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Prefered method of receiving submissions is via E-mail.
Photographs can be black and white or colour.
This is your journal and contributions are welcome.

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STATE PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

‘FROM THE PRESIDENT’S PEN…’

It is an old saying that ‘the strength of any organisation lies with its membership.’ As one of the largest community organisations in the country we have a large membership but to keep that strength we must continually be on the lookout for new members. By now you should have all received your membership renewal notices and it is hoped that you will attend promptly to this account by paying your renewal subscription at your sub-branch. In 2002 we would like to set a membership target for the WA State Branch of at least 12,000 members. This is an increase of about 10% and will ensure that the League will have a strong voice, not only in the veteran community but also in the wider community. At the recently held National Membership Seminar in Canberra concern was expressed at a projected membership decline due to age factors in the veteran community. It was generally agreed that the most effective way of increasing membership was through individual approach to prospective members at the sub-branch level. This puts the challenge for increasing membership to each and every one of us. I hope you will accept this challenge and set about getting new members into the League. Let’s make 2002 the year of reaching – and perhaps exceeding the 12,000 target.

The recent Federal elections saw the Howard Government returned to Office. The subsequent formation of the Cabinet has resulted in a new Minister for Defence and Minister for Veterans’ Affairs. We congratulate Senator Robert Hill and Mrs Dana Vale respectively on their appointments and look forward to a close working relationship at both National and State level. Already both have indicated the desire to have a close working relationship with the veteran community and you can be assured our priorities will be high on any agenda that is placed before them.

The announcement of winners in the RSL sponsored Spirit of ANZAC Tour to Canberra for Service Cadets took place in early December at ANZAC House. A rigorous selection process resulted in four Cadets being selected to represent Service Cadets. They are to be congratulated for the high standard they achieved in all areas of the selection tests. The Cadets will be involved in the 2002 ANZAC Day Service at the Australian War Memorial in Canberra and will also have the opportunity to visit places of military significance in the National Capital. ACT sub-branches will assist in the programme and offer hospitality to the group. We also acknowledge our sponsors, Hollywood Private Hospital and Heath Lambert Insurance, for their very generous support of the tour. Plans are now being formulated for the 2003 tour, which we expect to be a more comprehensive tour taking in significant battle sites in Australian Military history.

Thanks are offered to all sub-branches and their members for the great effort made to collect for Poppy Day. From all reports received it was a great success and as such provided desperately needed funds for veteran’s welfare. This valuable source of funds ensures that our veterans in distressed circumstances are well cared for by our welfare people. Over the Christmas period we ask that sub-branch welfare officers keep an eye on our elderly veterans to ensure their needs are catered for over this vacation period. Any problems should be attended to as soon as possible.

In the last two months two sub-branches have had the opportunity of showing the public face of the League to the community. I commend Geraldton for their involvement with Rotary International in the commissioning of the HMAS Sydney Memorial on Mt Scott in Geraldton and the Busselton Sub-Branch for their vision in providing facilities and catering for growing membership by opening new Clubrooms in the town. These events have received wide community support and present a very positive image of the League to the community. Well done to both groups.

We also welcome the Cambridge Sub-Branch on to our Register. This Sub-Branch is a rename of the Wembly-Floreat Park Sub-Branch, which has adopted a new name to closely reflect its association with the Town of Cambridge. At their Annual General Meeting in December the new Charter was presented to them with the Mayor, Cr Ross Wilcox in attendance to welcome the new sub-branch into the Town.

Sadly we say farewell to the Welshpool Sub-Branch. After a long and distinguished existence the five remaining members recently decided to call it a day and return the Charter. They will, of course remain as members of the League by joining another close by sub-branch. Welshpool was founded after World War II and served veterans in the southeast metropolitan area for half a century. In its early years it boasted high membership and had its own premises. But with new sub-branches opening in the area and declining membership its final years resulted in existence as a vibrant small social group that filled a need in the local veteran community.

Over the festive season I would ask that you spare a thought for our Service personnel who are serving overseas in peacekeeping forces or on deployment. We wish then a safe and happy Christmas and a speedy return to their loved ones as soon as possible.

At home the festive season is now with us and I would like to wish all members and their families a Merry Christmas and all the best for a prosperous New Year. Christmas is a time to share the joy of love and friendship with loved ones and family. I hope this will be a most memorable occasion for you all.

This year has been a very busy time for the League and in particular sub-branches. Since Congress many projects have been started that will see the League establish itself as a leading community organisation. Your support of these projects is necessary if we are to achieve our set goals. Please accept my thanks for the support you have given to date to the State Branch and to me as your President. I look forward to the challenges of the New Year and working through them with you.

BILL GAYNOR OAM RFD
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It is appropriate to commence my notes with providing details to the membership on the progress of the printing and distribution of the Listening Post Magazine, the primary source of communication with you, the membership.

As previously advised, it was the intention of the League to distribute the magazine every month to some 5,500 members, unfortunately this had some setbacks, finance being the major one presently it has proven very difficult to secure advertisers for the continued printing of the magazine. The marketing company with whom we have been working had a similar to that which the League had had previously in securing consistent advertisers to pay for the printing.

A recent discussion with the marketing company has resulted in a further review of the printing of the magazine, we are still working to distribute 6 editions to each member in 2002, the business plan has been reviewed in detail and a new approach to attract advertisers has been developed.

We do apologise for the delays in the membership receiving the Listening Post and assure you that we are working to produce and deliver a quality magazine on a regular basis to you all as a priority.

2001 - The Year at a Glance

2001 has once again been a positive year for the League with the continued growth of the League, growth in the League's finances, assets and the publics understanding of the role of the League in the community.

ANZAC Day 2001

The League coordinated a successful ANZAC Day Dawn Service with approximately 20,000 people in attendance, the largest seen in Perth in living memory, as quoted by our long serving WWII members who serve as Sub-Wardens at the Memorial.

ANZAC Day was relatively successful in the main, however there are several areas that will be addressed for 2002, reports from participating associations generally had positive comments with the days activities, one very positive point was the location of the saluting dais in St Georges Terrace.

Several WWII associations reported increases in participation due to a much shorter march to the 'Saluting' base for the aged and frail, we will endeavour to improve the line of sight for marchers in 2002.

National Executive Meetings

This year’s attendances to the National Executive Meeting have proven quite positive, particularly for the WA Branch. Several reports and initiatives adopted by the Branch received very favourable comment from the National Executive and its Sub-Committees.

The motions forwarded from this State Branch were generally endorsed by both the National Executive and the National Congress, those that were not successful were due to a variety of reasons, of these factual research being the primary reason as previously reported by the State President.

National Congress - 2001

The State President, Mr Bill Gaynor, Senior Vice President Mr Doug Rasmussen and myself attended the National Congress of the RSL and a National Executive meeting during the period 2-6 September 2001 inclusive.

After a lengthy and detailed debate, the National Executive confirmed the RSL Veterans' Affairs proposals for 2001-2002. These proposals were previously known as the RSL 'Priority List'.

It was felt that there were some apprehensions and misconceptions as to the 'Priority List' amongst (the grass roots) the membership, particularly how submissions were presented. The National Congress resolved to adopt 'RSL Veterans' Affairs Proposals' to reflect how the League viewed the list; in short the proposals are of equal status to the League when presented to Government and the Opposition for review and resolving.

Detailed below are the RSL Veterans' Affairs Proposals (2001-2002)

• The provision of the Gold Card to the following group of veterans:
  a. As a priority, to all Australian Veterans on reaching the age of 70 years and who have qualifying service, irrespective of the operational area of such service.
  b. All other Australian World War II Veterans on reaching the age of 70 years and who do not have qualifying service; and
  c. All British and other Allied Veterans of World War II on reaching the age of 70 years who have qualifying service and are also recipients of the service pension with accompanying fringe benefits and who meet the Australian residential criteria.

• The following provisions be made to Special Rate (TP1) and other pensioners:
  a. Centrelink to cease counting disability pension as income;
  b. Index the TP1 Pension to variations in the CPI or...
MTAWE whichever is greater;

-c Benchmark: the TPI Pension MTAWE (whatever the
first agreed monetary value of the TPI pension is);

d Acknowledge that some erosion to the TPI pension has
occurred over the past years because of inappropriate
indexations;

e Grant an increase in the TPI pension of not less than
$60.00 per fortnight.

- Continuation of the Residential Care Development
Scheme.

Ease the EDA criteria by reducing the current
requirement to have a lifestyle rating of 6 or worse to
having a rating of at least 5 from each of the four
elements of the Lifestyle rating – Personal
Relationships, Mobility, Recreational and Community
Activities and Domestic Activities.

Grant automatic entitlement to the War Widow’s
Pension to widows of Intermediate Rate pensioners.

Increase the funeral allowance to $2,000.

Give BCOF veterans the opportunity of putting their
case for their service to be given qualifying service
status to an independent inquiry similar to the Mohr
inquiry.

In the case of veterans who are residents of nursing
homes because of their accepted disabilities, relieve
them of the need to pay any statutory nursing home
charges and these fees to be paid by the Government.

Recommence indexation of war widows Income
Support Supplement (ISS).

It was also pleasing to receive positive feedback from invited
ESO’s to the National Congress on the manner and outcomes of
the National Congress items.

At the direction of the RSL WA Branch State Congress
delegates, two very specific motions in relation to the TPI were
forwarded to the National Congress for resolving, there were
also substantially more from Eastern States.

Both the TPI Federation President and the State President of
Western Australia have applauded the manner in which this
State’s submissions were presented. Over the past twelve to
eighteen months there has been some tension in relation to the
TPI increase sought. It was particularly note-worthy that
significant common ground had been achieved within the Ex-
Service Community particularly in Western Australia.

The WA Branch had varied success with the National agenda
items, there were two specific motions that could not be
substantiated, both at State and Federal level, no information
could support the claims. They were relevant to the provision
of phone services to WWI Veterans and discounts to WWII and
Korea as provided to WWI Veterans.

The WA item referring to a claim for the cost of funeral
services lost in preference to lobbying the Government for a payment of

$2,000.00. The League has lobbied Government for several
years for $1,500.00 without success, the delegates unanimously
agreed to $2,000.00 for increases in recent years.

This report is a synopsis of the Congress and Executive
outcomes, it should also be noted that all items passed will be
forwarded to Government, the RSL Veterans’ Affairs Proposals
are the largest issues requiring action.

The National Congress also passed several motions in relation
to ‘Illegal Immigrants’, WA presented three items as previously
published with having been resolved for forwarding to
Government.

The National Executive has also written to the current
Government and the Opposition requesting advice on their
policies in relation to the Veteran Community with the looming
election, it is beneficial to the League’s lobbying to have a
general overview for future planning and lobbying strategies to
be forwarded to Government.

This edition of the Listening Post will also include reports from
several key sub-committees of the State Executive; these will
appear as standard reports in future editions to ensure
appropriate issues are advised to the grass roots of the League.

State Congress 2001

The Branch once again conducted a successful Congress with
very positive reports from numerous delegates and Sub-
Branches.

The Congress commenced with the Official Opening on Friday,
6 July 2001 where three members of the League were awarded
the League’s most prestigious award the ‘Meritorious Service
Medal’, details of the recipients are included in this edition.

The Immediate Past President also presented a number of
certificates to members in recognition of their service to the
League at State Branch level.

A highlight of the evening was the presentation provided by one
of WA’s Youth, Mathew East, a recipient of the RSL Cadet of
the Year Award for 2002.

It was noted by many attendees that the presentation was first
class and a credit to the young man and WA’s Youth, our future
leaders.

State-Branch - Operations

There has been considerable discussion in recent times,
particularly since the adjournment of State Congress on the
operations at State level.

Unfortunately the discussion has centred on how and where
the State Branch will perform its functions in the future,
unfortunately discussions has been rather negative. At the
2001 State Congress several presentations were delivered to
elected sub-branch delegates detailing the RSL’s vision for the
future.

The State President provided a detailed briefing on a proposal
for the future management of the League, in the presentation.
was noted that the Executive Committee and Senior Management were reviewing the administration of the League. There are a number of functions that are performed at the State Branches and the RSL WAHQ, requiring similar support requirements. The briefing advised these functions would be reviewed as part of the staffing restructure; it was also advised that elements of the League’s administration may be relocated to the RSL WAHQ, Menora. This would only be implemented if and when no loss of service would occur and real savings can be achieved, both in service and cost.

The State President in his report has addressed the ANZAC Club and the issues with its location. The ANZAC Club in ANZAC House is a tradition and service that has been provided for members and their guests for decades, and will do so for the foreseeable future. Please remember your elected Executive and appointed Management are duly bound to ensure that the RSL is managed between Congresses; this includes the financial implications of operating ANZAC House and the ANZAC Club.

Currently the League is conducting a detailed review on our procedures and methodology for monitoring the League’s finances. The review will encompass a number of key areas to evaluate if specific functions may be combined and outsourced with like organisations.

The League Finances

In recent years there has been considerable comment on the League’s finances, in particular the continuing decline in our reserves and the ever-increasing cost of operations or more appropriately, our services.

There has been continuing comment that we must operate the League as a business and this we must do to ensure that longevity of the League. It should also be noted that to operate the League as a business primarily addresses the financial management, the services and more importantly the recipients of those services should not notice any significant changes. This Branch is committed to providing the best available services in welfare, advocacy, membership and representation to all tiers of Government for entitlements and benefits.

The League this year has once again significantly reduced our deficit to a very manageable level, with a recent budget proposal for 2002 to bring the League to a cost neutral position or a small surplus.

The budget does not include any reductions in the level of services provided to the membership, or their particular sub-branches.

Membership

The membership renewals for 2001 commenced very slowly due to a number of reasons, the first being the administrative problems with having membership renewals printed and distributed. With all hands on deck and the support of several members, the renewals were mailed on 22 December 2000.

Unfortunately it did not end there, a number of members advised that they would not be renewing their membership with the added GST component. The GST on membership would be the single most decisive issue to cause dissent in the WA Branch in recent times, an issue that was later resolved and an amicable outcome achieved.

By year’s end the membership was still over the 11,000 mark, certainly a drop from the previous two years, however still acceptable.

Over the past year or two the League has considered how the League can sustain its membership numbers and methods to increase the awareness of the League and its role in society. The RSL is an organisation that is one of Australia’s most respected volunteer groups and Australia’s largest however people associated the RSL with ANZAC Day as its primary function. Whilst commendable it does not truly reflect the League in its major role of welfare and advocacy for servicemen and women, be they past, present or future.

The League today is ‘Still Serving’ and the League Nationally is asking all members to ‘Recruit a Mate’ into the League. This will give the RSL the voice in Government to maintain and improve our entitlements and benefits.

Remembrance Day

It would be amiss of the State Branch not to congratulate each and every member of the Branch on their efforts for the Annual Poppy Day Appeal. Whilst the Trust does not have final figures indications from Sub-Branches are that record highs were set.

