging. This would include a host of current league priorities, other conditions and benefits for all ex-services personnel and allied veterans. Recognition for service regardless of the type of military service and reciprocal arrangements for pensions etc;
- examine services to members currently provided by the League with a view to improve, increase and publicise these services;
- promote the League as a truly egalitarian and apolitical organisation which does not discriminate with regard to gender, type of service, political persuasion or religion;
- create and issue to all Sub-Branches a manual of membership administration to include all things and examples for recruiting and administering members of the League from a Sub-Branch and State Branch perspective.

The WA Branch currently has only approx. 10% of the total estimated eligible members in the State. This tells me that we have not been doing everything right in the past. We must all ensure this statistic is a thing of the past and strive to send to our fellow ex-servicemen and women a message of welcome and a feeling of inclusion into the league. A 25% figure would be much more acceptable.

Sub-Branch invitations for our recruiting teams or our roving recruiter are welcome and we look forward to visiting your area. Please contact State Branch to arrange detail.

The greatest effort to achieve this must be concentrated at the grass roots of the league - the member - assisted by the Sub-Branch and the State Branch. We all know someone who has served as a regular soldier, sailor or airman, servicewoman, nurse, VAD, reservist, national serviceman, peacekeeper, peacemaker or a current unfinancial member.

Application for membership form is on the reverse page of this article and all members of the league in WA have received one with their annual renewal for membership form.

Take the shot... Hit the targets

ALLAN HUTCHESON, SNR VICE PRESIDENT
### Personal Details

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### Membership Agreement

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<tr>
<td>Previous Sub-Branch</td>
<td>RSL Badge No.</td>
<td>State</td>
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I AGREE To be bound by the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the League, its By-Laws, to be bound by and promote its Standing Policy and to be bound by the Rules and By-Laws of the below Branch.

I HEREBY APPLY to be admitted as an Ordinary Member of the League and a member of the

<table>
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<th>Sub-Branch</th>
<th>Badge No.</th>
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Signature of Applicant

### Declaration by Authorised Officer Bearer

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

(Doubtful cases should be referred to HQ)

Signature of Authorised Sub-Branch Officer

### Payment Details

Annual membership of $27.00 is required with this form if payment before 30 June. Pro-rata payments apply after 30 June. Telephone: (08) 9325 8585 for current rates.

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Please indicate below if you require:

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<tr>
<td>Insurance Information</td>
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Address for Correspondence: PO Box Y3023, East St Georges Tce, Perth 6832. Ph: 9325 8585 Fax: 9325 7432

The Listening Post - Summer 1999

Page 33
Terms and Conditions of Entry

1. Entrants must be financial Ordinary, Affiliate or Women’s Auxiliary Members of the WA Branch or be Life, Honorary Life, or Life Subscriber members of the said Branch.

2. This promotion is applicable to signing up new Ordinary Members of the WA Branch RSL only.

3. Members of the WA Branch Executive, Trustee, Employees of the WA Branch or any business owned or managed by the WA Branch are ineligible to enter.

4. Entrants are eligible to win one or more of the prizes.

5. Target numbers and cut off dates are - Target 1: 1,200 Members by 31 March 2000, Target 2: 3,000 Members by 30 April 2000, Target 3: 5,000 Members by 31 May 2000.

6. Only those Targets achieved will be drawn.

7. Draws will take place only if the Respective Targets are achieved no later than close of business on the Target Date.

8. Travel conditions apply to Economy rates during mid-/low-season only and the travel prize cannot be converted to cash.

9. Travel for target 3 must be taken within 12 months of drawing date.

10. Entrants must be prepared to be involved in a media promotion post draw.

11. Inclusion in the draws is free and conditional upon placing your name, badge number and “RSL Achievers 2000” in block letters at the top of the new members’ application for membership form.

12. The number of entries per member is unlimited but conditional upon each entry being in relation to a different new member.

13. A new member signed up during the term of this promotion is eligible to enter on signing up another new member or members.

14. Progress reports relating to whether targets are achieved will be lodged in the West Australian public notices, Summer and Autumn Editions of The Listening Post and the monthly Sub-Branch Circular.

15. Drawing date is the Sunday of WA Branch Congress 2000.

16. Supervision will be courtesy of the Trustees of the WA Branch RSL subject to WA State Laws.

AUTHORISED BY SM SEERS OAM, STATE SECRETARY
Mentioned in Despatches

It would disturb the cobwebs of antiquity to go back to the remote times when military despatches were introduced. Suffice to say, it was in Caesar's time. According to military dictionaries a despatch is an official military letter sent by the commander of an army in the field to the authorities at home. The term is also applied to the military letters giving an account of military operations sent by subordinate officers holding detached commands to the general of an army in the field. Some authorities insist on the spelling of the word as "despatch". At the present time "despatch" is used most.

SOUTH AFRICAN WAR 1899-1902

Confining ourselves to the wars of recent times in which Australian troops have taken part we find that during the South African War, 1899-1902, those officers and soldiers who received a mention had their names included in the London Gazette. It was re-printed in South African Army Orders, and again in local General Orders. The recipient had no personal outward sign to show that he had received a "mention", unless, of course, some decoration as well had been conferred upon him.

Other forms of "mention" during this campaign were the promotion of other ranks to "King's Corporal" and "Kitchener Sergeant" and the presentation of the coveted "Queen's Scarf".

The history of King's Corporal and Kitchener Sergeant in the Army is known to some, but is frequently the subject of argument. A writer to The Journal of Army Historical Research, 1935, states that the current tradition of the rank was instituted as a reward for gallantry during the South African War and existed during that campaign only. Private soldiers, it is said, once Promoted King's Corporal — supernumerary to regimental establishment — could never be reduced, except by the King himself.

In the same journal for 1936 a reprint from the Naval and Military Journal quote the following on the subject of King's Corporal, which apparently was a "mention": "There was an official suggestion in 1901 to the effect that soldiers who had distinguished themselves in wartime, but were unsuited to be NCOs in peace-time should be given some mark of distinction on the right arm, preferably an embroidered band, carrying with it a step in rank whilst actually on active service, with additional pay, and a donation of 10 pounds at the end of it. Some members of the War Office Committee who sat to consider the proposal objected to the monetary grant, urging that such was derogatory to the soldier, but one of them pointed out that 'Lord Roberts had not hesitated to accept 100,000 pounds so I cannot see why a soldier should object to receiving 10 pounds. The idea, however, was not adopted, though some men were specially promoted in the field in the latter stages of the Boer War, and were generally known as 'Kitchener Sergeants'.'"

Many inquiries were made during World War I on the question of King's Corporal, whether it really existed or not. On 22 October 1944 a letter appeared in The London Times referring to the statement made by the Secretary of State for War in the British Parliament on 10 October. It had been asked on what authority Lord Kitchener had promoted a rifleman of the Rifle Brigade to the rank of King's Corporal on 8 December 1901. Other correspondents cited additional instances. The Times' writer asked: "Can any authority say what the award is intended to convey to the recipient if it is not recognised in the War Office."

During the South African War Australian Contingents had King's Corpsals and Kitchener Sergeants. It is recorded in official orders that two corporals and a lance-corporal were promoted sergeant and five troopers, a lance-corporal and a private were promoted to corporal by the Comander-in-Chief for gallantry in the field. These were termed "King's Corporals" and "Kitchener Sergeants" and the promotions were announced in orders under the heading of "mentions", and were published in The London Gazette.

The order announcing the promotions stated that "the General Commanding-in-Chief had been pleased to sanction the following promotions of NCOs and men for distinguished gallantry in the field (should they be desirous of accepting it). Such promotion to take effect in each case from the date mentioned on which the act was performed. They will be absorbed supernumerary to establishment of their unit, and will be absorbed into vacancies on the first opportunity."

In the despatch from Field-Marshal Earl Roberts to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for War, published in The London Gazette dated 17 June 1902, reference is made to the Queen's Scarf, which is considered to be a "mention". In April 1900, Lord Roberts received from Her Majesty Queen Victoria four woollen scarves worked by herself, for distribution to the four most distinguished private soldiers of the Colonial Forces of Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, then serving under his command.

The selection of these gifts of honour was made by the officers commanding contingents concerned, it being understood that gallant conduct in the field was to be considered the primary qualification. Those presented with
the scarves were: Canada - Private R.R.R. Thompson, Royal Canadian Regiment; Australia - Private Dufrayer, New South Wales Mounted Rifles; New Zealand - Private H. D. Coutts, New Zealand Mounted Rifles; South Africa, Trooper L. Chadwick, Robert's Horse.

The award of these scarves carried no distinctive honour, neither did they confer any precedence in British awards. They were merely a gift from Her Majesty. As they were notified in the Commander-in-Chief’s despatches and subsequently published in The London Gazette, it is reasonable to assume that they can be treated as “mentions”. The official notification for the award of the scarves is announced in Commonwealth General Order 155/1902.

WORLD WAR I

During the war of 1914–18, His Majesty King George V approved of certificates being awarded to all personnel mentioned in despatches. British Army Order 166/1919 sanctioning this, stated that certificates for “mentions” were authorized by the Army Council to all personnel of the Navy, Army, and Royal Air Force, and to members of the Indian, Dominion, Colonial and Egyptian Forces who from time to time had been “mentioned” in military despatches during this particular war by a Commander in the field; also to members of the Red Cross., Y.M.C.A., M.C.A. and British civilians of both sexes.

As an outward sign to denote that a serviceman or servicewoman had been “mentioned”, approval was given by the King for an oak leaf emblem in bronze to be worn on the ribbon of the Victory Medal by all personnel borne on the strength of the British Dominion, Colonial, and Indian Expeditionary Forces, who had been “mentioned” once or more in military despatches during the war by the Commander in the field; also to members of the Red Cross, Y.M.C.A., M.C.A. and British civilians of both sexes.

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Another form of “mention” is the Commendation Card issued by the Commander-in-Chief of the Australian Military Forces. A number of these cards were given for bravery and distinguished service in Timor area, Southwest Pacific area, Malaya area and at sea during 1942. This Commendation Card was subsequently known as the Commander-in-Chief’s Card.

Australians serving in the Middle East under British commanders-in-chief also won these cards.

R.K. PEACOCK

Courtesy of As You Were, 1946

Federal Government Grant for Boer War Memorial Repairs

The Federal Member for Curtin, Ms Julie Bishop, recently presented a cheque for $7,000 from the Department of Veterans’ Affairs to State President Ken Bladen. The funding had been sought by the RSL for the refurbishment of the Boer War Memorial to mark the centenary of the departure of the first Western Australian contingent for South Africa. (See story on page 21.)
Can you help

Books and Information Wanted

I would like to purchase (and will pay postage) reasonably priced and well-loved hard cover copies of *Defeat Unto Victory, Behind Bamboo and Flames in the Sky*.

In addition, I wish to contact relatives of any Australian Veterans named Tingley, e.g. Bill Tingley who served with 2/28 Bn in World War II and George Tingley who served, possibly as a telegraphist, on the *Manoora* in that War.

ROGER TINGLEY, 2 Lapwing Road, Mandurah 6210, Tel: (08) 9586 8271.

Bougainville

I am currently engaged in some WW2 research and would appreciate any information on the post-surrender occupation of Bougainville, particularly the area around Buin where the Japanese 17th Army had some 15,000 men (mostly 6th Div) at war's end.

Who occupied this area? Was it the Americans or the Kiwis and did our War Graves Commission ever visit?

Perhaps some of your readers might know.

RAY TWIST
43 Ronneby Rd, Lesmurdie WA 6076 ('Ph: 92917207)

“Greatcoats On ...”

In late January or February 1945 I embarked from Townsville on a West Australian State Shipping Service ship to join 2nd Australian Corps HQ in New Guinea.

After travelling for perhaps a day and a half, the ship returned to Australia at Gladstone. All personnel disembarked, spent the night in a football ground grandstand and then returned by train to Townsville. The reason given that the ship was required for United States personnel.

Army records have been unable to supply any information.

Would anyone remember this event? Date of departure and / or name of ship if possible.

ROBERT STEPHENS
11 Hawthorne Crescent, Bentley WA 6102

Adopt a Soldier!

In an effort to preserve hundreds of images of soldiers found on glass negatives some years ago, the Battye library is appealing to the public for help. Over 600 images of WW I troops are available for ‘adoption’ with the fee of $100 being used to reduce the cost of preserving this valuable collection. A list of names and in many cases the unit can be obtained from the library. Members, Sub-Branches, Unit Associations and descendants who adopt a soldier will receive two 8x10 black & white prints of the soldier of their choice. For further information contact:

JULIE MARTIN
Battye Library
Alexander Library Building
Perth Cultural Centre,
PERTH 6000
Phone: 9427 3275
Fax: (08) 427 3276
e-mail: socf@mail.liswa.wa.gov.au

Help required for family history

I am seeking any information on the Allied forces based in North Africa. The daughter and niece of four ex-servicemen, I am in the process of recording our family history.

My family and I lived in Durban, South Africa when the Second World War was declared. When my father and uncles enlisted, they were sent to North Africa, my father to Egypt and we have no idea as to where my uncles were based. When my father and uncles returned at the end of the war, all were suffering from stress and were reluctant to speak about their wartime experiences.

The family respected their wishes but now little is known about just where they were during the war, two of my uncles also being prisoners of war.

On writing to the South African Defence Force, the Chief of the SA National Defence Force was unable to assist unless I can provide the following details:

a. Correct regimental number
b. Dates of attestation and discharge
c. Units in which served.

We would very much like to find out just where our menfolk were in North Africa and where they were imprisoned; this then would assist in applying for their records from the SA Defence Force archives.

The names of my father and uncles are as follows:
Did you know?

Life in the 1500s
(Believe it or not!)

Lead cups were used to drink ale or whisky. The combination sometimes knocked people out for a couple of days. Often they were found on the road and taken for dead. The ‘corpses’ then were laid out on a kitchen table for a few days and the family gathered around to eat, drink and wait to see if the dead person woke up. Hence the custom of holding a “wake.”

England was so old and small that the country began to run out of places to bury people. So they dug up coffins, took the bones away and re-used the graves. In opening these coffins, one out of 25 was found to have scratch marks on the inside, indicating that people had been buried alive. It was then decided that corpses would have a string tied to their wrist that led through the coffin, up through the ground and was tied to a bell. Someone then had to sit in the graveyard all night to listen for the bell. Hence, on the “graveyard shift”, they would know that someone was “saved by the bell” - or that he was a “dead ringer”.

Baths were taken in a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of bathing in nice clean water followed by the sons and then the women and children. Last of all were the babies. By then the water was so dirty someone could actually be lost in it. Hence the saying: “Don’t throw the baby out with the bath water.”

Bread was divided according to status. Workers were given the burnt bottom of the loaf, the family got the middle and the guests were given the top - or the “upper crust.”

Lost Trails

77 Squadron

I am trying to trace John Norton, (known as Doc or Scrooge), late of RAAF, 77 Squadron, Milne Bay, New Guinea, Goodenough Island 1942-43.

RON BUTCHER
Unit 2, “Riverview”, Pendleton Street, Collie 6225
Tel: (08) 9734 2124.

Looking for a Provost

Ex-Sapper Sel Christie is trying to find an Ex Military Policeman, RJ (Bob) Popperwell. They were based at Holsworthy in the early 1970s. Anyone with information can contact him on Tel: (08) 9375 6758.
Power of Attorney

In the Spring edition of The Listening Post, in the article on page 42 regarding what to do when your spouse passes on, it is stated that power of attorney ceases with death.

I would like to point out that any power of attorney to cover the execution of a will, should be an enduring power of attorney, as this does not cease on death.

There is an excellent free booklet available from the Public Trustee covering all aspects of such documents.

Trusting that this will assist anyone in the preparation of an Enduring Power of Attorney.

JOHN PARKER

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder - New Self-Help Group Formed

Could you please assist us in our efforts to reach the veterans' community and those suffering the effects of PTSD. Vietnam Veterans Counseling Service has asked a group of Veterans to form a PTSD Self-Help Group in WA. We believe it is also a first in Australia. DVA has also assisted the Group in its submission to the Minister for Veterans' Affairs for a Commonwealth government grant to assist them in their formation.

Eligibility to join the Group is restricted to veterans of all wars who have experienced symptoms of PTSD. These veterans may come to the Group through referral from agencies such as the Vietnam Veterans' Counseling Service (VVCS), the Hollywood Hospital Clinic, a medical practitioner or suitably qualified therapist.

The objectives are to seek out, assist and support the PTSD veteran and his family to regain the skills and confidence that have been lost and to enable them to grow within themselves.

Medical Background: new members normally would have undertaken the Hollywood Hospital Clinic, PTSD Program or be at a stage that, in the opinion of a medical practitioner or therapist, he/she would benefit from being exposed to the Groups Mission Statement, aims, Objectives and Guidelines.

