ANZAC spirit remembered

Long serving trustee retires

Wreaths laid around the Flame of Remembrance on Remembrance Day.

Ron Stone, State Branch Trustee and Deputy Warden of the State War Memorial, recently announced his retirement from active duties with the RSL.

Following a period of ill health and a desire to wind back his commitment to the rigorous State and sub-branch activities, the work of many RSL initiatives was directed at a director held in his honour to acknowledge 50 years of active involvement.

Ron joined the RSL in 1946 following service as a 'gunner' with the 2nd AIF in the Middle East and Pacific Islands. He had been discharged from the services, recently married and undertaken a service man's rehabilitation course of training as a watchmaker. This started him on that pathway to a successful career as a jeweller.

From his tough upbringing in the depression years in Sydney and his war experiences Ron set upon a lifetime challenge to make the world a better place in which to live. He planned to achieve this goal with a personal commitment to community service.

At an active member of the Highgate Sub-Branch, he has had 53 years of continuous service as a committee member with one year as President in 1963. For this service he was awarded Life Membership in 1985 followed by the Montecristo Medal in 1990 and in 1997 a 50 year Certificate.

Ron's work with the State Branch has been high profile. He has been one of those 'behind the scenes' tireless workers who made things happen. His long association with the RSL War Veteran's Homes and the State War Memorial has seen both these RSL icons develop into successful entities of the League.

RonalD NATHAN STONE AM JP

From his position firstly as committee member at War Veteran's Homes and then to Trustee, he has helped guide the aged care complex in the state of the art facility that it is today under the banner of the RSL Retirement and Aged Care Association.

His timely advice and business network has materially assisted in the current development of the $30m Aged Care complex.

His commitment to the administration and operation of the State War Memorial is legendary. From an association beginning in 1952 as a Sub-Warden, he progressed to the position of Warden in 1966. Since then he has been Deputy Warden and has guided many distinguished persons through their stewardship of the Memorial on behalf of the RSL.

The current restoration work on the Memorial is also one of his achievements. Over the years he has alerted the authorities to the fact that water damage in the underground would eventually cause irreparable damage to the structure. His determination against Reville finally resulted in State and Commonwealth funding being allocated to the 65 year old structure.

His civic life has paralleled his achievements in the RSL. Whether it be in local government, the Jewish community, the various business associations or the many community organisations, Ron has been a catalyst in so many projects that have made the community a better place in which to live. In local Government he is held in high esteem having served as a councillor and later Mayor at the City of Stirling and also as a councillor with the City of Perth.

In recognition of his service to the City of Stirling he was accorded the honour of Freeman of the City - a rare position granted only to those who have excelled in their work in the city.

The Award of 'Member of the Order of Australia' presented in 1981 was further acknowledgment of a lifetime of service to the RSL and wider community.

In his 64 years Ron has crammed several lifetimes on so many fronts. He has well and truly achieved the goals he set in his early years. The community and the many organisations with which he too had association are far better placed through the endeavours of Ron Stone, a great Western Australian and RSL member.

Some of the Official Wreath Layers with their wreaths.
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- 24 hr Roadside Assist
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In this last edition of The Listening Post before the holidays it is worth while looking back at the progress we have made in our field of work, the work we do with and for veterans but within the wider community.

Our organisation high esteem with government, both State and Federal and business organisations as well as community associations. We have established strong credibility in the manner in which we do business and the results we are not afraid to speak for themselves. We look forward to continuing this trend as we move into the New Year.

**MEMBERSHIP**

We look finding the year with just under 13,000 members. This number includes Service Members and Affiliates and the 130 metropolitan and country sub-branches.

Targets were set for about 1,000 more but this was unable to be achieved. Even though the best efforts of sub-branches and members were put forward, we were forced to say goodbye to deaths and non-renewals. We did experience increased new members and, with that extra effort, I look forward to that goal of 1,000 being achieved in the New Year.

I am pleased to report that there has been a steady flow of renewals since notices were posted last month. sub-branches are reminded that our Membership Committee has a mobile 'recruiting trailer' available for use to assist you in your membership drive.

**ANZAC Day**

From reports received it would appear that there was a high level of attendance on the 5th November. 2004 ANZAC Day Street Appeal were well up to our expectations. The generosity of the public is very much appreciated by the veteran community and all are assured that money and Allied will end up in sub-branch account balances and the Returned Soldiers, Sailors and Airman Benefit Trust Fund held in the Government. All monies from this collection will be used exclusively for the assistance of veterans in needy or emergency circumstances. Special thanks to members and supporters who assisted the day.

**Congress 2005**

Plans have now been finalised for the conduct of the 2005 Annual Congress. It will be held at Rendezvous Observation City in Scarborough on 9th - 10th July.

2005, apart from the Official Opening and the Congress Sessions there will be a wreath laying ceremony at the Stirling Memorial followed by a civic reception hosted by the City of Mandurah on Friday evening of the 7th. On Saturday evening there will be the Congress Dinner hosted by the Department of Veterans Affairs of Western Australia.

The venue is first class and we have been able to negotiate a good deal on accommodation for rates for those who wish to stay overnight. It is early days but in the New Year we will be advising sub-branches of the organisational details.

**Sub-Branch Elections**

Sub-branches will be conducting their Annual General Meetings early in the New Year. No doubt there will be new faces in the various committees and I would like to place on record our appreciation to all who have decided to accept a nomination of their sub-branch over the past year. To those standing down or not seeking re-election, special thanks for the contribution you have made during your term of office.

ANZAC Club

Our consultant has made some significant changes to the structure of the ANZAC Club. New staff have made an impact on the business in which we do business and this has seen an increase in patronage and use of the facilities. Some staff, who have been with us for some time have decided to leave our organisation, but we are all with them well for the future.

As we settle into new menus that are for now clients as well as existing members the staff are more than willing to see that the menu and menus meet expectations and personal needs. Please feel free to discuss such matters with the chef who has also been busy in the kitchen and has also seen a modest price increase for some products.

The club is a business and must operate as such. No profit or at least break even. Our prices are well below the local看电视 and restaurant prices and represent excellent value for money.

The refurbishment programme is still in the 'due process stage' and once cleared through the various statutory authorities and funding appealed $400,000.

The recognition of support for this venture must go to members of the East Victoria State War Memorial

The refurbishment of the State War Memorial will be completed in time for 2005 ANZAC Day Services. The removal of the obelisk has revealed that there was a serious water entry problem and it was only a matter of time before the obelisk would have been affected by the water. We are pleased to report that the builders that finished the memorial will be as new - if not better than when we are being completed at the memorial, the town's most important feature and the town's cultural heritage.

The work has started on the State War Memorial

The Town and Country, which assisted in the removal of the obelisk, has also been used to ensure the monument is displayed in its best condition. The Town and Country, which assisted in the removal of the obelisk, has also been used to ensure the monument is displayed in its best condition.

**Younger Veterans’ Forum**

Inspired by Phil Steele of the Gulf War Veterans the RSL hosted a Younger Veterans’ Forum at RAAF Base Bullsbrook in September. Several dignitaries from the Department of Veterans Affairs and RSL and Service Representatives attended the gathering of some 90 veterans to hear their concerns on a number of service related issues. These matters concerning health, education, employment and superannuation were well discussed and were listed for debate on the agenda which will be held in March, 2005. In the meantime, the RSL urges the group to progress claims directly to relevant government departments and the Armed Services.