The Poppy Day Appeal is becoming difficult for some sub-branches to muster support due to the age and frailty of the membership; this difficulty will increase as the years wear on. Sub-Branches need to consider methods that can be adopted in future years; it may be necessary to apply to have Cadets, Schools or local volunteers to assist, however special application maybe required in accordance with Government Legislation.

The Trustees of the Fund commend the members of sub-branches and associations on their continued support of the Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen’s Relief Trust Fund.

The RSL War Veterans’ Homes

Over the past two years the Branch has meticulously reviewed the future development of our homes at Menora.

At the Congress of 2000 a presentation to the delegates detailed a proposal to build some 60 plus Independent Living Units at Menora, however the Board felt that further factual information was required prior to commencement.

The Board of the homes have spent the past eighteen months investigating the long term viability of any development at Menora and in particular the need for further aged care facilities.

After countless meetings, three fully independent reviews and critical scrutiny of the League financial position a ‘Master Plan’ of the development should be submitted very soon (the aim was Christmas 2001). A crucial factor to this development was the ability to service the finances of the development.
The RSL WVH is currently constructing an additional 27 Independent Living Units at our Mandurah retirement village complex located with the Mandurah City RSL Sub-Branch.

The Units are 3-bedroom single storey units with a variety of features to ensure resident comfort and security is paramount. In the development of the village we have retained a variety of the local bush with two large green belt common areas.

If you would like further information relative to the ILU’s please contact Ms Anita Kennett at the RSL WVH Mandurah on 9535 0200.

RSL WestClub Card - Membership

This Branch introduced the RSL WestClub Card with two desired outcomes; to raise funds for the League to alleviate the need to increase membership fees or added costs to sub-branches and secondly, to provide a service that would benefit the membership.

The initial target was to have 600 members join RSL WestClub by Christmas 2001; it is pleasing to report that we had a 90% success with our aim. The second target of 2,000 by 2002 is a very big aim, however also achievable.

How it can be achieved, the target of 2,000 members is achievable judging by the reports from the membership, when visiting sub-branches those members using the card have confirmed genuine discounts.

The average League member could expect to recover their joining fee after 1 or 2 purchases or attending one of the ‘free’ entry invitations to the horses, trots or greyhounds.

For a fee of $15.00 you receive a 12-month membership to a very cost effective scheme, JOIN THE RSL WESTCLUB.

As we approach Christmas and 2002 it is noteworthy that this Branch and its sub-branches have assisted several thousand Veterans, Ex-Defence, Defence Members, their spouses and families with either welfare, advocacy or enquiries as to their entitlements of benefits. As equally as noteworthy is the support given to this branch and given by this branch in the conduct of numerous ceremonies at local and State level.

To all members we would take this opportunity to wish you good health, good fortune and a safe return to 2002.

SHANE SEERS OAM JP

The Anniversary of National Service 1951-1972 Medal

Between 1951-1959 more than 227,000 young Australians undertook a period of full-time and part-time national service. From January 1965 through to December 1972 a further 63,000 served between 18 months and two years full-time service. In addition more than 30,000 elected to complete their obligation as members of the CMF under the 1965-1972 scheme. National Servicemen saw service during the mid 1960’s in Malaysia and Borneo during the Indonesian Confrontation, and some 17,400 served with distinction in South Vietnam. During the 21 year period that covered the two NS schemes, 187 National Servicemen paid the ultimate sacrifice, with 1,500 wounded during service.

Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II has granted Royal Assent for the new Anniversary of National Service 1951-1972 Medal (ANSM). The new Minister of Veterans’ Affairs Danna Vale MP urges all former National Servicemen to quickly apply for their medals. A special application form is available through the electorate offices of Senators and Federal Members of Parliament, State Branches of the RSL and the National Servicemen’s Association.

It can also be obtained via the Internet at:

You must have completed your service obligation to be eligible for the medal. The ANSM obverse features a distinctive emblem representing the Navy, Army and Air Force, below the Federation Star. It is surrounded by the words ‘Anniversary of National Service 1951-1972’. The medal’s reverse features a central device of radial lines overlaid with the starts of the Southern Cross. The medal’s ribbon colours are drawn from white, green and light blue that represent the then colours of the Navy, Army and Air Force, while the central yellow and dark blue colours represent Australia’s National Colours of the time, with the outer ochre stripes representing the soil of Australia. The ANSM is worn immediately after long service awards.
The Returned & Services League of Australia

MEMBERSHIP OFFER

The WestClub Card gives the RSL members discounts & benefits
With your own club's stylised membership card and directory you will get
up to 50% discounts continually all year round.
As a WestClub cardholder your benefits will include FREE entry to the Races, Dogs and Trots, and great savings on all these everyday events and items:
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★ AUTOMOTIVE SALES & SERVICE
★ BEAUTY ★ CATERING
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★ FLORISTS ★ FURNITURE
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plus lots more, every day, as many times as you want - NO VOUCHERS!

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“I personally think this is an opportunity not to be missed. We have negotiated a reduced fee on your behalf and I encourage you to take up this superb offer. Save all year round across a varied selection of everyday items”. Shane Seers-State Secretary

RSL Members Registration to WestClub

Please print clearly in block letters

Surname

First Names

Male Female

Address

Daytime Phone Number

Postcode

What is your Service Number?

Email address

Which age group do you belong to? (tick appropriate box)
18-30 31-50 51-65 Over 65

Which new WestClub benefits would interest you?

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Signature

After filling in this coupon please return it with your Cheque/Money Order for $15.00 (made payable to RSL WA Branch Inc) to: The RSL Directory, ANZAC House, 28 St Georges Tce, PERTH WA 6000
The Returned & Services League of Australia WA Branch (Inc.)

There comes a time in everyone’s life when they need the services of a solicitor to draw up a Will or provide advice and representation in a property dispute, act in respect to an unfair dismissal, motor vehicle accident or medical negligence claim, help recover a bad debt or resolve a matrimonial dispute, settle a purchase or sale of land, resolve a commercial dispute or negotiate a business deal.

The reasons you may require the services of a solicitor are many. So too are the reasons why you should have RSL Pre-Paid Legal Services protection. Many people approach legal matters with trepidation, believing the law to be too complex, time consuming and full of uncertainty. When any legal matter arises its always wise to seek professional advice as early as possible.

We all know protecting our home and belongings against damage or theft is prudent, having motor vehicle insurance is sensible, making sure we have health insurance is practical, providing security for our family’s future is smart planning. Then doesn’t it make sense to have legal coverage to protect and defend our rights?

With an RSL Pre-Paid Legal Services Plan you can now have affordable legal protection without the worry of having to make a financial decision first.

These pre-paid legal plans do for solicitors and legal fees what health insurance does for doctors and hospital bills. They provide access to services such as legal advice, information by phone, office consultations, preparation and review of legal documents, trial representation, property settlement, negotiations and mediation and much more. Ask yourself, could you have used a solicitor in the past if someone else had paid the bill? That's exactly what an RSL Pre-Paid Legal Plan provides its members.

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- assistance with debt collection matters
- advice and consultation on insurance matters
- advice and settlement on the sale and purchase of property/business
- advice on mortgages and other security documents
- motor vehicle legal services
- employment and workplace relations
- medical/dental/health professional negligence
- family law
- trial representation – civil and criminal
- income taxation legal services
- 24 hour emergency legal access
- and more

RSL Pre-Paid Legal Services Plans
Doesn’t it make sense to have legal coverage to protect and defend your rights?
Pre-Paid Legal Services Pty Ltd was formed to introduce the concept of prepaid legal service into Australia, that has operated in the United States for some 30 years by Pre-Paid Legal Services Inc., a publicly listed company on the New York Stock Exchange and in Europe for over 80 years where it is as common as health or motor vehicle insurance.

In the United States, just under half the population (115 million), have some form of prepaid legal service protection, where even law abiding Americans encounter a legal situation, on average, four to six times per year. Europeans have come to view pre-paid legal assistance as a necessity and the best way of being able to assure themselves of affordable legal protection when they need it.

Since first entering this market in 1996, Pre-Paid Legal has watched others try to imitate its products and services, even had independent solicitors confirm that the service we offer would be suitable for various market segments and organisations, such as the RSL.

Pre-Paid Legal prides itself on having a strict criteria for the selection of its Legal Service Providers, ensuring access to the best. Firms, such as Ilberys, which is a well established law firm of some 45 years experience with a distinguished reputation both for the standard of its expertise and the quality of its client service, are integral parts of the service we provide to members.

So, doesn’t it make sense to have legal coverage to protect and defend your rights?

To join, complete the form below, tear out the page and return to RSL Pre-Paid Legal Services Plans

88 Burswood Road, Burswood, W.A. 6100

PAYMENT INFORMATION

An $11.00 GST inclusive fee is required for individual enrolments

When choosing bank options, your account will be debited on or about this date each month

State the payment method you prefer below (I acknowledge and accept the terms of the Direct Debit Request Service Agreement overleaf).

DIRECT DEBIT REQUEST

I/we authorise and request Pre-Paid Legal Services Pty Ltd (User ID no 174603) (Debit User), until further notice in writing, to arrange for

my/our account (as described in the schedule below or other account as advised from time to time) to be debited as specified below, provided that

if no amount is specified, the account may be debited with any amounts which the Debit User may properly debit or charge me/us through the

Direct Debit System:

Please tick appropriate box

The Schedule

Singles

Family

Home Based Business

Small Business A

Small Business B

Account in the name of: __________________________

Name of Bank: ________________________________

Bank Address: ________________________________

BSB Number: _______ Account Number: _______

Date: ___________________________ Date: ________________

Payment by credit card (initial payment only) Your credit card charge or your cheque is your receipt.

Amount charged: _______ Card Number: _____________

Expire date: _____________ Cardholder Signature: _______
ALCOHOL PROGRAMME OFFERED

The Hollywood Clinic recently offered a community-based alcohol treatment programme in the Mandurah/Rockingham area.

Vietnam veterans completed an intensive 12-day alcohol treatment programme.

Programme co-ordinator and Clinical Psychologist Linda Welsh said the programme’s aim was to help veterans who wanted to cut down or give up alcohol.

“This is a cognitive based programme which helps the participants understand why they use alcohol and put measures in place to help them avoid needing to use the alcohol,” Linda said.

“It is not an AA model and allows people to cut down - or give up - depending on their individual goals.”

Observed and reported benefits to the participants include reduced anxiety, controlled drinking, reduced agitation, better interpersonal interaction, improved self esteem, improved sleep, better emotional expression and improved appetite and nutrition - to name but some!

The Hollywood Clinic also offers the alcohol treatment programme at the Clinic in Nedlands.

An additional pilot of the community-based programme is planned for early to mid 2002.

For more information please contact Linda Welsh on 9346 6239 or e-mail welshl@ramsayhealth.com.au.

NEW TREATMENT FOR INSOMNIA

Having trouble getting to sleep?

The Clinic will offer a new programme for the treatment of insomnia as part of the services provided within the Clinic. The programme starts early in 2002.

The programme will be helpful for patients who suffer from insomnia, which persists despite treatment of primary health problems. It will run for one half-day once a week for eight weeks.

Other treatment programmes offered by the Clinic include mood disorders (depression and anxiety), eating disorders, post-traumatic stress disorder, a seniors’ programme and a general day programme.

For more information on any of the above programmes, contact The Hollywood Clinic on (08) 9346 6201.

LEST WE FORGET

At the going down of the sun and in the morning...we will remember them. Remembrance Day was a time for Hollywood Private Hospital to commemorate all those who served and lost their lives in wartime.

A ceremony was held at the hospital, which involved Hollywood staff and members of the Veteran community.

Anglican Chaplain Graeme Manolas co-ordinated the service which saw Vietnam Veteran President Peter Ramsay read the ode, World War II Nurse Anne Leach lay the wreath, and Corporal Nicole Williams, from the Australian Army, lower and raise the flag. Bugler Peter Wood, of the Salvation Army, stirred the emotions with his playing of the reveille. Director of Medical Services Dr Margaret Sturdy spoke of her family members who had been affected by war - her father in World War II and her brother in Vietnam.

Executive Director Kevin Cass-Ryall attended the RSL’s Poppy Day Service and Lunch.

Director Clinical Services Nola Cruickshank attended a lunch to farewell Nedlands RSL President Andy Wilkinson. Hollywood supplied the catering for the Nedlands lunch.

The Friday before the ceremony, children from North Cottesloe Primary School attended the hospital and gave flowers to Veteran patients.
Every year Hollywood sponsors the very popular Annual Hollywood Tea Dance as part of Veterans’ Health Week and this year 150 veterans took up the invitation to dance the afternoon away!

The following letter received by Hollywood from tea dance attendees Mr and Mrs Medley, really says it all about the event.

My wife and I were guests at the afternoon tea dance held at Dalkeith Hall on Thursday October 11, 2001. The occasion was thoroughly enjoyed by our table group of eight. Special bouquets to the dance band and volunteers who complemented the work of the organising committee. Sincere thanks to all involved.

Hollywood also sponsored the food for the launch of Veterans’ Health Week, which was held in September at Willetton Senior High School. The theme for the week was “Enjoying Life”!

The Constitution Committee has temporarily been transformed into Project Team 1 to re-write the Western Australian Branch Constitution. The team was created after the 2001 State Congress and consists of Gary Sutherland, Brian Cooper, Les Stewart and State Executive member Winston James, under the Chairmanship of Junior Vice President Geoff Houn.

It has become necessary to amend our State Constitution so that it complies with the draft National Constitution. The new National Constitution has been written from the Memorandum of Association of the RSL, the Articles of Association, the By-Laws of the League and RSL Standing Policy.

The draft National Constitution was considered at the 2000 National Congress but ratification has been delayed until next year so that further review can be undertaken. The delay has enabled Project Team 1 to undertake the work of bringing our State Constitution into line, so that it becomes totally compatible, before the National Constitution is finally ratified.

The suggested amendments made by the writing team will be put before State Executive for consideration early in the New Year. With State Executive approval, the draft will then be circulated to all WA Sub-Branches for comment.

After a period of consultation with Sub-Branches, and following ratification of the new National Constitution, any necessary revision to the draft State Constitution will be made. A final draft will then be prepared for consideration at the 2001 State Congress adjournment from 6-7 July 2001

The job of any Constitution Committee is never an easy one but Project Team 1 is made up of some very dedicated members of the League. It has met regularly and worked very smoothly over the past few months. The members of the team established a momentum right from the beginning and have maintained a fairly tight schedule. This will enable the team to have a draft ready for editing by January 2002. State Executive should be in a position to consider the completed draft in February and sub-branches could expect to receive a copy in March or April for consideration.

Geoff Houn
Chairman, Constitution Committee
Junior Vice President

Report on
NATIONAL SERVICE RE-UNION

On the weekend of 27/28 October a re-union of ex-National Service conscripts was held in Albany.