Contact: The Secretary, Graham Hay, VETS R & R Group, Tel: (08) 9576 1280 or attend our meetings held the fourth Friday of each month at the TPI Association, Social Club room, 80-82 Henley Street, Como 6152.

The Ex-Service Funeral

Some years ago, an old friend, ex-Sig WM Nicholls mentioned that he wanted me to take some part in conducting his funeral.

As time rolled on and my friend became more and more frail, it occurred to me that I should be gathering some details about his life and finding out what could be involved in the funeral service. I then recalled reading about ex-service funerals, in The Listening Post, including an outline of a burial service approved by the Department of Veterans’ Affairs and recognised by the RSL. This was in the Autumn 1995 issue, and, fortunately, my magpie-like instincts had led me to keep a copy - “just in case!”. After my friend’s death, a letter was found among his effects confirming his verbal request. “Mr Schofield”, he had written, “is to conduct the service - if he is fit and able - as he agreed some years ago.” This meant that I had to take charge of the entire cremation ceremony at the Fremantle Cemetery.

The information in The Listening Post article was a great help and I received valuable guidance from Mr Nicholls: immediate family, the Fremantle Cemetery Board and Mr Barry Reeve of Christian Funerals, all of whom I gratefully acknowledged. As a result, the service went without a hitch, despite some early apprehension over the “action button” on the lectern.

It proved a simple matter to mould the service around the eulogy, and it gave me immense satisfaction to be able to carry out so successfully the wishes of my old friend.

I strongly recommend the Outline and Suggested Order of Service for an Ex-Service Funeral (see following article) especially to RSL officials who may be called upon at some time to honour the wishes of one of their members.

MERV SCHOFIELD
Riverton Sub-Branch

Suggested Order of Service

Service conducted by minister of Religion or Civil Celebrant or RSL Official.

Personal details of deceased by Minister of Religion, Civil Celebrant or RSL Official.

RSL Service, including Recital of the Ode (If all of service is not conducted by an RSL Official)

Placement of Poppies on Casket

Committal

Last Post ... Reveille

Lest We Forget
PODIATRIST
WALTER A. ARMENTI M.A. Pod.A.
Department of Veterans’ Affairs approved clinics
for all veterans with foot problems.
• General Podiatry
• Prescription arch and shoe supports
• Approved footwear prescriber for veterans
  entitled to shoes
• All veterans and war widows welcome

BALCATTA
Northlands Podiatry
Suite 5, 210 Amelia St
PH: 9344 8399

MORLEY
Armenti Podiatry
Suite 2B, 15 Collier Rd
PH: 9375 1153

Note: it is important that the RSL representative
officiating at the funeral consult with the Minister/Civil
Celebrant as soon as possible prior to the funeral.

RSL FUNERAL SERVICE
The following may be altered to suit circumstances.
We are assembled here today to pay a last tribute to ..., who
served with us in war and has now gone to join the
great army of those who fell in battle in Defence of this
country.

... came through the ordeal of war. How well he served
will be known by many here today. How he served his
fellow men on his return is known to his fellow members
of the RSL who mourn with me the passing of a loyal co-
worker.

PERSONAL DETAILS HERE
Remembering his many qualities - the happy times we
spent together - we join in a silent pledge to sink all
difference - one with the other - and extend the hand of
comradeship to all in need as he would have us do.

As brother follows brother into the great beyond, we
who are left close our ranks to carry on the RSL tradition
of unselfish service - to the disabled and to the bereaved
and to maintain the highest ideals of citizenship.

WITH POPPY IN HAND RECITE THE ODE
Speaker says
“O Valiant heart, who to your glory came
Through dust of conflict and through battle flame,
Tranquil you lie, your knighthly virtue proved,
Your memory hallowed in the land you loved,”
Followed by (Speaker hold up poppy)
The service of the day is over, and the hour has come
for rest. This blood red poppy - the traditional emblem of
war sacrifice, the symbol of a life given for one’s country
- links us with ... It is a token or our affectionate and proud
remembrance. We place here in abiding memory.

The speaker places or drops poppy on the casket and
invites all ex-servicemen to follow suit.

The speaker says “I ask you all to join with me,
reverently in a silent tribute to ...”

LAST POST ... Reveille
LEST WE FORGET

Greek Medal

The following letter from the Department of the Prime
Minister and Cabinet was received by Mr Alan Low of
Mooloolaba in Queensland. It is in response to an approach
Mr Low made last December to the Minister for Veterans’
Affairs and Deputy Prime Minister.

Dear Mr Low

I am writing to advise that, on 20 July 1999, the
Governor-General approved the acceptance and wearing
of the Commemorative Medal of the Hellenic Republic
for the Campaign of 1940-41 and the Commemorative
Medallion of the Hellenic Republic for the Campaigns
1940-45 by Australian World War II veterans, who have
been presented with the awards.

The above decision was required as, over many years,
the Greek Government, through its embassy and consulates
in Australia, has been presenting World War II
commemorative medallions to Australian ex-servicemen.
The Greek authorities have been doing this without official
approval as provided for under our foreign award
guidelines.

Under the Guidelines concerning the Acceptance and
Wearing of Foreign Honours and Awards by Australians,
Australian veterans of the Greek and Crete campaigns are
now eligible to accept and wear the relevant commemorative medallion.

It would be appreciated if your organisation could alert
those of its members who have received awards from these
campaigns of this development.

Foreign awards for which official approval to accept
and wear has been given, as in this case, are worn on the

RSL WAR VETERANS’
HOMES WA
Residential Aged Care Access

Members should note that access to aged care hostels
is governed by the Aged Care Act 1997. Entry is
based on personal care needs as determined by an
aged care assessment.

For an information sheet and application form,
please phone (08) 9370 0200.
left breast after all Australian awards (including British awards given as Australia awards) in date order of official permission to accept and wear them.

If you have any further questions on this matter please do not hesitate to contact Robert Redfern on (02) 6271 5617 or myself on (02) 6271 5602.

DAVID BULL
Senior Adviser, Awards and National Symbols

Tea Dance

I look forward to reading *The Listening Post* as it always contains interesting articles. When an afternoon tea dance was advertised I made an application and received two tickets. I had been wanting to attend for years and *The Listening Post* provided the opportunity.

It was the first time for us and it was a great afternoon. We never missed a dance. The dance floor was very good and the music excellent. There must be a lot of Veterans who look forward to these occasions. We thank everyone connected with organising them.

COLIN BROWN
White Gum Valley

Fremantle Monument

During recent months there has been some controversy about skate-boarders causing damage to the Monument and other sites of remembrance on Monument Hill. Several ex-service organizations attended committee meetings at the Fremantle City Council. These groups were met with opposition from certain Councillors, some of whom considered that it was the right of the individual to skate-board down the steps of the monument and disrupt the general public who were there to reflect on the sacrifice paid by their relative in past conflicts.

It is a pity that the City of Fremantle can accept such a poor attitude of respect when it comes to this Shrine of Remembrance, which was built to have a commanding view and designed for the life-long memory of those who made the supreme sacrifice.

The City of Cockburn Sub-Branch joined other ex-service organisations and attended a monthly meeting of the City of Fremantle when we were given the opportunity to speak on behalf of the RSL. The spokesperson for our Sub-Branch - Arthur Stanton - made the following statement: "I am a resident of Samson and have lived in the City of Fremantle since 1970; for the first seven years we lived within 100 yards of the Fremantle Monument. During that time we used to take our children to picnic and play on the lawns of Monument Hill - there was no disrespect or desecration. In those days most children were taught respect. In representing the RSL, I cannot accept the allegations and attitude of certain councillors that we are against the local youth. Far from it. The RSL fosters the youth of Australia. The City of Cockburn, for example encourages the Cadets, Scouts and Guides and school children to join in our ANZAC Day Parade and Service. This is followed by a BBQ provided by the Sub-Branch for all who take part.

We present the Dick Green Award at three primary schools in our district to the best student in their final year. We also award a prize to the top Army Cadet in our district on ANZAC Day. The RSL is certainly not here to "bash" the youth of Fremantle but we would like to see the city of Fremantle preserve our Monument and encourage the young skate boarders use the facilities provided by the City of Fremantle”.

After a lengthy and somewhat questionable debate it was agreed that the Council would impose bans on the skate-boarders. What amazed us was the attitude of some of the Councillors. Their concerns were that it would be impossible to police, their Rangers had no power to confiscate and the skate-boarders had as much right as the general public. All of this may be correct, but one can’t help asking: “Where is the respect? This is a Shrine of Remembrance, a tribute to those who paid the supreme sacrifice”.

Some of the Councillors commented that the skate-boarders cannot be held responsible for the graffiti which damages the memorial sites. It is obvious that these people are unaware of the State laws governing graffiti. The Councillors have very short or selective memories; they have forgotten the public outcry within the City of Fremantle with the damage and desecration to the Fremantle Cemetery. Do these Councillors consider that the Fremantle Monument is only a parkland of no significance or importance to the people of Australia?

It is time that all monuments throughout Australia are taken out of the hands of Local Government and put under the control of the Federal Government and supervised by the RSL or Kindred Ex-Service Organisations.

ARTHUR J STANTON
PRO - City of Cockburn Sub-Branch

The Editorial Committee welcomes articles for possible inclusion in *The Listening Post* but please be aware that we reserve the right to edit and abbreviate material when necessary to meet the layout requirements of the magazine. Thank you to all our contributors to this issue.

*The Listening Post - Summer 1999*
Pension up-date corner

As so many of our World War II veterans are becoming increasingly frail, due to war-caused disability (often in tandem with problems of ageing), I am receiving a growing number of queries about the EDA. This is an acronym for a rate of pension known as the Extreme Disablement Rate, which is my main topic for this issue.

The EDA is half as much again as 100% (of the General Disability rate). The main reason it exists is to help the veteran pay for extra home-help he needs to remain in his own home. It acknowledges that the severity of his accepted war-caused conditions has got to a point where he (or she) can do so little in the way of chores and upkeep and that they have no option but to pay someone (or organise family) to carry out the ordinary tasks they used to be able to do themselves. It also must be established that the veteran has such limited mobility that he/she is confined to home (unless taken door-to-door - by family members, friends, or taxi); and is no longer able to drive a motor car under any circumstances whatsoever.

There is a benchmark level to establish that a veteran is likely to qualify for payment of the EDA rate:

1. Firstly, he must have been assessed as having a combined impairment rating of at least 68 points (which is “rounded up” to 70 and is the minimum requirement);
2. Greatly reduced quality of life, reflected in a Lifestyle average of six;
3. Effects of illness or injuries which have NOT been accepted as war-caused, cannot be taken into account by the veteran when assessing his Lifestyle - and the Department will “mark-down” accordingly. For instance, if a veteran receives 100% disability for deafness and tinnitus, skin cancers, lumbar, knee and ankle problems - which have worsened - and anxiety state - but whose claims for heart disease and diabetes have been refused, he may still reach the criterion level of 70 points. But in assessing his Lifestyle, the Department of Veterans’ Affairs would be unlikely to accept an average level of “6” because it would be aware that heart disease and diabetes are also debilitating and also contribute to his loss of quality of life.

Quite a few veterans approach me seeking to apply for the EDA, who listen to my outlining of the limits and difficulties in showing one qualifies for it and then say “I know at least three of my mates who are on it - and they all still drive and can take their wives on outings. They’re not half-dead like me”.

Whilst I am sympathetic to these plaintive cries, and can see where they are coming from, I have to make the point that I don’t know how some of those other “frisky” gents got themselves on the EDA. (maybe they were lucky; maybe they fibbed - not all veterans would get a prize in the “truthfulness stakes”!)

We must also bear in mind that in essence then - when a veteran with significant disabilities, accepted as being war-caused, finds he is confined to his home unless taken out by others, and has to be highly dependent on his wife/carer and/or others, he is certainly “in the frame” to seek the EDA rate. If this sounds like you, then try to find the latest correspondence from the DVA to see what your last “Combined Impairment Rating” was. If it is close to 60 and you know your accepted disabilities have worsened, obtain a brief letter from your GP to confirm this deterioration of war-caused disabilities. Then contact an ex-service organisation (the RSL/Services Assistance Program here at ANZAC House, is the best of course) to assist you to fill in the necessary Application for Increase form, and a new Lifestyle - which reflects your greatly reduced quality of life.

Revised Rules for Diabetes Mellitus SoPs

And briefly - a second important matter. As a growing body of medical research has found a connection between increasing rates of onset of Diabetes Mellitus and the handling of toxins, the SoP (Statement of Principles) for this disorder has been broadened. It now includes a Factor which gives men who were exposed to six months or more of handling, hand-decanting and/or hand spraying, or filling/cleaning/maintaining spray equipment of dioxin (2,3,7,8,-TCDD) contaminated herbicides (which would mainly apply to Vietnam veterans), a chance to claim for this condition as being war-caused (or defence-caused, if applicable).

REMEMBER: If you are considering claiming for a condition, ring and ask me to post the relevant SoP out to you. (Make sure your GP had advised you of the medical diagnosis for it, and the SoPs are listed under their official, medical name - eg: “Lumbar spondylisis” - not “sore lower back”). If I am unavailable, leave your name, address, phone number and SoP you require with the office staff, and I will be happy to send it out.

Here’s my little offering for Margot’s Corn Corner - by courtesy, I must acknowledge, of the wonderful “Two Ronnies”:
A young man called Beau, the outcome of an illicit liaison between a Spanish nun and an English tourist, was raised in the city of Luton. A handsome lad, popular with the girls, he loved line-dancing, partying and having a good time.

He was a cute, bootskootin' lad from Luton, son of a nun from Barcelona - wag-time wow boy Beau.

(I think one has to be of a certain age to "get" that one).

**Attention TPIs and Gold Card Holders:**

I was recently made aware that a TPI veteran was required to pay for a Bone Density scan from his own resources. It cost $51 and was carried out at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital at the request of his GP. (Not unnaturally, he investigated why this was not covered, particularly as there was good reason for it, given his medical history).

On checking with the DVA, it transpires that certain - not many, but some - procedures have to be footed by the veteran. I was told that some servicing procedures, such as bone density scans (for osteoporosis) or mammograms, are not listed on the Medicare Legislation Schedules - and thus, the DVA is similarly hamstrung.

The Veterans' Affairs Committee asked me to promulgate this restriction to heighten veterans' awareness that occasionally a medical service is not always covered by your Gold Card.

Have a healthy, happy month.

MARGOT HARNESS
War Compensation Officer

**WA RSL Bowls**

**Back on Greens Again**

Diggers' bowls got underway for 1999/2000 with a game against the Past Presidents, which was won by the latter. Twelve teams played and the best RSL rink was D Docking, J McCall, D Piggot and B Clark.

Next opponents were the Australian Postal Institute team. Again the RSL bowlers were a bit unlucky beaten 124-100. Tup Saare's team was the best rink. G Warman, P Coussens and D Price were the others.

**Bruce Rock Trip**

Jim McCall once again excelled himself with his organisation of this carnival. Rounding up bowlers from Mukinbudin, Corrigin, Wagin, Wickepin, Northam and Bruce Rock is some feat.

The country ladies' catering was excellent as was the hospitality. The country bowlers were also on form as they beat the city folk by three shots 26-23. The best RSL rink was N Sanders, J Chambers, S Fosdyke and H Crocker.

All this practice should have them fit for Northam later this month.

Congratulations to Arthur Hall, WARSL Bowls section member, on his life membership of the Royal Western Australian Bowling Club.

MAX PLESTER
Publicity Officer, Tel: 9305 5219

**Heading East?**

If members intend visiting interstate Sub-Branches, it is advisable to obtain a membership card from your Sub-Branch or ANZAC house before leaving. Difficulties have occurred in the past when members could not gain admittance to interstate Sub-Branches/Clubs because they were unable to prove membership. EDITOR
In The Footsteps of Ghosts
With the 2/9th Battalion in the African desert and the jungles of the Pacific.

by Bill Spencer

This excellent book follows the author’s experience from pre-enlistment to the end of the war. A South Australian, Bill and 88 of his mates joined the ranks of this Queensland-raised Battalion in Egypt in January 1941 and shortly after fought their first battle in Libya. The siege of Tobruk followed and, in February 1942, the Battalion returned to Australia to confront a new enemy. The Battalion disembarked at Milne Bay in August to be a part of the Australian force that inflicted the first defeat on land that the Japanese had experienced. The fierce fighting at Buna, Sanananda, Shaggy Ridge and later at Balikpapan is covered by the author in a manner that makes it hard to put the book down. Compulsory reading for anyone interested in our military history. Published by Allen & Unwin. RRP $24.95

CHRIS BROOKS

Borneo: Australia’s Proud but Tragic Heritage
by Kevin Smith

"Of the 2,030 Australian POWs sent to Borneo after the 1942 surrender of Singapore only 218 survived to return home. The rest were dead from starvation, beatings, innumerable diseases and illnesses, malnutrition and murder...". The author, in this thoroughly researched account of the horrific experiences of our servicemen, follows the footsteps of those Australian troops from the bitter fighting in the Malay Peninsula and Singapore, through the infamous Sandakan camp. The detailed account of the death marches from Sandakan to Ranau make grueling but compulsive reading.

