The ANZAC Legend: Alive and well...

Throughout the country, record crowds turned out to honour those who gave their lives in the defence of our country and also to express appreciation to our Defence Forces for the great job they do in attending to the security of Australia.

Reports received at RSL Headquarters indicate that right across Western Australian regional centres and in country towns, there was a marked increase in attendances at both Dawn Services and at traditional ANZAC Day March and Commemorative Services. It was also reported that large numbers of young people and community organisations swelled the numbers and stood side by side with veterans in perpetuating the now time honoured tradition of honouring our fallen soldiers.

This year marked the 88th Anniversary of the landing at Gallipoli and, although some four generations of Australians have made their mark on Australian history, the heroic deeds of the original ANZAC’s still have an honoured place in the heart of every Australian. In ANZAC Day Marches the number of young Australians seen proudly wearing their fathers or grandfathers medals was particularly impressive. It certainly augured well for the continuation of the tradition that has now firmly established itself as the Australian way of life.

In Perth, record crowds flocked to King’s Park to witness the Dawn Service. The crowd started gathering at about 4:00 a.m. and by the start of the Service at 6:00 a.m. had swelled to an estimated 40,000 persons. This figure represented people from all walks of life and clearly embraced all age groups. While awaiting the first glimpses of the sun rising over the Darling Ranges, large television screens showed film clips acquired from Australian archives of Australian troops in battle in various theatres of war. An excellent commentary delivered by Richard Garter accompanied the visual displays and told the story of the 1915 Battle of the Nek and the subsequent withdrawal of troops from Gallipoli.

The facilities for the general public at King’s Park were also of a very high standard and special thanks must be expressed to the Lottery Commission and King’s Park Board for funding and logistic support to enable an enhanced presentation to be placed before the public.

At first light the hushed crowd stood fast as the procession of dignitaries led by the Governor of Western Australia, Lieutenant General John Sanderson AC and Mr William Gaynor OAM RFD, State President of RSL, placed floral tributes on the State War Memorial. The sounding of The Last Post, Reveille and the playing of The Ode to the fallen drew to a conclusion the formal proceedings of the Service, Army Commander for Western Region, Colonel Jeff Davie delivered an occasional address that reflected the commitment our Defence Forces have to the security of Australia and the link that commitment had to the tradition that has long been part of Australia’s military history.

The ANZAC Day March through Perth and the Service on the Esplanade also attracted record crowds. Some 7,000 service personnel and veterans proudly presented themselves before an enthusiastic flag-waving crowd that lined streets of Perth. It was truly a most impressive sight that showed that the people of Perth appreciated the sacrifices made by our veterans.

The Service on the Esplanade again attracted a record attendance and apart from the excellent ceremonial presentation by the New 1 Voci Singers with Schola Cantori and Chorus Angelicus and The Perth Fortress Salvation Army Band the assembly was addressed by the Governor Lieutenant General John Sanderson AC and one of the RSL Cadet of the Year finalists MIDN Warren Lynch. In his address MIDN Lynch spoke with great confidence and related his experiences as a member of the Australian Service Cadet Movement.

With the 88th Commemoration of ANZAC Day over it is now time not to treat it as ‘That one day of the Year’. This day is truly our National Day and more and more people are supporting that notion. The traditions and values set in place by those who gave their lives on many a battlefield in the cause of freedom and democracy must be perpetuated for future generations. The 2003 ANZAC Day confirms that ideal.
LARGE DISCOUNTS TO TPI PENSIONERS

NISSAN X-TRAIL ST
- All new 2.5 litre EFI engine
- All mode 4x4 anticipates problems
- ABS brakes, brake assist, dual air bags, CD player, keyless entry, air conditioning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RRP</th>
<th>LESS DISCOUNT</th>
<th>LESS GST</th>
<th>YOU $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>31,990</td>
<td>22,504</td>
<td>29,086</td>
<td>26,828*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NISSAN PATHFINDER ST
- Powerful 3.3 litre V6 engine
- All mode intelligent 4x4
- Power windows, power mirrors, CD tuner, alloy wheels, CD tuner, air conditioning, dual air bags, ABS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RRP</th>
<th>LESS DISCOUNT</th>
<th>LESS GST</th>
<th>YOU $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>41,490</td>
<td>25,000</td>
<td>37,722</td>
<td>35,218*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NISSAN PATROL ST
- More grunt with 3.0 litre intercooled turbo diesel
- 5 speed manual (also available in auto)
- Power windows & mirrors, big 7 seater, up to 3500kg towing capacity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RRP</th>
<th>LESS DISCOUNT</th>
<th>LESS GST</th>
<th>YOU $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>50,990</td>
<td>46,072</td>
<td>46,372</td>
<td>41,746*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SUZUKI XL-7
- New 2.7 litre V6 EFI quad cam engine
- Dual range 4x4 transfer case
- Alloy wheels, central locking, power windows & mirrors, ABS brakes, dual air bags

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RRP</th>
<th>LESS DISCOUNT</th>
<th>LESS GST</th>
<th>YOU $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>38,990</td>
<td>21,174</td>
<td>32,444</td>
<td>33,572*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CALL TODAY 9409 0000
5 PRINDIVILLE DRIVE WANGARA
FIND US ON THE NET AT... www.northsides.com.au OR EMAIL info@northsides.com.au

PRICE APPLICABLE TO TPI PENSIONERS ONLY
PLUS REGISTRATION
NORTHSIDE NISSAN SUZUKI
DL 611
PL10286561
**State Executive**

**STATE PRESIDENT**
W.E. Gaynor OAM RFD

**STATE SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT**
D.G. Rasmussen

**STATE VICE PRESIDENT**
G. Hourn

**STATE SECRETARY**
S. M. Seers OAM JP

**HONORARY TREASURER**
Vacant

**COMMITTEE**

**TRUSTEES**
R. Mercer AM RFD ED, R. Stone AM JP, D.R. Warren AM RFD

---

**RSL support for our troops overseas**

The Returned & Services League of Australia WA Branch Inc. has produced an adhesive sticker (pictured above and below) for car bumpers and shop windows. The sticker is in support of Australian Defence Force personnel on operational service overseas.

In issuing the sticker, the RSL hopes to have this strong message of support displayed on vehicles and in shop windows throughout Western Australia in recognition of the distinguished service of our Defence Force in 2003.

Profits raised from sales of the stickers will go to the Australian Forces Overseas Fund (AFOF), a Trust run by the RSL for the provision of parcels, twice each year, to every member of the Australian Defence Force serving overseas.

The practice of sending parcels to Australian servicemen and women overseas began in 1915 during World War I. Since then, the RSL has been committed to continuing this very practical tradition. An AFOF is a worthwhile way of directly supporting our serving sailors, soldiers, airmen and women. The feedback from those who have received parcels in many far flung places around the world, has always been very appreciative.

With large deployments of Australian Defence Force members in Timor and the Middle East, the number of parcels to be sent by the RSL in 2003 remains high.

A gold coin donation is being requested for each sticker. Stickers can be obtained through ANZAC House, phone 9325 9799.

---

**Army Museum OPEN MONTH**

Open every day until 25th May 2003
Mon-Fri 10 - 4pm
Weekends 12.30 - 4.30pm

**Free Entry** (donation appreciated) as a thank you for your support.

**What you can do to help**
- Visit the Army Museum and see the Community/Army Museum vision for the future of this important heritage site.
- Write to your local Federal and State Member of Parliament and call for them to honour the agreement to support the Army Museum at Artillery Barracks.
- Write direct to The Hon. John Howard, Prime Minister, Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600, and ask him to instruct his representatives to honour the deal to pay commercial rent on the main barracks buildings so the Army Museum can remain at Artillery Barracks.
STATE SECRETARY'S REPORT

Welcome to the May edition of The Listening Post as we begin the third quarter of the first half of the year 2003.

To date the Branch has had a successful year with a number of successful outcomes, particularly in the area of Ex-Service and Repatriation rejoices to the League. Most of these were successful ANZAC Day Dawn Service, once with once again a record attendance, headed by the March and Service on the Esplanade. The feedback from the veteran community, the public and VIP's has been overwhelmingly positive for support for the League and their service which it co-ordinates the ANZAC Day Dawn Service. The President is particularly proud that Western Australia hosts the ANZAC Day Dawn Service in Australia in actual attendance. We have again promoted and supported the initiatives of educational awareness, and the large attendance of the League recently have added in the increase in attendances by both veterans and the wider community.

The Branch has now turned its focus to the conduct of the ANZAC Day Dawn Service to be held over the period 12-13 July 2003. The conduct of the Committee will provide for the members through their respective sub-branches to place items that are of concern sponsors, Heath Lambert

Anzac, Commemoration and Memorials.

