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CREDITS PUBLISHER: Returned Services League of Australia (W.A. Branch) Inc. P.O. Box C128, G.P.O. Perth, 6001. Phone 325 9799

EDITOR: J. Lee

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

DEFENCE - A MATTER OF INSURANCE

By LEN TURNER, AASA

Each year, the League presents a paper on defence and 1981 is no exception as the paper in question was released to the media on January 12, a copy at the same time being made available to the Federal Government and Opposition. The paper in draft form is prepared by the RSL National Sub-Committee on defence, who in the main are retired high-ranking officers from the three services having regard to the views of the defence committees in each of the State Branches and the circumstances existing at the time.

In draft form, the paper is then circulated to the various State Branches for further comment following which the final paper is prepared and approved by the National Executive.

Over the years it has been extremely difficult to raise or maintain membership in the defence of Australia, and this applies equally to the public generally.

It is a very impersonal matter and calls for tremendously high expenditure, the wise use of which cannot be at any time guaranteed but if it could be considered in the same light as any insurance; it is better to over-provide than believe the future will take care of itself. Yes, insurance is expensive if an accident or fire does not occur, and the amount expended on defence could be considered likewise, but just pause and think of the alternatives; and there should be no doubt in any thinking person's mind what is the best for them, their families and their country.

ILL-PREPARED

Always in the past Australia has been ill-prepared for the conflicts which have arisen and in which it has found itself subsequently engaged, and it was only after great hardship and sacrifice by our armed services and the population generally that some sort of balance was restored.

The Returned Services League of Australia has as one of its objects the enunciation from time to time of a policy that the Government of the nation will provide and maintain adequate forces, civil and scientific, naval, military and air, on a basis necessary to the defence of the nation.

When one considers the annual defence paper, it can be seen that it falls well within the scope of our objects. Quoting from the paper in question, "the past year has seen a serious deterioration in the international situation, especially in Australia's own area of strategic interest.

"In the Middle East, Russia has invaded Afghanistan and has strengthened its military position in both Ethiopia and South Yemen. Soviet units are now poised on the border of Iran and Pakistan and are looking towards Indian Ocean outlets. In a matter of hours the Soviet could place a stranglehold on the oil fields of the Middle East.

"The instability of Africa and South America continues to offer fertile fields for Russian diplomatic manoeuvring. In North-East Asia, the Republic of Korea is riding out the tensions created by the recent uprisings in Kwangju, but the situation remains extremely sensitive.

"In South-East Asia, the Soviet has exerted new influence in
Indo-China through a military alliance with Vietnam, and is developing bases in Camranh Bay, Danang and Saigon.

"Closer to Australia Russia has increased its forces and military establishments in the Indian Ocean region. Kampuchea is now, for all practical purposes, a Soviet satellite and Vietnam has made incursions into the border area of North-East Thailand to deal with refugee Pol Pot forces.

"This scenario portrays a significant strengthening in Russia’s global strategic position. Coupled with this is the Soviet’s clear superiority over the West in conventional arms and its equivalent strength in nuclear weapons systems."

"The situation is aggravated by the energy crises and the inflation that have been induced in most Western countries, bringing with it commensurate economic and political problems."

The above extract was an introduction to the paper in question and could well serve to draw attention to the seriousness of our inadequate defence preparations at the present time. Governments generally act only when sufficient numbers in the Community express concern, and the purpose of the RSL is to draw the attention of the population to the present unsatisfactory situation.

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United Nations Day

United Nations Day, October 24, was observed for the first time in Canberra with a parade and wreath-laying ceremony at the War Memorial. Wreaths were laid by representatives of the three Services, the Australian Federal Police, the Korea and South East Asia Association and the United Nations Association. Daramalan College Band played for the police and Service marchers, and during the ceremony.

**CONGRATULATIONS**

The following members were awarded LIFE MEMBERSHIP of the League, in 1980:

L. ARMSTRONG (Kensington Sub-Branch), B.J. BARDEN (Geraldton), A.A.W. CLAIR (Bayswater-Meltham), J.R. EWING (Highgate), C. FREEDMAN (City of Perth), H.G. KING (Mt. Hawthorn), E.R. LEE (Murray), N.W. LOWE (Belmont), L.C. MARTIN (Yilgarn and Districts), Miss P. MARTIN (Returned Sisters), G. MELL (Claremont), T. STEN (Applecross), R.N. STONE (Highgate), V.R. TRENBERTH (North-East Fremantle).

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**STATE CONGRESS**

65th ANNUAL STATE CONGRESS 1981

For the guidance of Sub-Branches the following information is given regarding the forthcoming Annual State Congress of this State Branch:

**DATES:** Friday, June 19, 1981 — Official Opening (Government House Ballroom); Saturday, June 20, 1981 — Working Sessions of Congress; Sunday, June 21, 1981 — Working Session of Congress.