Photographs of the men, maps and illustrations and the author’s ability to weave personal histories into the sequence of events make this text an important contribution to our knowledge of this chapter in our nation’s history. "Whole networks of friends perished at Sandakan-Ranau with no-one left to tell their story...the garnering of mere scattered fragments of their hundreds of stories is the best we can do - and must do". The author has done that.

Paperback 408pp. $30 (plus $6.95 packing & postage). Available from the author PO Box 440, Armidale NSW 2350

CHRIS BROOKS

The Other Enemy?
Australian Soldiers and the Military Police

by Glenn Wahlert

A recent addition to the Australian Army History series by Oxford University Press, this first study of Australia’s military police examines their history from the origins of the Provost Marshal in the colony of New South Wales, through to the formation of the ANZAC Provost Corps in 1916 and the end of World War II. Glen Wahlert’s book examines the intense and sometimes violent enmity which existed between the Provosts and the ANZACS during World War I. He uncovers a deep vein of bitterness still evident today. As one veteran comments of the Provosts: ‘There is no way you can convince me that those bastards ever came anywhere near the front...They were a bunch of no-hopers and a complete waste of rations.’ It is little wonder that they also became known as the other enemy.’

Oxford University Press Hardcover RRP $39.95

Neville Howse

Australia’s First Victoria Cross Winner

by Michael B. Tyquin

During the Boer War, Neville Reginald Howse, in an act of outstanding bravery, rode out under extreme fire to rescue a wounded man. Under the flimsy shelter of a native kraal, Howse then operated on the wounded soldier, successfully fixing his perforated bladder. Howse also served with distinction in World War I, from Gallipoli to the Armistice and beyond, as the architect of a massive administrative overhaul of Australia’s medical services, which resulted in the successful repatriation of thousands of diggers.

Michael Tyquin is a freelance historian who also serves in the Royal Australian Medical Corps as a Reserve officer.

Oxford University Press Hardcover RRP $39.95

Fort Bribie Book to be re-printed

A re-print of Fort Bribie has been commissioned by the Bribie Island RSL Sub-Branch with financial assistance from the DVA. It tells the story of the artillery emplacements on the island during World War II, the No. 4 RAN control station and the Amphibious Operations Training Centre at nearby Torobul Point.

The artillery guns and Naval station were vital links in the wartime Defence of Moreton Bay and Brisbane.

Fort Bribie, by retired journalist Ron Donald, was first published in 1995 as an Australia Remembers project and sold out quickly. There have since been many inquiries...
about the book from intending buyers and tourism operators.

The first print revealed information on Defence activities that had never before been published because of wartime secrecy regulations.

“We believe the book is an excellent educative resource and provides an opportunity for remembrance on a local basis,” said Sub-Branch secretary Jim Courtney. The book retails at $5.50, plus handling and postage of $1.50 where applicable.

Inquires to JW Courtney, OAM, PO Box 1029, Bongaree, Bribie Island, QLD 4507, or telephone (07) 3408 0450; Phone/Fax (07) 3408 3161.

**Sailors in Slouch Hats**

From a Sea of Memories. Recorded by the Men of 42 Australian Landing Craft Company RAE, AIF

The adventure started 56 years ago at Coochiemuldo Island in Moreton Bay QLD. Last year a group of survivors of 42 Australian Landing Craft Company, gathered again at Coochiemuldo for the unveiling of a commemorative plaque.

None had thought too seriously about the significance of the role they played in moulding Australian history, or their collective contribution to the war effort in the SW Pacific 56 years earlier. However, the gathering in October 1998, produced an idea to ensure the individual stories of the men of 42 Australian Landing Craft Company would not be lost to the grave. It was the birth of *Sailors in Slouch Hats*.

The book is a collection of stories written by the few remaining survivors. It gives a first-hand account of the lives of a very brave, but ordinary and unassuming group of Australians. Each account is special; some are humorous, but none misrepresents the serious nature of war.

Their deeds on the high seas and in the waters off Bougainville were nothing short of remarkable. What makes this history so special is the transparency of the Australian character. The mateship, innovation under adversity, the larikiinisms and the sheer determination are its hallmarks.

This book represents a superb collection of reminiscences. More importantly, it is a record that enables Australians to remember the contributions of men who forfeited their youth for us.

Priced at $20.00 (cheque or money-order made payable to ‘Receiver of Public Monies’), the book is available from Defence Public Affairs Organisation, R8-LG-007, Department of Defence, Russell, ACT 2600.

GEOFF TANNER

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**Prison Camp Spies**

*Intelligence Gathering Behind the Wire*  
by Howard Greville

During his school years the author became convinced that German was the language to pursue, an obsession with the language that was to determine the course of his later life as a POW in German prison camps.

After finishing his German language studies he was conscripted into the British Army’s Royal Corp of Signals in Yorkshire, before being sent to a Signals Company in North Africa in October 1940. In March 1941, along with 62,000 troops from Britain, Australia and New Zealand, he became part of the ill-fated move to Greece.

Being hopelessly outnumbered by the superior German military and airforces, it was obvious resistance would be futile. On 28 April 1941 the senior British officer surrendered the Allied force to the Germans.

Following his capture Greville spent several years in camps in Austria, where he became involved in spying. British, Australian and New Zealand prisoners gathered military information by their observations and from local Austrians. Their intelligence material then was sent secretly back to the Allied Intelligence Officers of MI9 and MI19. Military information obtained included details of Messerschmitt aircraft production, the location of German Battle HQ in Italy and the remote location of the German chemical warfare plant.

The author dedicated this book to those fellow prisoners who did so much to make life as a POW more endurable.

The book is available from Australian Military History Publications, 13 Veronica Place, Loftus, NSW 2232. Price is $20.00, which includes postage.

GEOFF TANNER

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**86 Squadron 1943-45**

*Men, Kittyhawks and Mustangs*  
by Peter F Howard

This book is the story of 86 Squadron created in March 1943 at Willaston South Australia, it was the only operational squadron formed in South Australia. Accorded the name ‘City of Adelaide Squadron’ and equipped with 24 Curtis Kittyhawk P40 M aircraft, it had an initial strength of 24 Officer and NCO pilots, a support ground staff of 271 officers and airmen and was led by Squadron Leader WJ Meehan.

The men who served in the squadron came from all walks of life. Some had served in England, the Middle east, Port Moresby, Milne Bay and Darwin.

The squadron moved to Townsville in May 1943, and was situated at Ross River. While it was fine-tuning itself
an advance party of 22 left for Merauke in New Guinea to prepare the camp site. The rest of the squadron spent six weeks at Ross River before departing for Merauke.

The Kittyhawks landed in Merauke in July 1943, even though the airstrip was still under construction. The immediate task was the protection of Merauke against Japanese bombing raids and the escort of supply ships to Army posts in nearby regions. Thus the operations of 86 Squadron at Merauke had commenced and were followed by 2,300 sorties during the next 10 months.

On 31 March 1944 the decision was made that the squadron be replaced but it was flying escort patrols and operational scrambles against Japanese aircraft until 30 April.

The book is available direct from the author, Peter F Howard, 9 Leeds Place, Turramurra, NSW 2074. Price is $25.00 including postage for squadron members and $30.00 for non-members.

GEOFF TANNER

As We Wave You Goodbye
Australian Women and War
edited by Jan Bassett

Women have had a long and proud history in all wars in which Australia has been involved. Yet Melbourne University-based historian Dr Jan Bassett believes there are reasons why there has not been much attention given to women writing about war until relatively recent times.

"I think this was due to CEW Bean's official history of World War I", she says. "This tended to dominate until the '60s when there was a shift in how war was viewed. Until then war was essentially about men and fighting and not bereavement. I wanted to use a much broader definition."

War has shaped much of how we see ourselves. The Digger image is one of the most enduring elements of our national character. This anthology shows that women, who may not have been pinned on the beaches at Gallipoli or in the mud of the Somme, were involved in developing their own perceptions and reactions to war.

As We Wave You Goodbye contains more than 80 extracts drawn from fiction, non-fiction and poetry. The sources, often unfamiliar, are various: novels, plays, diaries, histories, magazines and collections of poetry and letters. There are 76 individual contributors.

The anthology is divided into six parts: the Boer War, World Wars I and II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War and the Gulf War. Seventeen illustrations, all by Australian women artists, accompany the text. This book is sure to stimulate your thoughts about war and its effects. Available (hard-cover with dustjacket) direct from Oxford University Press, GPO Box 2784Y, Melbourne 3001. Price $36.00 plus $7.50 handling and freight. (A 20% discount offer expires 31 December 1999).

GEOFF TANNER

Global Warrior
by Alain Charpentier, Lionel Lacey-Johnson and Geoffre\n
Global Warrior traces the life and World War II experiences of Group Captain John Jeudwine DSO OBE DFC. It is a most remarkable story of courage and determination. The war exploits of Group Captain Jeudwine started with his work in Air Intelligence in England, then Cairo, and eventually to take command of 84 Squadron at Heliopolis.

From the Middle East to the Far East and operations from Sumatra and Java led to surely one of the most incredible escape and survival stories of the war. It was this escape from Java to Australia in "the voyage of Scorpion" that demonstrates his leadership, courage and will to survive.

After a short recovery period in Australia, he returned to the Middle East and finally to Bomber Command fighting over Europe. On 19 October 1945 Group Captain Jeudwine took off in a single seat Typhoon 1B and soon after take-off crashed. This man, who seemed indestructible, tragically died and a career that had been so remarkable came to an unfortunate end.

This book is thoroughly recommended and is available from GS Jeudwine, PO Box 459 Paradise Point QLD 4216. Price $22.50 includes postage.

GEOFF TANNER

The Westminster Tradition and Australia
by Leslie R Marchant
Visiting Professor University of Notre Dame Australia:
Resident Scholar State Library of Western Australia (LISWA)

This book is essential reading for all Australians who face proposals for constitutional change, for it provides a ready guide to the Westminster System of Government, which developed over the centuries. It is presented like a course, which one can walk into and out of as time suits. Each chapter stands by itself, which means that some information is duplicated.

Like many modern courses, the book commences of necessity with a section undoing incorrect learning, bad teaching based on opinion instead of research, and misleading political propaganda.

Widely researched it provides a handy reference for young and old Australians, migrants and intended migrants.
to learn about the Westminster system that Australia inherited, but is now generally not taught. It was written primarily in the belief that, if Australians and others are forced to vote for constitutional change, it is best to know exactly what is being changed.

Other topics such as the balance between the executive and legislative branches of government and the independent judiciary are dealt with. The book includes points for further thought and discussions primarily to serve the view that it might be better to identify and correct weaknesses in the system instead of leaping into the unknown.

Priced at $20.00 plus $3.50 postage, the book is available from publishers Hesperian Press, PO Box 317, Victoria Park 6979.

GEOFF TANNER

Empire Airmen Strike Back
The Empire Air Training Scheme and SSFTS, Uranquinty
By Peter Ilbery

Much has been written about the wartime exploits of the Allied air forces, which so thoroughly defeated the air forces of Germany, Italy and Japan in World War II. Little has been written about the enormous training scheme, which produced the aircrews for those hard-fought campaigns around the world.

Peter Ilbery, a graduate of 5 Service Flying Training School at Uranquinty near Wagga NSW, has written a detailed history of SSFTS. It was but one of many similar flying schools throughout the British Commonwealth and serves as an example of the huge contribution to victory made by the Empire Air Training Scheme.

He begins with selection of the site and establishment of the school, then describes the training. Included are experiences of graduates who went on to fly almost every type of aircraft in the Allied air forces, in every theatre.

The book illustrates the teething problems in operating a flying school in which young men who could not drive a car were qualified as pilots.

The author writes of the tragedies, the humour, the vital work of the ground crews, and the arrival of the first women in the WAAAF mustering who demonstrated their ability to perform their assigned duties as well as the men.

In hardcover with dustjacket the book is priced at $40 including postage and is available from the publisher, Banner Books, 122 Walker Street, Maryborough, QLD 4650 and from bookshops and specialist military booksellers.

GEOFF TANNER

Darwin Bombed
by Jack Mullholland

Since 1942 the public has often been misinformed on many aspects of the War in Northern Australia. This book goes a long way in clearing up a number of misconceptions about our soldiers engaged in that theatre of war.

There were various reasons why the conduct of the war in Northern Australia was painted in a very poor light, one being the censorship clamp on all news aspects of the Darwin raids by the Japanese. This censorship, even now, leaves many people ignorant of the extent of the devastation caused.

This book deals with a period in our history, which is unique - that of Australia being attacked on its own soil by another nation. It is a well-documented journey through the enlistment of a pre-war militia soldier, the journey by troopship to Darwin and subsequently the arrival of the unit at its wartime base.

The book touches on the Aussie humour, matched by the cheekiness or ironical tolerance with which the average serviceman regards those in authority. There are many hilarious anecdotes enlivening some of the boredom of a life that involved a lot of guard-room duties and training. One of the most interesting parts of the book is the author's description of the first raid by 188 Japanese planes, which bombed and strafed Darwin in a furious attack.

A most effective unit history of the 14 Heavy Anti-Aircraft Battery, the author has done an excellent job of recreating the mood of the participants in one of the darkest hours in our history. This book is recommended as a great read.

Available from Australian Military History Publications, 13 Veronica Place. Loftus NSW 2232. Darwin Bombed costs $20.00 including postage and handling.

BOB MERCER

LEGACY

money or an article given by will to a survivor
(Oxford Reference Dictionary)

ARE YOU WRITING OR REVISING YOUR WILL?

LEGACY, the body committed to making sure that dependants of ex-servicemen and women are cared for when the breadwinner is no longer there to do so, needs and appreciates your financial support. Please phone 9367 5799 to see how you can help.
Humour in Uniform

Woes of a WO

During my time as Mess Supervisor, I was very busy. One day when someone yelled “What shall we give the RSM and his guests for afternoon tea?” “Fairy bread and vegemite sandwiches” I replied. The incident was forgotten until a phone call came from a very upset RSM who did not like fairy bread.

ALAN MILLER

Parting is such sweet sorrow

The British Army’s Guards Brigade had a large depot at Pirbright, southern England. Among units residing there was the All Arms Drill Wing. Its purpose was to impart to warrant officers and senior NCOs of other branches of the Army and non-Guards regiments the finer points and mysteries of foot drill as it should be conducted. Terms such as ‘company will advance - about turn’ and ‘at the half form close column of platoons’ were explained in great detail and practiced at some length - the course lasted six weeks!

The practical component of the course took place on the main square - an area several times the size of the MCG! The student instructor and the squad being drilled could be some distance apart - the starting distance was usually 30-40 yards. At the same time many other activities would be taking place on the square and confusion and apprehension would at times reign supreme.

In one instance a student instructor was given a number of manoeuvres for his squad to perform. If an incorrect command were given the squad would ignore it and continue marching. Within a very short period the student instructor was completely confused and the squad was disappearing in the distance. In a voice (loud and penetrating) and tone (disparaging) especially cultivated by Guards Drill Instructors, the supervising instructor was finally heard to say, “Say something, Sergeant, even if it is only ‘Goodbye!’ or just wave farewell to them.”

The sergeant did not pass the course, but was thereafter referred to as ‘Sergeant Goodbye of the Farewell Fusiliers.’

TERRY GILL

Oils aint Oils!

In the autumn of 1959, I was a Warrant Officer REME 2/i/c of the LAD attached to the Royal Scots Greys, stationed in Munster Germany. We were all on a rather large exercise in the Sennelager training area.

We had set up our camp on the edge of a pine forest and were preparing the evening meal, which in this case was going to be chips with tins of bully beef. We sent one of the new members of the LAD to fetch the oil to cook the chips in. We carried containers of both vegetable and mineral oil, the vegetable oil was used in the recuperating systems of the tank guns.

However, this dear little soul brought back mineral oil: the chips browned rather quickly and tasted slightly different, but next day we knew what had happened. Most of those who had partaken of the meal were confined to spending most of their time “throne” sitting, if you get my drift, and the person concerned never again was asked to fetch anything for meals.

I can still taste those chips.

BRIAN ATKINS

Here are some actual maintenance complaints submitted by US Air Force pilots and the replies from the maintenance crews. “Squawks” are problem listings that pilots generally leave for maintenance crews.

Problem: “Left inside main tyre almost needs replacement.”
Solution: “Almost replaced left inside main tyre.”

Problem: “Test flight OK, except autoland very rough.”
Solution: “Autoland not installed on this aircraft.”

Problem #1: “#2 Propeller seeping prop fluid.”
Solution: “#2 Propeller seepage normal.”

Problem #2: “Propellers #1, #3, and #4 lack normal seepage.”

Problem: “The autopilot doesn’t.”
Signed off: “IT DOES NOW”.