**Gold Card**

With changes to the health system in progress we are starting to receive complaints regarding the acceptance of Gold Card by health providers. In no way will the RSL, OVA and RSL Auxiliary issue the benefits attached to the Gold Card, or for that matter any card issued to veterans. If we are not to be effective in this area we must have substantiated evidence so we can place the matter before DVA and the Government. If you are faced with a situation where you feel you are being compromising then use your Gold Card, please write to us with details. We are more than willing to act on your behalf.

**New Minister and Secretary**

The re-election of the Howard Government and the appointment of a new Minister for Veterans’ Affairs, Hon Minister Bene Tinkoff, has replaced The Hon Dan Via and Assistant Secretary to the Government of the state, the Hon Minister Bene Tinkoff, has replaced The Hon Dan Via and Assistant Secretary to the Government of the state, the Hon Minister Bene Tinkoff, has replaced The Hon Dan Via and Assistant Secretary to the Government of the state.

**Christmas Greetings**

As this is the final edition of The Listening Post for 2004 we look forward to spending some of the time with family and friends. All our wishes also go to all for a Safe and Happy Christmas and the coming New Year.

**MEMBERSHIP AND YOUTH - SUMMARY REPORT FOR 2004**

**ANZAC HOUSE CHRISTMAS CLOSURE**

ANZAC House will close on Thursday 23rd December at 4.30pm and re-open on Tuesday 4th January 2005 at 8.30am.

Please be advised that emergency contact details for the lease period are:

ANZAC House – Staff will check the answering machine regularly – EMERGENCY calls will be actioned ASAP

EMERGENCIES can also be directed to State Secretary: 0412 354 140 Welfare Officer: 0412 009 191

![The Listening Post December 2004](https://example.com/ListeningPostCover.png)
90th anniversary of the ANZAC's departure from Albany: A tribute to the army nurses

Albany was the first Australian town to erect a memorial to honour the nurses who served during WWI. Twenty-five members of the Australian Army Nursing Service sailed with the original convoy when it departed from Albany on the 1st November 1914.

The RSL built a memorial garden in 1950 and each year a memorial service is held to mark the departure of the nurses and also those that served in the Great War 1914-1918 (the Boer War) and also those that served in subsequent conflicts.

This year the memorial service was held on October 31 and attended by many soldiers who were also natives of that was still in the service and were able to connect and share their stories.

The annual memorial service is a fitting tribute to those wonderful women who were so important to their country and continue in this role today.

-Nora Grogg OAM
RAAAC Assoc WA

STATE SECRETARY'S REPORT

As we are now approaching the closure of 2004 it is appropriate that we reflect on the milestones we have achieved as a branch and sub-branches in this great state.

Financial

As at the end of November the branch has, for the second year in a row an overall (consolidated) surplus, our expenditure is less than our income. This is now two years in a row that we have achieved this outcome.

The branch consolidated reports includes all ANZAC House operations, being ANZAC Club, post offices, publicans and hotels. Clearly the ANZAC Club has caused the greatest concern having still registered a sizeable loss.

The losses at the ANZAC Club are a result of a very carefully monitored by a committee and a very senior qualified catering and hospitality person from Perth. The committee, who are quite reasonable in their reductions at the ANZAC Club losses in 2004 can now be accepted in 2005 with refined management practices and this year the patronage of the club is expected. It is expected that the ANZAC Club in 2005 will have its first surplus in many years.

With all that has happened with ANZAC House in the past several years, there are many positives and the most positive is that we are trading into a surplus; this will ensure the longevity of the RSL in WA as the premier RSL attending to the needs and wishes of all re-service men and women.

Communication/PR

The WA branch has enjoyed a very positive year in the main in public relations and communication with government, the RSL and other service organisations and the community. While some minor conflict issues have occurred at some stage, the branch is aiming to work for a positive future, and achieving excellent results across all the branches within and outside the RSL.

Year Clips

As advised in the Sub-Branch Signal and noted in a previous edition of The Listening Post, all states have resolved that the league WILL NOT issue year clips from 2005.

New RSL Governance proposed

Following the 2004 State Congress a select committee was formed to examine the current governance policy of the State branch and recommend changes to make it more commercially and financially viable in the corporate environment.

The committee sought submissions from sub-branches and interested members and has considered the contributions as well as models from management institutes and other peak community organisations.

Their report to State Executive has been received positively and discussed at November meeting together with a revised Corporate Plan. Both these documents were closely related as the adoption of one would necessarily see the implementation of the other.

After considerable discussion the State Executive adopted the report and referred it on a meeting of weekends and secretaries to be held in January, 2005.

Essentially the report recommends three year terms of office for State Executive and Board of Directors, postal ballot across sub-branches for all general meetings, automatic recall of all voting or the issue of proxy voting passes, allocated powers for branch members, and the recommendation that any new officer be elected from within their own branch.

The committee advised that many other State branches were moving in this direction in an effort for better governance and stability in the league. It was also noted that safeguards would be put in place to ensure current roles to remove members from the State Executive should this be necessary.

The full report will be in sub-branches in early December and it is expected all sub-branches will consider its recommendations at their December meetings.

Remembrance Day, Fremantle

Remembrance Day in Fremantle for 2004 will be recalled as a wet but touching day.

The weather had been threatening all morning, until a patch of blue appeared, offering a welcome sight and drifted towards Monument Hill. All present found the service a very significant, a relief in the belief that we were being watched by the Almighty, but alas not to be the case, for no sooner had we finished the service than rain fell, forcing the participants and viewers to take cover, in hosting the largest ANZAC Day Dawn Service in the world, with over 30,000 attendees.

Shane M Seers OAM JP

Out of Africa – the fascinating story of Corrie

He was a big ‘Dutchman’ easily made to feel his accommodation with a partner – so far without success. To the astonishment of the Worcestershire, he was soon attracted to a South African of mixed Herero and Herero and British descent. Young, tall, good looking, he had just joined the Regiment. Herero and British descent. Young, tall, good looking, he had just joined the Regiment.

On most afternoons, whenever Corrie was in town, the numbers were noticeably larger in the local pub in the expectation of seeing his partner. None appeared there, which inevitably led to the rendition of his popular tune.

On such occasions, after a drink or two and when he judged the atmosphere had reached the right level, Corrie would invite a couple of his pals to come along to a portion of the large, bar/pub, the larger the better. This behaviour would cause a stir among the locals, his boots, only his socks and boots, and with these he would stamp out the beat.

It was generally and tolerably accepted that during the performance the bar service would suffer somewhat. For it was no secret that ‘Yorkie’, the chief bartender, the only one who handled cash and the only one who mixed drinks on demand was an accomplished beer, not a woman.

He had left the ‘old country’ coming to this barren colony, with its largely male population, the hope of meeting an accommodation with a partner – so far without success.

Temporarily neglecting his sexual status, Yorkie was fascinated by Corrie’s physique, unable to take his eyes off his midrift.

While it was acknowledged that Corrie’s voice had little quality but, its volume, his delivery commanded attention and he would adopt his chant without preamble.

‘Akketiki, Zimba Zimba, Akketiki, Zimba Zay Akketiki, Zimba Zay Akkatiki, Zimba Zay

His large boots meanwhile making a clinking noise and causing the old timer’s attention to fall back onto the disc at the end of the cylinder.

Corrie could never pay for another drink all night.