**VENUE — WORKING SESSIONS:** Red Cross Hall, Repatriation General Hospital, Hollywood.

**PUBLIC TRANSPORT:** 212 Bus: Stand 40: St. George’s Terrace. Stops at front door of Hospital. Bus stops along St. George’s Terrace, but the central point is just past Allderley Square (Cnr. Sherwood Court) and in front of Community Welfare Department Building. (If Country members advise where they are staying, Headquarters will endeavour to make arrangements to have them picked up by other Delegates.)

**MEALS:** Each Sub-Branch is responsible for delegates expenses. Morning, Afternoon Tea, Lunch will be served at the Congress Venue.

**NOMINATIONS:** Rule 25: All nominations for the position of President, Vice-Presidents (2), and Committee men (9 required), shall be made by a Sub-Branch at a properly constituted meeting, shall be in writing and closed with the State Secretary not less than six weeks before the opening of Congress — i.e. Friday, May 8th, 1981, and all Sub-Branches shall receive notification of all nominations received not less than one (1) month before the opening of Congress.

All nominees must be financial members of the State Branch and must signify their willingness to accept office.

(a) All candidates for office in the League, whether paid or honorary, shall when nominated, declare themselves in full accord with the principles of the League.

(b) Nominations may include any financial member of the W.A. State Branch, and not merely members of their Sub-Branch.

IT WILL BE NECESSARY FOR SUB-BRANCH SECRETARIES TO ACT IMMEDIATELY.

**LEAGUE TRUSTEES:** Three (3) Trustees were elected in 1978 for 3 years. State Executive will bring forward nominations for League Trustees for 1981-1983.

**AGENDA ITEMS:** All agenda items for State Congress must be accompanied by preamble for each item, be in writing and closed with the State Secretary on Friday, May 8th, 1981. (Please submit Agenda Items as soon as possible.)

IT IS IMPORTANT that Sub-Branches carefully discuss any proposed Agenda Items, to ensure that the subject matter comes within the scope of League activities. Particular interest must be given to Constitutional items, and a clear and specific indication given as to the Rules which are desired to be altered.

The following are suggested as appropriate headings for Agenda Items:

a) Immigration
b) Defence
c) Repatriation
d) Listening Post
e) Defence Service Homes
f) State War Memorial
g) Anzac Day
h) War Veterans Home
i) Remembrance (Poppy) Day
j) Membership
k) Anzac House
l) Anzac Club
m) Constitution
n) National & State Administration

**DELEGATE ENTITLEMENT:** One (1) delegate per 75 financial members, or part thereof, and based on membership figures as at December 31, 1980, with a limit of six (6) delegates per Sub-Branch.

An accredited delegate may be appointed from another Sub-Branch and this may be extended to allow one delegate to represent more than one Sub-Branch.

Proxy Delegates may be appointed but may only act in the absence of Delegates from any sitting of Congress.

**CONGRESS LEVY:** $7.50 per delegate. Two (2) or more delegates $15.00.

**ANNUAL TROPHY COMPETITIONS:** Entries for consideration in the various Trophy Competitions should be submitted to the State Secretary, NOT LATER THAN FRIDAY, MAY 8, 1981.

It has been pleasing to receive more entries over the last couple of years and all Sub-Branches are urged to participate in the annual competitions. Sub-Branches with small membership have equal opportunity with larger Sub-Branches as this is taken into account on proportionate basis.
NURSES’ MEMORIAL

Unveiling of Plaque — Ceremony at Augusta

Monday 16th February 1981 marked a significant occasion for the Returned Sisters’ Sub-Branch, when, at the invitation of the President and members of the Karridale-Augusta Sub-Branch of the R.S.L., many members journeyed to Augusta for a ceremony at the Nurses’ Memorial and the Unveiling of a Plaque which records the names of fiftythree nurses who died in World War II as the result of enemy action.

Those inscribed include eleven from the 2/3rd Hospital Ship ‘Centaur’ torpedoed off the Queensland coast in May 1943; the nurse who lost her life when the 2/1st Hospital Ship ‘Manunda’ was bombed in Darwin harbour in 1942; thirteens who died by drowning or massacre on Banka Island following the bombing of the s.s. ‘Vyner Brooke’ in Sunda Straits in 1942, and eight who died while prisoners of War during their three and a half years of internment.

Mr. T.R. Webb, president of the Karridale-Augusta Sub-Branch welcomed a representative gathering of over three hundred, which included the people of Augusta and surrounding districts, visitors from farther afield, families, friends and relatives of those who died and about one hundred nurses, many being city and country members of the Returned Sisters’ Sub-Branch, and a number of trainees of Royal Perth Hospital, Princess Margaret Hospital, and Fremantle Hospital who had trained and served with the six West Australian nurses who failed to return.

A feature of the Ecumenical Service was the participation of the school children and the theme ‘For the young, who are tomorrow’s history.’ Mrs. A. Burkitt, nee Iole Harper, an ex P.O.W. in unveiling the Plaque spoke of the challenge of the future for the youth of today. It was a poignant moment, the day being the thirty-ninth anniversary of the Banka Island massacre.

The Commemoration was read by Mrs. F. Statham, nee Vivienne Bullwinkle, an ex P.O.W. and the only survivor of the massacre, who also recited the Ode which followed the sounding of the ‘Last Post’.