The re-union was held under the direction of the National Servicemen’s Association (Western Australian Branch) Inc, and was a great weekend, with over 800 ex-National Servicemen attending.

The weekend started on Saturday morning with a parade down York Street to the Memorial where the assembly was addressed by the Reviewing Officer, Commodore Michael Deeks ADC RAN, Commander ABMAGS Stirling. The parade was followed with lunch at the Centennial Oval and the re-union meeting.

Saturday evening developed into small informal meetings of groups from the three services where many old acquaintances were renewed and many years retold.

Sunday morning delegates went to the Old Forts in Albany for further re-unions and lunch, where addresses were given by Mr Roly S Daily, President of the National Servicemen’s Association (WA) and by Mr Dawson Moore, Chairman of the Organising Committee.

The National Servicemen’s Association is open for new membership and this can be organised by contacting the State President, Mr Roly Daily on 9582 0500 or writing to the Secretary, NSA (WA), PO Box 6312, East Perth WA 6892.
Since the introduction of “SoPs” on 1 July 1994, occasional problems have arisen, where a veteran who has had conditions accepted before that date (maybe as early as the 1950s/1960s), wants to link extra, complicating disabilities via a new claim.

Sometimes this can be done – and sometimes it can’t! I have seen instances where the veteran has had Hypertension and Heart disease accepted years before, but in more recent years might have applied for Atrial fibrillation, Impotence or Diabetes Mellitus as SECONDARY conditions (arising from the hypertension or heart problems), only to find that the later claims have been disallowed. They are advised by DVA that with the advent of SoPs (and the up-to-date medical research findings that underpin the identified “causative Factors”), although their originally accepted conditions will not be taken from them, the DVA will not allow for secondary (or “sequelae” conditions) to be linked to/with them.

This process is sometimes known as a “causal chain”: an acceptance that one disability can lead to another. And sometimes, this means that a veteran has to virtually “re-qualify” for his originally accepted health problems all over again, before he can apply for a “sequelae condition”.

The best way to explain would be via two hypothetical examples:

Veteran A – may have been a sailor on HMAS Australia, having experienced kamikaze attacks, as well as seeing ships torpedoed and sunk/survived aerial bombing etc, and finished WW2 understandably pretty stressed out. During the early 1950s, he learnt that he had raised blood pressure, and his doctor informed him that he had hypertension, as the rates of systolic and diastolic readings were consistently high for a man of his age. Let’s say, in 1957, he experienced a minor heart attack. This prompted him to submit a claim to the “Repat” in 1958, who accepted his Hypertension and Heart disease on the basis of “extreme stress during WW2 service”, and he receives a small disability pension in compensation. In 1995 however, complications arose. Surgery to his heart has resulted in a pacemaker being fitted, and the operation to take a length of artery to use as a graft in the by-pass procedure results in him getting cellulitis – potentially life-threatening, and needing antibiotics to control, for the rest of his life. He might also have developed Atrial fibrillation as a compounding health problem.

When the veteran applies for the two “new” conditions as a sequel to his formerly accepted disabilities however, he is refused. Under the SoPs, no one can be accepted for Hypertension and Heart disease on the basis of “stress” any more! The earlier A/Ds will not be taken away, but no “extras” can be tacked on either.

In this instance, it may transpire that Veteran A developed a bit of a heavy alcohol habit as a means of dealing with his WW2 memories, even though he tried to conceal it at the time (as many WW2 men did. In those days, many returned men quietly turned to whatever they could to “cope”. Emotional distress was not talked about openly as it is today).

If that were the case, to help that veteran “re-qualify” under the SoPs, I would try to establish the following “causal chain”:

- Firstly explore through a psychiatrist, whether a war-related stress condition exists;
- Investigate whether the alcohol use, which the veteran utilised to help deal with the stress, warrants a diagnosis of Alcohol dependency or alcohol abuse, and can be linked to his psychiatric condition (or in its own right).
- If Alcohol dependency was involved – then the person has met the SoP for Hypertension;
- With Hypertension re-established, he can meet the SoP for Ischaemic Heart Disease.
- With Heart disease re-established, he can then be looked at for the unfortunate complication of his pacemaker and Cellulitis
- With the IHD now accepted under the SoP rules as a precursor, he has shown he has met the SoP for Atrial fibrillation also.

We’d then activate a new Claim, based on Anxiety/possible PTSD =>Alcohol dependency =>Hypertension =>Ischaemic Heart disease =>Atrial Fibrillation =>Cellulitis. =>Complicated – isn’t it?!

Here’s another example though:

Ex peace-time Member B is put out of the RAAF on a medical discharge, due to Diabetes Mellitus, Type II, in 1991. The DVA accepted it as Defence-related at the time, and the ex-airman receives a DVA Disability pension.

On finding, however that due to the Diabetes, he now suffers from Impotence, and Cholelithiasis (stones of cholesterol, forming in the gall bladder/bile ducts – often a complication of Diabetes) – he submits a new claim for those.

His original claim (which gave the reason he attributed his Diabetes to his RAAF service) is now run against the SoP. Alas, he cannot meet even ONE listed “causative-Factor”. Although Diabetes itself will remain an accepted disability – (because it complied with the requirements in 1991 – pre-SoPs) – it wouldn’t succeed if submitted today. So no complicating sequel conditions can be linked to it.

No alternative “causal chain” can be established or even proposed. His claims for Impotence and Cholelithiasis will not succeed, even at appeal.

Why? It is because the whole claims system now, is firmly anchored to being decided by compliance with the Statements of Principles.

Best regards to all, and a very Happy New Year!

MARGOT HARNESS (Senior RSL Advocate)
The Friends of Kings Park have made a donation of $500 this year to the Honour Avenue Committee, which is a sub-committee of the Highgate RSL Sub-Branch. They propose to make a further donation in 2002. The Honour Avenue Committee has been operative for nearly 80 years involved in the care of over 1,200 plaques in front of gum trees that form avenues within the Park. These plaques honour some of the fallen who died overseas during war, with most having served during World War I and World War II.

In October the Friends held a native plant sale in Kings Park during the Centenary of Federation Family Fun Day. Plant sales are held four times a year with the next sale being in March 2002. In preparation of the sales, a group of ‘Growing Friends’ meet weekly at the Park nursery to propagate several thousand plants. Friends President, Mr Tom Alford said proceeds from these plant sales are the major source of annual income for the organisation. “It is also an opportunity to encourage the planting of Western Australian native flora in our gardens.” “Supporting the efforts of the Honour Avenue Committee is just one of many ways the Friends of Kings Park lends a hand in the Park.”

Membership provides a range of benefits including discounts for plant purchasers, guest speakers at monthly meetings, a quarterly magazine, participation in bushland restoration and participation in plant sales.

The bushland restoration friends have been participating in volunteer work in the Park for over 4 years with over 150 participants during that time. Two Sunday sessions are scheduled each month, which between ten and twenty people attend to undertake tasks such as weeding, planting and seed collection. One of the main tasks has been the removal of introduced plant species such as Bridal Creeper, Veld Grass, Kurrajongs and Watsonias. The group has been concentrating on areas such as the Lakeside and the Nature Trail, which has been degraded over the years. These are long term projects and will require years of follow-up weeding, however the group has already made a significant positive impact.

It is proposed in the New Year that a further volunteer sub-group of the Friends known as ‘The Botanic Garden Friends’ will be formed to assist Botanic Garden staff on a regular basis in tending various garden beds.

The first guest speaker for 2002 on 20 February is Mrs Barbara Burr from the UK who will give a talk and slide presentation on artist Marianne North (1830 – 1890) who travelled the world, including Australia. A gallery in Kew Gardens, UK, houses 832 of her paintings.

Friends’ membership provides a great opportunity to participate in activities within Kings Park and new members are always welcome. For further information on membership, activities and the next plant sale contact the Friends on 9480 3643.

Tom Alford
Peacekeeping and Peacemaking – The Australian Contribution

Australia’s Peacekeeping and Peacemaking (PK/PM), first commenced on 14 September 1947, when three army Officers and one RAAF SQNLDR were deployed to the troubled Dutch East Indies. The four Australians were the first Observers into the country, and were the first ever peacekeepers. The mission was called the United Nations Good Offices Commission to Indonesia (UNCI), which was instituted to monitor the ceasefires between the Dutch colonialists and Indonesian Nationalists.

Since UNCI, The Australian Defence Force has contributed to more than 42 missions (Not necessarily United Nations), to 49 countries around the world. Australia’s record is an impressive one, having contributed an estimated 46,000 service personnel to monitor, keep and enforce peace to many countries troubled by war. Of note is the longest serving Force Commander – LTGEN R.H. Nimmo, CBE – Chief Military Observer (CMO), of the United Nations Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP). LTGEN Nimmo was the first Australian Commander of an United Nations mission and is the longest serving Commander of a United Nations Force. After 15 years service (1949 – 1964), LTGEN Nimmo died in his command from natural causes. Another 10 personnel have died on Operations since 1964.

VVRS opens career doors more than 20 years on

When Brian Dedman left the Navy 24 years ago he easily secured work in the mining industry. But last year, changing family circumstances saw him looking for a new position and this time from natural causes. Another I

In addition to access to training and vocational skills, financial assistance may be available for training, books and materials. Advice on ways to increase paid work hours, manage difficult work situations or negotiate new working conditions is also available. Veterans seek assistance through the VVRS for a wide variety of reasons. Some are daunted by technological change and seek computer training while others seek vocational assessments to clarify possible work or retraining options which are more suited to their health and physical abilities. In today’s competitive labour market, compelling arguments exist for updating skills and investing in ways to tap into new work opportunities—the VVRS can help. VVRS has assisted veterans to gain a diverse range of jobs including air traffic controllers, executive officers, warehouse managers, project managers and cooks.

The scheme is voluntary with no penalties for non-completion of a programme.

Details on the VVRS are available via the Veterans’ Affairs Network on: 1800 113 304 or the Department of Veterans’ Affairs website: www.dva.gov.au.

60th Anniversary Burma

Thailand Railway Construction

20 April 2002 is a special time for the annual 9 day “Quiet Lion Tour” pilgrimage to Thailand. The tour includes a dawn service at Hellfire Pass, followed by a service at the Kanchanaburi War Cemetery. The tour party will include ex prisoners, their families and the families of deceased prisoners. It is also open to interested members of the public. Concession fares apply to students under 18.

The tour committee made up of ex POWs and ex Servicemen works on a non-profit basis. They give freely of their time, draw no expenses and pay their own fares. Their motive is to keep alive the story of Australian courage, fortitude and mateship under brutal captors. One in three Australian prisoners of the Japanese lost their lives. For many years country RSL and service clubs have worked to collect the funds needed to send students on this pilgrimage. These young Australian’s have been wonderful ambassadors and have enhanced our country’s reputation.

In addition to the ANZAC Day activities the tour takes in visits to POW campsites, the famous River Kwai Bridge, the Three Pagoda Pass on the Burma border, visits to famous Thai centres and a relaxing houseboat trip down the Kwai River.

The cost is $1890 for seniors and $1490 for students includes excellent accommodation, all meals, air conditioned bus travel and departure tax, but does not include travel insurance. A running commentary from POWs who worked on the railway will keep you entranced, stories of grim times, mateship, sacrifice and the work of doctors and medical staff. It also includes much Aussie humour. There will also be an English speaking Thai guide on each bus who will explain the Thai history and culture.

The tour is limited to 80 people (2 busloads). The past two tours were filled two months’ prior to departure. It is advisable to apply early: a small deposit equal to the cancellation fee is required with each application, with final payment in February.

For more detail please contact the following, Bill Haskell 9330 3523, Dirk Arkevedl 9271 0065, Peter Winstanley 9304 5248, Neil MacPherson 9534 4082 or E-mail macphersonbros@bigpond.com.
A SPECIAL GIFT

$15.00 (GST Included) each or
$13.00 (GST Included) for orders over 10

This, the second calendar in the RSL series, continues to bring you a marvellous collection of paintings, photographs and information that is both shocking and emotive, yet movingly beautiful. All the wars that Australia has participated in since the inception of the RSL, and each of the various services, are represented in stunning reproduction.

Calendar pages highlight Australian holidays, moon cycles, days of religious observance etc, plus more than 100 historical battles and national events.

Proceeds from the sale of the calendar help support the RSL.

I am enclosing $........................ Cheque / Money Order.

Please send me ...................... Calendars

Package and postage add $4.75 for the first calendar, plus $1.00 for each additional calendar, to a maximum of $10.00.

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms .................................................. (PLEASE USE BLOCK LETTERS)

Address: ..........................................................

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Tel No: ..................................................

Available through your local RSL Sub-Branch, ANZAC House Perth or by mail order from RSL WA Branch, PO Box Y3023, East St Georges Tce, Perth WA 6832

$15.00 + $4.75 pp
A retirement village located in the heart of Mandurah’s main community facilities, just a few minutes from the main shopping mall, Coral Estate is architecturally designed to provide those essential requirements in a village, a safe, peaceful and relaxing environment and lifestyle.

The Village
The village comprises of 27 spacious and private 3 bedroom independent units, which will sell from $150,000 each. The units are of two designs with 3 bedrooms and have quality fittings throughout, a remote controlled garage for vehicles, emergency call and reverse cycle air conditioning.

The Club
All residents of the village will be automatically members of the City of Mandurah RSL Sub-Branch located near the village units. The RSL is an active club and caters for various age groups and particularly the ex-service community.

Security
The village adjoins the Mandurah Police Station and all units have emergency attendance call systems. The RSL will do all possible to ensure your safety, security and wellbeing, while providing you, your privacy and independence.

Financial Security
When you move into the unit of your choice at Coral Estate you do so knowing that your investment is governed by a legally binding Memorial that has been lodged on the Land Title to protect the interest of residents under the Provision of the Retirement Villages Act.
Community Facilities

Within minutes walk of Coral Estate is the Mandurah City Baths, Lawn Bowls, Community Library and Lotteries House.

There are also various groups that meet in the RSL Club that will cater for most residents who settle in Coral Estate.

It is only a five-minute drive to the coast for some fishing or crabbing in the estuary.

Your Unit

The units are designed to cater for retirees and provide facilities for provision of a computer with access to the World Wide Web (www). The units comprise of three bedrooms with bedroom 1 and 2 with built in robes, bedroom 3 is optional as a bedroom or office/hobby room.

The units at 'Coral Estate' are available in a choice of two distinctive floor plans, each unit has an attached panel lift remote controlled garage, spacious living areas, a private backyard for relaxing and entertaining family and friends.

Clients who buy units before completion and depending on building stage can choose colour schemes for tiles, cupboards, bench tops, carpets and blinds.

The units are to be built for immediate occupancy at the completion of building.

Shopping

'Coral Estate' is located approximately five minutes walk from the City of Mandurah's main Shopping Mall. It is also located providing a five-minute drive to Mandurah Markets. The village is centrally located in Mandurah to provide reasonable access to all shopping facilities.