The National Congress is conducted in September of each year where allBranches present their respective State Congress resolutions for debate and voting. It is a completion of the National Congress items passed are forwarded to the State Secretaries and Department for action and responses.

The long term future of the RSL is dependent upon the membership of any ESO and any RSL as the second largest volunteer organisation in Australia, and longest in existed in democracy, and in continued the organisation.

The League is committed to reviewing its operations in the provision of services to its members, and as important, in the relevance to its current and future members. The League羰 new initiatives currently being reviewed at the National level.

If the RSL is to remain the proud custodian of the veteran community it behoves every member to act as a recruiting officer. The national target membership is 13,000 Ordinary Members however, we are aiming for a number with every member aiding in recruiting.

SHANE M SEERS
OAM JP

STATE SECRETARY'S REPORT

Welcome to the May edition of The Listening Post as we begin the third quarter of the first half of the year 2003.

To date the Branch has had a successful year with a number of successful outcomes, particularly in the area of Ex-Service and Repatriation rejoices to the League. Most of these were successful ANZAC Day Dawn Service, once with once again a record attendance, headed by the March and Service on the Esplanade. The feedback from the veteran community, the public and VIP's has been overwhelmingly positive for support for the League and their service which it co-ordinates the ANZAC Day Dawn Service. The President is particularly proud that Western Australia hosts the ANZAC Day Dawn Service in Australia in actual attendance. We have again promoted and supported the initiatives of educational awareness, and the large attendance of the League recently have added in the increase in attendances by both veterans and the wider community.

The Branch has now turned its focus to the conduct of the ANZAC Day Dawn Service to be held over the period 12-13 July 2003. The conduct of the Committee will provide for the members through their respective sub-branches to place items that are of concern sponsors, Heath Lambert
Veterans’ Affairs issues

Negative feedback on Clarke Report

With the release of the much awaited “Clarke Report” – Review of the Financial Management of the Veterans cocktail, the Chairman of the VAC, Mr. Doug Rasmussen, said, “This report on veterans’ affairs would be more closely scrutinized than any other report before commenting on, however at first pass there doesn’t seem to be much for the veteran.”

Along with State Branch recommendations the National Veterans Affairs Committee have made the following recommendations. (As in NVAC Newsletter NF13/03 Clarke Review in VA correspondence).

RECOMMENDATIONS

The VAC should:
• Reject the Clarke Committee’s recommended structure of Special Rate benefits, stick to its current proposal for changes to be made to the Special Rate provisions and push as hard as possible for them to be adopted.
• Reject the Clarke Committee’s recommendations concerning changes to EDA Intermediate Rate provisions and ensure that the present arrangements are maintained.
• Reject the Clarke Committee’s recommendations concerning changes to the current Provision and Maintenance of Special Rate provisions and return its attention to the matter of new MCS legislation.

Amongst other matters that have recently come before the VAC is that sub-branches re-submit Council motions for State Congress. Mr Rasmussen encouraged sub-branches to “start the wheels in motion” as he felt that a number of matters to be raised generated considerable passion in the veteran community and need to be well researched and prepared and presented to the VAC before Congress submissions closing date.

Mr Rasmussen said that VAC prepare a substantive prequel for resolution to Congress that all veteran rehabilitation and payments are dealt with solely by VDA offices as they have the necessary structure, facilities and qualified staff to service the veteran community.

Mr Rasmussen said that the veterans community have a focal point for all our needs and need not fragment this as causes confusion and delays to payment and services.

A VAC meeting was held with Mr. Russell and Mr. McNulty, DVA’s Deputy Commissioner (Special Rate sections) and the Clarke Report. Mr Rasmussen said the outcome was positive and would be an on going endeavour to overcome obstacles to avoid repetition of problems in the future.

Mr Doug Rasmussen can be contacted at ANZAC House on 9235 9796.

DP Connolly

In the last issue, I promised to write a brief commentary on the “about-to-be-published” Clarke Report – concerning the Review of Veterans’ Entitlements investigations that took place last year.

Well, this was easier proposed than done! The 884-page report was handed down several months ago now – and it takes quite a lot to write through it. I have read only portions of it. Suffice to say, however, optimistic hopes that it would bring many widely beneficial changes to the current system have largely evaporated. Some recommendations have been rejected by the VAC – but not others.

Among those who pay benefit (in mind that the report is only an evaluation of what already exists, with proposed changes) the most significant negative (“Interim” – I stress, they are only recommendations at this stage) are:

• That veterans who served with RCAF (formerly eligible for Disability pension only) be recognized as Qualifying Service under the VEA – entitling them to a rate of pension.
• That service by Australian defence force personnel who participated in the British atomic tests at Maralinga and B santa Louise in Indonesia should be declared as warlike service and that the legislation should be amended to ensure that this declaration can have effect in extending VEA coverage. (They also recommended that the government move quickly to finalise the current cancer and mesothelioma study into this group of ex-service).
• Broadening the parameters of service in the Northern Territories during WW2 – such changes to:
• Extend start and end dates to 1 January 1941 and 7 September, 1944 respectively;
• Remove the current then 10 months requirement for NT service;
• Extend the geographic service area to include parts of WA and Queensland.

That airforce No 2 Squadron be retrospectively allotted for service on the Malay-Tai border from 1 August 1960 to 16 August, 1964, recognizing this as “qualifying service”;

That RAAF personnel directly involved in the non-war like hazardous work operations be deemed to be having “non-warlike hazardous service” under the VEA;

Men who located, cleaned and disposed of any wartime ordinance in Papua New Guinea and the Pacific Islands, up to the 1970s, also be considered to have carried out “non-warlike hazardous service”;

That qualifying service be awarded for service from 16 September 1963 to 16 August, 1964 (inclusive), for eight eligible personnel on the posted strength of units involved in operations as part of the “Confrontation” era (with Indonesia).

That veterans ‘disability pensions’ should be increased as per Board and adult orphans.
• An increase in the funeral benefit to $1000.

That veterans’ disability pensioners, who have never served in the British Commonwealth and are not eligible for pension, but are married to war widows and adult orphans.

A lifestyle average of 6 – indicating that the veteran is housebound and dependent on others for the severity of his disabilities.

More sobering, and less welcomed changes recommended (or recommendations to leave as is) include:

• Gold Card to be means tested (from various groups) and has been rejected by the Minister for Veterans’ Affairs already.

• A recommendation to “phase out” the existing EDA rate from the Committee’s proposed disability compensation structure – allowing a handful of specific extra subsidies and allowances (carmenobe); and a Gold Card not subject to means testing – but less cut than the current set-up.

I also find it incongruous that although the two criteria remain (i.e. disabilities yielding a combined impairment rating of 70 points (minimum) and a Lifestyle average of 6 – indicating that the veteran is housebound and dependent on others for the severity of his disabilities).

Warmest regards to all!

The Listening Post is published for The Returned and Services League WA Branch Incorporated by Healy Maher Publishing, 17 Southport St Leederville WA 6060.

All advertising inquiries should be directed to Terry Healy on Ph. 9381 5555/Fax 9381 5559. email: thalily@cw.com.au

THE LISTENING POST April 2003

5

Australia’s one-stop resource for hundreds of Australian and foreign museum-quality reproduction, replacement and commemorative medals, honours and awards is right here in Perth! Medal display cases, service plaques, family honour boards and personal service framed collections including framed fully-sized reproduction military medals, laser engraving, precision medal mounting, military art prints and many more. Contact us for all your family memorabilia. Our full service guarantees covering any large order, quick delivery. Customers nationwide with orders of 20 or more receive custom artwork. Ask about our 'Clearview' range... just strictly limited to our regular sizes. Service really matters.
Membership and Youth Matters

Cadet of the Year winners

The RSL Cadet of the year 2003 winners met at Perth International Airport, prior to their departure to Thailand.

The cadet of the year competition, initiated by the RSL WA Branch, has now been accepted as a national competition with support from National Executive, ADP and other current sponsors.

We now have the 2004 cadet of the year competition well in hand, the times and dates are to be published at a later date.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all sub-branches and individual members for their support and sponsorship of the cadets during the years.

Our affiliate membership is steadily increasing and at this point in time we have RSL affiliate members. At this rate we will outstrip last years numbers.

Max Reynolds, a co-opted member to the membership committee, sent a questionnaire paper to 100 sub-branches, requesting information regarding affiliates. The results were very encouraging, with 33 sub-branches replying, all but two gave positive replies. I would like to thank all the secretaries who took the time to complete and return the questionnaire.