-Ron Miller

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By Roy Mills

PROFILE

Medical Officers who served as POWs

CAPTAIN ROY MARKHAM
210 Field Ambulance & Solec t Medical Officer

Capt. Roy Mills was appointed to the medical school and joined the Wireless Research Unit at Sydney University, where he studied medicine. While at university, Roy joined the militia as a member of Sydney University Regiment. He graduated in 1939 and in 1940 enlisted in the AIF and was appointed as a medical officer on the 2/10 Field Ambulance. It was a field ambulance with the establishment of around 260 including nine medical officers and one dental officer. In normal circumstances, the field ambulance collects and transports casualties from a unit on battlefront to advanced medical treatment at a medical centre. Roy was one of the doctors, and had the responsibility of treating the wounded. He has searched for the way to improve the situation of the Ambulance, but at this stage it has not been located.

Roy and his friend, Capt. Peter Hendry, modified the conventional medical evacuation system and made a significant contribution in the transport of the wounded men. They used a modified bicycle to transport the wounded men, which was known as a bike ambulance. This was less expensive than a motorcycle and the men could easily transport the wounded.

Dr. Roy Mill’s contribution to the medical evacuation system

Dr. Roy Mills was a medical officer in the Australian Army during World War II. He was a member of the 2/10 Field Ambulance, which was responsible for evacuating wounded soldiers from the battlefield to medical facilities. Dr. Mills was known for his innovative approach to medical evacuation, which included the use of modified bicycles to transport the wounded. His contributions to the medical evacuation system have had a lasting impact on the way that wounded soldiers are transported in times of conflict.

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60th Anniversary Tour to Borneo well advanced

Preparations for the 60th Anniversary Tour to Borneo are now well on the way. Registration is rapidly increasing for those privileged travellers wishing to pay homage during the ANZAC Memorial Services in Sarawak and Sabah States in April 2007. A 14 day / 13 night programme has been constructed by Ryan Rowland, RSL Travel Co-ordinator, through the family business, Flightline Travel. The tour group will be departing on 18th April via Kuching and returning on 7th May 2007.

A feature of the tour will be the company of Mrs Jill Ridout and her daughter Brena, this year’s winner of the Ted McLaughlin Scholarship Programme. Brena is a year nine student at the Boyup Brook District High School. Her outstanding assignment was based on the events in Borneo 1942-1945 and particularly of Sandakan and the 2,800 Australian and British POWs who died as a result of their captivity and the murderous ‘death marches’ from Sandakan to Ranau.

Brena’s sensitive portrayal of one of Australia’s worst war atrocities has brought a new, precise and compassionate way, given her family background. Her grandfather was highly decorated Percy White (dec.), and the inspiration for her presentation. Congratulations Brena. We welcome you on this journey of homage, thanksgiving and discovery for ANZAC 2007.

One must give praise to the other 13 entrants for their excellent standards of entry. Thank you for your concern and the time you took to meet the challenge of this programme. Continue to go forth and make of what you have learnt of Sandakan. This is your history. Remember all your own family history and I encourage you to be concerned with all these memories and memories so that you too will have the opportunity to pass the burden on to the next generation. If the opportunity prevails, apply again for next year and good luck in all your endeavours.

Schools, families of students, local community, co-related associations and sponsors, should also be highly praised for their dedication, support and strengthen belief that our forebears, the likes of our war heroes still living or long past should be paid homage, actually and posthumously. Always remember that the freedom we enjoy should not be taken for granted.

The District of Boyup Brook should be very proud that one of their citizens fell into this category and espoused all elements of making sure his mates and others who gave the ultimate sacrifice, should always be remembered by a service or a memorial day. Our gratitude goes to our dear Ted for all his efforts to achieve this. It was through his wish and unstinting example that all our youth must be taught our history and that our national heritage is paid to all children, if we are to be a strong nation.

Readers, I encourage you to embrace the Spirit of ANZAC programme, and strongly suggest similar activities at your school or district be promoted via all associations, clubs or interested parties.

For registration, or further information relating to The 60th Anniversary Death March Tour, contact Ryan at Flightline Travel on 9295 2155 Fax 9295 1288 or email ryan_flightline@westnet. com.au

Remembrance Day lunch an outstanding success

Since November 2003, the Committee for the Remembrance Day lunches under the guidance of Barbara Clinton had worked to make certain the lunch for 11th November 2004 would be as successful and enjoyable as previous Remembrance Day lunches.

All the effort was rewarded by the almost full hallways and by the obvious enjoyment of the guests. Once again the Novotel Langley Park Hotel gave their guests the best with a delicious meal served graciously by attentive staff. The Pastry Shop Ladies Club Band played with verve and the soliloquy was much appreciated. The Committee is indebted to all who gave of themselves in order that the event would be a success. We are most appreciative of the support given by the staff of ANZAC House and look forward to all of us working together towards another successful event in 2005.

Barbara Clinton
Chairman, Functions Committee

Scouts prepare to celebrate their Centenary in 2007

Scouts are currently preparing to celebrate their centenary in 2007. Ambitious plans are well in hand to ensure the event is truly a world wide affair. A "Scout Sunrise", World Gifts for Peace, Jamborees and other national and international events will be featured in the celebrations in which all current and former scouts will be able to participate.

Here in WA, scouts are looking to put together a special box-book publication that will tell the history of Scouting in Western Australia. They are looking for photos, print material, badges, memorabilia and stories from former scouts to complete this history.

As many of the ex-service community would have had some association with scouts in their younger days there must be a wealth of material and memories that could be made available to the Scout Association.

The Centenary Book people want you to put together your stories:
- The draft title is "My part in the first 100 years of Scouting"
- These stories can be written (preferably electronic) with photos etc.
- Oral histories — on tape/video/CD
- Can be arranged in decades for easy of production

Scouts are keen supporters of the RSL and now it’s time to return that support. Should you be able to assist please contact Scout Headquarters, 581 Murray Street, West Perth.

They will appreciate your contribution.

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Glimpses from the 'Taxi'

You look like a gang of bloody pirates

-WSC, HMS Renown, 1943

On 12 August 1943, as an 18-year-old radar operator, I boarded HMS Renown in Scapa Flow. On the 24th we sailed across the North Atlantic into the teeth of a hurricane — my first long voyage in the Royal Navy. We had no escort, since we were a fast ship.

My cruising station was a surface warning radar set atop the mast, 95ft in the air, reached by a steel ladder. Everything was secret and we had no idea where we were going. When we got to Halifax, Nova Scotia, the captain told us we were to pick up a VIP. We were only supposed to stay 24 hours, but the Italians had just capitulated, which delayed our guest a few days. We finally sailed in September, 1943, with our VIP, Prime Minister Winston Churchill.

The PM was returning to Britain from the 'Quadrennial Conference' with Roosevelt, which fixed Anglo-American strategy for the final stages of the war. He had spent over a month in Roosevelt’s home at Hyde Park, the White House and Hyde Park.

Mrs. Churchill was with the party; she had arranged for Sir Churchill, for his 21st birthday, to celebrate her 21st birthday aboard on their return voyage. During the trip, Mary and a naval officer went onto the quarterdeck, which was awe-struck in heavy seas. Here the future Patron of the Churchill Centre and Society was nearly washed overboard. Her father’s future Prime Minister told her to use more sense!

The PM came into our recreation area as we were playing Tombola (Bingo). We all stopped and stood to attention. Observing our varied types of war clothes, we always wore a sea in lieu of uniforms, he smiled and said, "You look like a gang of bloody pirates."

As we arrived at the entrance to the Clyde in a dense fog, we were instructed by the navigation officer that the ship was to be under control of radar going up the river. When we were well underway at 27 knots, constantly taking turns and bearings until we dropped anchor.