On-site Display Unit is anticipated to be open prior to Christmas 2002. For an appointment, call Anita Kennett on (08) 9535 0200.
Far from it - planning and paying for your funeral takes a load off your mind and makes a good deal of sense.

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*Scheduled servicing as per handbook.
REMEMBRANCE DAY
SUNDAY, 11 NOVEMBER 2001
STATE WAR MEMORIAL, KINGS PARK

Crowds arriving early for the service to secure best viewing positions. Approximately 1,500-2,000 attended the service.

(i-r) Deputy Warden Ron Stone AM JP; Outgoing Warden Max Shean DSO, Governor of WA Lieutenant General John Sanderson AC, RSL State President William Gaynor OAM RFD and Incoming Warden Kevin Campbell AM

(i-r) Attorney General Hon. Daryl Williams AM QC and Leader of the Federal Opposition Hon. Kim Beazley MP

Naval Reserve Cadets, Army Cadet Corps and Air Training Corps preparing to form the Guard of Honour

"Lest We Forget"
RSL CADET OF THE YEAR SPIRIT OF ANZAC TOUR 2002

The RSL WA Branch, Cadet of the Year Spirit of ANZAC Tour culminated on Tuesday, 4 December 2001 with the announcement of this year’s tour recipients. The four Cadets selected to undertake the tour to the Nations Capital for ANZAC Day 2002 were presented their award by Mr Kevin Cass-Ryall, CEO Hollywood Private Hospital. The recipients were:

Petty Officer Christina Dawson (TS Challenger)
Leading Seaman Graeme Beer (TS Challenger)
Under Officer Melinda Sailer (509 RCU)
Warrant Officer Class 2 Terry Ingram (52 RCU)

To these Cadets, congratulations on your selection to undertake the tour.

Those RSL members that assisted in the co-ordination, assessment and selection advised that the standard of the Cadets was commendable, however with limited funds available only four could be selected to attend Canberra.

Mr Gordon Norton, Chairman of the Membership and Youth Committee said that whilst the level of competency was high and the individual Cadets enthusiasm was commendable, it was disappointing that only 11 Cadets had actually participated. Of the Cadets who did participate 4 were from Naval Training Ships, 6 from Army Regional Cadets Units and 1 from Air Training Corps.

A large number of RSL sub-branches liaise with and provide support to Cadet Units throughout the State, with further encouragement from sub-branches Mr Norton said the RSL Spirit of ANZAC Tour would become one of the schemes major events.

Mr Norton also noted the continued support from the 13th Brigade HQ at Karrakatta in providing soldiers to assist with the assessments in Dress and Bearing, First Aid practical and First Aid theory.

The League would like to thank Hollywood Private Hospital and Heath Lambert Insurance for their very generous support in sponsoring the tour.

At the presentation function the RSL State President, Mr Bill Gaynor said that in the 3 years since its introduction the Cadet of the Year programme has proven very successful.

It is the League’s intention to further encourage participation of WA’s youth, particularly our Cadets to take up the challenge; the rewards will be life memories.

SUB-BRANCH AWARDS

The East Victoria Park and Viet-Nam Veterans RSL Sub-Branch give out three awards each year. These awards are to the Year Seven Millen Primary School students, who are graduating to High School. They are in the form of a bursary to enable the students to purchase textbooks for their first year in High School.

These awards are called the Stan Gurney VC Award, Fred Bell VC Award and Captain Reg Saunders Award. Stan Gurney and Fred Bell were two soldiers from the Victoria Park Area. Captain Reg Saunders was the first Indigenous Australian Officer in the Army; he served with distinction in the Korean War. The Stan Gurney Award is presented to a male student, the Fred Bell Award is presented to a female student and the Captain Reg Saunders Award is presented to the most outstanding Indigenous Australian student at the school.

The school Principal chooses the recipients of these awards. The three students who are to receive these awards, all have the same attributes as displayed by the three soldiers. They are initiative, leadership, teamwork, ability to help others overcome adversity, think and make sound decisions whilst under pressure and take control when needed.

They also receive a copy of a citation, describing why that particular individual was so outstanding and a framed certificate for display in their room; this has the RSL Logo on one corner and the Millen Primary School Logo on the other.
RE-UNIONS

TRACKERS, DOGHANDLERS AND RECON

We have recently formed The Australian Army Trackers and Doghandlers Association and are conducting a re-union on 22-24 March 2002 at Alexandra Headlands, Sunshine Coast, QLD. We will be conducting a Memorial Service and a Dedication of a Plaque to 'War Dogs' from Malaya, Borneo and Somalia on Sunday, 24 March 2002. Any past or present members and the next of kin please contact Bob Bettany, 22 Pickinger Place, Caboolture QLD 4510. Ph: 07 5498 3006 Email: bettany@caboolture.net.au.

CAMBODIA VETERAN RE-UNION, ANZAC DAY 2002.

Attention: All ADF & RNZSigs members of UNAMIC, UNTAC, CMAC, 5 Avn Regt Blackhawk Sqn & Protection Pl, 2/4 RAR; who served in CAMBODIA during 1991 – 1997. A re-union is to be held in Melbourne, ANZAC Week, 2002. Further information from:

Mr Gavin Lee (03) 9390 4171 Email general18@ozemail.com.au &
Mr Paul Copeland (03) 5261 7332, Email vicsec@peacekeepers.asn.au

RE-UNION FOR FORMER RAAF BASE TOWNSVILLE PERSONNEL

Former and current service personnel who served at RAAF Base Townsville during the Neptune era - 1962-1977 - will gather at a re-union to be held in June next year. During the period at which the RAAF NO 10 Neptune Squadron was based in Townsville, several thousand RAAF and associated personnel served at the Base as members of either 10 Squadron or Base Squadron. The four day re-union to be held in Townsville over the June long weekend next year will see over 1000 visitors relive their Townsville posting, with social gatherings including a tour of the present Base, a Re-union Dinner as well as functions on Townsville’s Strand and Magnetic Island. Organising Committee members are confident that whilst the thousands of people who have served at the base are now scattered across the country, many will make the journey to Townsville for this inaugural re-union. The re-union marks the 40th anniversary of the commencement of service of the Neptune aircraft in Townsville. The Neptune was Australia’s frontline maritime reconnaissance and surveillance aircraft during the 1960’s and 70’s, seeing active service during the Vietnam conflict. Local Townsville residents are of course familiar with the Neptune that today stands in honour at the entrance to RAAF Base Townsville. The announcement of this re-union is also a significant boost to the Townsville tourism industry at this time. A gathering of such numbers for the four day event will see a considerable injection into the local economy in terms of accommodation and other tourism related industries. Details of the re-union and registrations are available from The Special Event Factory on 07 4773 6611, Fax at 07 4773 6303 or by email to alison@thespecialeventfactory.com.au. To arrange interviews and/or photographs, please phone Alison Walburn at The Special Event Factory on 07 4773 6611.

RAN HEALTH SERVICES

A three day re-union of doctors, sisters, medics, dentists, dental assistants and any other RAN medical service personnel, is to be held 18th – 20th October 2002 in Maroochydore Queensland. Organise your leave around the re-union. There has been in excess of 150 registered.

Contact Bob Ward, PO Box 186, Noosa Heads QLD 4567 Telephone: H (07) 5449 1815, W (07) 5449 1888, M (07) 0412 715 461

3 AIRCRAFT DEPOT 60TH ANNIVERSARY

A re-union of all members of No 3 Aircraft Depot will be held at the Sergeants Mess Amberley on Saturday, 16 March 2002 commencing at 12 noon. If you are interested in attending this re-union contact:

Peter Felton, 3 Ferrett Street Ipswich QLD 4305 Telephone (07) 33897651.

Email address is BHReunion@aol.com

There is no cost involved for this function.

9 RAR RE-UNION BBQ

Past members of the 9th Battalion, next of kin of deceased members are all welcome to a BBQ in Kings Park on Sunday, 10 February 2002 starting at 11 am. Venue at Kings Park is at the Lotteries Family Area off Kings Park Road, near the Kings Park Tennis Club. BYO goodies chairs etc For further information contact:

Rod Mc Lennan 9381 4851 or Kevin Trent 9367 7794

AIRFIELD CONSTRUCTION SQUADRONS BRANCH NATIONAL RE-UNION MANDURAH WA

The Year 2002 is the 60th Anniversary of the establishment of the first works units in the RAAF, No 1 in Victoria followed closely by No 2 in Western Australia. Ex-members of Mobile Works and Airfield Construction Squadrons are invited to attend this Special Bi-Annual Re-union to be held in WA from the 11th to 15th of October 2002. Programme, accommodation information and registration forms are now available from the ACS Branch, 102/41 Portrush Parade, Meadow Springs WA 6210 or from your Unit Presidents/Secretaries. Numbers have been limited to 220. To avoid disappointment, closing date, 31st July 2002. Book early, preference will be given to members from States other than WA. The cost for the five days of the re-union functions is $132 per person. We have chosen the month of October when the weather will neither too hot nor too cold, the wild flowers will be in bloom and the school holidays will be over. This is your opportunity to enjoy a great holiday and meet up with old friends again.

Ray Smith, Secretary
Jim Duff, whose memorial stands at Millie, near the site of the former village, killed on 4 August 1900, during the Anglo-Boer War, at the commencement of the siege that took place at the Elands River staging post, where members of the Rhodesian field force (there were 508 soldiers, including Queenslanders, New South Welshmen, Victorians, Tasmanians and West Australians) were besieged for 12 days by a large number of Boers, possibly 3,000, under the command of General De la Rey.

Jim Duff and his brother Edward were among the volunteers from the Moree, Narrabri and Wee Waa districts who joined the New South Citizens Bushmen, a force of over 500 men and officers, funded by public subscription and consisting of A, B, C and D squadrons, under the overall command of Lieutenant H.P. Airey.

The force guarding the supplies at Elands River included members of A Squadron of the Bushmen. They refused to surrender and were finally relieved by Lord Kitchener on the morning of 16 August 1900. On August 17 a burial service was conducted by the Rev James Green, one of the chaplains to the Bushmen. These graves are still there in the small military cemetery and on 5 August 2000 a wreath was laid on Jim Duff’s grave by relatives Nigel (Bill) Duff and his daughter Suzie, as well as a wreath by Bruce Ruxton, President of the Victorian RSL. This followed a three hour commemorative ceremony during which new memorials were unveiled to the Rhodesians, the Australians, the Boers and to the Blacks. The graves at Elands River, near the town of Swartbuitjies, as well as those graves of the Australians killed at Koster River and buried in the cemetery at Rustenburg, are cared for by Lionel Wulffson and other members of the Moths (Memorial Order of Tin Hats, a South African ex-services organisation).

On Sunday, 10 June 2001, a luncheon was held at the Moree Services Club, together with the launch of the book, Poor Jim Had Died, written by Helen Haynes and telling of her search, together with an earlier search by Don Mearns of Orange, for information about Trooper Duff. The day’s function was also a part of a re-union for members of the Duff family, including W.N. (Bill) Duff. Bill, a Lochinvar and formerly of Moree, is a World War II veteran and a second cousin of Jim Duff.

The service at the Millie Monument commenced at 3pm and was conducted by Tom Brown of Bellata. Speeches were made by Bill Duff, who paid tribute to the pioneers of the Millie district. A speech was also made by Helen Haynes who referred to Jim Duff’s death and her family’s connections through her great-uncle, Trooper Andrew Thompson of Merah North, who had been next to Jim Duff when he was killed. There were other Thompson relations present, including Ms Carol Miller, the Principal of Bellata Public School, who read George Essex Evans’s poem on Elands River. The staff and students of Bellata School led the singing of the national anthem and the bugler was local girl Karina Rowe. The wreath, made by Mrs Ollie Maxwell of Wee Waa, was similar to one laid on the Boer Memorial at Elands River on 5 August 2000. It contained wheat and grass, a piece of timber and aloe, all symbolic of the African landscape. Three arum lilies were placed in the wreath to represent the three years of the war.

Following application by Helen Haynes to the Commonwealth Department of Veterans’ Affairs, funding will be provided for the restoration of the lettering on the monument, for a new memorial to all those from Moree, Narrabri and Wee Waa districts who served in the Boer War 1899-1902 and also to assist with some of the printing costs of the book.

Copies of the book are available from:

Helen Haynes,
Mount View, Kerr’s Creek via Orange 2800
Tel/Fax: (02) 6364 1054.

Immediately after the notification of Jim Duff’s death, in August 1900, a local committee was formed to raise funds for a monument at Millie and this was unveiled in January 1901 by the Minister for Lands, Mr Hassall.

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BOOK REVIEW

VIETNAM DISPATCHES
by Peter Finn

Peter Finn’s Vietnam Dispatches is a record that was written as it happened, 30 years ago.

A war correspondent on active service, his dispatches from Vietnam for our own Sunday Times earned him the University of Western Australia Lovekin Prize for Journalism.

Peter’s dispatches form the basis of his book and capture, in a forthright and deceptively honest way, the thoughts and ethos of Australian’s fighting in Vietnam. Each is a cameo on the daily lives of those involved in war. Each provides an insight into the dangerous and important work of war correspondents reporting on conflict.

Vietnam Dispatches begins with Hanoi Hannah and ends with an unattributed quote

“The Vietnam War is like an old cold sore - It comes back every year to give you some lip.”

The pages between chronicle individual and group exploits. They also record some of the long fight to attain appropriate recognition from Australian authorities for Australian war correspondents who served in Vietnam.

The book is a tribute to the soldiers and airmen who served, and the war correspondents who reported the war and shared the danger. The dispatches sent from Vietnam provided the public in Australia with an honest account of what their men and women were enduring and how they coped.

Vietnam Dispatches is available for $19.95 from: Access Press, Post Office Box 446, BASSENDEAN 6934.

Geoff Hourn
Junior Vice President

End Note: Peter Finn is well known to many West Australian’s through his many years as a popular reporter and news producer for three of Perth’s commercial television stations. He is currently the President of the Nedlands Sub-Branch and has just been co-opted as a member of the Listening Post Editorial Team.

*—*

HMAS LACHLAN
Making Sealanes Safer for Navigators
1945 - 1946
By A.E. (Ted) Jones

This book is published by the author Ted Jones. Ted received a grant, from the Veterans’ Affairs Department, from the Local Commemorative activities Fund, under the Federal Governments, THEIR SERVICE - OUR HERITAGE PROGRAMME, Military historians or those, who love to hear a story about individual bravery, told by those in the know, this is the book for you.

This is a unique history of the HMAS Lachlan, for those of us who like to have in our library stories told from the heart.

For your copy of this great story of HMAS Lachlan, you can obtain a copy direct from: Ted Jones, Unit 20/19 Bulrush Drive, Bibra Lake WA 6163
Telephone 94178472
Cost if from the author $20, By Post $23
Book Review by Len Copley

DESSERT WARRIORS
By Russell Brown

This is a superbly written book; it is one of those books that give you the accounts as written by the pilots, from their logbooks.