At the conclusion of the Service, wreaths were laid by Col. R.J. Nyman representing the State President of the R.S.L., Mr. W.H.P. Hood, ex P.O.W. Association of W.A., Miss E.E. Harler, Returned Sisters’ Sub-Branch; Mr. T.R. Webb Karridale-Augusta Sub-Branch and children of the Karridale-Augusta School, followed by personal wreaths and tributes.

A stiff breeze from the fifth world of Antartica shook the flag and passing over the memorial with its beautifully kept garden, carried the voices of the children as they led the singing of the National Anthem; followed by the National Song which is itself a challenge for the future.

Most of those who attended the Commemoration availed themselves of the generous hospitality extended to them by the organizers and accepted the invitation to afternoon tea which was served in true country style in the Community Hall.

Before the departure of the Perth bound bus, especially chartered for the day, Miss Edith Harler, on behalf of the Returned Sisters’ Sub-Branch expressed sincere thanks to all who had combined to make it a memorable event. She also extended grateful appreciation to those who have voluntarily cared for the memorial and its garden since its inception in 1978.

Ref. re Plaque:
Wilson, Grace M. CBE RRC. ‘The Story of the Royal Australian Army Nursing Service’
Simons, Jessie Elizabeth. ‘While History Passed’
from V. HOBBS.
Returned Sisters Sub-Branch R.S.L.
23rd February, 1981.

“WHEREABOUTS?”

The National Office success rate for locating missing persons is about 25 per cent but this easy one should improve the average.

G.C. Bremner, a former Sergeant in the London Scottish, served with the Folboat Section Special Boat Service.

He wants to contact “two tall Kiwis and a stout, short Aussie” (he has just described about 100,000 Anzacs) whom he rescued from Crete by the submarine Torbay.

Over three nights, he rescued about 100 men, the sub was so overloaded it could not submerge and the journey to Alexandria had to be made on the surface. At a cabaret in Alex, the rescues rewarded the rescuer with gallons of Laziza and Almaza.

Mr. Bremner would like to make contact with any of those rescues who are still around. He particularly mentions a Fred North but didn’t say whether he was the tall one or the fat one.

G.C. Bremner’s address is: Fulmer House, Sandyhill Road, BANFF AB4 1BE, Scotland.

Incidently, the Torbay collected a few bravery awards during its war service, like a VC, DSO, and Bar to the Commander and over 30 others to the crew.
MEMORIAL SITE DEDICATED

The Remembrance Day Service held at Wanneroo included the dedication of the new site of the Memorial, now placed in the Shire Hall gardens near Wanneroo Road.

The Federal Member for Moore, Mr John Hyde, who attended the service, formally presented the Wanneroo R.S.L. with the Australian flag.

Pictured among 100 people attending the Remembrance Day service are Mrs Eva Lawrence, Bert Facey, and Ned Gibbs, with Wanneroo RSL secretary Mr Doug Newman.

Mrs Lawrence is the only surviving sister of Mr N.E. (Bill) Cockman who lost his life in the Great War.

Bert and family and Ned and family whose Wanneroo sons and brothers Barney Facey, Jim and Lacey Gibbs all members of the 2/4th Machine Gun Battalion lost their lives in the Second World War.

VALE EDGAR KRUGER

Edgar Kruger, book-keeper at RSL National Headquarters for many years, died in Canberra last month after a short illness, a few weeks before his 89th birthday.

Edgar's grandparents came from Germany and settled in the Barossa Valley. His old grandmother insisted that only German be spoken in the house and so Edgar grew up bi-lingual.

His knowledge of the language came in handy during the Great War and whilst serving with 32 Bn on The Somme, he was used as interpreter with German POW's.

A report came in that the Germans were so short of food they were eating their dead. In his report, he said that there were certainly dead Germans in the pot but if he had been forced to eat them, he would have at least undressed them, sex and all.

An Australian shell had scored a direct hit on a German cookhouse which was located in a railway tunnel. The result was cooks were blown everywhere, including those that finished up in sawyer.

He served in the World War with the Catering Corps. His book-keeping techniques scorned modern aids such as adding machines and calculators, he preferred the long additions. His accuracy was impeccable, his memory fantastic.

He was made a Life Member of the League in 1962 and his services to ex-servicemen were further recognised on Australia Day when he was awarded the OAM.

He leaves a widow and two sons.
We Move from Strength to Strength

By ERNIE McGUCKIN (Hon. Secretary)

It is quite possible that 1980 has been the most eventful year in the history of the Wembley-Floreat Sub-Branch, and, believe me, there have been some very interesting years in the past.

After the Great War, this Branch held their meetings monthly at the Leederville Town Hall in Cambridge Street, and in 1950 bought two blocks of land in Cambridge Street, Wembley, at the foot of Nanson Street for £700. In 1953 the Branch built a hall on one block and retained the other block for parking purposes for sub-branch members and people who hired the hall.

Having been a member of this branch since 1946, I feel I can say with confidence that we have been one of the most successful Branches in the League. I realise, when making this statement, that members and office-bearers make or break a sub-branch, and, believe me, we have had many distinguished office-bearers and members in the past.