During the next few editions of The Listening Post we will be profiling an affiliate member. The first of these profiles is Mrs Peggy Hanson a member of the City of Perth sub-branch.

Peggy was the first affiliate member to join the sub-branch, and has been a member for nearly five years. At the recent AGM Peggy was nominated and endorsed as the branch treasurer.

She is well versed with accounting as she has carried out bookkeeping duties on and off for the past 50 years.

MRS PEGGY HANSON

Our affiliate membership is steadily increasing and at this point in time we have RSL affiliate members. At this rate we will outstrip last years numbers.

Max Reynolds, a co-opted member to the membership committee, sent a questionnaire paper to 100 sub-branches, requesting information regarding affiliates. The results were very encouraging, with 33 sub-branches replying, all but two gave positive replies. I would like to thank all the secretaries who took the time to complete and return the questionnaire.

During the next few editions of The Listening Post we will be profiling an affiliate member. The first of these profiles is Mrs Peggy Hanson a member of the City of Perth sub-branch.

Peggy was the first affiliate member to join the sub-branch, and has been a member for nearly five years. At the recent AGM Peggy was nominated and endorsed as the branch treasurer.

She is well versed with accounting as she has carried out bookkeeping duties on and off for the past 50 years.

Our affiliate membership is steadily increasing and at this point in time we have RSL affiliate members. At this rate we will outstrip last years numbers.

Max Reynolds, a co-opted member to the membership committee, sent a questionnaire paper to 100 sub-branches, requesting information regarding affiliates. The results were very encouraging, with 33 sub-branches replying, all but two gave positive replies. I would like to thank all the secretaries who took the time to complete and return the questionnaire.

During the next few editions of The Listening Post we will be profiling an affiliate member. The first of these profiles is Mrs Peggy Hanson a member of the City of Perth sub-branch.

Peggy was the first affiliate member to join the sub-branch, and has been a member for nearly five years. At the recent AGM Peggy was nominated and endorsed as the branch treasurer.

She is well versed with accounting as she has carried out bookkeeping duties on and off for the past 50 years.

Our affiliate membership is steadily increasing and at this point in time we have RSL affiliate members. At this rate we will outstrip last years numbers.

Max Reynolds, a co-opted member to the membership committee, sent a questionnaire paper to 100 sub-branches, requesting information regarding affiliates. The results were very encouraging, with 33 sub-branches replying, all but two gave positive replies. I would like to thank all the secretaries who took the time to complete and return the questionnaire.

During the next few editions of The Listening Post we will be profiling an affiliate member. The first of these profiles is Mrs Peggy Hanson a member of the City of Perth sub-branch.

Peggy was the first affiliate member to join the sub-branch, and has been a member for nearly five years. At the recent AGM Peggy was nominated and endorsed as the branch treasurer.

She is well versed with accounting as she has carried out bookkeeping duties on and off for the past 50 years.

Our affiliate membership is steadily increasing and at this point in time we have RSL affiliate members. At this rate we will outstrip last years numbers.

Max Reynolds, a co-opted member to the membership committee, sent a questionnaire paper to 100 sub-branches, requesting information regarding affiliates. The results were very encouraging, with 33 sub-branches replying, all but two gave positive replies. I would like to thank all the secretaries who took the time to complete and return the questionnaire.

During the next few editions of The Listening Post we will be profiling an affiliate member. The first of these profiles is Mrs Peggy Hanson a member of the City of Perth sub-branch.

Peggy was the first affiliate member to join the sub-branch, and has been a member for nearly five years. At the recent AGM Peggy was nominated and endorsed as the branch treasurer.

She is well versed with accounting as she has carried out bookkeeping duties on and off for the past 50 years.

Our affiliate membership is steadily increasing and at this point in time we have RSL affiliate members. At this rate we will outstrip last years numbers.

Max Reynolds, a co-opted member to the membership committee, sent a questionnaire paper to 100 sub-branches, requesting information regarding affiliates. The results were very encouraging, with 33 sub-branches replying, all but two gave positive replies. I would like to thank all the secretaries who took the time to complete and return the questionnaire.

During the next few editions of The Listening Post we will be profiling an affiliate member. The first of these profiles is Mrs Peggy Hanson a member of the City of Perth sub-branch.

Peggy was the first affiliate member to join the sub-branch, and has been a member for nearly five years. At the recent AGM Peggy was nominated and endorsed as the branch treasurer.

She is well versed with accounting as she has carried out bookkeeping duties on and off for the past 50 years.

Our affiliate membership is steadily increasing and at this point in time we have RSL affiliate members. At this rate we will outstrip last years numbers.

Max Reynolds, a co-opted member to the membership committee, sent a questionnaire paper to 100 sub-branches, requesting information regarding affiliates. The results were very encouraging, with 33 sub-branches replying, all but two gave positive replies. I would like to thank all the secretaries who took the time to complete and return the questionnaire.

During the next few editions of The Listening Post we will be profiling an affiliate member. The first of these profiles is Mrs Peggy Hanson a member of the City of Perth sub-branch.

Peggy was the first affiliate member to join the sub-branch, and has been a member for nearly five years. At the recent AGM Peggy was nominated and endorsed as the branch treasurer.

She is well versed with accounting as she has carried out bookkeeping duties on and off for the past 50 years.

Our affiliate membership is steadily increasing and at this point in time we have RSL affiliate members. At this rate we will outstrip last years numbers.

Max Reynolds, a co-opted member to the membership committee, sent a questionnaire paper to 100 sub-branches, requesting information regarding affiliates. The results were very encouraging, with 33 sub-branches replying, all but two gave positive replies. I would like to thank all the secretaries who took the time to complete and return the questionnaire.

During the next few editions of The Listening Post we will be profiling an affiliate member. The first of these profiles is Mrs Peggy Hanson a member of the City of Perth sub-branch.

Peggy was the first affiliate member to join the sub-branch, and has been a member for nearly five years. At the recent AGM Peggy was nominated and endorsed as the branch treasurer.

She is well versed with accounting as she has carried out bookkeeping duties on and off for the past 50 years.

Our affiliate membership is steadily increasing and at this point in time we have RSL affiliate members. At this rate we will outstrip last years numbers.

Max Reynolds, a co-opted member to the membership committee, sent a questionnaire paper to 100 sub-branches, requesting information regarding affiliates. The results were very encouraging, with 33 sub-branches replying, all but two gave positive replies. I would like to thank all the secretaries who took the time to complete and return the questionnaire.

During the next few editions of The Listening Post we will be profiling an affiliate member. The first of these profiles is Mrs Peggy Hanson a member of the City of Perth sub-branch.

Peggy was the first affiliate member to join the sub-branch, and has been a member for nearly five years. At the recent AGM Peggy was nominated and endorsed as the branch treasurer.

She is well versed with accounting as she has carried out bookkeeping duties on and off for the past 50 years.
The future of the ANZAC Club

References:
A. RSL WA Branch Inc. State Executive Committee Meeting (SEC) of 15 March 2003.
B. RSL WA Branch Inc. Board of Directors Meeting (BOO) of 14 April 2003.

At Reference A the SEC resolved unanimously to:

“Close operations of the ANZAC Club in its current format with effect 1 May 2003, that is it would no longer operate as a fully licensed club; however would operate as functions only centre.”

The State Executive Committee and the Board of Directors have reviewed the RSL’s position on the proposed closure date as per Reference B and as a result of statutory requirements, administration and logistic requirements deferred the Club closure until after Congress 2003.

The most common question is why and how could the Executive close the ANZAC Club’s facility that is used by members and been operating for several decades, the following gives some insight into the decision, it is an extract from the latest RSL WA Branch Sub-Branch Signal:

“Following extensive research on the financial viability and operation of the ANZAC Club it is clearly evident that to continue trading in its present form will result in the Club continuing to trade at a huge financial deficit. This deficit will seriously erode the League’s financial reserves thus affecting the general operations of the State Branch and the League in meeting its core role of welfare and advocacy. The State Executive carefully considered all options offered in the research documents and were faced with the choice of spending tens of thousands of dollars to refurbish a facility that may or may not attract customers or closing the Club. The option to close the Club as a trading entity and use it as a function centre was considered to be in the best interests of user Units and ESO’s.”

The final decision however rests with the RSL Congress, if the RSL membership wants the Club to continue there must be direction as to where the money to sustain it is to come from or at least have the Club trade at a break-even level. The State Executive is distressed at having to make such a decision as while on one hand we wished to see the Club continue to trade as a fully licensed Club as it has for decades, we could not consider ourselves acting financially responsible to allow the Club to trade at an Annual loss of some $60,000 to $70,000. Unfortunately trading losses have been with us for well over 10 years and there is no indication of the losses declining in the foreseeable future. It is expected at this time that the Club will continue to trade at a further loss of some $30,000 for this trading period when its future will be discussed at RSL Congress 2003.