Radar was fairly new, and Mr. Churchill, impressed by this performance, asked to see the men responsible. The navigation officer and operators including this writer were summoned and congratulated on a job well done. He shook my hand. I haven’t washed it since...

Before leaving Renown Churchill addressed our ship’s company and then attended Divine Service. Sir Martin Gilbert quotes Elizabeth Layton (now T/C/RS Honorary Member Elizabeth Neil), his secretary, who wrote: I must say I’ve seldom felt so moved by anything, these dear sailors lined up, the Old Man singing away, the padre (the chaplain, John E. Frome) in his robes, the few (brass) instruments beating a small band which somehow sounded very quiet and touching.

As we were about to leave for Port Bannatyne, on the summer nights, we would all go out on deck to watch the stars. The Padre would always join us and sing a few hymns. The PM would often come on deck to enjoy the view and partake of the Padre’s singing. He was very much interested in the Padre’s work and would often join us.

We were destined for another Churchill voyage from Scapa Flow, where she again picked up the PM and his party, which now included his daughter Sarah. This time the destination was Cairo, for a plenary session with Roosevelt before the Big Three meeting in Teheran. We were accompanied by HMS London, a class city cruiser which was transporting some of the PM’s staff and Sarah’s husband the comedian Vic Oliver, who was with ENSA, the British entertainment party which gave shows for the troops.

We sailed from Plymouth at 1830 hours on the 12th and once again this was to be a rough voyage. We were lashed by heavy seas, the quarterdeck being awash a good deal of the time. Sir Martin Gilbert notes that during the trip Captain Pinn, who ran the travelling map room, tallied up the PM’s wartime travels to date: "Churchill’s total distance by sea and air was, Pin calculated, 113,000 miles. He had spent 792 hours at sea, and 339 hours in the air."

We arrived at Gibraltar on the 15th. There it had been arranged for a 'look' aircraft to fly Churchill to Cairo, but the aircraft failed to materialise, so the PM suggested that we accompany the PM and look around aboard the Renown. We refuelled at Algiers and sailed on, arriving at Malta on November 17th to a rousing welcome by the inhabitants.

Weis in Malta, Churchill was laid up with a sore throat, so he was London on aboard with some of his staff and we didn’t sail from Alexandria until midnight on November 19th. As we caught up to HMS London near Cete, two German aircraft buzzed the ship, but did not attack. We decided they were reconnaissance planes which might pass on a more serious visit from the Luftwaffe, so Renown slipped into top gear and was quickly making 32 knots. HMS London did not have the speed to keep up with us and went to the back. Starboard! SIR YOUR EXCELLENCY. We arrived in Alexandria on noon on November 21st.

After the crew were allowed a run ashore (dreadful place for innocent young sailors), we left Alexandria on 22nd November and headed for Rosyth dockyard, where the ship was prepared for the British East Indies Fleet based in Trincomalee, Ceylon. Churchill having been on board a couple of times, we called the 'taxi' by the Home Fleet.

By Vic Humphries

National President asks Malay Govt for award extension

A letter from RSI, National President Bill Crews to High Commissioner for Malaysia to 'Pingkat Jana Malaysia'

Your Excellency

I am pleased to be able to submit your request for an extension of the eligibility period for the Malaysian Government to offer the 'Pingkat Jana Malaysia' award. The award has been given to service personnel who have contributed to Malaysia's security. This generous offer has not gone unnoticed and will, I am sure, be appreciated by those to whom it is awarded.

I understand that the award dates for service in Malaysia between 31 August 1997 and 12 August 1986 which corresponds with the Declaration of Independence for Malaysia and the end of the Confrontation period. I further understand that full details on the award are yet to be finalised by our respective Governments and, with this in mind, ok if there is any scope to extend the eligibility period to 30 September 1967.

I offer the following by way of explanation. With the dates as they are, there are a number of Australian ex-servicemen who would, unfortunately, be excluded from the award. The Australian commitment to Malaysia at the time contributed to the 1967 date.

I am confident that the extension will be appreciated by all those who served.

Your Excellency

Bill Crews
Back to the Bush at Bruce Rock 2004

Veterans from all over Australia travelled to Bruce Rock for the Back to Bruce Rock reunion.

Many veterans arrived on Monday the 1st of November for a week of activities. The numbers increased significantly on Friday afternoon the 5th November for the weekend of activities organised by the Wheatbelt Viet-Nam Veterans Group.

From humble beginnings in 2003, the commemorative week is now a major event, on the calendar for Viet-Nam veterans. The 'Back to the Bush' weekend has become the largest veteran gathering of its kind in Australia. DVA also supported this event along with other major sponsors, including Hollywood Private Hospital.

The highlight of this event is the memorial service held at St Peter's church. The church service is preceded by hundreds of veterans marching down the main street to an enthusiastically cheering crowd. Veterans and visitors packed the tiny church and its surrounding gardens to witness the lighting of the memorial candle at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Peace Window.

Len Cogley – Editor, The Listening Post

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Unlike all other policies, an RSL Insurance Management policy helps all RSL members, especially those who are disadvantaged, because 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, definitely use your head, but listen to your heart too and call us for a quote on 1800 816 312
Hollywood’s Research Foundation advances health

Dr Anandaasoorarawamy received a foundation grant supporting him to tissue engineer a sympathetic membrane or more simply, “grow an ear drum” using a patient’s own cells.

“This research grant has been very helpful, as it has enabled me to employ a part-time research assistant. Cell structure requires meticulous care and having a research assistant ensures the work progresses smoothly, as I’m not always able to be there,” Dr Anandaasoorarawamy said.

“This project is also a significant step towards improving myringoplasty, a surgical procedure that patches a hole in the ear drum to protect the ear and improve hearing.”

Foundation president Dr Terry Bayliss said, “We gratefully accept donations from the public as the money we raise goes to supporting this valuable research.”

“This project is also a significant step towards improving myringoplasty, a surgical procedure that patches a hole in the ear drum to protect the ear and improve hearing.”

If you would like to know more about the foundation, please contact the foundation secretary on 08 9386 0571 or email research@hollywoodhealth.com.au

Hollywood Private Hospital offers a comprehensive cardiology service in a very caring environment.

Hollywood’s Acute Chest Pain unit is designed to treat patients 24 hours a day, seven days per week.

The Hollywood Private Hospital Coronary Care Unit and the on-site Perh Cardiovascular Institute offer the very latest technology and the combined expertise of Australia’s leading cardiologists.

For further information on Hollywood’s comprehensive cardiology service please telephone the Perth Cardiovascular Institute on (08) 9386 8833 or Hollywood’s Acute Chest Pain Clinic on: (08) 9346 6019.

40 years of better health care

This year Ramsay Health Care celebrates its 40th anniversary since it was founded in 1964. Founder Paul Ramsay began the company with only a small psychiatric and convalescent facility in Mosman, Sydney.

Now Chairman of Ramsay Health Care, Paul said it was an honour to be part of the development of a great Australian Company and be able to reflect on the last 40 years of achievement.

“This Company is made particularly special because of its people and I have met and worked with many wonderful people over the decades,” Paul said.

Ramsay Health Care Managing Director Pat Gerr said, “We are proud of our culture and our heritage and we look forward to celebrating our 40-year milestone.”

The Company’s first medical/surgical hospital, Baring Private Hospital in Collin Harbour, celebrated its 25th anniversary in December last year. This year Hollywood Private Hospital celebrates its 10-year anniversary since becoming part of Ramsay Health Care.