Russell Brown has been able to capture and re-create the atmosphere of those pilots and the crews.

This book gives a very comprehensive history of those Australians who flew and serviced the P-40 Kittyhawk during 1941 – 1943 in the Middle East.

Russell has been able to encapsulate into this book the feelings of the men and the dangers they faced daily, the retreats and dangerous conditions that the pilots and crews faced in the desert. I must not overlook the humour that many Australians engage in during life threatening circumstances; this certainly has not been forgotten. If you are keen reader of the feats of our airmen this book has a place in your library.

The book is of the hard cover type, it has sixteen colour side views of P-40s; the 14 appendices include nominal rolls of all RAAF P-40 pilots regardless of squadron; victories by RAAF pilots; losses; awards and decorations; Roll of Honour.

The price is $60 + GST Total $66 from bookshops or post free from the publisher in Australia
Banner Books, 122 Walker Street, Maryborough QLD 4650
Telephone (07) 4123 0255 Fax: (07) 4123 0199
Website: www.banner-books.com.au
Book Review by Len Copley

*—*

SURGERY, SAND AND SAIGON TEA
Author Marshall Barr
Marshall Barr has been able to recreate the atmosphere of the Viet-Nam War Era.

His service in the Republic of South Viet-Nam, is one of the best books that I have had the pleasure to read.

This is a very frank and sometimes personal account of his tour as a medical officer in the Australian Army. He describes his thoughts he had for Army psychiatrists, he said his colleague’s and him feared the worst. He said psychiatrists notoriously are a bit dotty themselves, and are suspected of making diagnoses by recognising their own symptoms.

In Viet-Nam Marshall Barr writes about his exploits in the bars of Yung-Tau, and the bar girls.

He also describes his surgery and how different the Americans carried out theirs.

He set up a medical clinic in the town on Nam-Binh. A Catholic priest gave them the room in the village for the medical clinic. The priest could speak French, so Marshall Barr obtained the services of a corporal Lorenzo Montesini, who could speak fluent French. This character turned out to be a very important member of a royal family, a prince no less.

This is a very good account of the day-to-day life of a digger in Viet-Nam. I highly recommend this book to every one who enjoys a good story or to schoolchildren as an excellent text.

Publisher Allen & Unwin, PO Box 8500,
Crows Nest NSW 2065
Price of this book $29.95, Soft cover
Book Review by Len Copley
LAST OUT 4 RAR/NZ BATTALION'S
SECOND TOUR
IN VIET-NAM
Author Jerry Taylor
Sergeant of the RAAF who was awarded with the Distingush Conduction Medal, he is amongst the few survivors still alive in Australia of the 1,700 involved in Z Special Force from Australia, Britain and British North Borneo.

Jerry has described in detail what is required to bring a battalion up to battle efficiency.

A battle ready battalion is definitely a task for experts in land warfare.

The training of soldiers, who are about to embark on a mission of war in a foreign country, should be well informed about the enemy.

This account of 4 RAR/NZ Battalion's second tour in Viet-Nam gives the reader an inside view of the men and their thinking as to how to fight a war and survive.

If you think the army made huge personal demands on its soldiers, it also made equally heavy demands on their wives and children.

The military service also places a great burden on newly married young women who had no idea that their husbands' profession would make so many demands on them both, demands which in the end not every marriage could withstand.

These women and children are the forgotten victims of war.

I can highly recommend this book to any person who would like to obtain a clearer understanding of the stresses of war on the whole community respects today's activities because our freedom is a result of our courageous servicemen's efforts in both World War I and World War II.

For 52 years Sue was silent. Then, in 1997, Sue's life flashed before him as he suffered a stroke. As he lay in his hospital bed, he felt it necessary to share his experience - even if that meant typing with his left hand, as his right arm was paralysed from the stroke. Whilst compiling the scriptures for this release and relived his story, he reflected that Australians were instrumental in turning the Japanese away in New Guinea, on the Kokoda Trail.

Written from the notes of a hastily scribbled war diary, Blood on Borneo tells of Sue's first hand experiences through an enthralling series of stories, observations and reflections.

The story tells of the brave men who lived, fought and died in the most traumatic of war situations - behind Japanese lines in jungle Borneo during World War II.

"The brave and courageous Australian forces men on the Kokoda Trail were an extraordinary force to bring the Japanese men to a halt, and eventually turn them away from entering Australia," said Mr. Sue. "My memories are of the brave soldiers and locals that made a noble contribution to defeat a brutal enemy in Borneo. "Our soldiers in WWII are responsible for life as we know it today. It is important that the whole community respects today's activities because our freedom is a result of our courageous servicemen's efforts in both World War I and World War II."

Major General Michael Jeffery AC CVO KStJ MC Cit WA has known Jack Sue since their mutual involvement with WA's first SAS troops in 1957, comments in the novel, "In our century year of the birth of our Australian nation and it’s army, it is fitting that another important piece in the proud and fascinating jigsaw of Australian military history be put in it's proper and honourable place."

Jack Wong Sue's son, Barry Sue, helped develop Blood on Borneo and is operating as the distributor of the book. An excerpt from the novel's foreword: A Son's Insights sums up their relationship:

I grew up with a man hard, tough and at times difficult to understand. But through it all, I have always been very close to him and will continue to be so. I never grew up with a war hero; I grew up with my dad. He loved, cared and nurtured me; he was my best friend and yet my strongest critic. The effects on war can do terrible things to certain people. Whether they ever recover from it, one never knows. In my view, anyone who has been to war and survived it is a true hero.

To find out more about Blood on Borneo or order a book, visit www.jackwong sue.com or phone: 9201 9790.

BOOK REVIEW
CAN YOU HELP

I wish to make contact with veterans of 2/4th unit, or with the members below, who were involved with the construction of the concrete, and steel gun pits that were in Darwin, at places such as, Camerons Beach, King Creek, and the Howard River, prior to the first air raid, of the 19th Feb 1942. I have some details of the unit that built the pits. As inscribed on the remains of a piece of concrete, found at one of the gun pits. "Built by No 3 Gun 11PT C Coy 2/4th MGB AIF, 8-12-41". Also found on concrete, "4 MGB", PTE A. Miller WX7985, also WX8238. Any help with this would be most appreciated.

Shane Johnston, 11 Capriole Close, Yamanto Qld 4305.
Ph 07 32940904.

*___*

JOHN VARISCHETTI, RAAF, DECEASED, COOTAMUNDRA, 1940-1944.

During 1948 I lived at the railway hotel in Cootamundra, in a downstairs room adjacent to the footpath, a knock at the window aroused me from the book I was reading. It was an old Italian lady and her daughter Margaret, they had arrived from Perth and there was some confusion regarding their room booking. The old lady’s son John had died while in the RAAF here at Cootamundra, they had travelled over to pay their respects at the graveside. I was able to help them and after a couple of weeks in Cootamundra they returned to Perth. They left 20 pounds with the old grave digger to look after the grave; he died 2 or 3 years later. A couple of years later I tried to find the grave but had no luck, no record at the churches, or at the council or any other accessible to me. He is never mentioned when a list of deaths of that period is published, and I don’t think his death or service should be forgotten, can you help me.

Alex Hansen, 146 Sutton St, Cootamundra
Email: alex4@bigpond.com

*___*

I have been writing a book for 2 years on Salamaua, New Guinea (pre-war to 1943) and am interested if any RSL members have any old photos or experiences of the area. I am also still chasing up any New Guinea Volunteer Rifle members and 2/5th Independent Coy members who were involved in a raid in 1942. Also chasing aerial photos from reconnaissance (RAAF) over the area. If anyone has any information I would be grateful and it would be acknowledged.

Rob Manning 301 Forrest Rd, Bibra Lake 6163 WA
Ph 9434 2628 or email solution@aceonline.com.au

*___*

MISSING PALS

Mr Albert Booz has written from the United Kingdom seeking assistance in locating three of his Australian drinking pals. Mr Booz, (pictured 2nd from the left) ex RASC Desert Rat 8th Army, states that he doubts that there was a bar in Port Said or Suez which he and his pals did not visit during their stay there in 1942. He notes that they were a great bunch and it was an honour to know them. Mr Booz is now 81 years of age and notes that as his Australian pals were particularly fit and healthy he believes they could still now be alive. He also remembers having close contact for a long time with the first Australian Pioneers in the Western Desert. If you can give any assistance or advise please contact ANZAC House, on Ph: 9325 9799

*___*

MESSAGE OF GOODWILL

Australians wanting to send messages of goodwill and support to service men and women deployed overseas as part of the International Coalition against Terrorism now have the opportunity to do so. The Department of Defence has set up a 24-hour email and free call fax service to provide members of the public with the facility to send their messages.

EMAIL: messagesothetroops@defence.gov.au
FAX: 1800 643 938

The Department of Defence will then collate all messages and send them in hard copy form to personnel overseas. Messages should be no longer than one page in length and should be of a general nature.

Director of Defence Community Relations, Greg Hughes said the service is not for personal messages to the troops, as other arrangements have been put in place for family members.

"Many Australians are feeling a strong sense of pride at the moment and would like the opportunity of sending a message of support," he said. "In the lead up to Christmas, some personnel may be feeling homesick and indeed homesick for their country and clearly this service will give all Australians a chance to lift their spirits.”
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DEAR EDITOR

As the world is at the crossroads of what could be the most ominous chapter in our lives, the Australian people should have the opportunity to know the FACTS and make up their own minds re this war on terrorism. We need a nation united in common cause, not arguing because of misinformation spread by people with their own agendas. The following is a little long, but the vicious attacks on the integrity of our ally is full of errors, lies, half truths and absurd proposals, and demands an equal length response to set the record straight.

Since 1983 there have been 16 major attacks on US embassies and installations resulting in 900 killed and 1000s wounded. This also includes a jet liner blown up over Scotland. US authorities have foiled many more attempts to blow up buildings, bridges embassies etc. The US is now also waging a deadly biological war and Americans are still dying. The threat of another massive attack any day is very real.

Dr Whareham (President of the Medical Association for the Prevention of War. (Australia) writes in her letter Oct 23 in which she blames with pure vitriol, the United States for just about every conceivable crime, atrocity and injustice in the world, and even for having nuclear weapons. The fact that these weapons have kept us all free for the last 60 years seems irrelevant to her. She blames the US for not caring about human life. The country that takes in a million, mostly third world people a year, has given freedom and independence to half the world, set up the UN and done more for the third world’s wretched and poor, with food, medical aid and funding than the rest of the world combined.

Dr Whareham gives us many reasons why America cannot win this war on terrorism and so should not even bother trying. “And further violence gives the terrorists the greatest prize of all - a flood of recruits to the cause”.

“If true justice for all people was the real objective, the warships an bombers would turn around tomorrow”.

Her idea that Americans should not attack but keep dying, until the UN sets up a bunch of programmes to assist all those poor Muslim nations that are breeding not just terrorists, but chemical, biological and nuclear weapons that could provide a full scale attack to be unleashed on the US at any moment, is absolutely the most cold blooded, insane idea I have ever heard.

As for the reason the US and UK are still attacking missile sites in Iraq is to protect the Kurdish minority that Hussein is trying to exterminate.

What Dr Whareham and the other terrorist sympathisers who whine that “we should not be in the war” or “it has nothing to do with us” needs to understand is that it has everything to do with us, and every other civilised country in the world.

These isolationist dreamers and anti-American protestors better hope and pray that America does not lose this war on terrorism and capitulates, as it may do if nuclear, biological or chemical weapons kill enough of their citizens. If the United States’s now shaky economy collapses, so will the world’s. The United States would lose their ability to keep feeding most of the third world including Afghanistan. America would be unable to continue their defence of the free world including Australia. The world would be plunged into chaos. Western civilisation would be ruled by terrorism, our daily lives dictated by Muslim extremist, the western world would be as is Afghanistan today, in a depression that could last forever.

Australians need to come together. Forget the naysayers and others with their own agendas who would undermine Australia’s and our allies efforts to end this nightmare. We have to win.

Liberals should be cheering that America has irrevocably accepted its obligations as the world’s only superpower. They should welcome an allied strategy whose aim is to inflict minimum civilian casualties and give Afghans a new start to free them from perpetual civil war and a regime that subjugates women, denies human rights and rules by theocratic thuggery. London Times.

Ken Murray, 52 Lotus, Jindabyne NSW 2627 ph. 6456 7211

HMAS Sydney – Wreck Location Seminar

So, the ‘Seminar’ went pretty much as expected, with ‘Defence’ ensuring that any search of the sunken vessel(s) will NOT take place. What are they afraid of finding, or is it just keeping people in jobs? Our once proud HMAS Sydney has become a personal, political, academic, bureaucratic, commercial, journalistic football.

The ‘Seminar’ was a mixed bag of non-events, except for Glynis McDonald (no relation) who delivered a fine summation of years of research into Oral evidence pointing to a battle off Port Gregory, near the Abrolhus Islands. This is about 200 miles south east of the long trumpeted ‘Official’ position, which the organisers, ostrich like, protected from any hones debate or criticism.

Wes Olson pontificated the ‘Official’ line, but in calling for experts, actually depreciated his own ‘Committee’. Dr Bye gave a balanced, neutral, non-committed, oceanographic view.

Dr Penrose killed any thought of naval funded search, by quoting millions of dollars for openers.

In the meantime the French Company COMEX, that found the Titanic, has offered to conduct a search for free, except for travel expenses.

About one hundred participants at the ‘Seminar’ were permitted no discussion, allowed to ask only but question; that is, if they managed to get noticed by the Seminar Chair.

continue...
how, from his own basic anchors: where? what? and when? such Archives could be found, or researched. Thus he wittingly or unwittingly, cemented the Seminar’s implied main aim, to completely frustrate any serious attempt to find the wreck(s).

No recognition whatsoever was accorded to Knight’s Direct Location System (KDLs) or to its impressive record of locating of two possible wrecks. It was brushed off on the basis that because ‘Defence’ hierarchy does not understand the science involved, it cannot exist. It was however, well supported by Oral, Navigational and Oceanographic evidence submitted.

The repeated resistance of ‘Defence’ authorities introduces a highly significant situation.
Many of us believe that this system now offers a Complete Anti Submarine Weapon.
The potential of the KDLs is that NO SUB CAN NOW HIDE ANYWHERE.
To Chief of Navy we suggested a simple test, give us a submerged Sub in a square of one hundred K’s and a small aircraft to carry the gear and Lindsay Knight will find it in minutes.
‘Defence’ replied that because his instrument is inconsistent with current ‘Scientific’ knowledge, it can NOT be accepted.
One is reminded of poor John Harrison of the 18th Century struggling because the ‘Scientific’ pundits of his day, insisted that his Chronometer could not work.
Lindsay Knight has voluntarily spent much money, time and effort in search for SYDNEY. He has been hurt before by people using his Patents. He offers his services but retains his right to protect his knowledge.