It is acknowledged that this decision has caused a great deal of concern for sub-branch members and ESO Committees and their members, the immediate future of the Club is that it will continue to trade as it has in the past year as a sub-branch and user ESO functions and meetings. We trust however do all things reasonable to make the Club as financially viable as possible in this period; the League can not and should not be expected to cover escalating losses in the Club from its current revenue resources. It is noteworthy that a number of groups hold regular meetings in the club, however when they hold a social function they go to other facilities, it is these occurrences that have aided in the current financial position of the Club resulting in the SEC decision. The SEC considered these issues and many others and anognished over what the future of the Club could or would be, however, had to also consider the financial viability of the RSL in the medium to long term and its Charter and Objects to eligible recipients, clearly the RSL’s commitment is to the health, wellbeing and welfare of ex-service men and women and widows / widowers.

The SEC would welcome any recommendations from sub-branches or user ESO’s on how they may see the future operation of the Club and any achievable options for increasing revenue, options must be sustainable and achievable.

Please forward your recommendations to the State Secretary in writing by 23 May 2003 to allow for review before the conduct of the RSL Congress in 2003.

The SEC has reviewed the RSL SA Branch financial report and has decided to move forward in the liquidation of the ANZAC Club.

STATE SECRETARY

Soldier’s un-written contract

“I give to my Government and my Nation, my health, my strength, my innocence and my word to perform all legal acts promptly and without argument, and even if my life or limbs be forfeit, I do so give of myself freely and without reservation.”

In return my grateful Government and Nation promises and undertakes to provide for me and my family in our time of need.”

In this un-written contract, there is no mention of political expediency or cost considerations.

Of course one would expect any Government to act in a suitably responsible manner when governing Australia. However, to deny those most vulnerable and most deserving of “A Fair Go” from our Government that most basic of Australian rights, in our time of need, that has been caused by our service to our Country, Nation and Government is a reprehensible act, especially when our current Government and Prime Minister are promising our troops currently serving in the Middle East that ‘‘we will take care of you’’ without actually doing anything to ensure this comes about should the need arise.

Les Leeverence
Member VAC

Unit 60th Anniversary and Tarakan Parade and Ball

No. 114 Mobile Control and Reporting Unit is pleased to announce that it will be holding its 60th Anniversary Tarakan Parade on 23 May 2003 at RAAF Base Darwin. The parade commemorates the contribution of No. 114 Mobile Fighter Control Unit during the Tarakan campaign of 1945. As a result of the contribution made by No. 114 Mobile Control and Reporting Unit in the Pacific theatre during World War Two, the Unit has the unique distinction of being the only non-flying unit in the RAAF to be awarded Battle Honour.

In recognition of this significant milestone in the Unit’s history, it is hoped that the 60th Anniversary Tarakan parade will be reviewed by Air Marshal Angus Houston AO, AFC, Chief of Air Force, accordingly, the Unit Standard will also be paraded. Following the parade, No. 114 Mobile Control and Reporting Unit will host an Open Day and a barbecue lunch at the Unit. This will be followed by a Tarakan Ball to be held at RAAF Base Darwin and entertained by the Air Command Band.

For more information, please contact ADMINO 114MCRU, PTOOFF Alannah McCurrans on 08 8924 2000.

Kott Gunning

Lawyers

Your Lawyers

We are proud of our Long Association with the RSL and are pleased to provide members with a free half-hour consultation

Probate and Deceased Estates
David Miller

Conveyancing and Settlements
Anne Hurley

Enduring Powers of Attorney
David Miller

Family Law
Susan Duncanson

Criminal Law
Michael Clarke

Wills at Special Rates

Telephone: (08) 9321 3755
Facsimile: (08) 9321 3465

Level 11, Australia Place, 15 William St, PERTH 6000
Website: www.kottgunn.com.au
E-mail: partners@kottgunn.com.au

THE LISTENING POST APR 2003 7
Hollywood's admissions process explained

Hollywood Private Hospital does not have an emergency department.

However, the hospital does provide a 24-hour admissions assessment service for Veteran patients and War Widows.

Hollywood also provides a 24-hour service for the assessment and management of acute cardiac conditions, including chest pain.

Patients may be admitted by their GP or may attend without a referral. It is most important that the hospital be contacted before the patient arrives on (08) 9364 6000.

The hospital does not have a training service, nor are we able to receive patients requiring immediate resuscitation.

The St John Ambulance Service has well developed protocols to ensure patient safety and will at times take patients to a hospital with an emergency department if the ambulance officer and Pad the Info is in the best interests of the patient.

Selective (Booked) Admissions Process

1. Patient is referred by their GP to a Hollywood accredited specialist.
2. The Specialist determines the need for admission.
3. The Specialist books the patient into hospital for a particular date.
4. The hospital contacts the patient to inform them of the date and time of admission and what the patient is to bring to hospital with them. The hospital asks the patient to complete a personal details form and Fad the Info is return these to the hospital.
5. The patient arrives at hospital on the day of admission, is welcomed by the admissions staff and any outstanding paperwork is completed.
6. The patient is taken to their bed.

Acute (Emergency) Admissions Process – Normal Hours

1. Patient becomes ill and contacts their GP or the after hours emergency GP service. If there will be a significant delay in accessing the GP, if the patient is well known to the hospital, or if the patient has been recently discharged from the hospital, they may call the hospital directly.
2. The call is taken by the after hours duty doctor, who will take the details and inform hospital staff that the patient is coming.
3. Patient arrives in the assessment centre and is seen by the duty doctor.

The Hollywood Clinic's Admission Process (for psychiatric patients)

Hollywood Private Hospital is not a Comprehensive Psychiatric Emergency Service.

The Veteran community remains the focus of our attention and when ever possible and appropriate Veteran patients will be cared for in a timely, safe and professional manner.

To be admitted to The Hollywood Clinic, a Veteran must have a mental health condition which requires inpatient care, and that care can be delivered safely in an open ward. The Veteran must not be intoxicated or under the influence of illegal substance.

Acute (Emergency) Admissions Process – After Hours

1. Patient becomes ill and contacts their GP or the after hours emergency GP service. If there will be a significant delay in accessing the GP, if the patient is well known to the hospital, or if the patient has been recently discharged from the hospital, they may call the hospital directly.
2. The call is taken by the after hours duty doctor, who will take the details and inform hospital staff that the patient is coming.
3. Patient arrives in the assessment centre and is seen by the duty doctor.

As a result of your visit to Hollywood Private Hospital, we strive to provide comprehensive psychiatric emergency service.

The Veteran community remains the focus of our attention and whenever possible and appropriate Veteran patients will be cared for in a timely, safe and professional manner.

As a result of your visit to Hollywood Private Hospital, we strive to provide comprehensive psychiatric emergency service.

If you are an inpatient at Hollywood Private Hospital and would like to be visited by an Official Hospital Visitor, the hospital must first obtain your consent.

If you are admitted for an overnight stay to the hospital, you will be asked as part of the Admissions process if you would like to be visited. This question is also asked on the admissions form (Patient's Personal Details form) you may be asked to fill in and send to the hospital.

If you answer "yes", your name will be added to the official visitor's list which is then made available to all official hospital visitors and you will be visited.

If you answer "no" or give no answer, your name can not be put on the list and therefore your association's hospital visitor will not know that you are in hospital and will not visit you.

The hospital administration is aware that there are occasions when patients may be admitted to the hospital and not asked if they would like to be visited eg. if they are admitted after hours or admitted through the 24-hour acute chest pain unit.

If you have any queries regarding being visited while at Hollywood, please contact your association's Official Hospital Visitor, or call one of the hospital's Admissions staff on (08) 9364 6888.

Acute chest pain service

Acute chest pain requires urgent medical attention and the sooner you receive treatment, the better your chance of recovery.

If you suffer an attack, call an ambulance.

Hollywood Private Hospital's acute chest pain unit is designed to accept patients who need help, immediately. Expert medical and nursing staff are available 24 hours a day, seven days per week, to provide treatment.

Any privately insured patient, entitled veteran or war widow/war can use this service.

For more information, call (08) 9364 6019.

VC name for gastro unit

Hollywood Private Hospital turns nine

Over 130 representatives of the service community enjoyed presentations followed by a luncheon at Terrace Pavilion Centre, in Dalkeith, on Tuesday, February 25 to help Hollywood celebrate nine years since privatisation. This is the first year the event has not been held on the hospital grounds.