In February 1980, we decided to sell our property, the main reason being that the hall needed quite a lot of repairs and maintenance rates and taxes and insurance were becoming very costly. When the property was sold we had hoped to have a hall for meetings on the site, but unfortunately this didn't eventuate, and most of our active members are aware of the reason.

An investment company bought the property and had plans passed for eight units on the site and these units are now complete. As I have previously stated we bought the property for £700 ($1,400) in 1950, and in 1980 we received $105,000 from the investment company and an extra $2,500 for the loss of a hall on the site.

Most of this money has been invested securely for a fixed term and the interest is paid half-yearly into the general account for the sub-branch.

I would like to say thanks to the State President, State Secretary and the three Trustees for RSL Headquarters for their assistance and guidance when the sale of the property was being considered and approved.

Anzac Day in 1980 was celebrated as usual and we were blessed with fine weather and an excellent attendance. My thanks to the members who attended, the Boy Scouts, Girl Guides and Brownies and to Mr Mensaros and Dr Dadour who both supplied and laid a wreath on the Memorial.

This service commences at 8.30 am at the Leederville Town Hall and we hope the 1981 service will be as successful.

My thanks to Mr Hicks of the Salvation Army for his sounding of the Last Post and Reveille; he has been good enough to oblige for many years now. Thanks again, Murray, and we hope you will oblige again this year with your bugle.

BOWLING CLUB VENUE

I have already explained the sale of our property and would now like to advise members and prospective new members that we now meet at the Wembley Bowling Club in Gregory Street, Wembley, on the second Monday in each month at 8 pm.

I feel our move to the Bowling Club has been successful, our membership has increased, and attendance at the meetings has increased dramatically. The Bowling Club has been most co-operative and made us very welcome.

To members who have not attended a meeting I would suggest you come along and enjoy the facilities, make yourself known to our President and he will do the rest.

Our president is Bill Kelleher who was elected for his fourth year at the annual general meeting in December.

Early in December, we held a ladies’ night for the first time. This evening was at Perry Lakes, and about 70 members and wives attended; those who didn’t attend missed the night of the year. It will be on again next December so please attend meetings and you can be a starter for this night in 1981.

Our Christmas party for members was held on December 15, 1980 at the Wembley Bowling Club, and about 70 members supported the function which was most successful.

Mr. Bill Lonnie was in attendance and he most ably represented the State President.

Certificates of Service were presented to president Bill, Charlie Rowe and Les Lawrence. Congratulations, fellows, on your service over the years.

We were fortunate to have Vic Garland, MLA for Curtin, at this party, his main mission being to present an Australian flag to the Sub-Branch. We feel it can be put to good use at the Bowling Club.

Mr Garland advised about 200 of these flags had already been donated to schools and organisations.

Poppy Day was very successful for the sub-branch. With the assistance of members, ladies auxiliary, and staff and pupils from the Floreat Primary School we sold over 2000 poppies. The pupils from the school sold 1,000 poppies at the Floreat Forum; nice work, boys and girls!

I can assure members who do not attend meetings and take part in sports nights and other functions that they are missing out on good things in life, so get with the strength and join in supporting the Wembley-Floreat Sub-Branch.

Wishing you all a happy 1981.

Wembley-Floreat Sub-Branch Headquarters

From Left: Chas. Parker (Treasurer), Bill Kelleher (President), Ernie McGuckin (Secretary), Rod George (Vice President).
FREE HOSPITAL TREATMENT OFFERED

Free hospital treatment is to be provided to Vietnam veterans requiring urgent medical attention, the Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Senator Tony Messner, said recently.

He said the offer would extend to all Vietnam veterans who presented to the Department for treatment in respect of a condition not accepted by the Department as related to their service. They would have access to Departmental institutions if:
* medical investigations indicated that the condition required urgent treatment and it was appropriate to provide the type of care necessary as an in-patient;
* there was spare-bed capacity in Repatriation hospitals.

Senator Messner said that if beds were not available in Repatriation hospitals accommodation would be sought in non-Repatriation hospitals under normal community arrangements by a new counselling service for Vietnam veterans which was now being established.

He said the provision of in-patient treatment along the above lines would not depend upon a claim being made for acceptance of the condition as related to service in Vietnam and there would be no 'entitlement' to treatment. The provision of treatment would depend upon the judgment of a medical officer as to the necessity for urgent treatment of the condition. These special arrangements would be reviewed in 12 months time.

NO PREJUDICE

Senator Messner said that the granting of this treatment would not prejudice claims for treatment and pensions still before the Boards nor would it mean the Boards were committed to granting claims for treatment and pensions because of this offer.

He said that the Government had taken this action because of recent reports that a number of Vietnam veterans were seriously ill as a result of their service in Vietnam and that their emotional states of mind put their lives at risk.

He revealed that up to the end of 1980 764 veterans had lodged with his Department claims mentioning possible contact with chemicals in Vietnam. A number had been determined and some accepted but not on the basis of a connection with chemicals.