Problem: “Something loose in cockpit”
Solution: “Something tightened in cockpit”.

Problem: “Evidence of hydraulic leak on right main landing gear.”
Solution: “Evidence removed.”

Problem: “DME volume unbelievably loud”.
Solution: “Volume set to more believable level.”

Problem: “Dead bugs on windshield”.
Solution: “Live bugs on order”.

Problem: “Autopilot in altitude hold mode produces a 200 fpm descent.”
Solution: “Cannot reproduce problem on ground.”

Page 48 The Listening Post -Summer 1999
Problem: “IFF inoperative.”
Solution: “IFF inoperative in OFF mode”.

Problem: “Friction locks cause throttle levers to stick.”
Solution: “That’s what they’re there for.”

Problem: “Number three engine missing.”
Solution: “Engine found on right wing after brief search.”

Shoot first ask questions later

The high spot of the Royal Air Force activities during World War II occurred at RAF Castle Bromwich in 1943. When airmen heard a plane landing late at night, they assumed it was one of the many Spitfires tested there. Switching on an Aldis lamp, however, Aircraftman R. Morgan observed that it was a German bomber. As it taxied down the runway, he expressed the intention of having a crack at it with the Lewis gun and went off to get permission.

While the German plane revved its engines, Aircraftman Morgan tried to ring through to control. “We had to crank like fury on the field telephone for permission to fire” he said. By the time he got through the plane had taken off and was en route for Germany.

COURTESY BRITISH EX-SERVICE ASSOCIATION

WAS IT A PHANTOM RAIDER?

Early in October 1941, the small auxiliary patrol vessel HMAS Yandra was carrying out a routine patrol off the searched channel to the north of Rottnest Island.

About dusk one evening a vessel showed up at the entrance and was immediately challenged by the patrol vessel. Receiving an unsatisfactory reply, which was not uncommon from some merchant ships in the early days of the war, Yandra signalled “What ship?” Instantly the ship replied “Salland”.

Consulting his list of expected arrivals the skipper noted that Salland was not on that day’s list nor was she expected for at least 48 hours. Sensing something amiss, he immediately advised the fort that the vessel now entering had signalled the name “Salland” and must be regarded as suspicious.

The fort immediately challenged the strange vessel, requiring her to stop and switch on her upper deck lighting; the stranger doused all lights, including navigation lights, and disappeared under cover of darkness. As the transport Queen Mary was due off the channel at daybreak the following morning it was assumed that the stranger may have been involved in minelaying activities. The incident was quickly reported to the Naval Officer in Charge, Fremantle.

No risks were taken. HMAS Sydney, which was returning to Fremantle after carrying out escort duties, was immediately advised to rendezvous with the ocean giant, to afford escort and sweep ahead of her when entering the channel. Both Queen Mary and her escort anchored in Gage Roads the following morning without further incident.

However, the presence of the mysterious vessel around Fremantle caused grave concern in shipping circles, as an unidentified aircraft had already been reported over Geraldton about that time. It was apparent that the alertness of Yandra had foiled the mission of the phantom raider.

Later it was generally assumed that the stranger was the German raider Kormoran. In avoiding an action with the fort and patrol vessel she had been placed on her guard and lived to fight another day. Had she been intercepted by Sydney there and then, the unfortunate engagement which took place a month later and resulted in the loss of Sydney might never have taken place.

R. G. ROBERTS, RAN
“AS YOU WERE 1950”
Courtesy of the Australian War Memorial

ALZHEIMER’S ASSOCIATION WA

MEMORY LOSS

If I have memory loss, does it mean I have dementia?
No, dementia is more than just memory loss. It also affects a person’s thinking skills and ability to complete every day activities. To find out more information about demential, contact us by telephone on (08) 9388 2800 (Freecall 1800 639 331), on the internet (www.alzheimers.asn.au), or in person at 9 Bedrock Place, Shenton Park.

What services do we offer?
We provide: > counselling and support groups;
> respite for carers;
> a library; and
> education and information.

The Listening Post - Summer 1999
BELMONT

I have been asked to report on our Annual Dinner on 25 September. The evening commenced with pre-dinner drinks and thunder from an impending storm added to the atmosphere as it sounded like distant artillery. The Director of Ceremonies, Olga Greig, welcomed guests and proposed a toast to the Queen, The Club Patron, the Hon Fred McKenzie, then welcomed guests from the City of Belmont. Fred thanked Council for its support to the club over the years and in particular for its contribution to the 70th Anniversary Memorial.

State President Ken Bladen advised that the State Branch has forwarded a fax to INTERFET Ground Forces in East Timor. The troops had already received 35,000 faxes of support from people at home and abroad. Mr Bladen went on the say that State Executive intended to offer all troops who serve in Timor Honorary Membership to WA Branches when they return. Mr Bladen also advised that WA would be hosting the National Congress next year and other future events include the RSL Cadet of the Year Awards and 2001 ANZAC Day at Albany.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of Certificates of Service Awards to Marty Brennan and Kevin Buswell by the State President. Both Marty and Kevin were taken completely by surprise - well done gentlemen.

In between speeches we were entertained by the sound of Glen Miller and other great 40s' favorites followed by music from the 60s and 70s. An enjoyable evening was had by all.

GLENN SIMONSEN

BICHTON-PALMYRA

April marked the 50th anniversary of our Sub-Branch. Celebrations commenced 26 June with an open day. Food, drinks and entertainment were provided at little or no cost and more than 100 members made it a memorable occasion. We sincerely thank the member for Alfred Cove, the Hon Doug Shave, MLA, and the Mayor of the City of Melville, Katie Mair JP, for their attendance.

On sale were commemorative glass tankards and stubby holders. There is a limited number of these items still available from Secretary Alan Meyer on 9339 5536.

Further celebrations were incorporated along with our annual dinner dance on 16 October. Special guests were the Mayor of Melville, Katie Mair, the Deputy Mayor of East Fremantle, Liz Lovell, and RSL Junior Vice President Ross O'Connor.

Recently we visited the Nollomara/North Perth Sub-Branch when some 60 of our members were treated to a great day which included a happy hour, spit roast and pool and dart competitions. We thank President Keith Boxhall and his committee for the day and hope the visits between our Sub-Branches continue.

At the ladies dining in night in August, 50 ladies enjoyed a four course meal - waited on by some of the men folk dressed as waiters. This is a fun night and our small way of thanking the ladies who provide invaluable assistance throughout the year.

On the last Friday evening of each month the Sub-Branch provides a selection of hot dishes for the small cost of $2.00 a serve. This is proving very popular with some 80 members attending. Again our sincere thanks to the ladies for their time, effort and culinary skills that make these evenings so successful. And thank you to the kitchen helpers whose efforts are not unnoticed.

Please contact social Director Kevin Hastie for details of the Christmas Dinner Dance and New Years Eve Party.

On behalf of the Committee I wish all members a happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

TREVOR PESCUD PRO

BUNBURY

Last Post for Bunbury 'Elder Statesman'

With the passing of 88 year old George Baxter on Friday 27th August, the City of Bunbury lost one of the people who perhaps worked hardest to promote the city as a tourist destination. And the Sub-Branch lost a Life Member who may be the longest remembered as the erect trooper sitting tall in the saddle, leading the ANZAC Day parade at the head of the Light Horse Commemoration Troop.

A POW in Germany for four years, George will be remembered by many as a man who would always fight for a good cause and a man who inspired those around him.

A local newspaper described George Baxter as a man of passion. He certainly tackled any task with a passion, be it polishing the brass on an old railway carriage before a WA Div. Australian Railway Historical Society excursion or fighting for the retention of Bunbury’s shrinking bushland area before being “green” became a fashion statement.

George, who is survived by his wife Edith, was farewelled by 300 family, friends and mates at his funeral service at the Bunbury Crematorium. Lest We Forget

Social Club - The Social Club continues to grow and offers a variety of trips and functions. A relationship has been established with the Mandurah RSL which has seen
several exchange visits and is now a regular entry in the Social Clubs Diary.

**Battle of Australia Day** - The Sub-Branch observed both the Battle of Australia Day and National Flag Day in the first week of September but was disappointed at the lack of awareness in the community. If these occasions are to have any real meaning in the Australian community they must be promoted by the RSL, local, State and Federal Governments and the media.

**Monthly Lunches** - Guests at the Friday lunches have included classical singer Sherry Garrick and Capt Fitzgerald, now based at Karrakatta, who gave an interesting talk on his recent experiences while attached to the multi-national Peacekeeping in Bosnia.

An electrifying presentation by October’s guests apparently failed to totally convince members that today’s banks were able to offer a better service than they were forced to endure some 20 years ago; the GST’s impact on such charges as FID/FED/EFT/POS/LOS/ATM/BAD/SAD and MAD still remain a bit of a mystery to the banking industry!

**Welfare** - In late September members of our Welfare Team attended a three day TIP training course aimed at improving their understanding and use of the Guide to the Assessment of Rates of Veterans’ Pensions (GARP) and the Statement of Principles (SOP).

Better understanding of both these “weighty” documents should allow the team to better assist the veteran community of Bunbury/Australind and the greater Bunbury area.

Seniors’ Week and Veterans’ Health Week offered an opportunity to promote health and better appreciation of the services available to veterans and other senior members of the community.

**Cadets WA** - The Sub-Branch will be recognising the individual and group achievements of local Navy, Air, Emergency Services, CALM and Police Ranger Units with the awarding of Certificates and shields. We are supportive of the Cadets WA program and look forward to marching with the units on ANZAC Day.

**Christmas BBQ** - We are looking forward to another successful day on 11th December. President Chris Mills is keen to see as many members as possible at this last function of the century.

Please register your interest so that we can cater correctly - there is no cost for food and a generous variety of beverages will be available at RSL special bar prices.

BILL ADAMS

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**BUSSELTON**

Building renovation work is well advanced, thanks to generous support from local businesses and the efforts of members. A garage sale on 6 November was a welcome fundraiser and, again, local businesses demonstrated their generosity. The President has expressed his pleasure at the high morale in the club and the spirit of co-operation among members and the business community in this building program.

Membership continues to increase. Despite the sad loss of several of our older veterans, current numbers are now 220 full members plus 24 affiliate members.

The Pension/Welfare team is available on Fridays between 9 and 12 noon and one member is now in attendance on Tuesdays between 9.30 and 12.00 noon by appointment. The team continues to give service to local veterans and its popularity is evidenced by the queue on welfare days.

Profits from our October Fellowship Night were donated to the East Timorese Refugees.

The Busselton WA Police Remembrance Day Service was held at the hall on 29 September. Special reference was made to honour the memory of former Busselton man Sgt Glenn Huitson, who lost his life while on duty in the Northern Territory. Busselton RSL President Alex Coffey presented Sgt Huitson’s mother and widow with flowers during the wreath-laying ceremony.

Visitors to Busselton are asked to note our Fellowship Night on Friday 17 December. In January, it will be Friday January 21 and thereafter will revert to the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month. Visitors are always welcome.

PETER GRANT, PRO

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**CANNING DISTRICTS & VICTORIA PARK**

The Osborn family would like to thank the Sub-Branch for hosting the wake of Aussie Osborn on 18 August. We believe the atmosphere was one that Aussie would have enjoyed. Thanks to Wendy and Doug for preparing the snacks and Ruby for her work behind the bar.

We are pleased to announce that alterations to our office and kitchen have now been started. We are still in need of more volunteers for the Friday night meals. If you can help, please contact Adelaide Day.

We now have 146 full members, 1 life member and 50 social and associate members. Remember the success of the club depends on you and your support.

Special thanks are extended to all the volunteers who helped out on the Poppy Day appeal.

In October the Old Diggers’ Club organised a bus trip...
to the Naval Club, Point Peron. Despite the weather the
day was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. Good to see a
couple of new faces coming along to the club.

The Merrymakers Club invites members of the
community, particularly seniors, to come along and join
in the fun on Mondays 10 am to 2 pm.

Thanks are extended to our Committee, Ruby (Bar
Manager) and her husband Neil (Club Handyman), all
volunteers and Norm who takes care of our Memorial
Garden; also to the Social Club members for their help
and support during the past year.

I wish all members and their families a very Happy
and safe Christmas and hope that 2000 is a great year for
you all.

WENDY SCHWAB, PRO

CITY OF COCKBURN

In the middle of the year it was announced that there
will be a change in when we hold the election of office
bearers. Instead of waiting for our AGM in January, it was
agreed that nominations would open in October and the
election of Officers would take place at the meeting on the
second Sunday in December. The new office bearers will
take over immediately after the previous year’s reports are
presented and accepted at the AGM on the second Sunday
in January. This will give the new Committee members a
chance to familiarise themselves with policy and procedures
and should result in a smooth change in management.

Only 24 members took part in this year’s Poppy Day
appeal on 5 November. For these type of appeals to
succeed we must have the full support of the membership.
As this newsletter goes to press our total sum raised was
below $3,000 which is well down on last year.

On the social scene, there will be a New Year’s Eve
cabaret with no entry fee to our members and their friends.
Drinks will be at Happy Hour prices and we will provide
our own music, entertainment and supper. Rumour has it
that a certain lady is going around recruiting stars for some
fancy floorshow which should be quite interesting.

The Sub-Branch now is not moving to the Memorial
Hall area. This plan was rejected by members several
months ago. Plans, however, are being prepared to
improve, and where necessary rebuild on, our existing land
to give members a Club Room/meeting place they can be
proud of. However, there is a catch to these plans - fund
raising needs all able members to take an active role.

Every Friday night we hold a free sausage sizzle,
funded by a raffle which provides three good prizes and
the very popular Bingo. Come along and join us from
1600 hours onwards - visitors are always welcome.

ARTHUR J STANTON PRO

ESPERANCE

We have had a busy and interesting quarter. Our
Memorial, which has stood for 76 years, was showing signs
of collapse in the foundations and mould in the thick layer
of paint. One of the marble name plaques was cracked and some
lead letters were missing. We applied to
the DVA for $7,800 (the
amount needed to bring
the memorial up to
standard) but were given
only $2,000.

However, our Shire
Council provided
$5,000 and members’
labour saved another
$800. The monolith was
suspended on giant steel
beams with pins while
the three-tier foundation
was jackhammered
away and a complete
new foundation poured and vibrated into the old base. A
tapered aluminum flagpole was obtained for a good price.
The Council gardeners removed and stored the rose bushes;
after sealing and painting the memorial and the installation
of floodlights, they will be replanted and a paved forecourt
and pathways installed.

By Remembrance Day, we confidently expect the whole
complex to look even better that it did when it was erected
by WAG Hearne in 1926. The total cost then was 300
pounds.

With the approach of warmer weather we soon will be
restarting our popular pre-meeting barbeque teas.

We recently had DVA officers in town to help local
veterans. They use our clubrooms and our two stalwarts.
Joe and Stan, spent the day keeping clients amused and
making coffee for them while awaiting the tender
ministrations of Debbie and Maureen.

PRO. MJ ANDRÉ JP

MANDURAH

We had another very enjoyable visit to Bunbury Sub-
Branch whose members are to be congratulated on their
entertainment.

Our new treasurer, Maureen Kilpatrick an ex WRAN,
has settled in well and her call for help for East Timor was
answered promptly with a $1000 donation.

Tuesday mornings at the hall are always busy get-
togethers. Over the years this “Dads’ Army” has saved us many thousands of dollars. In return a luncheon with the committee is always a happy event.

Mandurah’s five Cadet units - Army, Navy Air Force, SES and Police - have the full moral and financial support of the Sub-Branch.

We wish all members a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

WIN HOLDING PRO

MANNING

Highly regarded Sub-Branch member J.A. (Alan) King died on 23 July after a game battle with illness. A dedicated worker for the Manning Memorial Bowling Club and the Royal WA Bowling Association, Alan still found time to be Sub-Branch Auditor.

After enlisting, Alan saw action with the 2/16th Battalion in the Middle East and later in the Kokoda campaign.

Following a short post-war period as a civilian, Alan re-enlisted and attended language school at Port Cook, resulting in his secondment to the Pacific Island Regiment in New Guinea. Tours of duty with the Border Patrol and time spent as an instructor with the PIR were features of this final phase of his military career.

Alan will be greatly missed. Lest We Forget.

REG Axford
President

NOLLAMARA-NORTH PERTH

Bad weather reduced the number of spectators at the ceremony to commemorate Vietnam Veteran’s Day at the Sub-Branch on Wednesday 18 August. But when the wreath laying was about to start, a ray of sunshine opened up the heavens and we were able to proceed.


Others participating in the ceremony were Convenor Carol Randall. Bugler Graham Worth. The Ode Ken Hawke and Flag Attendants. Gary Robilliard, Roger Randall and Ross Jones. Thanks to all.

Congratulations to Ron Joyce and Mark Bartlett for winning the Sub-Branch Darts Doubles. Runners up were Clem Riley and Grant Wooten.