Hollywood was the first Commonwealth hospital to be privatised and bought by Australian-owned Freedom Health Care, through a tender process, in 1994.

Executive Director Kevin Cass-Ryal and Hotel and Property Services Manager Wayne Williams gave presentations to the guests on the history and activities of the hospital. Wayne Williams gave a presentation made to the hospital on the day by State President of the Royal Australian Air Force Association (RAAFA) Peter Trifilo.

Mr Pardon presented Hollywood with an appreciation plaque to mark the hospital's ongoing support to the hospital and its commitment to the veteran community.

Executive Director Kevin Cass-Ryal accepted the appreciation plaque on the hospital's behalf.

As a sign of respect for Hollywood Private Hospital's heritage, all the hospital's wards/units have been named after recipients of the Victoria Cross (VC) and George Cross (GC) medals of honour (both are decorations awarded for conspicuous bravery in arms or in armed services).

Not to be left out, the Gastroenterology Unit has been named after the First World Australian VC winner, Second-Lieutenant Hugo Throssell.

A photo of Second-Lieutenant Throssell and his citation are now displayed in the prominent position in the unit. Second-Lieutenant Throssell was actually killed in action returning from a facility check in the Middle East. He was awarded a VC for his conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty for his actions at Gallipoli.

We are greatly honoured to have on Second-Lieutenant Throssell's name for our unit and even more so thrilled that he was the First World Australian to be awarded a VC." said Gastroenterology Unit Clinical Nurse Manager Leah Hansen.
Australians at War is a magnificent tribute series of pure silver privy mark coins and remarkable medallions, produced by The Perth Mint and struck in honour of those who served their country during the five major international conflicts of the twentieth century.

This stunning series of Australian legal tender coins is presented with an additional element of historic significance, including miniature replicas of service medals and ribbons awarded to Australians who served in The Boer War, WWI, WWII, The Vietnam War and The Korean War. They are the Queen's South Africa Medal, the Victory Medal 1914-1919, the Australia Service Medal 1939-1945, the Korea Medal, and the Vietnam Medal. Australians at War also features five, original commemorative medallions, designed and struck from one ounce of 99.9% pure silver. Each portrays images associated with one of the five conflicts.

This Tribute Series is available as five individual sets, each comprising an Australian Kookaburra 2oz privy mark coin, together with its associated service medal and commemorative medallion. Each accompanied by a serial-numbered Certificate of Authenticity, incorporating an informative summary of our nation's proud involvement in the relevant conflict, will be released.

In addition, The Perth Mint will release just 2,500 Complete Collections, comprising all five coins, five replica medals and five medallions. Splendidly presented in a handmade, blue presentation box, each Complete Collection is accompanied by a beautifully produced 12-page booklet incorporating fascinating historical information and a serial number Certificate of Authenticity.

**ORDER NOW TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT**

[Image of order form]

**FREE DELIVERY FOR RSL MEMBERS (WA ONLY)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coin &amp; Medallion Tribute Series - Boer War</td>
<td>$17.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coin &amp; Medallion Tribute Series - WWI</td>
<td>$12.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coin &amp; Medallion Tribute Series - WWII</td>
<td>$12.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coin &amp; Medallion Tribute Series - Korean War</td>
<td>$12.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coin &amp; Medallion Tribute Series - Vietnam War</td>
<td>$12.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coin &amp; Medallion Tribute Series - Complete Collection</td>
<td>$69.75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Order includes Complete Collection for Individual Set:

- FREE DELIVERY FOR RSL MEMBERS (WA ONLY)

**TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED**

Name
Address
Postcode
Daytime phone

Please allow 14 days delivery. A signature will be required for delivery.

My Cheque/Money Order is enclosed [made payable to "The Perth Mint"]. Please make cheques "Not Negotiable".

Please debit my Bankcard [ ] Mastercard [ ] Visa [ ] Diners [ ] America Express [ ]

Card Number:

Expiry Date:

Cardholder's Signature:

[Website: www.perthmint.com.au]
Day 2003

These ANZAC Day Parade photos supplied by Naureen Taylor's Photography. Phone orders: 0247 3466.
Students place flowers for Australian soldiers

By Len Copley, Managing Editor

A group of Year 8 and 9 students from Warwick High School placed flowers on the crosses of Australian soldiers in Kings Park. This took place on Tuesday, 8 April 2003. I gave a short address on my time in Vietnam and then the students placed the flowers on the crosses along May Drive.

The school teacher who organised the event said he had previously done this with Canine High School and that Canine School had been putting flowers on the crosses in Kings Park since 1986.

This is the first year that Warwick High School had put flowers on the crosses in Kings Park. The teacher in charge, Andrew Bell said he hoped it would be an annual occurrence.

Burswood Casino

Burswood Casino is a proud sponsor of The Returned & Services League of Australia WA Branch. Burswood this year donated $5,000 from Two-Up King proceeds on ANZAC Day to assist returned servicemen and women. Doug Rasmussen, Senior State Vice President and a Vietnam Veteran headed ‘em up. The past 14 years has seen Burswood donate over $175,000 to the RSL.

Leadership Award

Doug Rasmussen presenting the RSL Trophy to Officer Cadet S Wilkinson.

The No. 2 Flying Training School held the Graduation Parade of No. 193 Pilot Course on Friday, 20 December 2002. Mr Doug Rasmussen, RSL WA Branch Senior State Vice President presented the Leadership Award to Officer Cadet S Wilkinson who displayed the highest quality in leadership. The graduate received an inscribed plaque as a record of achievement.

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

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

Bowna & O’Dea Funeral Directors, wholly owned and operated in Western Australia by the O’Dea family for more than 110 years, is now offering a special service to RSL members interested in PrePaid Funeral Plans.

There are many benefits to a PrePaid Funeral Plan:

- You have the opportunity to design the funeral service as you wish, and not as others would like it.
- You can protect your pension, as the financial amount paid into the plan will not be considered part of your assets.
- You receive a price inflation guarantee. By taking out a PrePaid Funeral Plan you effectively “freeze the price” of your funeral costs in the future.
- Your PrePaid Funeral Plan does not become a part of your estate and it is not subject to any administration.
- You lessen the anguish of the survivors, concerned that they “did the right thing”.
- We will arrange an obligation-free appointment to discuss your personal needs. The Pre-Paid Funeral Plan can be paid in instalments.
- Special extras for RSL Members:
  - Free extra limousine
  - No administration fee for immediate payment in full.
  - 5% discount on selected coffins.
  - Free standard Will from Corser & Corser to the value of $100.

Savings of up to $600 for RSL Members!

For more information, call John Ranger at Bowna & O’Dea on (08) 9231 5100
The retired officers of PNG have not given the story away. The December, 2002 as "The Papua New Guinea Association. It was then called the 'Buna Road' as a trade route is centuries old. As a route to the Yoda Caves it dates from the turn of the century and as a mail route it was in regular weekly use from the time Buna was established. No matter in which direction we went from Eora, it was always called the 'Buna Road' (Police Moto).[Local language] for 'road'. Now, it was called the 'Kokoda Road' or Kokoda Road, let alone a track or trail.

The troops and adventure groups since the war called it anything but a road but then it was a real road and that was their great mistake. Bert Kienzl, in charge of the caretakers during the Kokoda campaign, adopted the wartime names of 'track' and 'trail'. 'Buna Road' died with the arrival of the troops and reporters.

Whatever we call the Buna Road these names have their origins. It is a street of Little consequence. It is still a hell of a place after 55 years of abandoned and unvisited and it is firmly entrenched in our history. Without our continuous recognition of the names and the people they describe, the Kokoda track would not be the same. We can no longer call it by the names. It has been the focal point of many military operations, and the site of numerous battles, including the Battle of the Buna-Gona Line and the battle of the Buna-Gona Line Cemetery. It was the scene of heavy fighting during the Buna-Gona Line operation and has been declared a national heritage site.

High altitudes in the tropics can be near freezing at night. Outside Port Moresby, the track narrowed towards the rugged terrain. The track was often rocky and uneven, with steep inclines and sharp descents. The trail was in poor condition, with rains and floods causing landslides and washouts. The track was also subject to occasional attacks by Japanese forces. The Kokoda campaign was a grueling and dangerous operation, with many soldiers losing their lives during the battle. The Buna-Gona Line operation was a key event in the Pacific War, and its legacy continues to be felt in the region today. The Kokoda Track is a testament to the bravery and sacrifice of the soldiers who fought there, and it serves as a reminder of the importance of remembrance and education about the past.