He also gave details of the new counselling service for Vietnam veterans, which was being established because it was recognised that some have problems that cannot be adequately handled within normal Departmental arrangements.

The service would be operated by professionally qualified counselling officers located at central points in the Department of Veterans' Affairs to identify problems of Vietnam veterans and facilitate their access to existing community services, including Repatriation services where appropriate and practicable.

Senator Messner said he was establishing a distinct unit within his Department to be responsible for all matters relating to Vietnam veterans. This was a further indication of the Government's concern to properly and quickly consider the problems brought forward by all ex-servicemen and women in Australia.

In addition to assisting veterans with their immediate health and emotional problems, the Government was progressing with the scientific study to determine whether there was an increased incidence of birth defects in their offspring. This epidemiological study is being carried out by the Commonwealth Institute of Health at Sydney University.

He said the Government understood the concern expressed by some about the time being taken, but it was imperative that the success of the study should not be endangered by unsound design which might invalidate the scientific conclusions of the study, no matter how understandable the desire might be for all possible speed.

PILOT STUDY

Senator Messner, noted that the Institute had pre-tested its data collection questionnaires and would conduct a pilot study to assess the relative merits of the three methods of data collection and various administrative systems which could be used in the major study.

The pilot study would be carried out in the Sydney metropolitan area over two months beginning in March, 1981. It would involve 300 Vietnam veterans plus their wives and children, together with 300 controls plus wives and children. The controls are veterans who were in the Army at the same time but did not go to Vietnam.

He said the pilot study would assess three types of survey: Separated telephone interviews of veterans and wives; questionnaires sent through the post for the veteran to complete, and personal interviews of veterans and wives by specially trained nurses, who would also examine the children for birth defects.

The results of this pilot study would not be released because scientifically valid results could not be expected from a sample of only 300 Vietnam veterans among the 45,000 who served there. The results would be submitted with the final methodology to the Scientific Advisory Committee, which had been established to assess the scientific appropriateness of the study's methodology.

The major study of all contactable Vietnam veterans plus their wives and children also a control group plus wives and children is expected to begin in the third quarter of this year and the first results to be available in March 1982.

The Central Army Records Office in Melbourne had conducted a search of the records of all Army personnel who had served in Vietnam and had provided the Institute with necessary data such as names, serial numbers, units, dates of arrival in and departure from Vietnam, etc. Twenty-five full-time staff had been involved in this task. In addition, similar information had been supplied on the Army veterans who did not serve in Vietnam and who are being considered as a control group.

CRITICAL MATTER

Location of the servicemen and their families to be studied was another critical matter. The addresses of the veterans will be obtained by running the names of the veterans provided by the Department of Defence against the computer records of the Australian Electoral Office.

The Department of Defence is supplying the Institute with a great deal of information relating to the question of exposure. This includes information extracted from Australian unit diaries about troop locations and movements. The United
Free Hospital Treatment Offered contd.

States Department of Defence had provided computer tapes detailing American fixed-wing aircraft herbicide-spraying operations.

There has been a recent Government decision to include in the study all public servants and members of the Navy and Air Force who served in Vietnam. It may be necessary, however, for the data on these persons to be considered separately to those of the main study.

Senator Messner said his Department was continuing to gather information on the long-term effects of herbicides and in this regard contact with the various United States authorities established early last year had proved most fruitful.

A number of epidemiological studies were now getting underway in the United States, including one in Atlanta, Georgia, which will use birth defects data maintained since 1968 to determine if Vietnam veterans are siring children with an increased incidence of specific malformations. The Atlanta Registry of birth defects has about 10,000 cases derived from a population of about 250,000 births.

It is believed that 25,000 Vietnam veterans are living in or near the city of Atlanta. Their average age is about 30 years and many will have had children during the past few years.

Another United States study which is proceeding will examine the possible health effects of exposure of some 1,160 "Ranch Hand" personnel to herbicides. "Ranch Hand" was the term for the herbicide aerial spraying project in Vietnam. US Air Force personnel who prepared the aircraft or were involved with actual spraying are believed to have had a heavy exposure to herbicides.

The Principal Investigator in the Australian study, Professor R. MacLennan, recently visited the United States to discuss with American investigators methods to be used in the Australian study.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS, DEATH

I would like this item to be taken seriously by all members and sub-branch secretaries in order to minimise work for the staff at Anzac House and distress to the dependants of members who have passed away.

Unless we know the new addresses of members when they move, "The Listening Post" and accounts will be sent to the address we have on our records, and of course are returned to us by the Postal authorities with a charge. Can I give instances of what this entails?

In December, accounts for subscriptions and magazine are sent to all members. If we do not have the correct address it takes time to open the returned items, check the cards and stencils. Postage costs for accounts, 22 cents; magazine 12 cents postage; postal tax 40 cents, making a total of $1.14 per member.

Last December we had more than 400 items returned, making a minimum total to pay to Australia Post of $456, most of which could have been avoided.

In the case of the death of a member, especially in the country areas, sub-branch secretaries could assist us greatly by notifying Anzac House as soon as possible.