What could happen if Bin Laden’s al Qaida or some other Alien got hold of his instrument?
Wake up ‘Defence’. Heads out of the sand.

Ean McDonald
LCR RANR (Ret) VRD CD et al Master Mariner

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It makes sense, doesn’t it?

So, please remember to tell the person you are dealing with “I saw your advertisement in The Listening Post.”
The Peacekeeper

by Rune Bjomsen

You saw them die on TV.
Then you got your orders.
To go there yourself.
You went

You said goodbye to your loved ones.
Walked aboard the plane.
It lifted from the ground.
You fell asleep.

You walked out of the plane.
Smelled the air.
Looked around.
At a foreign country.

You loaded your rifle.
Hoping you would never have to fire it at someone.
Lifted your pack.
Boarded the transport.

You tried to take it in.
The burned houses.
The litter in the streets.
On the way to your new home away from home.

You arrived at your base.
Got your kit stowed away.
Went on your first patrol.
Heart pounding a little extra.
You met them then, the people getting killed on TV.
Smiling at you.
spitting at you.
You did your job.

You held a newborn baby in your arms while the medic took care of
the mother in the morning.

In the evening you kicked in a door, and ransacked a house looking
for weapons.
You found them in the newborn babies cradle.
You did your job.

You sat in an observation tower for twelve hours during the midday
heat.
Watching the fields so that the farmers could bring in the harvest in
safety.

In the evening the farmers threw stones at you, and threatened to kill
you.
You did your job.

You saw your best friend die.
He stepped on a mine placed there the night before.
The next day you escorted the killers children to school.
You did your job.

You called your loved ones on the phone on Christmas eve.
You told them you missed them that you wished you where with
them.
Then you picked up your rifle, and went on another patrol.
You did your job.

You did it for six months, a year, forever.
Then you packed your kit.
Got on the transport.
Fell asleep.

Your plane landed in your own country.
Your loved ones waited at the airport.
Waited for you.
You came home...a veteran.

T'was The Night Before Christmas

"Twas the night before Christmas,
He lived in a crowd,
In a 40-man messdeck,
With shipmates so loud.

I had come down the exhaust vent,
With presents to give,
And to see just who,
In this rack, so did live.

I looked all about,
A strange sight did I see,
No tinsel. No presents,
Not even a tree.

No stockings were hung,
Just boots close at hand,
On the bulkhead hung pictures,
Of a far distant land.

He had medals and badges
And awards of all kind,
And a sober thought
Came into my mind.

For this place was different,
It was so dark and dreary
I had found the home of a sailor,
At once I could see clearly.

The sailor lay sleeping.
Silent and alone,
Curled up in his rack,
Dreaming of home.

The face was so gentle,
The quarters in such good order,
Not how I pictured
An Australian Sailor.

Was this the hero
Whom I saw on TV?
Defending his country
So we all could be free?

I realised the families
That I've seen this night,
Owed their lives to these sailors
Who were willing to fight.

Soon round the world,
The children would play,
And civilians would celebrate
A new Christmas Day.

They all enjoyed freedom
Each month of the year,
Because of sailors like this one
Sleeping right here.

I couldn't help but wonder
How many lay alone,
On a cold Christmas Eve,
On a sea, far from home.

The very thought of this
Brought a tear to my eye,
I dropped to my knees
And I started to cry.
The sailor awakened  
And I heard a rough voice,  
"Santa, don’t cry,  
For this life is my choice.”  
"To defend the seas this day,  
So that others may rejoice.

The sailor rolled over  
And drifted to sleep,  
I couldn’t control it,  
I continued to weep.

So I kept watch for hours  
So silent, so still,  
As we both shivered  
From the night’s cold chill.

I didn’t want to leave  
On that cold, dark night,  
This guardian of honour  
So willing to fight.

Then the sailor rolled over  
And with a voice soft and pure,  
Whispered, “Carry on Santa,  
All is secure!”

Christmas Soldier

’Twas the night before Christmas,  
He lived all alone,  
In a one bedroom house,  
Made of plaster and stone.

I had come down the chimney,  
With presents to give,  
And to see just who,  
In this home, did live.

I looked all about,  
A strange sight I did see,  
No tinsel, no presents  
Not even a tree.

No stocking by mantle,  
Just boots filled with sand,  
On the wall hung pictures,  
Of far distant lands.

With medals and badges,  
Awards of all kinds,  
A sober thought,  
Came through my mind.

For this house was different,  
It was dark and dreary,  
I found the home of a soldier,  
Once I could see clearly.

The soldier lay sleeping,  
Silent, alone,  
Curled up on the floor,  
In this one bedroom home.

The face was so gentle,  
The room in such disorder,  
Not how I pictured,  
An Australian Soldier.

Was this the hero,  
Of whom I’d just read?  
Curling up on a poncho,  
The floor for a bed?

I realised the families,  
That I saw this night,  
Owed their lives to these soldiers,  
Who were willing to fight.

Soon round the world,  
The children would play,  
And grownups would celebrate,  
A bright Christmas day.

They all enjoyed freedom,  
Each month of the year,  
Because of the soldiers,  
Like the one lying here.

I couldn’t help wonder,  
How many lay alone,  
On a cold Christmas Eve,  
In a land far from home.

The very thought brought,  
A tear to my eye,  
I dropped to my knees,  
And started to cry.

The soldier awakened,  
And I heard a rough voice,  
Santa don’t cry,  
This life is my choice;  
I fight for freedom,  
I don’t ask for more,  
My life is my god,  
My country, my corps.”

The soldier rolled over,  
And drifted to sleep,  
I couldn’t control it,  
I continued to weep.

I kept watch for hours,  
So silent and still,  
And we both shivered,  
From the cold night’s chill.

I didn’t want to leave,  
On that cold, dark, night,  
This guardian of honour,  
So willing to fight.

Then the soldier rolled over,  
With a voice soft and pure,  
Whispered, “carry on Santa,  
It’s Christmas Day, all is secure.”

One look at my watch,  
And I knew he was right.  
Merry Christmas my friend,  
And to all a good night.”
MANDURAH RSL WVH'S MEADOW SPRINGS
- VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Are you retired, living in Mandurah or holidaying in Mandurah and have some spare time on your hands?

Are you a handyman, a plumber, electrician, or can lay a tile, or like to work in the garden? Then we could use your voluntary help at the RSL WVH Hostel. It doesn't matter what your speciality is we are sure we could use it, give us a call.

The RSL WVH Hostel is operated by the RSL WA Branch and owned by the membership, in an effort to control rising cost, we are looking for VOLUNTEERS.

If you can provide voluntary service in any area that could enhance the service and facilities given to OUR residents, please contact Sally Keevil at the Hostel on 9535 0200.

KINGS PARK & BOTANICAL GARDENS
AUTHORITY WAR MEMORIALS

As many readers will be aware the Perth BCD and in particular Kings Park area, is the host location of a large number of War Memorials dating back to the Boer War, dedicated to particular theatres of war or the State War Memorial of which the RSL is the custodian.

This year has seen significant improvements and additions to several memorials in Kings Park, particularly to the State War Memorial. The Year 2000 saw the dedication of the Flame of Remembrance and the Pool of Reflection, 2001 has seen a tremendous amount of works to further enhance the precinct and more importantly access for the aged and frail to the State War Memorial.

The Kings Park Authority have provided wheelchair access from the main carpark to the memorial and are to be commended for their work.

Perth is noted for one of the best-located memorials in Australia, it is an unforgettable site to see the sunrise at the Dawn Service on ANZAC Day, an absolutely magnificent place to pause and reflect of the role of forbears had in forging our nation.

In the Year 2000/2001 the State Government funded some $27,000.00 in routine maintenance, this year the maintenance has not been so high however it will be in the vicinity of $10,000.00.

The Honourary Architect, Mr Ken Broadhurst has advised that the State War Memorial is beginning to suffer a common known problem as 'concrete cancer' or moisture absorption. The search is now on to find a remedy to the cause and in the medium term a method to address the moisture absorption already causing damage to the memorial undercroft and crypt.

The 2/16th Bn this year rededicated its memorial after having it relocated and adding to its significance, in the placement of a Bronze Relief of the Kokoda Track.

The Bronze Relief was the first part to a major extension of the memorial being several bronze plaques up or down (depending if your coming or going) the Kennedy Steps area. A trek to be taken by all who can manage the steps.

There is a very notable interest in the enhancement of memorials in Kings Park and applications to further develop appropriate memorials in memory of those that have served the Nation and the Commonwealth.

As and when particular memorials are completed details will be included in the Listening Post.
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THE LIONS EAR AND HEARING INSTITUTE
UNIT ASSOCIATIONS

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

AIRCREW ASSOC
Chairman: George Oliver; Ph: 9337 7163.
Correspondence/Secretary: Basil Lofthouse, 81/177 Dampier Ave, Kallaroo 6025; Ph 9402 0962. Meetings: bi-monthly as arranged.

ALLIED CHINESE SHIPS ASSOC
Correspondence/President: Neville Philip, 14 Hamilton Tce, Greenmount 6056; Ph: 9294 1798. Secretary: Beatrice Philip. Meetings/Luncheon: 11:30am 2nd Fri bi-monthly (from Feb), ANZAC House.

ALLIED MERCHANT SEAMEN ASSOC
Correspondence/President: Ted Edwards, Ph: 9362 8793. Meetings: 1pm last Tue bi-monthly, Navy Club, Fremantle. State Council Meetings 3rd Thu monthly, 13th Bde HQ, Irwin Barracks, Karrakatta.

AUSTRALIAN ARMY TRAINING TEAM VIETNAM (WA BRANCH) INC

AUSTRALIAN EX-SERVICE ATOMIC SURVIVORS’ ASSOC INC
President: Max Kimber OAM; Ph: 9304 5201; Fax: 9304 5306. Correspondence/Secretary: Len Hollingsworth, PO Box 405, Greenwood 6024; Ph: 9349 1714. Meetings: 11am 3rd Mon bi-monthly (from Feb), Belmont RSL Hall, Leake St. AGM Apr. Bus 306 ex Perth bus station.

AUSTRALIAN GULF WAR VETERANS’ AND PEACEKEEPERS’ ASSOC INC.
President: Graham Bertolini; Ph: 9295 4165. Correspondence/Secretary: David Wallington, 13 Tallerack Way, Forrestfield; Ph: (w) 9334 3639 (h) 9453 9755; Email: abodwally@bigpond.com. AGM: 1st Sat Dec.

AUSTRALIAN INTELLIGENCE ASSOC (WA) INC
Correspondence/President: Neil Chaplin, PO Box 1724, Wagara 9647; Ph: (w) 9302 1338 (h) 9307 8460.

AUSTRALIAN LEGION OF EX-SERVICEMEN AND WOMEN
President: Lionel Hutchings. Correspondence/Secretary: Vera Hutchings, 17 St Johns Ct, Kingsley 6026; Ph: 9309 9675. Meetings: 2nd Mon monthly, Aranmore Hall, Leederville; 1:30pm 2nd Tue bi-monthly, Navy Club, Fremantle. State Council Meetings 3rd Thu monthly, 13th Bde HQ, Irwin Barracks, Karrakatta.

AUSTRALIAN NAVY IN VIETNAM VETERANS’ WELFARE ASSOC OF WA (INC)
Correspondence/President: China Hammal, PO Box 69, North Fremantle 6159; Ph: 9434 6247, Fax: 9434 6248. Secretary: Ronald Rowe; Ph: 9469 3625. Meetings: 6:30pm 3rd Tue bi-monthly (from Feb), Hickey’s Cinecentre Tavern, cnr Murray & Barrack Sts, Perth.

AUSTRALIAN SPECIAL AIR SERVICE ASSOC WA BRANCH (INC)
President: Edwin (Bart) Mavrick; Ph: 9534 4018. Correspondence/Secretary: Reg Davies JP, The House, 6 Battery Rd, Campbell Barracks, Swanbourne 6010; Ph: 9247 2480. Meetings: 6pm 3rd Tue monthly, The House (as above); Ph: 9383 0555. AGM Aug.

AUSTRALIAN VETERANS & DEFENCE SERVICES COUNCIL (WA) AVADSC
Chairman: A/CDRE Sam Bond, AFBME, PO Box 1191. Correspondence/Secretary: MAJ Marie Lamond, 110 St Georges Crt, Perth. Meetings: 3rd Thu bi-monthly (from Feb), 12th Floor AMP Building, 140 St Georges Cte, Perth.

AUSTRALIAN WATER TRANSPORT RAE AIF ASSOC (WA BRANCH)
President: Jack Patterson; Ph: 9342 0142. Correspondence/Secretary: Bill Thomas, 18/19 Burfush Dve, Bibra Lake 6163; Ph: 9417 6655. Meetings: 11:30am 1st Mon monthly (except Jan) (if holiday, Tue).

BLINDED SOLDIERS OF ST DUNSTAN’S WA
President: Warwick Walters; Ph: 9535 3602. Correspondence/Secretary: Patricia Dean, 31 Lamon St, Melville 6156; Ph: 9330 5458. Meetings: As necessary, Red Cross House, 110 Goderich St, East Perth. AGM 1:45pm 2nd Tue Aug.

BRITISH EX-SERVICES ASSOC INC
President: Dave Clarke; Ph: 9309 1046. Correspondence/Secretary: Jean Harris, 30 Rhydon Way, Girrawheen 6064; Ph: 9247 1009. Meetings: 1:30pm 3rd Tue monthly, ANZAC House. AGM 17 Nov.

BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA POLICE REGIMENTAL ASSOC (AUSTRALIAN BRANCH)
Chairman: Robert Gates; Ph: 9446 1569. Correspondence/Secretary: John Seward, 9/71 Epsom Ave, Redcliffe 6104; Ph: 9277 3396. Meetings: Contact Secretary.

BULL CREEK BRANCH RAFFA
Correspondence/President: Ken Stewart, AFME, Bull Creek Dve, Bull Creek 6155; Ph: 9362 2246. Meetings: 2nd Mon monthly, Meg Olive Room, Air Force Memorial Estate.

BURMA STAR ASSOC WA BRANCH
President John Barton; Ph: 9527 3351. Correspondence/Secretary: Vivienne Holmes, 11 Doonan Rd, Nedlands 6009; Ph: 9386 1495. Meetings: 10:30am 3rd Wed monthly, ANZAC Club. AGM: Jun.

BURMA STAR ASSOC – WANNEROO BRANCH
President: BRIG Tony Manuel (Rtd); Ph: 9569 1191. Correspondence/Secretary: Rupert Platel, 1/49 Banksia St, Joondanna 6060; Ph: 9444 4914. Meetings: 2nd Wed monthly, 1/49 Banksia St, Joondanna.