Conclusion
Can anyone definitely say what the true name of the old Trade Route used by those heroic Australians who went on the Kokoda Campaign is, or should we continue to call it the 'Buna Road'? I consider the following when I try to reach a conclusion:

1. David Marsh is the last surviving Australian who was associated with the Kokoda and the surrounding area pre-war and he favours the name 'Sogeri-Kokoda Track'.
2. The 'track' is an Australian term.
3. In Funk & Wagnalls Standard Desk Dictionary, an American publication, I found the definition of "track" as "a path; a route; a path with a road; a path with a road.

The definition of 'Track' in the same American Dictionary includes:

1. A mark or trail left by the passing of anything; as, footprints.

2. Any regular path; course.
3. 1. To follow, the tracks of; trail; 2. To discover, pursue or follow by means of marks or indications. 3. To make tracks upon or with; 4. To traverse, as on foot.

The Oxford Dictionary of Current English (Fourth Edition) indicates that 'Track' includes many of the definitions given in the American Dictionary, but there are additional ones such as:

a. mark, series of marks, left by passage of anything; especially one beaten by use; b. line made by travel or motion; v. follow track or footsteps; pursue, follow the pursuit until caught or found.

I prefer to use the Australian term "Track". After all it was our "Diggers" who fought battles, suffered the privations and in many cases lost their lives to save ours. At least three of them, including one West Australian, were recommended for the highest military award. Indicative of just how brave they were is the story of one of them - Pte. Bruce Kingbury, 2/14 Bn. Who on 28 August 1942, at the last moment of his life, shot himself in the chest after having been shot in the face by a sniper. His account of his heroism, which appeared in an army newspaper recently, combined with the words inscribed on the four stone pillars of the new monument at Laevara "Courage, Sacrifice, Endurance, Mate ships", to me epitomises just what the Kokoda Track was all about.
The Captain and Crew, HMAS Kanimbla

Dear Sir and Others,

I see on the news the other night you have departed for the Gulf. May I wish you all good fortune and a safe return.

I am writing to you because I once sailed on the Kanimbla, in 1947, it was. Of course it was not the same vessel, but I am pleased to see the name carried on today. It happened this way. In that year I was due to come back from Japan as soon as the relief Brigade came up from New Zealand. However they wanted about 24 of us to stay behind and stay with our replacements and introduce them to life as the occupying power and make a smooth hand over. I was our Battalion Labour Sergeant and it was no sweat as I had the Japanese doing all the work and just looked in from time to time and then took off to the coast. The incentive for us to stay was that we would go home on the Kanimbla and return via Sydney. We did not know the Kanimbla personally. But we knew of it as the BCOF Ferry. It got this name because it travelled almost non-stop between Australia and Japan bringing up stores and so on. It has a reasonable troop carrying capacity as well, and there were a number of replacements on board as well as ourselves...

Our departure date duly arrived and up to Kure we went, embarked, and off home. The service accommodation wasn’t bad, a damned sight better than the troopship Chitral on which we went to Japan in 1946. That was a hasty wartime conversion to a troop carrier, and was actually an old canvas and in moments of boredom one would light a match and apply it to the bulge represented by the chap above’s buttocks. Nothing would happen for some time but eventually the heat would penetrate followed by a loud scream as a stark naked form sky rocketed out of his berth amidst loud cries of distress or something like that. However, I digress. I remember your berths being comfortable, but naval terminology a bit confusing. I recall lying on my bunk one evening when a PO came through screaming “stand fast”, so I leapt out of the sack and stood to attention only to find out that stand fast meant keep lying down. Hope you’ve changed the rules since then. Bloody confusing, if you pardon my French. I also remember the mess deck for we troopers had tables which came down from the ceiling on poles. They were lowered for dining and then raised to the deck head and the mess room washed out with a high pressure hose. In my wild erratic fancy I had visions (with apologies to Banjo) of someone dropping down dead and next hour being swished out of the scuttles along with the rest of the debris. Very efficient.

On the way we stopped off at Pinsevan, Scarlet Beach to be precise. A lot of empty drums were loaded and later they had a big formal parade in commemoration of the contested landing there of your troopers during the war.

It was a bloody encounter and casualties were heavy on your side but absolute as far as the Japanese were concerned.

The New Guinea natives, many of whom had served with the Australians and a number of them losing their lives as stretcher bearers, had a singing Song. This was very interesting. Most had a head scent constructed with a lot of imagination, one I particularly remembered being the model of a Flying Fortress. I think it was pure decoration, as I think the Cargo Cult was a later phenomenon.

I also met an Aussie there who was already trying to get a plantation back into production. Among other things he was very content at the price of petrol - it was 16 shillings, or one dollar, for a 44 gallon drum. It was a bit contaminated but he strained it through Chamois leather and he reckoned she was as good as gold.

He drove a jeep, still in Army colours, and I don’t think he would pay anything for that. On to Sydney, no, not bloody likely. The cunning beggar had switched the first port of call to Auckland, so the Aussies got the bonus, Toyota!

A letter to HMAS Kanimbla

The current HMAS Kanimbla

The original HMAS Kanimbla

Attention RSL Members

Exclusive Offer to RSL Members:

- $200 off any scooter
- $100 off any liftchair
- $500 off any stairlift

FREECALL YOUR LOCAL DEALER:

1800 622 633

Scooters
Liftchairs
Stairlifts

www.scootersaus.com.au

Perth • Adelaide • Melbourne • Sydney • Brisbane • Regional Centres
KITTENHAWK PILOTS

by Cyril Ayris

The men of the RAAF’s 450 Squadron were World War 2 pilots but when the Germans were forced out of Africa and back to Europe they suddenly had nothing to fight. Allegedly eight of the 344 men on board were appalled and resigned. They terrorised the Germans and Italians and on one occasion, they raised the blood pressure of the British. KITTENHAWK PILOTS is a collaboration between Stan Watt and Cyril Ayris, one of Australia’s most prolific writers.

KITTENHAWK PILOTS

by Cyril Ayris

With Alec Campbell’s recent death, a door has closed to which no one has the key. Australia has lost the last direct link to one of the nation’s most significant events and to a band of the greatest lives of this 1940s generation. It would be wrong to imagine he ever had the riches of the legend of his national psyche.

Alec was not at Gallipoli long, though he dodged his share of bullets, saw his mates get shot and survived more than his share of sickness as did so many of his peers. But the last Anzac, Alec became a symbol for something much greater; for the lone survivor of an estimated million soldiers who fought on all sides. For them, Alec became ‘man of a million.’

Historian Jonathan King was interested in the story of ordinary lives, the Gallipoli soldier who became the voice of the Gallipoli veteran, it became the tale of an ‘Aussie battler who lived an extraordinary life—a life that reflected the growth of a nation, from hungry and belligerent to secure.

The third part of the story is the story of family love, the story of family. This is an extraordinary life, the life of a man who flew as a fighter pilot and wrote a book.

THE THIRTEENTH NIGHT

by Jonathan King

A mother’s story of the life and death of her son

by Jan McNess

A bold and moving story of family love. The Thirteenth Night tells the story of a difficult and unhappy boy whose challenge to his family was as great as their pride in the man and fighter pilot he became.

Jonathan was a pilot, fighting in the war, the pilots of which he was a part. His navigator, a friend of Jonathan, is his only witness at the interview.

The Thirteenth Night

by Jonathan King

A mother’s story of the life and death of her son

by Jan McNess

A bold and moving story of family love. The Thirteenth Night tells the story of a difficult and unhappy boy whose challenge to his family was as great as their pride in the man and fighter pilot he became.

Jonathan was a pilot, fighting in the war, the pilots of which he was a part. His navigator, a friend of Jonathan, is his only witness at the interview.

ONE FOURTEENTH OF AN ELEPHANT

by Ian Denis Peek

If This Should Be Farewell

A Family Separated by War

By Ernest and Mary Hodgkin

Edited by Adrian Wood

Separated at the fall of Singapore in 1942, Ernest and Mary Hodgkin never knew if they would see each other again.

IF THIS SHOULD BE FAREWELL

A Family Separated by War

By Ernest and Mary Hodgkin

Edited by Adrian Wood

Separated at the fall of Singapore in 1942, Ernest and Mary Hodgkin never knew if they would see each other again.

IF THIS SHOULD BE FAREWELL

A Family Separated by War

By Ernest and Mary Hodgkin

Edited by Adrian Wood

Separated at the fall of Singapore in 1942, Ernest and Mary Hodgkin never knew if they would see each other again.