ROSCO JONES PRO

NORTH BEACH

New War Memorial

The result of two years’ work by our War Memorial Committee, Fred Abbott (chairman) Eddie Johnson and Bob Sweeney, can be seen at North Beach.

Financed by the City of Stirling as part of the Regional War Memorials Project, Midland Monumental Works was the successful tenderer to remove the old memorial and erect the new one. City of Stirling spokesman Ian Saladine said the monument would be in place by Remembrance Day and the surrounds soon after, depending on finance. Roworth Nurseries donated 24 rose bushes for the garden and we thank both organisations for their generosity.

Tony Wilson, ex-RN matelot turned soldier and Korea veteran has secured sponsorship to walk 7 km to help the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation. The sub-Branch gave him a lump sum instead of so much a kilometre... just in case. Well done Tony.

Acting Sergeant Hayley Clarke has been nominated for the WA RSL Cadet of the year Award. A cadet in the Carine Cadet Unit, the 17-year-old has been a member since 1995. She is a qualified rifliewoman and radio operator and has attended cadet bush camps. learning bushcraft and survival.

Part of the cadet agenda is community work: Hayley is involved with Red Cross Doorknock Appeals and Telethon and helps with the maintenance of a country cemetery. Nardee. The North Beach Sub-Branch presented A/Sgt Clarke with a memento of her selection at its monthly meeting.

Captain P de Masson, CO of the cadet unit, said the unit appreciates the interest this sub-Branch has shown and joins with us in wishing Hayley Clarke all the best.

Act Sgt Clarke will probably be full sergeant now!

MAX PLESTER. PRO

PORT KENNEDY

Well we finally have our land; now comes the hard work. It has taken four years of raffles and other fund-raising to get the money, but we hope to cut that time in half to get our building finished.

Our major yearly raffle, a boat, is well under way and showing signs of a good return, but it’s a lot of hard work and long hours of manning raffle sites.

Vietnam Veterans’ Day was very successful. We joined with the Rockingham Sub Section of the Naval Association.
at Point Peron for our social afternoon. Our Treasurer and President each won the major prize in separate raffles.

We recently held a successful quiz night and Poppy Day and the Remembrance Day Service arrangements are in hand.

Sadly, we have lost a valued friend and member - Warden Trevor Lloyd JP. One of our Founding Trustees and a fine gentleman, his wealth of knowledge, wisdom, and guidance will be sadly missed. Trevor was a Life Member of the RSL and was well known for the work he tirelessly contributed to so many organisations.

May he rest in Peace. Lest We Forget.

The members of Port Kennedy take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas; take care on the eve of 2000, as we wish to see you next year.

S.A. MONCRIEFF, PRO
Ph: (08) 9592 1496

SCARBOROUGH

Our meetings are still well attended and much has been achieved during the year.

Our last bus trip to the vineyards, with lunch at Mulberry Farm, was a great success. Thank you Tony Snelling.

To those who were unable to attend our Christmas dinner in November - we wish you a healthy and happy Christmas with your families. And why not make a New Year resolution to attend monthly meetings on the second Monday of each month at 1400hrs at the Doubleview Bowling Club, Shearn Crescent and Millcrest Street. Doubleview. A warm welcome will await you.

Reminder: it may not be the amount we do - but the spirit in which the act is performed.

Seasons greetings to all.

GORDON F HARVEY
Vice President Tel: 9446 1904

WAR VETERANS’ HOMES RAFFLE

Results are as follows:

1st Prize: Dudley Thubron, Kallaroo  Ticket No. 63808
2nd Prize: Rose Linton, Kardinya  Ticket No. 16542
3rd Prize: Rolf Reher, Mullaloo.  Ticket No. 63393
4th Prize: The Adams Family, Tuart Hill  Ticket No. 73520
5th Prize: Percy White, Morley  Ticket No. 43274

Thank you to all ticket sellers and buyers for your support of this fundraising on behalf of our veterans.

JUST A COMMON SOLDIER

He was getting old and paunchy and his hair was failing fast
And he sat around the Legion telling stories of his past.
Of a war that he had fought in, and the deeds that he had done
In his exploits with his buddies, they were heroes every one.

And though sometimes to his neighbours his tales became a joke,
All his Legion buddies listened, for they knew whereof he spoke.
But we hear his tales no longer, for old Bill just passed away,
And the world’s a little poorer for a soldier died today.

He will not be mourned by many, just his children and his wife,
For he lived an ordinary quiet and uneventful life.
Held a job and raised a family, quietly going on his way,
And the world won’t note his passing, though a soldier died today.

When politicians leave this earth their bodies lie in state,
While thousands note their passing, and proclaim that they were great.

Papers tell their life stories from the time when they were young,
But the passing of a soldier goes unnoticed and unsung.

Is the greatest contribution to the welfare of our land
A guy who breaks his promises and cons his fellow man?
Or the ordinary fellow who in times of war and strife
Goes off to serve his country and offers up his life.

A politician’s stipend and the style in which he lives,
Are sometimes disproportionate to the service that he gives.
Whilst the ordinary soldier, who offered up his all
Is paid off with a medal and perhaps a pension small.

It’s so easy to forget them, for K was so long ago
That the old Bills of our country went to battle, but we know
It was not the politicians with their compromise and ploys
Who won for us the freedom that our country now enjoys.

Should you find yourself in danger with your enemies at hand,
Would you want a politician with his ever-shifting stand?
Or would you prefer a soldier, who has sworn to defend
His home, his kin and country, and would fight right to the end.

He was just a common soldier and his ranks are growing thin,
But his presence should remind us we may need his like again.
For when countries are in conflict, then we find the soldier’s path
Is to clean up all the troubles that the politicians start.

If we cannot do him honour while he’s here to hear the praise,
Then at least give him the homage at the ending of his days.
Perhaps just a simple headline in a paper that would say:
“Our country is in mourning, for a soldier died today”.

By kind permission,
KOREA AND SOUTH EAST ASIA VETERANS’ ASSOCIATION. WA BRANCH,
POET UNKNOWN
New Members

The State President and members of the State Executive extend a welcome to new members of the League in WA. Their names are listed by Sub-Branch.

Albany
Lovitt, Cyril Navy
Moore, Dawson Army

Applecross
Brunton, Fraser Army
Twaddle, James Army
Thomas, Winifred Air Force

Armadale
Slater, Edwin Navy

Beaumaris Beach
Caldow, Robert Army
Gillespie, Kevin Army
Donsen, Jack Air Force
Sharan, Barry Air Force

Bedford – Morley
Zekas, Peter Army

Bellevue
Armstead, Barry Army
Britton, Roderick Army
Gay, Charles Army
O’Callaghan, George Army

Bicton-Palmyra
Carter, Raymond Navy
Faust, Bernie Navy
Lawrence, Graham Navy
Lenihan, Geoffrey Navy
Purkiss, Margaret Navy
Brooks, John Army
Ebsary, Noel Army
Gegg, Brian Army
Broughton, Howard Air Force
Nilon, Geoffrey Air Force

Broome
Bulger, Ian Navy
Colless, Roger Navy
Price, Avon Army
Mayes, Glen Air Force

Bruce Rock
Barrett, Neville Army

Bullsbrook & Districts
Crane, Alan Army
Snell, Robert Army

Crawford, Hugh Air Force

Bunbury
Clarke, Neville Navy
Cunningham, Robert Navy
Earnus, Leslie Navy
O’Mara, James Navy
Timu Te Kuru, Noel Navy
Crawf,les, Hugh
Perry, Joseph M. Navy
Bilsby, James Army
Dillon, Peter Army
Hughes, Roy Army
Knowles, John Army
Stee, Norman Army
Tomkins, Alan Army
Bawden, Ian Air Force
Holt, Valentine Air Force
Howlett, Kenneth Air Force
Rhys, John

Busselton
Blackwell, Walter Navy
Palmer, Ronald Navy
Dolan, Trevor Army
Fox, Edith Army
McLean, Frederick Army
Bailie, Ivan Air Force
Shaw, Bruce Air Force

Canning Districts & Victoria Park
Evans, Keith Army

Capel
Jorgensen, Svend Army
Thorp, Richard Army

Central
Ellson, Andrew Army
Legg, James Army
Leembruggen, Errol A. Force
Taylor, Michael Air Force
Tiffin, Wendy Air Force

City of Cockburn
Clayton, Kenneth Navy
Peasley, Andrew Army
Robertson, Errol Army
Wells, Mack Army

City of Perth
Bain, John Navy
Christie, David Army
Drimatis, Nicholas Army

Drummond, Bruce Army
Garthwaite, Ian Army
McAlpine, Gordon Army
O’Neill, Anthony Army
Parton, Christopher Army
Phillips, Donald Air Force
Woodruff, Mark Air Force
Berry, George Air Force
Downer, Daryl Air Force
Phillips, Robert Air Force

City of Rockingham
Arthur, Barbara Navy
Arthur, Graeme Navy
Harema, Henry Army
Oates, John Army
Chamberlain, Frank Air Force

Claremont
Groessler, Peter Navy

Collie-Cardiff
Dhue, Maurice Army
Miffling, Ronald Army
Saunders, Murray Army

Cottesloe
Epps, Claire Navy
Haupt, Anna Air Force

Darling Range
Grandin, Sandra Army
Lund, Jo-ann Army
Newton, Matthew Army

East Vic Park & Vietnam Veterans
Rushton, Kim Army

Eastern Hills
Wilson, Francis Army

Eastern Regional
Bellman, Ronald Army
Drinkwater, Beresford Army
Kingman, Alexander Army
Witcombe, Allan Army

Esperance
Kerr, Henry Army

Fremantle City
Heaney, Herrick M. Navy
Staples, George Air Force

Gascoyne
Smith, John Navy

Geraldton City
Ellis, Desmond Navy
Bowen, Noel Army
Cartwright, John Army
Graham, Phillip Army
Hagg, Allan Army
Herbert, Ernest Army
O’Brien, Anthony Army
Te, Robert Army

Gosnells
Wiley, John Navy
Chisholm, Colin Army

Highgate
Barton, Kenneth Navy
Suriano, John Navy
Albury, Richard Army
Bolitho, Mervyn Army
Quickenden, Terence Army
White, Shane Army

Karratha & Districts
Duncan, Anthony Navy

Karridale-Augusta
Fox, Albert Army

Katanning
Barnes, Allan Army
Fewson, Raymond Army

Kelmscott-Roleyston
Dean, Harold Army

Kulin
McInerney, Neville Army

Mandurah
Clifford, Christopher Army
Glass, Alister Navy
Kidpatrick, Maureen Navy
Avery, Murray Army
Fitzgerald, William Army
Iles, Warren Army
Johansson, Richard Army
Matthews, Alf Army
Scott, Edward Army
Thompson, Gordon Army
McGregor, Eric Air Force

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UNIT ASSOCIATIONS

The Editor of The Listening Post reminds all Unit Associations that it is the responsibility of each to keep its information to State Headquarters for this section up to date. Changes to the office bearers must be in writing.

AIRCREW ASSOCIATION
President: George Oliver, 2 Ainslie Crt, Kardinya 6163; Ph: 9337 7163. Correspondence to Secretary: Basil Lofthouse, 81/177 Dampier Ave, Kallaroo 6025; Ph: 9402 0962. Meetings: bi-monthly as arranged.

ALLIED CHINESE SHIPS ASSOCIATION
President: Maurice O’Rourke, 14 Hamilton Tce, Greenmount; Ph: 9294 1798. Secretary: Mrs B. Philp, address as per President. Meetings: 11.30am 2nd Fri bi-monthly (from Feb), ANZAC House.

ALLIED MERCHANT SEAMEN ASSOC (WA BRANCH)
President: Neville Philp, 14 Hamilton Tce, Greenmount; Ph: 9294 1798. Correspondence to: PO Box 14, Hillarys 6025. Chairman: China Hammal; Ph: 9434 6247, fax: 9434 6248. Correspondence to PO Box 69, North Fremantle 6159.

AUSTRALIAN ARMY TRAINING ASSOCIATION OF ALLIED MERCHANT SEAMEN ASSOC (WA)
President: Lionel Hutchings Ph 9309 9675. Correspondence to Secretary: Vera Hutchings, 17 St. Johns Crt, Kingsley 6026. Meetings: 2nd Mon monthly, Aranmore Hall, Leederville.; Fremantle 1.30pm 2nd Tuesday bi-monthly, Navy Club Fremantle. State Council Meetings 3rd Thurs bi-monthly at 13th Brigade Headquarters, Irwin Barracks, Karrakatta.

AUSTRALIAN NAVY IN VIETNAM VETERANS’ WELFARE ASSOC OF WA (INC)
Chairman: China Hammal; Ph: 9434 6247, fax: 9434 6248. Correspondence to PO Box 69, North Fremantle 6159.

AUSTRALIAN SPECIAL AIR SERVICE ASSOC WA BRANCH (INC)
President: Edwin A (Bart) Mavrick, 9 Panamuna Dr, Falcon; Ph: 9534 4018. Secretary: Reg Davies JP, 107 Rochester Circle, Balga; Ph: 9247 2480. Correspondence to The House No 6 6 Australian St, Campbell Barracks, Swanbourne 6010. Meetings: 6pm 3rd Tues monthly, The House (as above); AGM August.

AUST VETERANS & DEFENCE SERVICES COUNCIL (WA) AVADSC
Chairman: Air Cdre SW Dallywater (Rtd); Ph: 9383 3161. Correspondence to: PO Box 14, Hillarys 6025. Meetings: 10am 1st Wed monthly (from Feb), USI Rooms, Irwin Barracks.

AUSTRALIAN WOMEN’S ARMY SERVICE ASSOC WA (INC)
President: Kath Barnes; Correspondence to: Joy Tufnell, 1A Swan Rd, Attadale 6156; Ph: 9330 3945. Treasurer: Ruth Franklin, 126B Basinghall St, East Vic Park 6101; Ph: 9361 5157. Meetings: 10am 1st Thurs Feb, Apr, June, Aug, Oct Dec. at 10am, Gallipoli Room, ANZAC House. AGM 1st Thurs. Feb.

BCOF ASSOC OF PERTH WA
President: Joy Whiting, 15 Turo Cl, Willeton 6155; Ph: 9457 0368. Correspondence to Secretary: MJ Buckley, 12 Croydon Ave, Yokine 6060; Ph: 9349 6529. Meetings: 11am 4th Mon (if holiday – Tues) monthly Feb to Nov, Belmont RSL Hall, Leake St.

BLINDED SOLDIERS OF ST DUNSTANS WA
President: WA Walters, Retirement Village 3rd Ave, Mandurah; Ph: 9355 3602. Correspondence to Secretary: Mrs P Dean, 31 Lamond St, Melville 6156; Ph: 9330 5458. Meetings: 1.45pm 2nd Tues in Feb, June, Aug and Oct (AGM Aug), Red Cross House; 110 Goderich St, East Perth.

BRITISH EX-SERVICES ASSOC INC.
President: DE Clarke, 11 Merton Pl, Kingsley; Ph: 9309 1046. Correspondence to Secretary: Jean Harris, 20 Roydon Wy, Girrawheen 6064; Ph: 9247 1009. Meetings: 1.30pm 3rd Tues monthly (AGM 17 Nov), ANZAC House.

BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA POLICE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION (AUSTRALIAN BRANCH)
Acting Chairman: Richard Hamley, 18 Arreton Rd, Wembley; Ph: 9884 6970. Secretary: John Seward, 9102 Epsom Ave; Redcliffe. Ph: 9277 5396.

CATALINA CLUB OF WA
President: David Rubery, 70 Fifth Avenue, Shoolalwater 6168; Ph: 9528 4697. Secretary: Harvey Hodgkiss, 66 Cawston Road, Attadale 6156; Ph: 9330 4222. Correspondence to: PO Box 866, Canning Bridge 6153. Meetings: 10.45am 2nd Thurs in March, June (AGM), September, December at ANZAC House.

DEFENCE RESERVES ASSOC (WA BRANCH)
President: Lt Col P.G. Winstanley RFD (Rtd), 55 Jeanes Rd, Karrinyup; Ph: 9341 6883. Secretary: Maj. Marion Jenkins, 4 Harbour Ct Safety Bay 6169; Ph: 9528 6860. Meetings: 7.30pm 2nd Mon, 13 Infantry Brig. Conference Rm; AGM 1st Mon April.

DIGGERS CLUB OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.
President: R. Brown, 13 Clark St, Burekup, 6227; Ph: 9726 3065. Secretary: B. McCormack, 5 Hillcrest Ave, Bunbury 6231. Ph: 9721 2978. Correspondence to PO Box 2254, Bunbury 6231.

EX-AUSTRALIAN WOMEN’S LAND ARMY (AWLA)
President: Phyllis Tolley, 84 West Rd, Busselton; Ph: 9279 2279. Correspondence to Secretary: Hilda Grey; 21B

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Elvira St, Palmyra 6157; Ph: 9339 5391. Meetings: 10am 4th Thurs monthly, ANZAC House.