Ramsay Health Care now has 35 facilities throughout Australia and has grown to become not only one of the largest but also one of the most respected operators of private hospitals in the country.
Australian Peacekeepers is a landmark silver coin set issued by The Perth Mint in recognition of the personal efforts and sacrifices made by Australian Defence Force personnel, civilian police officers, and other civilian personnel who have served as United Nations and Multinational Force peacekeepers in world trouble spots.

This magnificent tribute comprises five coins each struck from 2oz of 99.9% pure silver in proof quality. They depict members of the Australian Army, Navy, Air Force, Federal Police or aid teams undertaking a variety of international peacekeeping and humanitarian activities.

Accompanying the main design on each coin is the inscription AUSTRALIAN PEACEKEEPERS, the year-date and the Mint's historic 'P' mintmark. Distinguishing design elements include the badges of each service in full colour.

Issued as legal tender under the Australian Currency Act 1965, each coin bears the Ian Rank-Broadley effigy of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on its obverse.

Australian Peacekeepers is housed in a beautifully crafted timber presentation case, which includes a lid that doubles as a display stand printed with the words Australian Peacekeepers. Each case comes in a colour sleeve depicting an Australian peacekeeper wearing the UN's blue beret, and the national flag.

The Perth Mint will release just 2,500 sets each accompanied by a numbered Certificate of Authenticity.

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LAYBY SERVICE AVAILABLE
Reserve dedicated to local man killed in Korean War

About 80 people, including 34 Korean Veterans, gathered on Saturday October 30 to attend a poignant and emotionally charged ceremony to dedicate a Brookdale reserve to Private Gerald Russell, who died while serving his country in the Korean War.

Private 5/400269 Gerald William Russell served with 3 Battalion RAR and was killed in action, aged just 21, on 12 May 1953 – two months before the Korean War ended.

"Gerald Russell was a local man with strong links to the Brookdale area and he spent a lot of time by the Wungong River as he grew up," said City of Armadale Mayor Cr Linton Reynolds.

"We wanted to dedicate and name the reserve after Private Russell, both as a mark of respect and in gratitude to a young man who served Australia with honour and made the ultimate sacrifice for his country."

Lt Colonel Charles Yacopetti MC, who flew in from NSW for the dedication to Pvt Gerald William Russell.

"I was honoured to be there for the dedication to Pvt Russell and on a very personal level, the ceremony has helped achieve some closure."

A week after the incident, while in action, then Lieutenant Yacopetti was captured by the Chinese and remained a POW for the rest of the war.

The dedication was performed by the Rev Keith Wheeler and was witnessed by Mrs Jan Addison, Pvt Gerald Russell's closest living relative.

During the dedication, three RAAF F104 two-seater aircraft from No. 2 Flying Training School based at Pearce carried out a formation flypast and the names of the 34 Western Australians who lost their lives during the Korean conflict were read out.

Private Russell is buried with fallen comrades in Tanggok Military Cemetery in Pusan, South Korea.

Gerald Russell Reserve is located on Pavis View in Brookdale. A total of 17,164 Australians served in the Korean War from 29 June 1950 to 27 July 1953. Of these 306 were killed in action, one died while a prisoner of war and 52 died as a result of accidents or other incidents. 1,236 Australians were wounded.

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Most of us have a treasure trove of memorabilia hiding in wardrobes, cupboards and drawers; badges, medals, tokens of our service shelved away with family photos, and a raft of other memorabilia that our families would treasure - if it was out in the open and professionally displayed for all to see. Faces and events fade from memory and details are often forgotten within a generation; a couple at most, and any memorabilia loses its importance and eventually may be just given away, lost, or worse, discarded or sold. With a family heritage display you can combine all of your memorabilia into either a single or multiple frames that commemorate your service (or that of a family member), and have the whole lot preserved to museum standard, to give you and future generations a permanent record of service you’d be proud to own and pass on down the line. And if you can’t find it all, we can very likely help with quality reproductions - from badges and medals to service rank and accoutrements.

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The incredible saga of MV Oninda

One of the most amazing stories to come out of World War II was the MV Oninda, the Japanese oil tanker that became a symbol of resilience during the war.

The war in the Pacific was crucial to the Japanese, and the US and its allies, who needed powerful naval vessels to protect their shipping routes.

The MV Oninda was one such vessel. Its story began in 1942 when it was sunk off the coast of Australia. The Japanese seized the机会 to use the vessel as a floating fuel depot.

However, the US Navy, under the command of the legendary Rear Admiral Husband Kimmel, managed to salvage the vessel and refit it as a naval auxiliary.

The vessel was renamed as the MV Oninda and was assigned to the task of carrying fuel to Allied ships in the South Pacific. The vessel was armed with a 4-inch gun and was capable of sinking a Japanese destroyer with a single shot. The vessel also had a crew of 220 sailors and 30 marines.

The Oninda was used to ferry fuel to Allied ships, and its crew became known as the "Oninda Boys." The vessel was damaged several times during the war, but it managed to stay afloat.

The Oninda's crew was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal for their service during the war.

The vessel was finally sunk in 1945, but its legacy lives on as a symbol of the resilience and resourcefulness of the Allied forces during World War II.
BUNBURY

Remembrance Day saw us run out of poppies because of a larger than usual demand from local schools. Next year 10,000 poppies will be ordered to ensure that we have plenty around the city and shopping centres.

Our club bar is now operating every Friday from 5-8pm. Come in for the cheapest drinks and the best company in town.

The 2000 Annual Dinner was an outstanding success with Tom Keough being a very fitting Guest of Honour. The dinner included exceptional and table decorations, together with a moving address by Heather Stewart of presenting every lady with a rose in a cylinder, made the event one to remember.

Meeting attendances have risen slightly with the onset of warmer weather, but even if you can’t make it please drop in on any weekday morning and say hello to our friendly staff.

Alf Mainstone

CITY OF PERTH

Remembrance Day at Sub-Branch

I attended the Remembrance Day ceremony at Monument Hill in Sub-Branch on Thursday, November 11th. Although the weather looked threatening earlier on, some of us present were prepared for the deluge that arrived just as the wreath laying commenced.

What a great shame this was, as the event had been extremely well organised and there was a very large attendance. There were three school choirs and a band and we will have to suffer a drizzling was cruel.

As sponsors of the TS Manum Wahls, we will continue their annual awards presentation on Sunday December 12th at their headquarters located at Hillards Beach (opposite the Royal Yacht Club). Our annual awards are very popular in the community and many have said that they could not do without the event.

The 27-Anniversary of Western Province Sub-Branch, played the Last Post and Reveille. Benefits from the RSL were laid by Miss Pat Paton, President of the Sub-Branch. Assistant President Mr. Alistair Macpherson presented the following awards:

To Mrs. E. J. Honey, President, the Annual General Meeting is scheduled for the 2nd year in succession on a Sunday afternoon in March. The exact date will be advertised as soon as possible.

COMO

Formed in 1936, the Como Sub-Branch now holds its meetings on the third Monday of each month at 3pm in the Como Scout Hall, Sandgate Street, South Perth.

We celebrate the formation of our club by having a special function on which we invite the wives of our fellow members.

We shared the cost of a memorial stitred in the Memorial Gardens that are the final resting place under the condition by the South Perth Council.

Our Anzacs Day Memorial Service organized by Kevin Trent was enhanced by the presence of members of the RSL and the Como Sub-Branch.

Wreaths were laid by the presidents of the Como, Manning and South Perth Sub-Branches, the Mayor of South Perth and State Parliamentarians and representatives of the RSL.