IF THIS SHOULD BE FAREWELL

A Family Separated by War

By Ernest and Mary Hodgkin

Edited by Adrian Wood

Separated at the fall of Singapore in 1942, Ernest and Mary Hodgkin never knew if they would see each other again.

IF THIS SHOULD BE FAREWELL

A Family Separated by War

By Ernest and Mary Hodgkin

Edited by Adrian Wood

Separated at the fall of Singapore in 1942, Ernest and Mary Hodgkin never knew if they would see each other again.

IF THIS SHOULD BE FAREWELL

A Family Separated by War

By Ernest and Mary Hodgkin

Edited by Adrian Wood

Separated at the fall of Singapore in 1942, Ernest and Mary Hodgkin never knew if they would see each other again.
DONNYBROOK

ANZAC DAY 25 April 2003

ANZAC Day for the Donnybrook RSL Sub-Branch will be bigger and better than ever before. Commemoration of those who gave their lives in service to their Country will commence with a Service at the Donnybrook Memorial Gardens at 6.00am followed immediately after by a Gunfire Breakfast at the Soldiers' Memorial Hall in Bentley Street. This will be followed up at Ayres Gardens at 9.30am and down at the Memorial Gardens at 9.45am, when the Commemorative Services will come to a close.

The parade will be swollen this year by the inclusion of over 50 members of Donnybrook Guides and Joys. Members of the RSL Mentor Programme will also march with the sub-branch and carry the RSL Standard. The Donnybrook Fire Brigade will also march and Woodworking classes will re-commence once our shed in Egan Park is up and operating.

MEN IN SHEDS PROGRAMME

This is our new programme for 2003. Basically it will provide a place of recreation and enjoyment for younger disabled veterans, older veterans with disabilities that prevent them from getting about, students, and members of the sub-branch, members and elderly residents of Donnybrook. In this programme we hope to establish a community multi-skilled, lighting, and welding classes, that will teach people new skills and improve their dexterity and mental awareness. It is a big bullet for us to bite but I am sure that with the volunteers that we have got, the program will be a success as the Mentor Programme.

Work on the shed will commence at Egan Park on Monday, 31 March, so in a matter of a few weeks, aspiring to lift boxes and panels into position, we would love a hand!

MONSTER RATTLE

As you are aware there is no such thing as a free lunch! On ANZAC Day on Monday, 25 April from 10.30am to 2.30pm Donnybrook RSL Sub-Branch will be raising money to purchase timber for use by participants in the Men In Sheds Project. Tickets are $1.00 each or six for $5.00. Prizes are:

1st. Jarrah Coffee Table
2nd Clock, barometer and thermometer in a jarrah box
3rd. A jarrah wall clock
4th. Horse shoe coat rack
5th. Jarrah storm door
6th. Jarrah key holder

Personnel of the Mentor Programme will make all of the items. If you are approached, please help us out by buying a ticket or two!

And finally, let us all pray for a swift end to the war in IRAQ and a speedy return of our troops engaged in the conflict.

Brian Coulton
Secretary / Life Member

THE FLAGS OF THREE SPRINGS

The Three Springs-Arrino RSL Sub-Branch have just ventured on a project that has got out of hand a bit, and that is to have a business house in the town of our National Flag poles. We have approached each business that had an area where a flagpole could be erected and so far, the response has been excellent and we are nearly there and it is only one rejection. Letters were sent to those businesses whose offices were out of town, and those have yet to reply, they are two stock firms, who have unfortunately not approached our local Lions Club to see if they could help us with our project, and they enthusiastically approved, and the flags are up.

Again, this is a project that was started by our club’s secretary, and with the order of fourteen on the waiting list.

On the Saturday morning the members of the club, with our local Lions Club, cemented then poles in the main street, the rest was done by the residents of the town. This town, with its population of 24 has our National Flags flying in the town, and we proudly have thrown out a challenge to all RSL Sub-Branches, that we hold an Australian record of flags per population of between 850 to 900 – we have one flag per 30 people.

You may wonder why we did it, well this was a combination of reasons. Firstly I read in the paper where children of a certain age are allowed to drink out of the same drinking fountain as the Aussie kids and not allowed to drink water at play time, all the while when others are studying, I was completely shocked, so I thought (that is the trigger to split a beautiful country like this in half)

Committees elected include Kevin Ferrer, Ross Davies, Terry O’Toole and Robert Marden for two years and Bob Hall for one year. Charles Britt is again welfare officer, and has been re-elected as Honorary treasurer, with Graeme Perham as assistant treasurer.

A new member, Neil McWhirter, was welcomed to the meeting by President Ray River at the Donnybrook RSL and has membership associations with the Donnybrook, Donnybrook and District Lions Club.

Public Relations Officer Peter Barden reported on another fruitful year which spoke volumes for the dedication of members, supporters and well-wishers. However, because of double-health problems, he could not continue as PRO or publicity officer, which began in 1959, three years after joining Geraldton RSL Sub-Branch as an executive management committee for three years.

Robert Marden, a Vietnam vet, agreed to accept this position after a vote of thanks was recorded to the outgoing Public Relations Officer. The new management officer, Ray Ridge, had more than 23 years of military service, including service in the CMF mainly in the metropolitan area and Northam, plus National Service with a special commemorative medal was issued.

Ray was delighted that he served in the 10th Light Horse Regiment at Northam because a member of that regiment, Capt. Ronald Dwyer, became Geraldton’s first RSL president.

Ray’s 10th Light Horse memorabilia includes documents associated with many aspects of the unit including service received from the late Jim Honegery, an impressive parade of mounted and armed Light Horsemen in Perth in 1937.

Ray’s numerous community interests included a strong membership of Geraldton City Band, of which he has been the main officer for a total of about 20 years.

Geraldton RSL committee member, Major David Hoare, announced that The Lodge had completed Officer Training and Pilot Training and now see many of the former Cadets flying Blackhawk helicopters at Oakey in Queensland.

Tom was a member of the Regular Army and on discharge elected to serve with Reserve 2043. He was a pilot with the Airlines and took the opportunity to join the army and they have pride in those who are flying Blackhawk helicopters at Oakey in Queensland.

Major Hoare’s son Jason enlisted in the Regular Army and was doing pilot training and now is flying in NSW. This would be followed by training to become an Autonomous Technician.

Jason was a member of 505 Army Cadet Unit and left as a Cadet Under Officer. We received the Geraldton RSL award in 2000.

Gallipoli Relics

Geraldton City RSL secretary Ron Winstone contacted an ANZAC tour guide in Sydney, Efe, expressing thanks for his gift of relics that were handed over to Geraldton RSL member Andy Haywood when he visited Geraldton for the 2002 ANZAC Day Service.

Mr Winstone wrote: “Our kind thoughts to offer these relics are much appreciated by all at Geraldton and they will be there for the next 4 years as a reminder of place in our collection of memorabilia which have accumulated over the years.”

To actually have some things from the battlefield of ANZAC Cove and the surrounding area makes us feel very humble indeed with your kind gesture.

A letter of thanks to Andy Haywood for delivering the relics was also written by the secretary.

Andy said that after the Gallipoli relics had arrived in Geraldton, he decided to display a photo would be taken for the ANZAC RSL tour guide, Captain Alan Efe.

During his overseas visit, Andy Haywood also made a special trip to Sydney to meet Efe and also to look at the ANZAC Cove naval memorial. He was also able to visit the Cenotaph, which is the main point of interest around the area.

A number of Gallipoli tours have now been taken, but only in the last few weeks has the Cenotaph been the main point of interest.

A letter of thanks to Andy Haywood for delivering the relics was also written by the secretary.

Andy said that after the Gallipoli relics had arrived in Geraldton, he decided to display a photo would be taken for the ANZAC RSL tour guide, Captain Alan Efe.

During his overseas visit, Andy Haywood also made a special trip to Sydney to meet Efe and also to look at the ANZAC Cove naval memorial. He was also able to visit the Cenotaph, which is the main point of interest around the area.

A number of Gallipoli tours have now been taken, but only in the last few weeks has the Cenotaph been the main point of interest.

A letter of thanks to Andy Haywood for delivering the relics was also written by the secretary.

Andy said that after the Gallipoli relics had arrived in Geraldton, he decided to display a photo would be taken for the ANZAC RSL tour guide, Captain Alan Efe.

During his overseas visit, Andy Haywood also made a special trip to Sydney to meet Efe and also to look at the ANZAC Cove naval memorial. He was also able to visit the Cenotaph, which is the main point of interest around the area.