EX-FORTRESS ENGINEERS ASSOC
President: F. Louge; Ph:9349 7495. Correspondence to Secretary: Reg Kidd, 257 Holmes Rd, Forrestfield 6058; Ph: 9453 2393. Meetings: AGM mid-April; Christmas last Sun Nov.

EX-POW ASSOCIATION OF WA
President: Arthur Robinson, 19/26 Pinaster St, Menora 6050; Ph: 9271 4733. Correspondence to Secretary: Ruth James, 7b Wenden Pl, Willetton 6155; Ph:9457 8727. Meetings: 1pm 1st Wed monthly, ANZAC House; AGM 1pm 1st Wed March.

EXTERMELY DISABLED WAR VETERANS ASSOC OF AUSTRALIA
President: John Wade; Ph: 9410 2934. Correspondence to Secretary Alan Balcombe, PO Box 2339 Malaga 6944; Ph:9375 2709. Committee meetings 4th Wed each month at TPI Village, 80 Henley St, Como. All welcome. New memberships invited.

EX-WRANS ASSOC OF WA
President: Mary Briety, 8/8 Lewinton Gardens, Bibra Lake 6163; Ph: 9417 5342. Correspondence to Secretary: Rena Blackett, 3/93 Aurelian Pde, Kingsley 6026; Ph: 9339 5030. Meetings: 12.30pm 2nd Mon monthly, ANZAC House; Gladstone; AGM noon 2nd Mon Oct.

FEDERATED TB SAILORS', SOLDIERS' & AIRMEN'S ASSOC (WA BRANCH)
President: Frank Hamilton, 35 Clement Dr, Karrinyup; Ph: 9448 5204. Correspondence to Secretary: Bert Turner, PO Box 2, Ingleswood 6052. Meetings: last Mon monthly, except Jan.

FIGHTER SQUADRONS ASSOC OF WA
President: Mick Michael, 6 Barnabas Pl, Mosman Park 6012; Ph: 9384 4222.

FLEET AIR ARM ASSOC OF AUSTRALIA
President: Eddy Cook, 5 Arcaman Pl, St. Lakes. Secretary: Theo Bushe-Jones, 26 Baltic Mews, Waikiki; Ph: 9527 9186. Correspondence: PO Box 8336, Stirling Street, Perth 6849. Meetings: 7.30pm 2nd Wed bi-monthly (from Feb), 71 West Pde, East Perth.

GREEK AUSTRALIAN RETURNED SERVICEMEN'S LEAGUE
President: Greg Theodosiadis, 69 Beamish Rd, Brentwood 6153; Ph: 9364 7461. Secretary: Steolios Costandirin, 7/86 Railway Pde, Bayswater. Meetings: 1st Sat every month at 3.30pm at Greek Club, Stirling St, Perth. AGM every 2 years.

GUARDS ASSOCIATION OF WA
President: S. Bower. Correspondence to Secretary: Peter Mulrennan, JP, PO Box 370, Tuart Hill 6939; Ph: 9443 8081. Meetings: 7.30pm 1st Mon monthly; 7.30 pm ANZAC House. (AGM September).

HMAS AUSTRALIA VETERANS' CLUB
President: Don Cookesley, 3 Dorking Rd, City Beach; Ph: 9385 7061. Secretary: Harry Townsend, Unit 9, 1-3 Leslie St, Mandurah 6210; Ph: 9586 3828. Meetings: 11am 1st Tues quarterly (from March), Naval Association HQ, 71 West Pde, East Perth.

HMAS BATAAN VETERANS' ASSOC
President: Mr Jack Le Cras, 10 Kenton Cres, Kingsley 6026. Ph: 9409 1014. Correspondence to Secretary: Colin Hepburn, 39a Fallow Cres, Spearwood 6163; Ph:9434 4556.

HMAS CANBERRA – SHROPSHIRE ASSOC (WA DIVISION)
President: Bill Kynaston, 29 Tifera Circle, Kallaroo; Ph: 9307 8029. Correspondence to Secretary: Arthur Carter, 93 Tamar St, Palmyra 6157; Ph: 9339 1483. Meetings: AGM Nov. Committee meetings as required. Annual reunion 9 August, other social functions about four times per year. Further information, please contact either of the above.

HMAS HOBART ASSOC (WA DIVISION)
President: Trevor Cangemi, 29 Dirk Hartog Rd, Bull Creek, 6149; Ph: 9332 7721. Secretary: Clyde Goddard, 80 Derby Rd, Shenton Park 6068; Ph: 9381 8705. AGM and Annual Reunion held 2nd Sunday in Feb; social and commemorative functions held about every six months each year. Monthly luncheons held at ANZAC House, last Thurs each month from noon. Further information please contact either of the above.

HMAS WARRAMUNGA VETERANS' ASSOC
Correspondence to Secretary: Tom Oakley, 43 Strickland St, Mt Claremont 6010; Ph: 9384 3042. Treasurer: A. Johnson; Ph: 9305 1573.

KOREA & SOUTH EAST ASIA VETERANS' ASSOCIATION (WA BRANCH INC)
President: KJ Emberson. 48 Fleetwood Cct, Woodvale 6026; Ph: 9409 3037. Secretary: A McMorland, 15/103 caramel Cres, Swan View 6056; Ph: 9255 3825. Meetings: AGM 2nd Sat in March. Meetings: 10am 2nd Sat June, Sept and Dec at Canning-Victoria Park Sub-Branch, 162 Wharf St, Cannington.

LEGACY – FREMANTLE

LIMBLESS SOLDIERS' ASSOC OF WA (INC)
President: PR Collins. c/o TPI Memorial House, 80-82 Henley St, Como. Correspondence to: Secretary: Rosemary Maddren, Private Bag 12, Bentley Delivery Centre, Bentley 6983; Ph: 9450 6428. Meetings: 1st Wed monthly (except Jan) at 1:30pm. Office hrs: 9-11am Tues, 9am-12pm Wed & Thurs.

MALAYA MERDEKA VETERANS (WA)
Vice-President: Bruce Dennis, Ph: 9335 6535. Correspondence to 24 Sherrington Rd, Greenwood 6169; Phone for Meeting details.

MIDDLE EAST VAD ASSOC WA
President: Joan Dowson MBE OAM, 3 Bay View Tce, Mosman Park; Ph: 9384 6712. Correspondence to the Secretary, Mrs L Fealy, 156/10 Morrison St, Como 6152; Ph: 9313 0456. Meetings: as called.

"N" CLASS DESTROYER ASSOC
President: Noel Sinclair, 16/289 Sydney Rd, Gnangara; Ph: 9405 1598. Correspondence to Secretary: Dorothy Higgins, 69 Spigel Wy, Bateman 6150; Ph: 9332 5723. Meetings: Committee – 1st Mon bi-monthly (general – 10am April & Sep) AGM – 10.30am last Mon July.

NATIONAL MALAYA & BORNEO VETERANS' ASSOC (AUSTRALIA) INC
President: G. Chapman, 18 Zelkova Way, Padbury 6025; Ph: 9457 0482. Secretary: John Hully, 9a Glover St, Victoria Park 6052; Ph: 9398 5983. All correspondence to NMBVA (WA), PO Box 1117, Canning Vale 6970.

NATIONAL SERVICEMEN'S ASSOC OF AUSTRALIA (WA BRANCH)
President: Alan Johns, PO Box 829, Mandurah 6210; Ph/fax: 9581 6026. A/Secretary: Des Casey, 5 Johnstone Way, Padbury, 6025; Ph: 9307 2070. Mail to: PO Box 829, Mandurah 6210.
NAVAL ASSOC OF AUSTRALIA, CITY OF FREMANTLE SUB-SECTION
President/Secretary: Don Needham, 16 Warragoon Cres, Attadale 6156; Ph: 9330 3411. Meetings: 11.30am last Mon morning, Navy Club, Fremantle.
NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA, CITY OF PERTH SUB-SECTION
President: Ben Haseldine, 71 Lynton St, Mt Hawthorn; Ph: 9444 3762. Correspondence to Secretary: John Ross, 1 Bennewe Rd, Floreat 6014; Ph: 9387 6960. Meetings: 11am 4th Tues monthly, 71 West Pde, East Perth; AGM: 5.15pm 4th Thurs Jan.
NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (WA) SECTION INC
President: Jack Appleby, 143 McDonald St, Joondanna; Ph: 9444 3598. Secretary Tom Oakley, 43 Strickland St, Mt Claremont; Ph: 9227 8143. Correspondence to: GPO Box 8289, Perth Business Centre, Aberdeen St, East Perth 6001.
NETHERLANDS EX-SERVICEMEN'S ASSOC IN AUST
President: Ernst Baints, 154 Wood St, Inglewood; Ph: 9271 1524. Secretary: Kathryn Moore. Correspondence to PO Box 311, Inglewood 6932. Meetings: 11am 1st Tues, Nollamara/North Perth Sub-Branch, 68 Sylvia St, Nollamara 6061; AGM 1pm within last week in November.
NORMANDY VETERANS' ASSOC
President: JE Meyers, 15 Finlay Crt, Rivervale; Ph: 9478 2071. Correspondence to Secretary: R Bruce, 2/159 Fitzroy Rd, Rivervale 6103; Ph: 9362 3597. Meetings: 11am 1st Tues monthly, ANZAC House.
PARTIALLY BLINDED SOLDIERS' ASSOC WA BRANCH
President: Tom Hampton, 61 Gairloch St, Applecross 6153; Ph: 9364 2335. Correspondence to Secretary: M J. Rinaldi, 35 Weaponess Rd, Scarborough 6019; Ph: 9341 6151. Meetings: 1pm 1st Tues each month (except Jan) at ANZAC House at 1.00pm.
PEGASUS (AIRBORNE FORCES) ASSOC OF WA (INC)
President: Ken Barnes, 8 Grenada Place, Safety Bay 6169; Ph: 9591 1784. Correspondence to Secretary: John Hately, 14 Purley St, Bayswater 6053; Ph: 9279 8626. Meetings: 12 noon 1st Wed monthly, ANZAC Club; AGM Feb.
PERTH LEGACY INCORPORATED
President: Eric Watts; Secretary: Gerald B. Haddon. Contact at Legacy House, 64 Mill Point Rd, South Perth 6151; Phone 9367 5799. AGM: 3rd Wednesday in Nov at 6.30pm.
POLISH EX-SERVICEMEN'S ASSOC SUB-BRANCH NO. 9
President/Secretary: Dr W Gorski OAM; Ph: 9447 5559. Correspondence to 33 Eighteenth Ave, Maylands 6051.
RAAF ASSOC AIRFIELD CONSTRUCTION SQUADRONS BRANCH
President: Ron Lopaten; Ph: 9535 7830. Secretary: Ray Smith; Ph: 9534 3522. Meetings: quarterly at RAAF Assn Clubrooms, 133 Mandurah Tce, Mandurah.
RAAF ASSOC MANDURAH BRANCH
President: John McMahon. Corresponds to Secretary Jack Flanigan, PO Box 1015, Mandurah, 6210. AGM: 3rd Tues of month at 1.30pm. Committee Meeting: 2nd Friday of the month at 1.30pm.
RAAF 467-463 LANCASTER SQUADRONS ASSOC WA
President: John MacKenzie, 186 Weaponess Rd, Wembley 6019; Ph: 9341 1358. Correspondence to Secretary: Jim Quinn, 9 Redcourt Rd, Attadale 6156; Ph: 9330 4151 Meetings: 4 times/year, RAAF Association, Bullcreek.
RAEME ASSOCIATION OF WA
President John Klein, Ph: 9279 3080; Secretary John Curtis, Ph: 9271 4520. Correspondence to PO Box 186, Bayswater 6053 or e-mail curtisj@bigpond.com AGM: end of March each year. Meetings: 1st Thurs each month at 1900 hours (except Jan) at ANZAC House, 28 St Georges Tce Perth.
RAEME CORPS COMMITTEE (WA BRANCH)
Contact Information Officer: Don Horsley, 11 Celeste St, Wanneroo 6065, Ph: 9306 2946.
RAEME VIETNAM ASSOC
President: Don Horsley; Ph: 9306 2946. Secretary: Garry Whykes; Ph: 9276 1920. Corresponds to: 33 Kamilla Wy, Morley 6062.
RACT/RAASC/RAE(IN) ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
President: Hon. Col. Wayne Tarr RFD ED. Secretary: R E. Doust, 3 Athel Road, Woodlands 6018; Ph: 9446 1622. Correspondence to: PO Box 236, North Perth 6906. Meetings: bi-monthly, last Wed (from Jan) at 5.30pm, Seaview Golf Club, Cottesloe. AGM: 1st Fri in Aug at 6pm.
RATS OF TOBRUK ASSOC (WA BRANCH INC.)
President: Ron Hatch, 2/326 Stirling Hwy, Claremont; Ph: 9384 7573. Correspondence to Secretary: Betty Rumble, 13/19 Byron Rd, Kalamunda 6076; Ph: 9293 2723. Meetings: 1pm 2nd Tues monthly, ANZAC Club.
REGULAR DEFENCE FORCES WELFARE ASSOC (WA BRANCH)
President: Chris Rampant; Ph/fax: 9343 0898. Correspondence to Secretary: Brian F. Cooper OAM JP; PO Box 14, Hillarys, 6025; Ph/fax: 9409 6577. Meetings: 12 noon, 1st Wed monthly, Victoria League, Onslow Rd, Shenton Park.
ROYAL AIR FORCES ASSOC, 1210 BRANCH WA
President: Maurice McFadyen, 161B Gibson Ave, Padbury 6025; Ph/Fax: 9401 5839. Enquiries to Secretary: George Nash, 4 Bilinga Rd., Westminster 6061; Ph: 9344 1279. Meetings: 1st Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm.
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMY FORCES ASSOC (WA DIVISION)
President: Eileen Southern; Ph: 9311 4444. Correspondence to Robert L. Bunney, Bull Creek Dr., Bull Creek 6149; Ph: 9311 4444 (w). Meetings: Air Force Memorial Estate, 3rd Tues.
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMY FORCES ASSOC WA DIVISION INC - BULLCREEK BRANCH
President: Ken Stewart; Ph: 9362 2246. Meetings: 7.30pm 2nd Mon monthly, Meg Olive Room, Air Force Memorial Estate.
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMOURED CORPS
President: Garnet Buckley JP, 23 Quarkum St, Wanneroo; Ph: 9306 4232. Secretary: Lynne Mitchell, 15 Adisham St, Maddington; Ph: 9452 0228. Correspondence to: PO Box 631, Gosnells 6110. For meetings please ring Secretary.
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMY NURSING CORPS ASSOC WA BRANCH
President: Olga Greig, 9 Napier St Morley. Correspondence to Secretary: Helen Birch, 82 Florence Rd, Nedlands 6009; Ph: 9386 2396. Meetings: quarterly (contact Secretary).
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMY ORDINANCE CORPS ASSOC WA (INC)
President/Secretary: Col Warren Evans, 16 Lorrimah Pl, Murdoch 6150. Ph/fax: 9310 3618. Treasurer: Kevin Graham, PO Box 97, Claremont. Ph: 9389 1406. AGM held after ANZAC Day March and Service.
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY ASSOC (WA)
President/Correspondence to: John Hobbs, 10 Edgar Wy, Mt Pleasant 6153; Ph: 9364 3568. Secretary/Treasurer R.J. Shurman, 40 Carlyle Cres Duncanra 6023; Ph: 9447 1423. Meetings: 10am 3rd Mon monthly, ANZAC House – open to members and members of affiliated associations.
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ENGINEERS ASSOC OF WA
President: Michael Ryan OAM, 4 Milne Crt, Ocean Reef 6027; Ph: 9307 2385. Correspondence to Secretary: Neville Clark, 26 Linthorne Way, Balga 6061; Ph: 9342 5808. Meetings: 2nd Sun in Feb, Apr, June, Aug and Oct, 13 Fd Sqn RAE, Sappers Way, Irwin Barracks, Karrakatta.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY – ALLIED CHINESE SHIPS
President: Neville Philip, 14 Hamilton Crt, Greenmount; Ph: 9294 1798. Secretary: Mrs B Philip, address as above. Meetings/ luncheon: 11.30am 2nd Fri bi-monthly (from Feb), ANZAC House.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY CLEARANCE DIVERS ASSOCIATION WA CHAPTER
President: Alex Donald DSC, 7 Woodley Cres, Melville Heights; Ph: 9330 6596. Secretary: FOCD Bruce Day, Lot 240 Princeton Dve, Port Bouvard, Mandurah 6210; Ph: 9553 2484 (w), 9534 2753 (h). Correspondence: c/- Auscft Four HMAS Stirling, Rockingham 6958. Meeting: ANZAC Day (AGM) 1300hrs, Navy Club, High St, Fremantle.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY CORVETTES ASSOC (WA)
President: Bernie Edmondson, 3 Moness Pl, Shelley 6148; Ph: 9457 5620. Correspondence to Secretary: Jack Shephard, Unit 45/60 Kalinda Dve, City Beach 6015; Ph: 9385 8400. Meetings: Third Monday Feb, May, Aug and Nov.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN SIGNALS ASSOC WA (INC)
President: Peter Lofdahl, 7 Danaher Mews, Clarkson 6030; Ph: 9305 1303. Corres. to Secretary: Brian Macauley, 173 Hardey Rd, Belmont 6104; Ph: 9277 1406. Meetings: 7pm 1st Thurs monthly (except Jan), ANZAC House – all Signallers welcomed.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN SURVEY CORPS ASSOC
President: Ray Sargeant, 29 Bouvardia Wy, Greenwood; Ph: 9448 5787. Correspondence to Secretary: Philip Bray, 33 Nalpa Wy, Duncraig 6023. Meetings: ANZAC Day, Corps Birthday (July) and Christmas.