Our Como sub-branch members joined in celebrating Keith and Margaret Bower's 50th wedding anniversary. They were married on July 20th, 1944. Keith was a RAF pilot in 1940 and served with RAF Coastal Command in North Africa. Keith attained the rank of Flying Officer Leader and was awarded the DFC and Bar. Formerly Keith's wife Betty was a doctor serving as a second mate with the RSL in North Africa.

We wish Keith and Betty many happy years together.

Trevor Beattie Secretary

RIVERTON

On Saturday 6th November, in the presence of RSL State President Bill Gayner OAM RFD, dignitaries from Government, the Military, the Sub-Branch Committee, members, guests and all involved in the event attended. The Premier of Western Australia was one of the special guests at the Sub-Branch. (This was the first time he had attended an event of this kind.)

The annual General Meeting is scheduled for the 2nd year in succession on a Sunday afternoon in March. The exact date will be advertised as soon as possible.

Returned & Services League

CITY OF SOUTH PERTH

Remembrance Day for three local heroes

The three sub-branches within the City of South Perth – Como, Como and the City of South Perth – combined to arrange the Remembrance Day Service at the Memorial in the Memorial Gardens in South Perth.

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"The Bush Wireless"

PENSION UPDATE CORNER

My apologies for the absent column last issue: a badly sprained ankle and fracture accentuated by the second appeared somewhat (The experience has given me a brand new taste of what it's like to be unable to walk - but good news is: it's over!)

But - good news! As any regular reader knows, I try to keep our readership aware with updates on relevant developments. Statements of Principles (SoPs) - those that set out the requirements of war service or service-related facing (covered) under which the DVA will accept a claim. Several revised SoPs have been published recently, which are "easy-to-read" that their respective purposes provide.

The one for Chronic Bronchitis and Emphysema is particularly. It is far simpler to read. Instead of the CP concerned having to differentiate between four different types of "bronchitis" - the new version recognises just three. Where the earlier version stipulated that breathing difficulties had to be virtually "proven" against smoking, the latest version omits any reference to smoking criteria altogether. What it appears that a CP's diagnosis will now suffice.

Most notable of all is the all-important casual factors listed have been considerably relaxed - eg: where the earlier predecessor required "ten years of smoking by a day at least .... the new version only requires "five years of smoking day a day".

For the first time ever, exposure to "passive smoking" is recognised without being limited to the health period of less than five years of that exposure. But: it is limited to "case: "Never" - smokers only (as that term is, is that they were never even "social smokers")

- Exposure had to be for at least 15 minutes a day; 417 days/min (or 60 weeks/month) is as an exception required.
- Other activities where smoking was involved in and out of enclosed spaces. (for example: public transport and office e.g. would have to factor in extra to cover times smoking occurred in other places, have periods out-of-doors etc.)

Also recognised for the first time: through contracting laston (special provision is made for the treatment of these conditions):
- "Provide an increase in, and maintenance of, existing service-eldered care facilities and services in the community generally and, as a priority, meet the special needs of older veterans by war widows;"
- Implement legislative changes which will provide qualifying service and wide widows are given priority on war widows' homes and hostels where their ages and current rate of classification are equal with similar current service.
- Acknowledge that some pension to the TPI pension has occurred over the past years because of inappropriate disability and provide an immediate increase in the TPI pension of not less than $72.00.
- Increase the financial availability of $50,000 for veterans and war widows; its implementation taken by the department (i.e. the "warlike" from 21 July 1947).
- Implement legislation passed that it with the recommendation for the F1972) pension to be declared "warlike" from 21 July 1947; and
- Implement legislation passed that it with the recommendation for the JRC pension to be declared "warlike" from 21 July 1947.

Legislative changes should be made that the declaration has effect in extended VEA coverage.

Provide the Gold Card as an Act of Government generosity for (a) Australian World War I veterans without qualifying service; and (b) Veterans of the Vietnam, Korean War or World War II veterans who have qualifying service, who meet Australian Residential and Veterans Pension criteria;

That Australian Government income support payments made to paid veterans for war widows and war widows' disability pension payments made by their pension criteria counted for Centrelink income assessment purposes;

Legislatively recognise and foster the critical role that primary care and the people for veterans suffering from Mental Health disorders and, where necessary, provide additional support services.

Conduct a study of the health of Vietnam Veterans' children and grandchildren, and implement the recommendations of that study.

The RSL Veterans' Affairs proposals for the 2005 Budget

National Congress endorsed this list of proposals in support to the Federal Government in the 2005 Budget. The proposals are as follows:

Government is requested to action the following proposals:

- Ensure that entitled veterans receive their prescribed medical treatment with dignity and choice, in accordance with the objectives of the Repatriation Private Hospitals Act and that specialists and other health care providers are adequately resourced to deliver.

- That where veterans are resident in remote areas or areas with limited specialist and other health service providers is limited, problems from smoking (from the combustion of tobacco or fuel byproducts) which is a major cause of death and disease, "chronic bronchitis" and "emphysema". The earlier version recognised this crippling disease only as resulting from auto-immune "bad luck" at random. Liability was accepted only if there was an expert opinion whilst on service had occurred.

The version now (for those with active service smoking) smoking is now recognised as a causal factor. The general smoking (at least five "pack" years (for 20 a day) for at least 15 years before clinical onset) before smoking has ceased clinical onset must have occurred within 20 years of that service had occurred.

It also now recognises inhalation of respirable cristaline silica dust due to drilling or excavation; when used for cleaning or blasting tasks etc.) If a person is being treated for an established asbestos-related condition, (known by medics to put the person at this high risk of contracting asbestosis or the skin condition-by the new SoP present.

Just my personal reflection:

Whilst it is pleasing to see statements that "reforms" - the rules. I am always mindful of some of the "opportunities" - the new "rules" - we know who "break the rules" - under legislated rules that existed previously - that claim, and which have since been enacted. They would be accepted like a statement or rule that has not been declared today. I think especially of the much quoted HOBBS (RIP), who used to come into the ANZAC Club for his daily noon dinner for years, but not permanently with his

ồ 417 days

DVA offices Christmas closure

All DVA offices will be closed for the Christmas-New Year period from Monday 27 December 2004 to Monday 3 January 2005 inclusive. This office will reopen for business as usual on Tuesday 4 January 2005.

Pension payment dates will not be affected. Pensions will be paid on 23 December 2004 and 1 January 2005.

It is important to note that under after-hours arrangements many DVA services are available including:

- Transport - transport is not booked prior to the Christmas period, it will need to be arranged as required.;

- Hospital Admissions - hospitals can admit DVA patients and request admissions approval, when required, when DVA MCSR has been established.

- Crisis Centre - the DVA Veterans Counselling Service offers 24-hour crisis counselling through the Veterans' Line. This service is available to veterans of all conflicts and their families, including members of pacificans, 1982 mission, free on 1800 655 646 and 0800 536 279.

- Service Defence Homes Insuranc - policy and claim inquiries are available 24-hours a day on 1300 954 462, and payments can be made on 08 8315 3322.

Anyone who uses Rehabilitation Apparatus Pilgrimage supplies should make sure they have enough to meet their needs through the Christmas-New Year period, as many suppliers will be closed.

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

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

To find out more about the Department and its services:

- Please telephone 133 254 or country callers 1800 555 254

Australian Government

Department of Veterans' Affairs

INFORMATION FOR VETERANS & FAMILIES

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

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

To find out more about the Department and its services:

- Please telephone 133 254 or country callers 1800 555 254
The recipe book for men that is also a good read.