The majority of country members who die are laid to rest in their home town and very little reference is put in The West Australian, so naturally we continue to send all issues of the magazine and, in December, an account for subscriptions.

I have no need to remind all of you what distress this causes to relatives, especially widows, when they receive these items.

I ask you most sincerely to assist us. By doing so, you are helping us to help you.

MIKE HALL

Chairman - Listening Post and Public Relations Committee

WHEN THE BUGLER SOUNDS RETREAT

There is a certain time each evening
When the soldier's day is done
And the shadows lengthen slowly
With the setting of the sun.

Then the noise and chatter ceases
And every soldier on his feet
As they pay that humble tribute
When the Bugler sounds Retreat.

In the poignant fleeting moments
When you stand and face the West
Your thoughts are of those heroes
They were Australia's very best.

Those who gave us that conviction
That this Empire can't be beat
And you're proud that they're your brothers
When the Bugler sounds Retreat.

Flung across the world you'll find them
They fought on every battle field
With that glorious Anzac spirit
There's one more page in history sealed
When the world is cheering madly
Acclaims the Empire's greater feat
There'll be men who'll still remember
When the Bugler sounds Retreat.

They won't forget the Dunkirk story
Typed with blood in history's book
All the battles fought in Libya
And the seige that held Tobruk
Those sacrifices in Malaya
Epic deeds in Greece and Crete
They'll all flood a fellow's memory
When the Bugler sounds Retreat.

In the post war world that's fashioned
By some men who'll understand
When you think they're super-human
And the world seems just too grand
The credit isn't all for them
That makes your life so sweet
It's the men you'll still remember
When the Bugler sounds Retreat.

The glory that always shall be theirs
Will it fade through the mist of time
As the fate of some sporting hero
Whom they cheered as he shone in his prime
Don't forget them you palp of tomorrow
As you stroll daily along Freedom Street
Think of the men who paved it for you
When the Bugler sounds Retreat.

Correction and Apology

F.C. BLAKE 2384, died 1st August 1980, unit 12/52 Bn., Sub-Branch Mt. Lawley.

In the last issue of "The Listening Post" the name was incorrectly shown as "Black".

LISTENING POST — AUTUMN 1981 — 7
The people of Harefield, in the south of England, have never forgotten the Australian servicemen they nursed during the Great War. The wounded Anzac men came to the village's Australian Military Hospital to recover from battle injuries. Villagers still pay their annual tribute to the hundred or more who were buried in St Mary's Churchyard. Every year on Anzac Day local schoolchildren have placed flowers on the graves.

The ceremony was inaugurated in 1921 by the then local headmaster, Mr Jeffery.

Our picture shows seven-year-old Helen Harman, of Dunster Close, Harefield, placing flowers on the grave of Pte Charles Adkins, who died at the hospital in 1917.
Tea at Sailing Club

What a delightful way to spend a blustery, hot Monday afternoon — this is what some 230 people thought when they attended an afternoon tea at the Fremantle Sailing Club on February 2.

The function was arranged by Mrs Joan Dowson and her committee for the Returned Ex-Servicewomen’s Sub-Branch. The views through the huge glass walls of the upstairs restaurant area were fascinating and panoramic. In the background were the huge visiting American aircraft carrier and stretches of ocean to Garden Island and beyond, and, in the foreground, the Club’s marina, filled with sailing craft of all sizes.

The tables were patriotically decorated with small silken Australian Flags, and similar flags were on sale. It is part of a campaign to make our citizens more aware and proud of their country, their flag and a heritage second to none. Our slogan — “a flag for every house.”

Following a pleasant afternoon tea, patrons were entertained by a musical programme given by Mesdames Abbott (soprano), Cuddy (accompanista) and Mr Murdoch (saxophonist). Their theme was “nostalgia” and the songs and music chosen reflected this.

Mr Chandler, secretary of the Club, gave a brief introductory talk on the Club and Mrs Dowson welcomed all the guests, reminding them that this was just a prelude to our anniversary luncheon at the Sheraton Hotel on March 13.

The funds from both functions will go towards the Restoration of the State Memorial Fund and to furnishings for our new Anzac House.

The president of the Sub-Branch, Mrs McManus, thanked the guests for supporting our function and the artists for their delightful programme which everyone had enjoyed. She then presented them with tokens of our appreciation.

RSL president Len Turner addressed the guests and commended the Sub-Branch and Mrs Dowson and her committee for arranging the function and for its objectives. It was still indefinite as to just when the new Anzac House would be ready for us, he said, but it would be within the first half of 1981.

Guests were accorded the facilities of the Club bar and many groups stayed to talk and reminisce. Our thanks to the Fremantle Sailing Club for making the venue available and allowing us the pleasure of enjoying their truly magnificent Club.

Polish Uniforms Presented

Three Polish Army uniforms were recently presented by the Polish Ambassador Ryszard Frackiewicz and received by Sir William Keys, a member of the Memorial’s Council and National President of the RSL.

A soldier’s field uniform of 1939 and the desert uniform of the Carpathian Brigade, which took part in the siege of Tobruk, were specially recreated for the War Memorial in Poland after a visit by Polish Foreign Minister Emil Wojtaszek in 1978. The third uniform is that of a corporal in the present Polish Army.