SOUTH EAST ASIA COMMAND
Contact: John Martin, 9 Gladstone St, St James 6102; Ph: 9361 3390. Airforce and Associated Units (e.g. Chinids serving in 14th Army Theatre 1939-1945).

SUBMARINERS’ ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
President: Alan Jameson, 7 Rodondo Pl, Shelley; Ph: 9457 1715. Correspondence to Secretary: Mike Pearson, 19/196 St Kilda Rd, Rivervale 6103; Ph: 9277 3741. Meetings: 7.30pm 2nd Wed monthly (except Dec) at Leederville Bowling Club.

THE AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION OF TOTALLY & PERMANENTLY INCAPACITATED EX-SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN WA BRANCH INC
President: Kelvin Ferris, Ph 9450 1921. Secretary: Hubert Tucker, 161 Sixth Ave Inglewood 6052; Ph: 9272 3463. Correspondence to Private Bag 12, Bentley Delivery Centre, Bentley, 6983. Meetings: 10.30am 2nd Tues monthly (except Jan); Luncheons: weekdays by booking day prior.

THE AUSTRALIAN WATER TRANSPORT RAE AIF ASSOC (WA BRANCH)
President: J Patterson, 53 Brinckley Cres, Koondoola 6064; Ph: 9342 0142. Correspondence to Secretary: B Thomas, 18/ 19 Bulrush Dr, Bibra Lake; Ph: 9417 8585. Meetings: 11.30am 1st Mon (if holiday, Tues) monthly (except Jan), ANZAC Club.

THE BURMA STAR ASSOC – WANNEROO BRANCH
President: Brig NEG Manual (Ret’d), 11/10 Houtman St, Rossmoyne; Ph: 9459 1191. Secretary: Ben Colquhoun, 5 Oakland Ave, Cloverdale 6105; Ph: 9277 4814. Meetings: 2nd Wed monthly, 49 Banksia St, Joondanna.

THE BURMA STAR ASSOC (WA BRANCH)
President: John Barton, 7/5 Sepia Crt, Rockingham; Ph: 9527 3351. Correspondence to Secretary: Vivienne Holmes, 11 Dooman Rd, Nedlands 6009; Ph: 9386 1495. Meetings: 10.30am 3rd Wed monthly (AGM 17 June), ANZAC Club.

THE HEAVY ANTI-AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION (WA)
President: Len De Grussa, 43 Pitt St, Dianella; Ph: 9276 7253. Secretary: Mrs Ronnie Roach, 90 Herdsman Pde, Wembley; Ph: 9387 1843.

THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN REGIMENT ASSOC (WA BRANCH)
President: Ken Barrington; Ph: 9446 4227. Secretary: Kevin Trent, 3 Broad St, Kensington; Ph: 9367 7794. Correspondence to: PO Box 6409, East Perth 6892. Meetings: Gurney VC RSL Hall, East Vic Park.

THE ROYAL MARINES ASSOC (WA BRANCH)
President: G. Chapman, 18 Zelkova Wy, Parkwood; Ph: 9457 0482. Correspondence to Secretary: F Walsh, 50 Wanjina Cres, Wanneroo 6065; Ph: 9405 2001. Meetings: 8pm last Tues monthly at Navy Club, Fremantle; AGM: 5pm 28 Feb 1999.

THE ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION FREMANTLE (WA) BRANCH
President: David Wiseman; 7 Andros Rd, Safety Bay; Ph: 9592 1458. Correspondence to Secretary: Frank Cooke-Willis, 1/46 Solomon St Palmyra 6157; Ph: 9339 5573. Meetings: 1st Tues monthly (except Jan). We offer all RSL memberat 2pm at Navy Club (Inc), 64 High St, Fremantle.

THE ROYAL NAVAL ASSOC, MARMION BRANCH, NORTHERN SUBURBS
Chairman: A Hobbah. 29 Centennial Gdns, Hillarys 6025; Ph: 9402 4748. Correspondence to Secretary: H Walmsley, 217 Gibson Ave, Padbury 6025; Ph: 9304 7017. Meetings: 2nd Tues monthly at 7.30pm Whitfords Sea Sports Club, Ocean Reef Boat Harhour. AGM: 2nd Tues in February at 7.30pm.

THE ROYAL NAVAL ASSOC PERTH (WA) BRANCH
Chairman: Ivan Hunter. 28 Bandol Gdns. Secret Harbour; Ph: 9524 7506. Correspondence to Secretary: Geoffrey Paige, 106 Lansdowne St, Kensington 6151; Ph: 9367 1945. Meetings: 10am May-Oct, 7.30pm Nov-April, 3rd Wed monthly at RSL Hall, Belmont: AGM: 7.30pm 18 March; visitors welcome.

THE ROYAL NAVAL ASSOC (ROCKINGHAM & DISTRICTS BRANCH WA)
Chairman: Ted Haines. Richard Close, Waikiki; Ph: 9592 9506. Correspondence to Secretary: D.V. Rawe, 62B Frederick St, Shoalwater 6169; Ph: 9592 6148. Meetings: 11am 1st Sun June-Aug; 7.30pm 1st Tues Sept-May (except Jan), TS ANZAC, Point Peron Rd, Rockingham.

THE SERVICES ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
President: Doug Rasmussen. Ph: 9221 7010 or 9221 7090, Fax: 9221 1117. 28 St. Georges Tce, Perth 6000. Includes Services Joblink, Cypress Cottage, Pension Assistance.

THE SPITFIRE GROUP
Organiser: Eric Carpenter; Ph: 9342 2779. Correspondence to: 21 Keemore Dr, Balga 6061. Luncheon meetings. ANZAC House, 4th Thurs of Jan, March, May, July, Sept. and Nov at 1200 hours. All ex-Spitfire Squadron members are welcome.
THIRTYNINERS' ASSOC OF AUSTRALIA
President: JP Hall, A/3 Hellam Grv, Booragoo; Ph: 9364 7776.
Correspondence to: Mrs F.E. Johnson AAM, 38 Renwick St, South Perth 6151;
Ph: 9367 5949. Meetings: 12pm 4th Wed bi-monthly from March, ANZAC House.

TOTAULLY AND PARTIALLY DISABLED VETERANS OF WA
President: Peter Douglas; Ph: 9592 6608. Secretary: Steve Cooper; Ph/fax: 9527 3865. Correspondence to: PO Box 352, Rockingham 6968. Meetings: 10:30am 1st Tues monthly, social get-togethers 3rd Tues monthly, Naval Assoc; Building, Point Peron Rd, Point Peron.

TRIBAL CLASS DESTROYERS ASSOCIATION (WA)
President: Bryan Bremer, 62 Teranaca Gardens, Mandurah: 6210 Ph. 9534 9202. Correspondence to Secretary: Jack Le Cras, 10 Kenton Court, Kingsley 6026; Ph: 9409 1014.

UNITED KINGDOM-COMBINED EX-SERVICES FEDERATION
President: Gordon Norton, 39/132 Cockburn Rd., Munster, 6166. All correspondence the Secretary, Mike Pearson, 19/196 St Kilda Rd., Rivervale 6103; Ph: 9277 3741. Meetings: held monthly at members’ homes. Contact Secretary for information.

VETERANS’ LEGION OF AUSTRALIA
President: Jim de Turt, Ph: 9401 9086. Secretary, Ron Ryan, Ph: 9409 6271. Correspondence to PO Box 770, Hillarys 6923. Meetings are held monthly at Whitfords Tavern, Hillarys. AGM held Sept yearly. Calendar of meetings from Secretary.

VIETNAM LOGISTICAL SUPPORT VETERANS’ ASSOC (WA) INC.
President: R.C. (China) Hammal, 18 Paddington Ct, Bibra Lake; Ph: 9434 6247. Correspondence to Sec: Ronald Rowe, 20 Nethercott St, Huntingdale 6110; Ph: 9490 3625. Meetings: 3rd Tues every 2nd month, Victoria Cross Room, ANZAC House.

VIETNAM VETERANS’ ASSOC OF AUSTRALIA (WA BRANCH)
President: Rob Cox; Ph: 9455 5310 (h) 0418 928 621 (mob). Correspondence to Secretary: PO Box 528, Willton 6955; Office: 38 Kalgoorlie St, Mt Hawthorn 6016; Ph/fax 9443 3759. Meetings: quarterly - dates to be confirmed with Secretary.

VIETNAM VETERANS MOTOR CYCLE CLUB (WA) INC.
President: John Lewis, Ph: 9247 3769. Secretary: Christopher A. Bruce; Ph/fax: 9440 5353. All correspondence to Secretary, PO Box 1442 Wangaara 6065. Meetings: 7.30pm 2nd Mon each month at VVMC Clubhouse, Nolamara. AGM Oct each year.

WA DIVISION WILD GESE INTERNATIONAL (INC)
CO: Doug Whitworth, 5 Penelope Pl, Innaloo 6018; Ph: 9446 2611; Sec: Ruth Lanigan. 37 Gossamer St Mirrabooka 6061; Tel: 9342 7038. Mail to CO. Meetings Bi-monthly: 2nd Tues at 12 noon. AGM 3rd Sat in Aug. 12 noon, Golden Bay Hall. CB Radio sessions Mon at 7.30pm & Wed at 8pm on ch. 28 LSB.

WA RSL BOWLS SECTION
President: Les Fynmore. 2/42 Reynolds Rd, Mt Pleasant; Ph: 9364 1476. Correspondence to Secretary: Ted Philip, 8a Henning Cres. Manning 6152; Ph: 9450 4033. Meetings: 10am 3rd Mon monthly. Osborne Park Bowling Club.

WA RSL BOWLS SECTION
President: Les Fynmore. 2/42 Reynolds Rd, Mt Pleasant; Ph: 9364 1476. Correspondence to Secretary: Ted Philip, 8a Henning Cres. Manning 6152; Ph: 9450 4033. Meetings: 10am 3rd Mon monthly. Osborne Park Bowling Club.

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President: Les Fynmore. 2/42 Reynolds Rd, Mt Pleasant; Ph: 9364 1476. Correspondence to Secretary: Ted Philip, 8a Henning Cres. Manning 6152; Ph: 9450 4033. Meetings: 10am 3rd Mon monthly. Osborne Park Bowling Club.

WA WAAAF ASSOCIATION (NOR-WAAAF GROUP)
President: Patricia Pollard, 9/178 Edinsboro St, Joondanna 6060; Ph: 9444 7383. Correspondence to Jean James, 206 Cedric St, Balclutha 6021; Ph: 9349 8262. Meetings: last Thurs each month (except December and January) at 1200 hrs. ANZAC House.

WAAAF BRANCH AFA (WA DIVISION)
Pres: Kathleen Adamson, 27 The Promenade, Mt Pleasant; Ph: 9364 4028. Correspondence to Secretary: Kathleen (Kate) Quan, 79 Harris House, AFME, Bull Creek Drive, Bull Creek 6149; Ph: 9311 4279. Meetings: 10:30am 2nd Mon monthly (except Jan), Memorial House, Air Force Memorial Estate, Bullcreek.

WAR VETERANS EXTREMELY DISABLED SOCIETY INC
President: Eric Hammond, 7 Moffat Pl, Warwick 6024; Ph: 9448 2314. Secretary Treasurer: Aurelie Bergin, PO Box 130 Hillarys 6923; Ph: 9402 2043. Meetings 10am 1st Wed bi-monthly at the Cityspace Community Centre, Perth Railway Station. Next meeting Jan 5, 2000.

WRAAC ASSOCIATION (WA)
President/Secretary: May Tomich, 2 Luddlands St, Morley; Ph: 9276 8616. Correspondence to: PO Box 6149, East Perth 6892. Meetings: 6pm 20 Mar, 19 June (AGM), 18 Sept, 20 Nov, ANZAC House.

WRAAF BRANCH - RAAF ASSOCIATION
President: Judy Bland, 2 Graphic Ct, Beldon; Ph: 9401 8296. Secretary: Eileen Southern; Ph: 9311 4382. Correspondence: c/- RAAF, Bullcreek Dr, Bullcreek 6149. Meetings: 7.30pm 1st Tues monthly, Meg Olive Room, RAAF Association, Bullcreek.

Z SPECIAL UNIT ASSOCIATION OF WA INC
President: Bob Long, 16 Beechboro Rd, Bayswater 6053; Ph: 9271 5766. Correspondence to Secretary: Lt Col Ted Dubberlin ED RL JP, 28A Houston Ave, Dianella 6062; Ph: 9275 1348. Meetings as arranged.

Z SPECIAL UNIT INTERNATIONAL (INC).
Vice Chairman: Ross Davidson; Ph: 9383 7654. Secretary: Lou Pola; Ph: 9446 2784. Correspondence to PO Box 7, Innaloo City 6918.

1ST AUSTRALIAN PARACHUTE BATTALION, WB BRANCH
President: Bill Rose, 19 Jukes Wy, Glendale; Ph: 9444 6858. Correspondence to Secretary: Ron Waters, 25 Clyo Wy, Kallaroo 6025; Ph: 9307 0709.

2/2 COMMANDO ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
President: R.D. Darrington, 151 Koondooloo Ave Koondooloo 6064; Ph: 9342 8032. Correspondence to Secretary: JW Carey, 13 Stoddard Way, Bateman 6155; Ph: 9332 7050. Correspondence to PO Box T1646, GPO, Perth 6001. Meetings: 2nd 10am monthly, ANZAC House.

2/3 COMPOSITE ANTI-AIRCRAFT REGIMENT, SEARCH LIGHT BATTERY ASSOC (WA BRANCH)
President: Jack Manners, 3/85 Macleod Rd, Applecross; Ph: 9364 5649. Secretary: Merv Smith, 3/7 Luffingham St, Melville; Ph: 9317 1530. Meetings: bi-monthly from Feb

2/3RD FIELD REGIMENT ASSOCIATION
Pres/Sec: W.S.T. Stacy, 3 Jull Cn, Kardinya 6163; Ph: 9337 6227. Meetings: 10:30am 2nd Wed monthly (AGM 11am May) ANZAC House.

2/3RD MACHINE GUN BATTALION
President: KE Eckermann, 31 Tranquill Rd, Kelmscott; Ph: 9390 6072. Correspondence to Secretary: FJ (Banjo) Binshead, 101 Star St, Carlisle 6101; Ph: 9361 8762.

2/4TH MACHINE GUN BATTALION AIF EX-MEMBERS ASSOC
President: E.W. Wallin, 3/63 Constance St, Nollamara 6061; Ph: 9349 1409. Correspondence to Secretary: J. Kyros, 35 Covent Gardens, Stirling, 6021; Ph: 9445 2886. Meetings: 10am 3rd Tues monthly, ANZAC House; AGM: 12 noon ANZAC Day.
2/7TH AUSTRALIAN FIELD REGIMENT (WA) EX-MEMBERS ASSOC
President: Bill Hepton, 2 Cooba Pl, Duncraig; Ph: 9447 4473.
Correspondence to Secretary: Peter Kennedy, 2A Onslow Rd, Shenton Park 6008; Ph: 9381 9335. Meetings: 11am 2nd Tues monthly except Jan (AGM Aug), Pure Steel Room Gloucester Park.

2/7TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION ASSOC WA SECT.
President: Keith Fruin, 2/74 McCallum St, Ardross; Ph: 9364 7160. Secretary: Vern Sprigg, 8 Moss Vale, Floreat 6014; Ph: 9387 6732. Reunion after ANZAC Day. March and Service.

2/7TH FIELD AMBULANCE
President/Secretary: Hal Finkelstein, 15 Jukes Wy, Glendalough 6016; Ph: 9444 0328. Reunion, September each year.

2/11TH AIF BN ASSOCIATION
President: Ivan Walter, 4/18 Macleod Rd, Applecross 6153; Ph: 9364 3270; Correspondence to Secretary: John Watson, 686 Canning Hwy, Applecross 6153; Ph: 9364 2126. Meetings: 10am 3rd Tues monthly, ANZAC House; AGM 17 March.