CATALINA CLUB OF WA
President: Fred Robins; Ph: 9384 6212. Correspondence/Secretary: Harvey Hodgkiss, PO Box 866, Canning Bridge 6153; Ph: 9330 4222. Meetings: 10:30am 2nd Thu quarterly (from Mar), ANZAC House. AGM Jun.

DEFENCE RESERVES ASSOC (WA BRANCH)
President: LTCOL Peter Winstanley RFD (Rtd); Ph: 9341 6883. Correspondence/Secretary: MAJ Marie Fenton, 4 Harbour Crt, Safety Bay 6169; Ph: 9528 6860. Meetings: 7:30pm 2nd Mon, 13 Inf Bde Conference Room. AGM 1st Mon Apr.

DIGGERS CLUB OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC
President: Alex Swanson. Correspondence/Secretary: Ken Hughes, PO Box 2254, Bunbury 6231. Phone enquiries to 9797 1743.
EX-AUSTRIAN WOMEN'S LAND ARMY
President: Phyl Plotoomey; Ph: 9279 2279.
Correspondence/Secretary: Hilda Grey, 21B Elvira St, Palmyra 6157; Ph: 9339 5391.
Meetings 10am 4th Thu monthly, ANZAC House.

EX-FORTRESS ENGINEERS ASSOC
President: Fred Logue; Ph: 9349 7495.
Correspondence/Secretary: Reg Kidd, 257 Holmes Rd, Forrestfield 6058; Ph: 9453 2393.
Fax: 9453 2093. Meetings: AGM mid Apr.

EX-POW ASSOC OF WA
President: Arthur Leggett; Ph: 9279 9340.
Correspondence/Secretary: Ruth James, 7b Wenden Pl, Willletton 6155; Ph: 9457 8727.
Meetings: 1pm 1st Wed monthly, ANZAC Club. AGM 1pm 1st Wed Mar.

EXTREMELY DISABLED WAR VETERANS' ASSOC OF AUSTRALIA
President: John Wade; Ph: 9410 2934.
Correspondence/Secretary: Alan Balcombe, PO Box 2339, Malaga 6944; Ph: 9375 2709.
Committee Meetings: 10am 4th Wed monthly, ANZAC House. All welcome - new members invited.

EX-WRANS ASSOC OF WA
President: Beverley Kain; Ph: 9527 3871.
Correspondence/Secretary: Patricia McNab, 57 Watsonia Rd, Gooseberry Hill 6076; Ph: 9454 5076. Meetings: 12:30pm 2nd Mon monthly, ANZAC House. AGM noon 2nd Mon Oct.

FEDERATED TB EX-SERVICE ASSOC OF WA
President: John Lillywhite; Ph: 9339 2359.
Correspondence/Secretary: H L (Bert) Tucker, PO Box 2, Inglewood 6052; Ph: 9272 3463. Meetings: Last Tue bi-monthly (except Jan).

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

FLEET AIR ARM ASSOC OF AUSTRALIA WA DIVISION
President: Jack Siriano.
Correspondence/Secretary: Peter Welsh, 42 Saddlesack Circle, Maid Vale 6057; Ph: 9454 6045. Meetings: 11:30am 2nd Sun bi-monthly (from Feb), 71 West Pde, East Perth.

GUARDS ASSOC OF WA
President: Gordon Schofield; Ph: 9447 4565.
Correspondence/Secretary: Peter Mulrennan, JP, PO Box 370, Tuart Hill 6939; Ph: 9443 8061. Meetings: 7:30pm 1st Mon monthly, ANZAC House, AGM Sep.

HEAVY ANTI-AIRCRAFT ASSOC (WA)
President: Len De Grussa; Ph: 9276 7253.
Correspondence/Secretary: Mrs Ronnie Roach, 90 Herdsman Pde, Wembley 6014; Ph: 9387 1843.

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

HMAS BATAAN VETERANS' ASSOC
President: Jack Le Cras; Ph: 9409 1014.
Correspondence/Secretary: Colin Hepburn, 39A Fallow Cres, Spearwood 6163; Ph: 9434 4556.

HMAS CANBERRA-SHROPSHIRE ASSOC (WA DIVISION)
President: Bill Kynaston; Ph: 9307 8029.
Correspondence/Secretary: Arthur Carver, 93 Tamar St, Palmyra 6157; Ph: 9339 1483.

HMAS HOBART ASSOC (WA DIVISION)
President: Trevor Cangemi; Ph: 9332 7721.
Correspondence/Secretary: Clyde Goddard, 80 Derby Rd, Shenton Park 6008; Ph: 9381 8705. AGM and Annual Reunion: 2nd Sun Feb; Social and Commemorative functions: every six months annually. Monthly luncheons: 12noon last Thu, ANZAC House.

HMAS WARRAMUNGA VETERANS' ASSOC
President: Patricia Ingham OAM; Ph: 9271 1826. Correspondence/Secretary: Tom Oakley, 41 Adderley St, Mt Claremont 6010; Ph: 9384 3042.

KOREA & SOUTH EAST ASIA VETERANS' ASSOC INC (WA BRANCH)
President: Garry Burgoyne; Ph: 9276 6248.
Fax: 9276 6352. Correspondence/Secretary: Alex McMorland, 11 Beneen St, Shenton Park 6008; Ph: 9381 5722. Monthly luncheons: 12noon 3rd Tue monthly, Whitfords Tavern.

LEGACY - FREMANTLE
Address: 17 Parry St, Fremantle 6160; Ph: 9335 2764, Fax: 9335 2221. Office hours: 9:30am - 3:30pm Tue, Wed & Thu.

MANDURAH-MURRAY VETERANS' GROUP
President: Mr Gary Milwards.
Correspondence/Secretary: Linda Calleja, PO Box 2203, Mail Centre, Mandurah 6210; Ph: 9586 9393; email: opie@southwest.com.au.

MIDDLE EAST VAD ASSOC WA
President: Correspondence/President: Joan Dowson.
Correspondence/Secretary: Garry Burgoyne.
Meetings: 12noon 2nd Mon monthly, Whitfords Tavern.

NATIONAL MALAYA & BORNEO VETERANS' ASSOC (WHITFORDS) INC.
Correspondence/President/Secretary: Paddy Backs, 9 Armagantay Way, Hillary 6025; Ph: 9401 0041. Meetings: 12noon Sat bi-monthly, Whitfords Tavern.

NATIONAL SERVICEMEN'S ASSOC OF AUSTRALIA (WA BRANCH INC)
President: Roly Daily; Ph/Fax: 9581 1347. Correspondence/Secretary: Ken Pages-Oliver, PO Box 6312, East Perth 6982, Ph: 9221 2937

NATIONAL SERVICEMEN'S ASSOC OF AUSTRALIA (WA BRANCH) INC YORK SUB-BRANCH
President: Colin Wright; Ph: 9279 4157. Correspondence/Secretary: Wilfred Caporn, Gwambygine RMB 4033, York 6302; Ph: 9641 4038.

NAVAL ASSOC OF AUSTRALIA, CITY OF FREMANTLE SUB-SECTION
Correspondence/President/Secretary: Don Needham, PO Box 6289, Stirling St, Perth 6049; Ph: 9330 3411. Meetings: 11:30am 1st Mon monthly, Navy Club, 64 High St, Fremantle.

NAVAL ASSOC OF AUSTRALIA, CITY OF PERTH SUB-SECTION
President: Ben Haseldine; Ph: 9444 3762. Correspondence/Secretary: John Ross, 1 Benwee Rd, Floreat 6014; Ph: 9387 6960. Meetings: 11am 4th Tue monthly, 71 West Parade, East Perth. AGM: 5:15pm 4th Thu Jan.

NAVAL ASSOC OF AUSTRALIA, ROCKINGHAM CITY SUB-SECTION
President: Ken Needham. Correspondence/Secretary: Paul Nicholson, PO Box 791, Rockingham 6168; Ph: 0417 939 627. Meetings: 2nd Wed bi-monthly, Rockingham Navy Club, Lot 2804 Point Peron Rd, Rockingham. Club Manager: Mike Hoar; Ph: 9592 7997, 0409 592 797.

NAVAL ASSOC OF AUSTRALIA, WA SECTION INC
President: CDRE Bob Trotter (Rtd); Ph: 9385 2687. Correspondence/Secretary: Tom Oakley, GPO Box 8289, Perth Business Centre, Aberdeen St, East Perth 6849; Ph: 9384 3042.

"N" CLASS DESTROYERS ASSOC. WA BRANCH (INC.)
President: Jim Robertson; Ph: 9276 1813. Correspondence/Secretary: Bill Morris, 4/57 Lisle Street, Mount Claremont 6010; Ph: 9384 7253. Meetings: Committee 10:30am 1st Mon bi-monthly. General 10am 3rd Mon Apr & Sep. AGM 10:30am last Mon Jul.

NORMANDY VETERANS' ASSOC
President: Jim Meyers; Ph: 9478 2071. Correspondence/Secretary: Robert Bruce, 2/159 Fitzroy Rd, Rivervale 6103; Ph: 9362
3597. Meetings: 11am 1st Thu monthly, ANZAC House.

NORTH AMERICAN VETERANS' UNIT
Correspondence/Secretary: Joan Gravelle, 12 Binburra Way, Mt Nasura 6112; Ph: 9497 4524.
Meetings: as requested. AGM end of Sep, RAFA Memorial Estate.

PARTIALLY BLINDED SOLDIERS' ASSOCIATION WA BRANCH
President: Edward Woodward; Ph: 9293 2487.
Correspondence/Secretary: Tom Park, 6 Derrill Ave, Dianella 6059; Ph: 9349 1661.
Meetings: 1pm 1st Thu bi-monthly (from Feb), ANZAC House.

PEGASUS (AIRBORNE FORCES) ASSOCIATION OF WA INC
President: Patrick Ward; Ph: 9490 8954.
Correspondence/Secretary: Mick Coyle, 34 Tern Loop, Yangebup 6164; Ph: 9417 2570.
Email: coyle@ca.com.au. Meetings: 11:00am 1st Wed monthly, ANZAC Club.

PERTH LEGACY INC
President: Len Hall. Secretary: John Morriss.
Contact: Legacy House, 64 Mill Point Rd, South Perth 6151; Ph: 9367 5799. AGM 6:30pm 3rd Wed Nov.

RAAF ASSOCIATION AIRFIELD CONSTRUCTION SQUADRONS BRANCH
Correspondence/President: Phil Rowles, 5-34 Cunninghan Tce, Daglish 6008; Ph: 9382 1275.
Email: phrowles@bigpond.com.
Secretary: Ray Smith; Ph: 9382 5102.
Email: raynor@ilik.com.au. Meetings: Quarterly, RAAF Assn Clubrooms; Ph: 9582 5000; Fax: 9582 5266.

RAAF ASSOCIATION MANDURAH BRANCH
President: Trevor Martin; Ph: 9582 5015.
Correspondence/Secretary: Carole Martin, PO Box 1015, Mandurah 6210. Meetings: 3:00pm 3rd Thu monthly, RAAF Estate, Meadow Springs Clubrooms.

RAAF ASSOCIATION (WA DIVISION)
President: Allan Stewart; Ph: 9311 4444.
Correspondence/Secretary: Robert Bunney, Bull Creek Dve, Bull Creek 6149; Ph: 9311 4444; Fax: 9311 4455.
Meetings: 3rd Tue, Air Force Memorial Estate.

RAAF VIETNAM VETERANS' ASSOCIATION (WA BRANCH)
President: Chris Rampant; Ph: 9343 0898.
Correspondence/Secretary: Des Pryce, 164 Giles Ave, Padbury 6025; Ph/Fax: 9401 8435.
Email: dezzy@canutech.net.au. Meetings: Contact Secretary.

RAAF 467-463 LANCASTER SQUADRONS ASSOCIATION OF WA
President: Kevin McGrath; Ph: 9245 5615.
Correspondence/Secretary: Jim Quinn, 9 Redcourt Rd, Attadale 6156; Ph: 9330 4151.
Meetings: Quarterly, RAAF Assn Bull Creek.

RALT/RAASC/RAE(Tn) ASSOCIATION OF WA
President: M Campbell JP.
Correspondence/Secretary: Ray Doust, PO Box 236, North Perth 6006; Ph: 9446 1622.
Meetings: 5:30pm last Wed bi-monthly (from Jan), Seaview Golf Club, Cottesloe. AGM 6pm 1st Fri Aug.

RAE ASSOCIATION OF WA
President: Michael Ryan OAM; Ph: 9307 2385.
Correspondence/Secretary: Neville Clark, 26 Linthorne Way, Balga 6061; Ph: 9342 5808.
Meetings: 2nd Sun bi-monthly (Feb-Nov), 13 Fd Sqn RAE, Sappers Way, Irwin Barracks, Karrakatta.

RAEME ASSOCIATION OF WA
President: John Klein; Ph: 9279 3080.
Correspondence/Secretary: John Curtis, PO Box 186, Bayswater 6053; Ph: 9271 4520.
Email: curtis@bigpond.com. Meetings: 7pm 1st Thu monthly (except Jan), ANZAC House. AGM end Mar.

RATS OF TOBRUK ASSOCIATION (WA BRANCH) INC
President: Ron Hatch; Ph: 9384 7573.
Correspondence/Secretary: Betty Rumble, 13/19 Byron Rd, Kalamunda 6076; Ph: 9293 2723.
Meetings: 1pm 2nd Tue monthly, ANZAC Club.

REGULAR DEFENCE FORCES WELFARE ASSOCIATION (WA BRANCH)
President: Chris Rampant; Ph/Fax: 9343 0898.
Correspondence/Secretary: Brian Cooper OAM JP; PO Box 14, Hillarys 6025; Ph/Fax: 9409 6577.
Meetings: 2pm 1st Wed monthly. Victoria League, Onslow Rd, Shenton Park.

ROYAL AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION, 1216 BRANCH WA (INC.)
Correspondence/President: Robin Trewin, 18 Rushman Place, Morley 6062; Ph: 9375 8250.
Secretary: Jim Naylor; Ph: 9294 1628.
Meetings: 7:30pm last Tue monthly. Sportsmen's Club, Stodcliffe St, Mt Lawley.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMOURED CORPS ASSOCIATION WA BRANCH
President: John Allen RFD ED (Rtd); Ph/Fax: 9298 9510.
Correspondence/Secretary: Peter Olsen, PO Box 5066, Cannang Vale South 6155; Ph: 9459 7275.
Meetings: General 7:30pm Jan, Mar, Jun, Aug, Oct, 10 Light Horse Trossell Club, Irwin Barracks, Karrakatta. AGM 8pm Feb.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMY NURSING CORPS ASSOCIATION (WA) INCORPORATED
President: Olgia Greig; Ph: 9276 3493.
Correspondence/Secretary: Norma Jones, 10 Ashstead St, Morley 6062; Ph/Fax: 9276 4252.
Meetings: Quarterly.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMY ORDNANCE CORPS ASSOCIATION WA (INC)
President: COL Warren Evans; Ph/Fax: 9310 3618.
Correspondence/Secretary: Robert Campbell, 108 West Rd, Bassendean 6054; Ph: 9279 3502. AGM after ANZAC Day March and Service.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION (WA)
Correspondence/President: John Hobbs, 10 Edgar Way, Mt Pleasant 6153; Ph: 9364 3588.
Meetings: 10am 3rd Mon (Mar, Jul, Sep, Nov), ANZAC House. Open to members and members of affiliated Associations.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY CORVETTES ASSOCIATION (WA)
President: Bert Reed; Ph: 9330 0139.
Correspondence/Secretary: Jack Shepheard, Unit 45/60 Kalinda Dve, City Beach 6015; Ph: 9385 8400. Meetings: 3rd Mon quarterly (from Feb).