Polish Ex-Servicemen

By W. Gorski

The year 1981 was begun with the well-attended New Year’s Eve dance held in the Bayswater Town Hall.

Almost 50 delegates from all 12 sub-branches of the Polish Ex-Servicemen’s Association throughout Australia attended a Congress held in Adelaide from January 1 to 4. Sub-Branch No 9 in WA was represented by Messrs Z. Krolakowski and S. Fordymacki.

Not surprisingly, the congress approved a fund-raising drive to assist the “Solidarity” movement in Poland which, to the astonishment and acclaim of the Free World, conducts a successful campaign for human rights.

The date of the Congress was made to overlap the week long Adelaide Festival of Polish Arts. The festival which comprised a wide spectrum of events was officially opened by the Governor of SA, Keith Seaman, OBE, K St J. The festival provided a forum for the cultural contributions to Australia by the various Polish communities scattered across all States.

Sub-Branch No 9 has assisted in the purchase of the new Polish House in Perth, situated at 33 Eighth Avenue, Maylands, where it now holds its meetings.

Donations to finalise the purchase and for the subsequent upkeep can be made to G. Redziejowski (tel 361 6294), M. Sorycz (tel 279 3803), M. Donner (tel 271 0376) or B. Ziembka (tel 337 7952).
The Department that has the herculean task of caring for the people who served in the World War.

AS VETERAN AFFAIRS’ CHARGES REACH OLD AGE

By Ross Andrews

Article by courtesy of Sir Richard Kingsland, CBE, DFC, Chairman, Department of Veterans’ Affairs, Canberra.

The Department of Veterans Affairs, which dispenses an annual $1,500 million to old Diggers, appears to be working itself out of a job.

Its reason for existence is nearly 650,000 surviving ex-service personnel. In 1990 that figure will be down to about 450,000 and by 2000 AD should have dwindled to 230,000 — barring Australian involvement in a major war.

On paper, Veterans Affairs’ divisional structure appears readily split between departments like Social Security, Health, Education and Home Affairs. And Veterans Affairs’ six repatriation general hospitals (like Concord and Heidelberg) could, it appears, be handed to health authorities in the States.

But the reality for the department is that it is only just starting to shoulder the herculean task of caring for World War veterans reaching old age and infirmity. The department is as certain as any other in these uncertain times to weather the 1980’s intact and its annual appropriations are likely to boom during the period — but the giant spender will start to dwindle in the 1990’s.

Today, Veterans’ Affairs is a department of surprises. It ranks third-lowest in the Ministry, yet has the fourth-highest number of staff and the sixteenth-biggest annual appropriation of all Federal departments. Veterans’ Affairs is huge but barely gets prominence or headlines in Canberra’s political hot-house. It is not one of the “glamour” ministries.

Several reasons why Veterans’ Affairs will weather the 1980’s include:

STATISTICAL “BUMP”

Its real workload is only just arriving in terms of the statistical “bump” in the benefits and hospital needs of World War veterans. The average age of these ex-service personnel is just over 60 — and, statistically, the average age of people admitted to hospitals is 65. As the veterans age, their demands on the department’s major hospitals and its benefits network will increase.

Political party platforms see to it that service benefits will gradually widen — until even those among the last crop of national servicemen who did not serve outside Australia will be eligible for a wide range of benefits.

As more ex-service personnel become eligible for benefits through legislation or court decisions, Veterans’ Affairs’ annual budget will rise. To demonstrate how far benefits could be widened, of almost 650,000 ex-service personnel today only 323,000 are eligible for some hospital treatment and 309,000 receive service or disability pensions.

Ex-Service lobby groups like the RSL which often are the strongest critics of Veterans’ Affairs, hold enough political power to ensure the department’s survival intact through this decade, come what may. They recognise the benefit of a Ministerial voice for ex-service personnel in party meetings.

The department’s concentration on tasks laid down by law involving the bulk of its 11,500 staff in the States. Its central office in Canberra consists of a relatively small policy group of only 300. There is little administrative “fat” in the department.

The inability of alternative departments, like Social Security, to offer old Diggers the “personnel” services they have come to expect.

The expertise built up in the major repatriation general hospitals in geriatric and geriatric rehabilitative services that will lead the way for other Australian hospitals, which will have to cope with a dramatically aging general population. The repatriation general hospitals are established as acute general teaching hospitals.

Questioned on whether Veterans’ Affairs was working itself out of a job, its permanent head, Sir Richard Kingsland, said it was, but “very, very slowly indeed — the major reason being that ex-service personnel are getting older. The average age of World War II Veterans is approaching 65. As they get older they get sicker, requiring more treatment.”

LIBERAL TENDENCY

Also there is a tendency for the Repatriation Act to be interpreted in a more liberal way by the various courts and tribunals, making access easier to the various benefits and thus the treatments.

And there is in fact that governments — both Coalition and the Opposition — say that in time they propose to give full medical treatment to all ex-servicemen and women. They are only a very small part of the way along that trail at the moment.