How does "Lloyd's Lavish Lamb Loin" sound to you? Or how about "Kangaroo Tail Stew"? Or "Grandma's Date Bars"?

The West Aussie Blokes' Cookbook is a unique collection of recipes from a variety of West Australian men who have combined local produce, good sandgroper ingenuity and curiosity.

This handy, A5-size softcover book contains 64 recipes (most illustrated with cartoons), and includes sauces, soups, entrées, main courses and desserts.

This book was compiled, designed, illustrated and printed entirely in Western Australia. Already hundreds have been enjoyed and given as gifts throughout Australia. It's the ideal gift for the man in the kitchen.

To order, call 9381 5551 during working hours or post a cheque to Healy Maher Publishing, PO Box 846 West Perth 6872.

To cover postage, please allow $11.00 per book ordered. Be sure to include your name and return address.

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ON KILLING


HOW: Navy Blue Books

To read Grossman's gripping study of killing in a military environment is to gain courage from the readers. In fact, those Viet Cong soldiers who were not travelling well may be better off not reading this book. For it peels back the psychological layers of training to kill, and then the graphs show how the psychological training was based on being part of the harvesting of the human spirit. Consequently, the author recognises that Vietnam was difficult in many respects, to any other war that we have fought.

Grossman has impeccable credentials. He is the first person to have written a book on self-defense

If you have any further enquiries, please call Angelo Ponsley at the Department of Veterans Affairs on 133 234 (metro area) or 1800 555 254 (country callers).

THE BRIDGE AT PARIT SULONG

An Investigation of Mass Murders in Malaya 1942

By Lynette Ramsay Silver

Historic detective work at its very best, author Lynette Ramsay Silver (no relation) takes the reader on a journey through the evidence of the events that altered the lives of many. Lynette Silver's effective writing style will keep the reader engrossed in the book. This book is available through Watermark Press and as a special edition to RSL members who identify themselves as having heard or heard of it through the RSL.

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They will send the book to them freight free, anywhere in Australia.

Watermark Press

Box 141, Boorowa, NSW, 2586

Email: boorowabookshop@gondola.com.au

www.watermarkpress.com.au

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NO ORDINARY DETERMINATION

Two Soldiers of the First AIF

By Jeff Hatwell

Here is the story of two great soldiers of the First World War; the book was in its manuscript form. I remember the author, Mr Jeff Hatwell, who informed me that it is currently at the publisher's, in Fremantle.

I was extremely impressed with this good work on two young AIF soldiers, Lieut Col H Murray VC, CMG, DSO and Bar, DCM, Cross of Honour, and Maj R Pilkington, DFC, Cross of Honour, VC, DSO and Bar. I have become interested in Australian soldiers of the war and believe that their deeds are still not sufficiently recognised.

The story begins by relating the story of two young soldiers, one called Kennedy Murray, from Fremantle, who was given a "free passage" to Australia, because he helped him get some equipment that he did not own.

Col Murray, a fourth generation Australian, developed the idea for the book, "No Ordinary Determination", a work on the war in the Middle East. His work was shot down but they decided to enlist in the AIF.

Initially, before being promoted to officer ranks, Murray and Black worked together in Western Australia. During this period, they shared the special bond of mate-ship. A network is established between men who work and play. This also exists in Australia's isolated rural regions. When war broke out they decided to enlist in the AIF.

The trials and tribulations Murray and Black and their experiences have been well researched by Jeff Hatwell.

The text is well referenced to support entries and enable the reader to pursue purposes of interest.

The fact that the book is an academic work does not detract from the quality of its academic use, enables the reader to connect it with earlier images and develop an understanding of the appreciation of the experiences of the soldiers in the early years of the war.

There have been many inspiring people and events in the war who have contributed to society, particularly the many who have been affected by war and its consequences, and the many who have had to endure and deal with it, and in the end, who have been made stronger by the experiences of the war.

No Ordinary Determination is a great book to get hold of when it is published. I have been informed that the publishing of this book is not far off. Keep an eye out for this inspiring book telling the story of these great Australian soldiers.
Can you help?

HMAS QUICKMATCH
HMAS Quickmatch 50th anniversary re-commissioning.
A commemorative ceremony, reunion, AGM and luncheon will be held, Monday 19th September 2005 at the Glen Waverly RSL, Melbourne, for all ex-skipper's company's ship (1942-1972). Anybody wishing to attend, and those unable but who wish to add their names to the Quickmatch data base, please send details to:
Ex-Quickmatch Association
c/o 13 Bonnay Way
Forest Hill 3131
e-mail: bradetbybrandy@yahoo.com or ring 03 9707 4064

SEARCHING FOR A RELATIVE
Can you please help me find my cousin.
Name - Stafford Waterfield
Mother - Amy Waterfield nee Cardwell

Stafford was born in England (Mansfield) in 1942, both Amy and Stafford left England in 1925 via Tilbury docks London, his father did not leave.
They lived in West Coburg for a while then moved to Lyndwick.

THE AGEING OCKER
By W.L. (Bill) Tate

Well strike me flaxence park
This goes to show me think
About the time when I was only forty
I shut off by the score
Two always in one go of water
I was really hot in the level of plenty
Well strike me flaxence park
Now mate I'm telling you
I'm thinking of the time when I was forty
M'gosh as I'd did those kids
Wouldn't say no life for gods
Cup's a tumbler they was gobbling

Well strike me flaxence park
I was quite the lucky foal
Back to the time when I was having forty
I'd made a little money
Lit up a cigar or two
An insight that you really big by the proper

Well strike me flaxence park
I was quite the lucky foal
A very lonesome evening
Even though my age was yearly in the fifty
We fed a bigger 'rour now
Just like my damn pocket
An' I think that I was really well

Well strike me flaxence park
I was quite the lucky foal
We were out at the weekend
Although I'd barely passed the age of fifty
Our investments were not real
Lost most of our money in the crash
Most of it went to Spence & Spence

So mate I'm telling you
Whatever you may do
Enjoy your life to the fullest every day
An' you could like the life, for we never know
Since I fully realised that's the only way.

SMALL TRACTOR DONATION
The Totally and Partially Disabled Veterans Association of WA are looking for a small tractor to help them with the watering of the grounds. They will need watering for some time yet to establish them. It would make it a lot easier to water with a tractor and it could also be used for their firewood and slashing the long grass on the property.
If there is anyone out there that have one of these items and not using it and would be happy to donate it, please contact the TDDVA of WA on 9522 2011 or email: tpvwwa@inet.net.au

RE-UNIONS

HMAS ANZAC & HMAS TOBRUK ROLL OF HONOUR
All ex-HMAS ANZAC L, II, III & TOBRUK I & II personnel are invited to join us for a reunion
WORLD WAR II COMMEMORATIVE LUNCHEON
Sunday 13th November 2005 - Christ Church Cathedral, Perth
PROGRAM:
1.30pm -Bus to Swan Valley
2.00pm - Meet and Greet with buffet meal at Night
Saturday 19th November - Free day with Dinner Dance at night
Sunday 20th November - Visit to HMAS Stirling for church service, tour of the fleet base & For Further Information and Registration Forms:
Graff (Wigley) Bennett
7 Vista Crescent, Highgate, Vic 3190
Ph: 03 9633 4511
Mob: 0417 952 123
email: tobruk@bigpond.net.au
Sponsored by HMAS
ANZAC/TOBRUK Association

ROLLED ON BY BRUCE ROCK
Rolled by Bruce Rock
Forty four bowlers ... four players short, boarded the bus for the marathon 3/4 hour each way trip to Bruce Rock, where the locals prevailed.
A chapter of errors on the last end of one rock (teamunnamedto avoid embarrassment) resulted in a quick topple by two shots. Apart from that mishap, a good time was had by most.
A Serenio team of Ian Marshall, Eric Con irony, Roy Bracknell with Gordon Woodside upped HBS's honour, Keith Butterfield the best home team. The Bruce Rock ladies excelled themselves again with an excellent lunch and a colour cut evergreen afternoon tea.
NB: An alternative going to Bruce Rock and back on the same day will be put to the half yearly meeting for discussion.