2/13TH FIELD AMBULANCE ASSOC AIF
President: Mervyn Schofield, 8 Tyre Ave, Riverton; Ph: 9457 2421. Secretary: Len McCarthy, 31 Marradong St, Coolbinia; Ph: 9444 1927. Meetings: pre-ANZAC Day luncheon, ANZAC House; AGM: last Fri Oct.

2/16TH BATTALION AIF ASSOC
President: J.F. Moir, 6 West Crt, Bullcreek; Ph: 9332 6684; Correspondence to Secretary: J.S. Miller, 120 Lockhart St, Como; Ph: 9450 4170. Meetings: 10.30am 1st Wed monthly, ANZAC House. Editor: Pigeon Post: D.K. Norrish, 6 Magnolia Wy/PO Box 26, Forrestfield 6058; Ph: 9453 2001; Assistant Editor: Ian Darrock, 9A Silkyoak Pl, Morley; Ph: 9378 3705.

2/28TH BATTALION & 24TH ANTI-TANK COY ASSOC
President: R. Middleton, 125/510 Marmion Ave, Booragoon 6154; Ph: 9330 1496. Correspondence to Secretary, T.R. Stenhous, 47 Evandale St, Floreat 6014; Ph: 9387 1944; Meetings: ANZAC House 2nd Wed monthly, visitors welcome; AGM: 2nd Wed August.

2/32ND BATTALION ASSOCIATION WA
President: Collin Savage, 467 North Beach Rd, Gwelup 6018; Ph: 9448 7907. Correspondence to Secretary, Colin Edmiston. 3/456 Main St, Balclata 6021; Ph: 9349 0799. AGM: April 25 at 2pm.

2/43RD BATTALION ASSOC WA DIVISION
President: Eric Treloar, 2 Alison Rd, Attadale; Ph: 9330 4764. Secretary: Wally Hughes, 20 Aberle St, Hamilton Hill 6163; Ph: 9337 2088. Meetings: 3rd Wed monthly (AGM 12pm Sept), ANZAC House.

3 TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNIT ASSOC (RAAF)
President: R.J. Squiers; Ph: 9349 0955. Secretary: Ray De Freain, 10 Cordova Crt, Craigie 6025; Ph: 9401 3293. Lunch: 11am-1pm 2nd Thurs monthly, ANZAC Club.

7 ARMY TROOPS COY RAE ASSOC
President: Jack Benari, 38 Roebuck Dr, Salter Point; Ph: 9450 3876. Secretary: Colin Wilson, 41 Gerald Ave, Willetton 6155. Reunion: last Fri Sept, about 60 attend.

7TH BN THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN REGIMENT (PIG BN)
President: Don Cruden, 26 Little River Close, Jane Brook; Ph: 9374 0014. Secretary: Doug Fieldhouse, 509 The Strand, Dianella; Ph: 9275 8598. Meetings: as arranged.

11TH BATTALION AIF 13TH BDE WWII
President: Roy Walsh MM, 63 Sexton Dr, Inglewood; Ph: 9271 5769. Correspondence to Secretary: Don Angwin, 7/6 Mt Henry Rd, Como 6152; Ph: 9450 1833. Meetings: as arranged.

11TH DIVISION SIGNALS
President: Bill Gill; Ph: 9332 8536. Correspondence to Secretary: N Deakin, 20 Canterbury Dr, Willetton 6153; Ph: 9457 1163. Meetings: contact Secretary.

16TH BATTALION, THE CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF WA ASSOC
President: Bob Street, 24 Piercy Way, Kardinya 6163; Ph: 9337 5203. Correspondence to Secretary: James Richardson, 6 Isaac St, Melville 6156; Ph: 9330 5405. Meetings: members advised by letter as required.

22ND CONSTRUCTION SQUADRON RAE EX-MEMBERS ASSOC
President: Ron Dupuy, 21 Attra St, Balcatta 6021; Ph: 9344 5841 (mobile 0412 908 381). Correspondence to Secretary, Neville Clark, 26 Linthorne Way, Balga 6061; Ph: 9342 5808. Annual reunion early April.

25 SQUADRON
President: AJ Ferrier, 15 Albermarle Way, High Wycombe 6057; Ph: 9454 8260. Correspondence to Secretary, 25 Sqn. RAFAF, Bull Creek Dr., Bull Creek 6149. Secretary: Suzanne Hains, Ph: 9379 0472. Meetings: 2nd Monday monthly, 10.30am, AFA Conference Room.

28TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION (AIF) 1938-45 ASSOC

44TH BATTALION (AIF) ASSOC
President: David Atherden, 17/71 Corbel St, Shelley 6148. Meetings: ANZAC Day; AGM: pre-reunion meeting held 1st & 2nd Fri Nov.

48TH & 2/48TH BATTALION ASSOC
President: Don Spencer, 6 Killara Wy, Craigie; Ph: 9401 5744. Ph: 9457 4693. Correspondence to Secretary: Brian Corboy, 11A Ventnor Ave, Mt Pleasant 6153; Ph: 9364 7829. Meetings: 11.30am 3rd Mon monthly, Carlton Hotel.

460 SQUADRON RAFF ASSOC
President: Gerry Bateman DFC, 30 Norton Ridge, Winthrop; Ph: 9332 5051. Correspondence to Secretary: NB Johnson, 63 Kirwin St, Floreat Park 6014; Ph: 9387 4229. Meetings: quarterly.

1940 DUNKIRK VETERANS' ASSOC
President: RH Duncaflfe, 6b Taree St, Glen Forrest; Ph: 9298 8574. Correspondence to Secretary: Peter Hessel, 24 Myndee Wy, Nollamara 6061; Ph: 9344 1756. Meetings: 1.30pm 1st Tues monthly, ANZAC House; AGM 1st Tues in May.

UNIT ASSOCIATION DETAILS - PLEASE NOTE:
Unit Association details for inclusion in this column are limited to the President's and Secretary's names, addresses (or relevant postal address), and telephone numbers, plus brief meeting details. In order for more articles of general interest to be included, it is important that these entries are restricted to six pages only in this magazine. CHRIS BROOKS, Editor.
Last Post

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old. Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun, and in the morning, we will remember them. LEST WE FORGET

AUGUST 1999

16910, Beall, W.S., Mosman Park, RAAF
WX26066, Beauchelhe, Dennis, Bunbury, Z Spec Unit
19038311, Davison, George, Belmont, R Sig
WX33852, Espinos, P., Bedford-Morely, 17A1B
WX115552, Fallon, Mulwara R., Darling Range, 2/2 CDO
WX32713, Finkelstein, Ralph, Yokine-Joondanna, 2/2 CDO
WX38652, Fox, Joseph L., Busselton, 2/33 TPT
F5364, Hardington, Laurence K., Murray, RAN
D305, Jaskalski, Boleslaw, Bellevue, Police Army
W2050, Jenkins, Peter E., Bunbury, 16 Bn
WX4616, King, J.A., Manning, 2/16 Aust Inf Bn
16492, Kramer, Lou, Osborne Park, RN
WX34560, Larson, Roy A., City of Cockburn, 2/16 Aust Inf Bn
85384, Marrable, G.D., Bellevue, RAF
WX7223, Martinson, S.G., Bunbury, 2/28 Aust Inf Bn
545153, McKechnie, John K., Mandurah, South African Med
SX13391, Mitchell, William R., Yokine-Joondanna, 2/2 A-Hos Ship
WX21118, Morgan, Francis G., Geraldton city, 1384 Work Shop
WX1005, Mulgrave, A.R., Claremont, 2/11 Aust Inf Bn
QX7518, Mullane, Kennedy T., Collie-Cardiff, 2/3 Flc Regt
WX4953, Niblett, Alfred H., City of Rockingham, 2/3 Flc Regt
WX13626, Pearce, R.W., Scarborough, 2/28 Aust Inf Bn
29848, Pike, D., Busselton, RAF
A58220, Sheppard, Thomas L., Collie-Cardiff, RAF
3791303, Shoppee, David C., City of South Perth
38386, Teede, Francis A., Como
WX7420, Thompson, Alexander S., Como 2/107 AGT
PJX73862, Waldron, Alfred T., Como, RN
WX22431, Ward, Kenneth R., City of Perth, 511AID
94735, Williams, Michael T., Bindoon, Royal Arty
WX22345, Craig, Reginald F., Nollamara-Nth Perth, 10 W/S
**H2 00253, Kwiecinski, Zbigiew T., Highgate, Polish Army
17798, Cole, H.E., Como, RAF
46092, Crane, George H., Central, RAF

SEPTEMBER 1999

93956, Alberti, Robert M., City of Perth, Eng
WX22135, Aunins, G.M., Returned Sisters, 2/67 AGH
WX2383, Balaam, Arthur L., City of Perth, 2/31 Aust Inf Bn
404049, Berry, John R., Central, NZ Air Force
WX2398, Bunney, R.G., Geraldton city, 2/1 MG Bn
406468, Callaghan, W., Cottesloe, RAF
WX13523, Cooper, Alfred, Maylands-Railways, 2/4 Regt
W28581, Cotterell, Nora, Mandurah, RCOS ATS
5/2645, Court, Sydney H, City of Perth, West Comd Band
WX28040, Cox, Melville V., Wembley-Floreat, 13 Flc Eng
893, Dodds, Natalie, City of Rockingham, WAAF
5/1813, Eastwood, Keith M., Central, 1 RAR
94761, Eaton, Marjorie D., Bunbury, WAAF
1624310, Ellis, Richard L., Wongan Hills, RAAF
WX5088, Fee, Andrew, City of Perth, 2/4 Mg Bn
WX18660, Fitzgerald, Edward R., Mandurah, 2/5 Aust Cdo Sqn
W15434, Flynn, Raymond J., Collie-Cardiff, 125 Aust Gen Hosp
WX 10486, Fowler, H.C., Bicton-Palmyra, 2/3 Flc Regt
NX19753, Greene, Robert G., Central, 2/3 Aust A/A Regt
WX3933, Hadley, A.K., City of cockburn, 2/7 Flc Regt
SX6397, Haines, Richard C., Karridale-Augusta, HQ 25 Bde
WX65359, Hayes, Francis E., Exmouth, Tpt
F3520, Hendrie, Douglas A., Central, RAN
WX14831, Hill, Eric J., Mount Barker, 2/5 Aust Inf Bn
CX4926, Hill, John D., Wembley-Floreat, MM
45025, Holmes, H., Bicton-Palmyra, RAAF
77197, Kay, Henry J., Nedlands, RAF
278517, Keat, Peter W., Mandurah, 7 RAR
WX38777, King, Fred T., City of Perth, 3rd Aust Corps
WX24103, McAllister, Owen N., Claremont, 9 Div AASC
116008, Meyer, Kenneth E., Highgate, RAAF
WX1098, Mitchell, Arthur, Central, 2/11 Aust Inf Bn
WX3222, Moffatt, G.D., Belmont, 12 Aust Fd Coy
WX33615, Murray, Robert K., Mount Hawthorn, Sapper Tpt
WX9640, Pettit, L.P., Geraldton City, 2/28 Aust Inf Bn
F3945, Ramsay, John R., E. Vic Park and Vietnam V, RAN
WX28296, Randle, W.C., City of Subiaco, 2/7 Aust Inf Bn
QX25789, Redmond, Geoffrey J., Bunbury, 16 Flc Co RAE
WX105, Ripp, John L. Como, 2/3 Flc Rgt
FV327, Rose, George A., City of Rockingham, RAN
A51768, Stickland, Allen, Wanneroo-Joondalup, RAAF
WX14341, Sutton, W.R., Wongan Hills, 2/32 Aust Inf Bn
29687, Taylor, Harry, Bunbury, 114 FCU
41164, Tegart, Arthur R., Applecross, 461 Sunderland Sqn
F5408, West J, Wembley-Floreat, RAN
WX4052, Winfield, John, Busselton, 11 Aust Inf Bn
WX4060, Baxter, Allan G., Bunbury, 2/2 Flc Pk
**H200147, Brice, Maxwell, Highgate, RAN
WX16827, Broom, John A., Mandurah, Papuan Inf Bn
WX667, Cunningnam, W.J., Geraldton City, 2/11 Aust Inf Bn
80047, Klopper, Harold, Bellevue, RAAF
WX10322, Blakeway, C., Mandurah, 2/4 Mg Bn
WXFX23352, Whitfield, Thelma M., Returned Sisters, 110 AGH

OCTOBER 1999

NX51292, Anderson, James R., City of Perth, 2/1 Aust Pnr Bn
WX30994, Batt, C.H., Boddington, 16 Aust Inf Bn
WX30972, Bell, L.A., Como, 3 Div Sigs
WX11573, Breeze, Gordon G., Mandurah, 2/4 M G Bn
5900047, Cockman, Albert G., Nannup, CMF
FV172, Colledge, O.S., Manning, RAN
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We regret omitting the following from a previous edition of The Listening Post
WX26713, Lovejoy, George W., Mandurah, 18 of C Sigs
Mr. Lovejoy died on 3 November, 1998
We also apologise to the relatives of Ian Leonard Pryce whose date of death was listed as May 1999. Mr. Pryce died on 24 July 1999.

Beach Burial

Softly and humbly to the Gulf of Arabs
The convoys of dead sailors come;
At night they sway and wander in the waters far under,
But morning rolls them in the foam.

Between the sob and clubbing of the gunfire
Someone, it seems, has time for this,
To pluck them from the shallows and bury them in burrows
And tread the sand upon their nakedness;
And each cross, the driven stake of tidewood,
Bears the last signature of men,
Written with such perplexity, with such bewildered pity,
The words choke as they begin–

"Unknown seaman"–the ghostly pencil
Wavers and fades, the purple drips,
The breath of the wet season has washed their inscriptions
As blue as drowned men's lips,
Dead seamen, gone in search of the same landfall,
Whether as enemies they fought,
Or fought with us, or neither; the sand joins them together,
Enlisted on the other front.

KENNETH SLESSOR
PROUD SUPPORTERS OF THE RSL IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Prop: Allan Kambouris, ex-serviceman, W02 Artillery 3rd Australian Field Regiment. Member of Bedford Morely Sub-Branch

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- Record and playback for up to 10 hours
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- Green LED display
- AM/FM radio
- Snooze button

519 WALTER RD EAST
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(Near corner WALTER RD EAST & BEECHBORO RD (Next to W.A. Salvage)

PH: 9279 5733

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Prop: Allan Kambouris, ex-serviceman, W02 Artillery 3rd Australian Field Regiment. Member of Bedford Morely Sub-Branch

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TEAC 34cm Colour Television
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TEAC 2 Head Long Play VCR
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TEAC
Clock Radio with Phone
- Green LED display
- AM/FM radio
- Snooze button

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BIG-BLUE BUILDING

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All major credit cards accepted. Layby available over $150. AGC or AVCO finance to approved applicants.
Members of RSL sub-branches and United Kindred Associations are invited to take a tour of Hollywood Private Hospital to see the latest developments. Groups of 15 or more can be taken on conducted tours followed by free refreshments. If your sub-branch or association would like to take a tour, contact Catherine Archer on (08) 9346 6716, during office hours to arrange a suitable date.
Alternatively, Hollywood's executive director, Kevin Cass-Ryall, is available to speak at branch or association meetings.

Some of our star attractions include:

★ Hall of Remembrance opened on the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II.
★ The Hollywood Clinic - 30-bed, in-patient and day patient psychiatric unit.
★ Bullwinkel wing, comprising 122 in-patient beds (75 per cent of which are single rooms), admissions area and foyer.
★ New Hollywood Specialist Centre, comprising 39 medical specialist suites.
★ New cardiology facility, comprising a cardiac catheter laboratory, consulting suites, new 10-bed coronary care unit and acute admissions area.
★ New Day Procedure Unit, Gastroenterology Department and theatre recovery area.
YOUR FREE HOLLYWOOD TOUR STARTS HERE

Members of RSL sub-branches and United Kindred Associations are invited to take a tour of Hollywood Private Hospital to see the latest redevelopments. Groups of 15 or more can be taken on conducted tours followed by free refreshments. If your sub-branch or association would like to take a tour, contact Catherine Archer on (08) 9346 6716, during office hours to arrange a suitable date. Alternatively, Hollywood's executive director, Kevin Cass-Ryall, is available to speak at branch or association meetings.

Some of our star attractions include:

★ Hall of Remembrance opened on the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II.
★ The Hollywood Clinic - 30-bed, in-patient and day patient psychiatric unit.
★ Bullwinkle wing, comprising 122 in-patient beds (75 per cent of which are single rooms), admissions area and foyer.
★ New Hollywood Specialist Centre, comprising 39 medical specialist suites.
★ New cardiology facility, comprising a cardiac catheter laboratory, consulting suites, new 10-bed coronary care unit and acute admissions area.
★ New Day Procedure Unit, Gastroenterology Department and theatre recovery area.