A number of Gallipoli tours have now been taken, but only in the last few weeks has the Cenotaph been the main point of interest.
VIETNAM VETERANS

My name is Jenny Parks and I was born in 1966, which makes me 35 years old in 2003. I am very proud of my father, who always had a deep respect for our country's war heroes. I believe it is of great special affection and respect for Vietnam veterans.

Throughout my lifetime I have had the opportunity to get to know a few Vietnam veterans, and perhaps I have changed my perception of them. But I have also come to realize that their influence on my life that I find myself drawn to reading about Vietnam fighting with a deep interest in the experiences of our Australian men who fought there.

What I am hoping to do is to put together a book that I will later submit to you and your accounts of your time in Vietnam, and am looking for men willing to tell their stories. I want to record not only what you want to tell and/or what you think that those of us who didn’t experience Vietnam need to know. I want the raw truth, the ‘good, the bad, and the ugly’, so to speak. Basically, I want to know how it was for you, you are national treasure. You are the people who experienced Vietnam and your experiences in Vietnam are our history, and despite the way you were treated and how you suffer today, I consider to be one of our great national treasures. I want to hear from any of us who are interested, grateful, appreciative and respectful of what you went through and to ‘give a shit’.

If you would be willing to speak with me about your experiences, I would love to know that your privacy will be respected, and that in any way possible you may use your name, or remain anonymous. Thank you for your time.

Jenny Parks
1/4 Wurdu Rd
Mt Martha 3934
Ph: 04 8391 5317

********

WARTIME ANECDOTES

I am one of a couple of old sailors putting together a collection of wartime stories, anecdotes, letters, photographs, and anything else that comes to mind. What happened in the war, on the parade ground, or when on leave—to yourself, your coppers, or your mates—is not a story to be ignored. There is a place and at any time, but not in action. The anecdotes can cover anything from the treachery of a sheep person (preferably not named, of course) and the lack of any language that could be inhibited in what you can put to paper, even if it might be a little racy. In fact, anecdotes can contribute to the record of the contributions hilarious, just funny, serious or sad, or even just silliness, will be welcomed.

The ultimate idea is to present the collection to a publisher. Rest assured that should ever it reach that stage all contributions will be acknowledged.

Any stories you can tell should be sent to
Len Owen,
6/119 Benalla Road
Noranda WA 6062.
They will be gratefully received.

********

PIANOLA MUSIC

We would like to hear from anyone who has any Pianola rolls of music for a Pianola. If you have any please contact: Mrs Anne Buller,
Secretary Treasurer
National Pianola Society
Ph: 9755 0076

WANTED PARTS FOR OLD

Tanks – World War II
Grant, Matilda, Stuart etc.
Tracks etc.
Contact: Ron Fry
PICKAPUNYAL MILIC VIC 3662

********

AMERICAN AID TO KOREA

I am a lecturer at Monash University and I am looking for a copy of a book for research purposes. The book is about American aid to Korea during or after the Korean War. The book was first, but there might be an Australian veteran that might have bought a copy just before it was banned and destroyed by the US military. Could you look for it and please get in touch if you can.

Author: Rod McKuen
Title: Elephants in the rice paddle Publisher: Tuttle & Co. Japan 1950 5/47

I will pay for any copy in any condition, even a photo static copy (Xerox copy) of the book, or part of it, will do."

Johannes Gebelakker
Ph: 03 5322 4871
Email: Johannes.gebelakker@buxerox.monash.edu.au

********

WWII OTS/OCU

Brian Boyle, who is writing a history of WWII OTS/OTU, is looking for contact details of Instructors or Graduates of these courses at RAAF Base Butterworth. He can be contacted on (02) 9579 5265 or email nairhil@bigpond.com.

*******

FEPOWS

Last year I contacted a Masters Degree researcher on incidents from FEPOWS (including several in Australia). A dissertation was then published as a book. I was then asked by some of them if I would continue with on my research and investigate poisons, serums, viruses, weapons, written in camp. As a result I obtained a position at the University of Wales UK to look

at this kind of material in possession.

I need as much background information as possible. This project had a lot to do with a call from a lady in Australia recently. She had seen such an appeal in the London Times newspaper, and just in time to stop a relative from sending a package in the mail. The writer had died and he thought it be no of interest. I just ordered a few of precious writings being lost and hope that your members will be interested in writing to each branch in the same way.

I am writing for any information you can provide.

Email: patiscott@onetel.net.au

********

AUSTRALIAN INTELLIGENCE CORPS

The Australian Intelligence Corps is eager to hear from any former members of the Australian Intelligence Corps. The association can be visited on their website at:
http://www.aicorps.org.au
The Secretary can be contacted at asianintcorp@prima.com.au or Secretary, Australian Intelligence Corps Association, c/- DrTSC, Kokoda Barracks, Camugan QLD 4275

We would also like to advise that the Australian Intelligence Corps and Australian Military Intelligence is eager to receive anecdotes, stories, documents, letters and photographs from past members of the Australian Intelligence Corps. The hall of service in the museum. The Museum is located at Kokoda Barracks, Camugan, QLD 4275. Open from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursday. The Museum has a visit to the Museum the Curator, Mr Dave Parker on (07) 5542 5971.

********

ERIC ROBINSON

I served in the RAAF at RAAF Base Butterworth 1962 through 1963. I was discharged in January 1964. My Mustering was in signals with the 5th Field Signals Unit. In the service of the period in service of Malaya I made friends with an RAF Telegraphist who worked in the Communications Centre. His exchange name was ‘Eric’ and his rank at that time was Cpl. My family and I had the chance to visit the Island as did Eric and his family. We continued to the Base on the same exchange name and for the same cycles. If at all possible I would like to make contact with others and see how the years have treated him and his family.

Contact: Adam JGW Slater
Slaterjgw@w com au

********

AUSTRALIAN SERVICEMAN

Vicki Whitehorn, (PO Box 293 Belconnen ACT 2616) is currently writing a book about Australian military service on the Australian Northern Territories. Vicki is the daughter of a man who was hidden, in a central area of Athens in 1941, by her railway workers grandmother; Maximasi, her mother and three sisters. Vicki was born there in 1945, old to infant relative) to...

********

HOONOUR BOARD

If you attended either St Joseph’s College Oakleigh, St Peter’s College, Geelong and served in the ADF in South Vietnam or the Arabian Peninsula or any other place that you would like to have your name placed on an Honour Board to be erected at the College’s chapel in the near future, please write or give me your information, if you served with two or more units) and the year(s) you served.

Peter Sullivan, 4 Turkish Ave, Hawthorn East VIC 3123
Ph: 03 5229 2745, Email: peter.sullivan@hotmail.com
NEW MEMBERS

The State President and members of the State Executive extend a welcome to new members, re-enlistments and transfers (February – March 2003) to the League in WA. Their names are listed by sub-branch.

Busselton
CLAY, John Army
DAVIS, Christine Army
FAIR, John Army
JOHNSON, John Army
KENNEDY, Peter Army
KING, Rob Army
KING, Edward Army
MASON, Brian Army
RIDDLE, Kevin Army
RITCHIE, Terry Army
SUTHERLAND, Terry Army
THOMPSON, John Army

CANNING DISTRICTS & VICTORIA PARK
BOWEN, John Army
BROY, Brian Army
CARTER, John Army
DAVIES, Philip Army
DUNN, John Army
FARR, Robert Army
HAGGER, John Army
HILTON, Simon Army
HUGO, John Army
KELLY, John Army
KEMP, Phillip Army
LAWRENCE, John Army
LEWIS, John Army
LYNN, John Army
MARKS, John Army
MASON, John Army
MCKAY, John Army
MCKEE, John Army
MCDONALD, John Army
MCINTYRE, John Army
MCLEAN, John Army
MENDEZ, John Army
MILLS, John Army
MONGER, John Army
MORRIS, John Army
OSBORN, John Army
REED, John Army
SMITH, John Army
THOMAS, John Army
WALLACE, John Army
WATERSON, John Army

ARMY WITH...
You know how well the RSL looks after its members..?

Ditto.

An RSL Insurance Management House & Contents or Motor policy is not only price and features competitive, it benefits all members.
With every policy you take out with us, a good chunk of the premium goes back to the RSL to help continue their supportive work throughout the RSL community.
So please, find out how special you are, call us for a quote on 1800 816 312
Since 1942, Hollywood has delivered the kind of service and care that our veterans, war widows and widowers have earned and so rightly deserve.

At Hollywood you will receive 24-hour care and service from a dedicated, professional team of doctors, nurses and allied health professionals who truly understand your needs.

While some things at Hollywood may have changed, our commitment to the veteran community remains as strong as ever.