HALF YEARLY MEETING
Osborne Park is the venue for the above meeting on December 20 2005 at 10.00hrs.
Members are requested to attend, especially those bowlers going to Adelaide for the national carnival. Apologies to the Secretary if unable to be there.
The new WA RSL State Shirts (sponsored by Hollywood Hospitality) will be on display, our world famous sausage chefs will be there and the committee will about the way to grab them down - after the meeting.

A field of 20 hopefuls took to the greens for the state trials to pick the team for the Adelaide nationals. Six missed out.
The team for the Dr Kranitz memorial trophy are: D. Docking, J. McVicar, L. Shearer, J. Ford, M. O'Leary, K. McRae.

Congratulations to the bowlers selected for the interstate series and communications to those who didn't.
As this will be my last column till the new year I hope you all have a good trip, good luck, a Merry Xmas and good bowling for the new year.

Max Plester
WA RSL, Bowls Publicity officer - Ph 9495 8991

From the State President

RSL Women's Auxiliary

Hello to our members once again. I hope you are all well keeping well.

Congratulations to the following ladies who have been presented with life membership:
Mrs Betty Godwin from Greenbushes, Mrs Lesley Finlay from Belmont and Mrs Lila Reilly from Rockingham. Certificates of Service to Mrs Phyllis Can from Warrnambool and Mrs Mariette Calloway from Mandurah.

Joan Spencer
State President

It was my pleasure to present a plaque to Murray Districts at a luncheon in their honour celebrating their 80th year as a Women's Auxiliary. I hope that all the ladies enjoyed this for a wonderful effort.
As the year draws to a close I take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.

ANZAC HOUSE CHRISTMAS CLOSURE

ANZAC House will close on Thursday 23rd December at 4.30pm and re-open on Thursday 4th January 2006 at 8.30am. Please be advised that emergency contact details for the leave period are:
ANZAC House - Staff will check the answering machine regularly.
EMERGENCY calls will be answered ASAP.
EMERGENCIES can also be directed to:
State Secretary: 0412 354 140 Welfare Officer: 0412 099 191

AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT
Department of Veterans' Affairs

JANUARY
Maranda 5 January
Rockingham 6 January
Fitzgibbon 17 January
Harvey 18 January

FEBRUARY
Geraldton 2 February
Northampton 5 February
Mandurah 8 February
Norfolk 9 February
York 9 February
Bunbury 17 February
Collie 17 February
Busselton 22 February
Albany 24 February

MARCH
Mandurah March
Rockingham March
Esperance March
16 March
Wonthaggi March
16 March
Menippe March
16 March
Perengetan March
20 March
Moora March
23 March
Jenolan Bay March
24 March
Dongara March
24 March

All interviews are by appointment only
To book please call 1800 555 254

COUNTRY VISITS CALENDAR
Jim Hall as State President of the RSL, WA Branch 1985-91

The State President and members of the State Executive extend a welcome to new members, re-enlistments and transfers (October to November 2004) to the League in WA. Their names are listed by sub-branch.

New Members

Albury
Pincbin, Serox
RAN
Sutton, Geoffrey
Army
Amadi
Kennedy, Doug
Army
Gregory, N.A.
Army
Parke, Eric
Army
Whitehead, George
Army
Burrum Heads
Roche, Desmon
RAN
West, Desmond
RAN
Hall, Philip
RAAF
Belford-Starky
Harkin, Michael
RAN
Layton, Alford
Army
Bellicex
Full, Andrew
Army
Beliveau
Ilyais, Patrick
RAN
Myce, James
Army
Bridgewater

Lamb, Peter
RAN
Bulldock
Williams, Allan
RAAF

Gargent, Trevor
Army
Will, David
Army
Hill, John
Army
Cape
Marshall, Darrell
RAN
City of Cockburn

Anderson, Kevin
Army
Phelan, Steve
Army
City of Mandurah
Baker, Mervyn
Army
Stark, Ronald
Army
City of Rockingham
Kemp, Tony
Army
Conor, Geoffrey
Army
Peiran, Russell
Army
Coffie, Mark
Army
LCtohn, Roger
Army
Alderson/Williams/Karland-Augusta

Dykes, Rob
Army
Goodman, Mark
RAN
Edwards Hills
Dyne, Ken
Army
Coden, Robert
Army
Geddes, Brian
Army
Lamb, Peter
Army

Langan, Arthur
Army
Drew, Peter
Army
Fitzgerald, Gregory
Army
Hippkins, Colin
Army
Smith, John
Army
Mackay, Andrew
Army
Budden, Mark
Army
Jordan, George
Army
Smith, Richard
Army
Macdonald, Christopher
RAAF

Hicks, Kenneth
RAN
Carr, Paul
Army
Peirce, Colin
RAAF
Robinson, John
Army

Reilly, Kevin
Army
Lewis, Geoffrey
Army
Tugwell, David
Army
Haynedge, Edward
Army
Evans, Kerry
Army

Redman, David
Army
Hilliard, Stephen
Army
Hammond, Jim
Army

Women's Services

Gibbons, Joseph
Army
Lewis, James
Army

Women's Services

Fitzpatrick, Denis
Women's Services

Women's Services

Amador

Albury

Arms

Believe

Army

Beliveau

Army

Belville

Army

Belford-Starky

Army

Bridgewater

Army

Cape

City of Mandurah

Army

City of Rockingham

Army

Edwards Hills

Army

Edwards Hills

Army

Edwards Hills

Army

Langan, Arthur

Army

Drew, Peter

Army

Carr, Paul

Army

Hammond, Jim

Army

Vaughan-Jones

Army

Smith, Jason

Army

Hassall, Gary

Army

Edmonds, Richard

Army

Boyle, John

Army

Albury

Beliveau

Army

Belville

Army

Belford-Starky

Army

Bridgewater

Army

Cape

City of Mandurah

Army

City of Rockingham

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Edwards Hills

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Langan, Arthur

Army

Drew, Peter

Army

Carr, Paul

Army

Hammond, Jim

Army

Vaughan-Jones

Army

Smith, Jason

Army

Hassall, Gary

Army

Edmonds, Richard

Army

Boyle, John

Army
Thank goodness.

When George first came to see us, he'd heard all sorts of stories about hearing aids. But after speaking to one of our specialists, he realised that's all they were - stories.

At Australian Hearing we offer the very latest in digital technology. You'll be amazed by how small some hearing aids are these days. Some can now be worn completely inside the ear canal. Our specialists are here to help you find the best fit for your budget and lifestyle.

To talk to us about your hearing, or to find out more, visit www.hearing.com.au or call 131 797.
At Hollywood Private Hospital, our expert team of doctors, nurses and allied health professionals are proud to provide world-class medical attention to the veteran community. To ensure patient recovery time is assisted, Hollywood also offers five-star rooms, a wide variety of delicious meals and relaxing in-house entertainment.

You did the right thing by Australia.
Hollywood will do the right thing by you.