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN REGIMENT ASSOCIATION (WA BRANCH)
President: Ken Barrington; Ph: 9446 4227.
Correspondence/Secretary: Kevin Trent, PO Box 6409, East Perth 6892; Ph: (h) 9367 7794 (w) 9323 4485. Meetings: Gurney VC RSL Hall, East Vic Park.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN SIGNALS ASSOCIATION WA (INC)
President: Peter Lofdahl; Ph: 9305 1303.
Correspondence/Secretary: Brian Macauley, 173 Hardey Rd, Belmont 6104; Ph: 9277 1406.
Meetings: 7pm 4th Thu monthly (except Jan), ANZAC House. AGM 7pm 1st Thu Jun. All Signallers welcome.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN SURVEY CORPS ASSOCIATION
President: Ray Sargeant; Ph: 9448 5787.
Correspondence/Secretary: Philip Bray, 33 Wanneroo Rd, Duncraig 6062; Ph: 9405 2300.
Meetings: 8pm last Tue monthly, Navy Club, High St, Fremantle. AGM 5pm Feb.

ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION FREMANTLE BRANCH
President: Wally Brooker; Ph: 9527 9527.
Correspondence/Secretary: Frank Cooke-Willis, 1/48 Solomon St, Palmyra 6157; Ph: 9339 5573. Meetings: 2pm 1st Tue monthly (except Jan), Navy Club Inc, 64 High St, Fremantle.

ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION, MARMION BRANCH, NORTHERN SUBURBS
Chairman: Barry Thornton; Ph: 9401 2391.
Correspondence/Secretary/Aubrey Hoy, 27 Rutherglen Cr, Kinross 6028; Ph: 9304 7017.
Meetings: 7:30pm 2nd Tue monthly. Whitfords Sea Sports Club, Ocean Reef Boat Harbour. AGM 7:30pm 2nd Tue Feb.
Z SPECIAL UNIT INTERNATIONAL (INC)
Chairman: Jack Sue; Ph: 9257 1620. Vice Chairman: Ross Davidson; Ph: 9383 7654. Correspondence/Secretary: Lou Poia, PO Box 7, Innaloo 6018; Ph: 9446 2784.

2nd AUSTRALIAN PARACHUTE BATTALION, WA BRANCH
President: Bill Rose; Ph: 9444 6858. Correspondence/Secretary: Ron Waters, 25 Clay Way, Kallaroo 6025; Ph: 9307 7079.

2/2 COMMANDO ASSOC OF AUSTRALIA
President: Ray Parry; Ph: 9450 2539. Correspondence/Secretary: Jack Carey, PO Box T1646, GPO Perth 6001; Ph: 9332 7050. Meetings: 10am 2nd Tue monthly, ANZAC House.

2/3 COMPOSITE ANTI-AIRCRAFT REGIMENT, SEARCHLIGHT BATTERY ASSOC (WA BRANCH)
President: Jack Manners; Ph: 9364 5649. Correspondence/Secretary: Merv Smith, 3/7 Luffington St, Melville 6156; Ph: 9317 1530. Meetings: bi-monthly (from Feb).

2/3rd FIELD REGIMENT ASSOC
Correspondence/President/Secretary: Bill Stacy, 3 Jull Crt, Kardinya 6163; Ph: 9337 6227. Meetings: 10:30am 2nd Wed monthly, ANZAC House. AGM 11am May.

2/3rd MACHINE GUN BATTALION ASSOC
President: George Parkin; Ph: 9459 1566. Correspondence/Secretary: Barrio Binstead, 101 Star St, Carlisle 6101; Ph: 9361 8762.

2/4th MACHINE GUN BATTALION AIF EX-MEMBERS' ASSOC
President: J Elliot; Ph: 9444 2651. Correspondence/Secretary: Jack Kyros, 35 Covent Gardens, Stirling 6012; Ph: 9445 2886. Meetings: 10am 3rd Tue monthly, ANZAC House. AGM 12noon ANZAC Day.

27th AUSTRALIAN FIELD REGIMENT (WA) EX-MEMBERS ASSOC
President: Bill Hepton; Ph: 9447 4473. Correspondence/Secretary: All Richards, 3 Daylesford Rd, Bassendean 6054; Ph: 9279 1438. Meetings: 11am 2nd Tue monthly (except Jan), Puro Steel Room, Gloucester Park. AGM 11am 2nd Tue Aug.

27th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION ASSOC WA VICT.
President: Keith Fruin; Ph: 9364 7160. Correspondence/Secretary: Leo Duffy, 7/702 Plantation St, Mt Lawley 6050; Ph: 9371 5985. Reunion after ANZAC Day March and Service.

2/11th AIF BN ASSOC
President: Ivan Walter; Ph: 9364 3270. Correspondence/Secretary: John Watson, 686 Canning Hwy, Applecross 6153; Ph: 9364 2126. Meetings: 10am 3rd Tue monthly, ANZAC House. AGM 10am 3rd Tue Mar.

2/13th FIELD AMBULANCE ASSOC AIF
President: Fred Bourke; Ph: 9457 6090. Correspondence/Secretary: Mervyn Gilling, 222 Weaponess Rd, Wembley Down, 6019; Ph: 9341 4734. Meetings: Pre-ANZAC Day luncheon, ANZAC House. Reunion last Fri Oct at 2pm.

2/16th BATTALION AIF ASSOC

2/228th BATTALION & 24th ANTI-TANK COY ASSOC
President: Philip Loffman OAM ED. Correspondence/Secretary: Eric Harrod, 17/18 Hebron St, Rockingham 6168; Ph: 9527 5833. Meetings: 10am 2nd Wed monthly, ANZAC House. AGM 10am 2nd Wed Aug.

2/22nd BATTALION AIF ASSOC WA
President: Collin Savage; Ph: 9371 6327. Correspondence/Secretary: Colin Edmonston, 3/456 Main St, Balcatta 6021; Ph: 9349 0799. AGM 2pm 25 Apr, Gloucester Park, East Perth.

2/24th BATTALION ASSOC WA DIVISION
Correspondence/President/Secretary: Wally Hughes, 29 Aberfe St, Hamilton Hill 6163; Ph: 9337 2086. Meetings: 11:30am 3rd Wed monthly, ANZAC House. AGM 12noon Sep.

3 TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNIT ASSOC (RAAF)
President: Barry Mayne; Ph: (h) 9401 4671 (w) 9273 7141 (e-mail: barry_mayne@nctes.dla.gov.au). Correspondence/Secretary: Denis Hammore, 13 Debutante C1, Huntingdale 6110; Ph: 9490 5656, email: denishammore@iprimus.com.au. Monthly lunch muster: 11am-1pm 2nd Thu, ANZAC Club. Committee meetings/social events as arranged.

7 ARMY TROOPS COY RAE ASSOC
President: Jack Benari; Ph: 9258 7198. Correspondence/Secretary: Collin Wilson, 41 Herald Ave, Willetton 6155; Ph: 9457 2852. Reunion: Last Fri Sep.

7th BN THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN REGIMENT (PIG BN)
President: Don Cruden; Ph: 9374 0014. Correspondence/Secretary: Doug Fieldhouse, 500 The Strand, Dianella 6059; Ph: 9275 8598. Meetings: As arranged.

11th BATTALION AIF 13th BDE WWII
President: Roy Walsh MM; Ph: 9271 5769. Correspondence/Treasurer: Phyl Hansen-Thim, 3 Bathurst St, Dianella 6059; Ph: 9276 3342. Meetings: As arranged.

11th DIVISION SIGNALS
President: Bill Gill; Ph: 9332 8536. Correspondence/Secretary: Norm Daakin, 20 Canterbury Dve, Willetton 6155; Ph: 9457 1163. Meetings: As required.

16th BATTALION, THE CAMERON HIGHLANDERS OF WA ASSOC
President: Tom Shields; Ph: 9349 2644. Correspondence/Secretary: Jim Richardson, 6 Isaac St, Melville 6156; Ph: 9330 5405. Meetings: As required.

22nd CONSTRUCTION SQUADRON RAE EX-MEMBERS' ASSOC
President: Ron Dupuy; Ph: 9344 5841. Correspondence/Secretary: Neville Clarke, 26 Linthorne Way, Balga 6061; Ph: 9342 5808. Annual Reunion: early Apr.

25 SQUADRON
President: Denny Hains; Ph: 9417 9707. Correspondence/Secretary: Suzanne Van Deuren, RAAFA, Bull Creek Dve, Bull Creek 6149; Ph: 9379 0472. Meetings: 10:30am 2nd Tue monthly, RAAFA Conference Room.

28th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION (AIF) 1939-45 ASSOC
Correspondence/CEO: Clif Tamblyn, Unit 38 Ocean Gardens, 60 Kalinda Dve, City Beach 6015; Ph: 9285 0951. Annual reunion early Jan. Functions as arranged.

44th BATTALION (AIF) ASSOC
Correspondence/President: David Atherden, Unit 75, Air Force Estate, Bull Creek Dve, Bull Creek 6149. Meetings: ANZAC Day. AGM pre-reunion meeting held 1st and 2nd Fri Nov.

48th & 2/48th BATTALION ASSOC
President: Don Spencer; Ph: 9309 6704. Correspondence/Secretary: Brian Corboy, 11A Ventnor Ave, Mt Pleasant 6153; Ph: 9364 7829. Meetings: 11:30am 3rd Mon, Carlton Hotel, 248 Hay St East.

460 SQUADRON RAFF ASSOC
President: Gerry Bateman DFC; Ph: 9332 5051. Correspondence/Secretary: Neville Johnson, 63 Kinwin St, Floreat Park 6014; Ph: 9387 4229. Meetings: Quarterly.
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Patrick Miskell
Manager

Ph: 9402 5004
NEW MEMBERS

The State President and Members of the State Executive extend a welcome to new members, 're-enlistments' and transferees (October-November 2001) to the League in WA. Their names are listed by sub-branch:

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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.

The deaths of the following RSL Members (WA Branch) were recorded at ANZAC House between 1 October and 30 November 2001

ANDERSON, Robert M, C/JX614581, Cambridge, RN
HUNTER, Albert J, WX34689, City of Cockburn, ARMY
HUNTER, James L, 16754, City of Perth, RAAF
JAMIESON, Lawrence H, WX2658, Capel, ARMY

AUSTIN, Geoffrey P, 17528, Albany, RAAF
LUKIN, D B, F3131, Central, RAN

BEAN, Brian, 22309041, City of Mandurah, BRIT ARMY
MACGAVIN, Gordon J, WX101644, Bunbury, ARMY

BELL, John R, 02201, Canning Districts & Victoria Park, RAAF
MACKIE, D M, WX2671, Cottesloe, ARMY

BELLAIRS, (NEE-WHISKIN), Lilla G, WF96244, Returned EX-Service WOMEN, AWAS
MAY, Janis E, WX12777, Mandurah, ARMY

BUNGEY, Denis G, 167100, Rivervale-Carlisle, RAAF
MACPHerson, Donald F, WX12805, City of Perth, ARMY

CHODAKOWSKI, Janus, **D3 49161, Darling Range, ARMY
MANNION, Edward L, R136441, Geraldton City, BRIT ARMY

COPPING, Octave J, NX206510, Armadale, BRIT ARMY
MARSHALL, Cedric, WX13539, Bedford-Morley, ARMY

CRUDEn, Lewis, X37934(WX), City of Perth, ARMY
MCGARRIGAL, C W, 82448, Narrogin, RAAF

CUNNINGHAM, Michael A, R54082, Bunbury, RAN
MCGHEE, John D, WX21111, Enfield, RAAF

DAVIS, Chris A, 519990, City of Perth, ARMY
OXLEY, T, 46373, Collie-Cardiff, RAAF

DE FRATUS, Stanley G, W18842, Eastern Regional, ARMY
PAULY, Jack S, WX26440, Eastern Regional, ARMY

DENIC, G G, WX25942, Fremantle City, ARMY
PHILPOT, John E, A32388, City of Rockingham, RAAF

DENT, Ronald A, 5709708, City of Perth, ARMY
PIPER, John, 442019, Albany, BRIT ARMY

DORRINGTON, J E, WX10535, Bedford-Morley, ARMY
PRICE, ARTHUR, F981, Central, RAN

DOW, Claude J, WX17591, Bunbury, ARMY
ROBBINS, Brian D, WX23497, City of Mandurah, ARMY

DRACE, H J N, WX32231, Northampton, ARMY
RYAN, F, WX36429, Geraldton City, ARMY

ELLIS, Reginald A, 45509, Busselton, RAAF
SIVYER, W J, WX25823, Three-Springs-Arrino, ARMY

ETTRIDGE, George, 29688, Quairading, RAAF
SNOOK, BERNARD G, PSSX795867, Belmont, RN

FIETZ, William B, SX33439, Central, ARMY
SNOWBALL, Brian, 400738, City of Perth, RAAF

GLIDDON, A B, WX25334, City of Mandurah, ARMY
SPENCER, David C, 16152, City of Mandurah, RAAF

HALL, Clarence J, 85841, Central, RAAF
STENHOUSE, Thomas R, WX3406, Highgate, ARMY

HARRIS, David E, WX26717, Rivervale-Carlisle, ARMY
STURKE, LESLIE R, 82863, Belmont, RAAF

HAYES, George W, WX2457, Quinns Rocks, ARMY
TALLENTS, Patricia W, WFX35562, Returned Sisters, RAANS

HAYNES, John A, 406073, Port Hedland, RAAF
WALMSLEY, Harold, C/JX301103, Nollamara-North Perth, RN

HOLMES, Cecil N, WX34875, Albany, ARMY
WERTRETT, Eric L, WX139049, Central, ARMY

HUNT, H J, WX12994, City of Mandurah, ARMY
Members of RSL sub-branches and Unit and 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 Community Relations on (08) 9346 6664, 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**, a 30-bed, inpatient and day patient psychiatric unit.

★ **Bullwinkel wing**, comprising 122 inpatient 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.