The repatriation hospitals have stepped into another role already because 25 per cent of their patients are not “entitled” ex-service personnel. A growing emphasis in the hospitals is to serve ordinary civilians.

This means medical workers can now treat the problems of immigrants, young women, children and young men.

The aim of this approach was manifold, Sir Richard said. “It was to obviate the stupidity that used to happen where a fellow could come in with a sore left foot that was entitled and a sore right foot that couldn’t be treated.

“Now this new 25 percent of patients gives our hospitals more clinical interest. When we advertise for visiting doctors, specialists, nurses and para-medical staff, as we do regularly we get better people. They know it’s not just a geriatric institution.

“We do, of course — have young ex-servicemen too. There are 40,000 Vietnam veterans...”

Seventy percent of Veterans Affairs’ staff work is in its hospitals.

Staff numbers in the department have fallen gradually in recent years, despite an increasing workload. Full-time operative staff in 1978-79 totalled 11,180; in 1979-80 it dropped to 11,137; and the figure now is 11,100. Staff ceilings and increasing reliance on new technology accounted largely for these reductions.
SPLIT UNLIKELY

While Veterans’ Affairs is most unlikely to be split like this in the near future because of its growing workload, the possibility cannot be ruled out for the 1990’s.

Until 1990, Veterans Affairs hospitals and benefits machinery will accelerate to handle the major bump caused by 557,300 World War veterans and much of the bump of the 25,000 Korea and Malaya veterans. The bump of Vietnam veterans will come after the turn of the century.

In handling the World War bump, Veterans Affairs’ hospitals’ workloads could increase considerably by 1984-85 and even more to 1989-90, then they will tail off to 2000 when only 181,300 veterans of that war are expected to remain.

A bump occurs when veterans reach 60 years of age receive the service pension and become eligible for treatment.

According to the department’s first assistant commissioner, treatment services, John Muir, “demand for in-patient treatment in our hospitals escalates at about age 60. And World War veterans have an average age of just over 65 years. 

“In fact,” he said “the average age of people admitted to hospital, generally, is 68. At that age people have reached the stage where they need more and more hospital treatment.”

While the overall community has about 300 hospitals admissions a year for a population of 1,000, 80-year-old veterans have about 800 admissions per 1,000.

“By 1990, hospitals run by Veteran Affairs ‘will have a very heavy demand on their system’,” Mr Muir said, “and so, of course, would the department’s administration.”

Question on the impact new technology would have on staff size at Veterans’ Affairs, Sir Richard said it was unlikely to reduce staff numbers considerably. One of the many surprises in Veterans’ Affairs is that it is becoming a young department.

Sir Richard said most of the staff had never been in military service. And he points out, that, at the counter level, keener young staff often try to out-do ex-service colleagues in helpfulness to old Diggers in a kind of reverse camaraderie.

This is the winning essay by Dominique Dinse of Mt Pleasant Primary School in the competition on “Code of Citizenship” conducted by Applecross Sub-Branch.

The “Code of Citizenship”

Having high personal standards means upholding high standards of work, behaviour and general performance. It also means setting a good example for younger children as well as being helpful to your parents and others. It means being independent and not following some other person’s actions, which could lead to trouble.

The following paragraphs contain a few points on this subject.

Firstly, why I should hold high standards: How I act in public would reflect mainly upon my home life and my parents, who have taught me good manners, discipline and integrity.

My behaviour, and good working habits would reflect on my schooling and my teachers.

As stated in my introduction, I can set a good example for young children by acting responsibly and sensibly at large gatherings, on excursions, and in public. If everyone did this, it would make a good name for the school as well as the child who did the deed.

I hope to be able to bring up my children in the same way as I have been brought up, disciplined and well-mannered.

In closing, I think that by exercising these qualities, Australians would gain greater recognition throughout the world and prove welcome ambassadors: I feel proud of this opportunity to represent Mt Pleasant Primary School by expressing my views in this contest.
WALTZING MATILDA IN CHELSEA

The famous Royal Hospital — home of the Chelsea Pensioners — echoed to the strains of "Waltzing Matilda" on Thursday, December 11, at a colorful ceremony that has been held annually for the past 30 years.

This traditionally Australian occasion was the presentation of a huge 100lb Christmas cake to the Chelsea Pensioners. Since 1950, Australian State branches of the RSL each year have taken it in turns to present a cake to the Royal Hospital. This year it was the turn of the WA branch.

The hospital's impressive Great Hall was packed with 180 In-Pensioners (dressed in their distinctive red ceremonial uniforms) and more than 100 Australian and British VIP guests.

Officially presenting the cake, WA Agent General L.W. Slade said the ceremony helped to "reaffirm in a colorful and significant way the strong and binding friendship that exists between our two countries."

He said he had been surprised and delighted to discover in the three years he had been in Britain that the links seemed to be getting stronger all the time.

"In business, education, sport and in many other areas, the exchange of ideas, of new technology and of goodwill are continually reinforcing our existing kinship," he said.

Then, in keeping with tradition, Mr Slade and the oldest active In-Pensioner, 93-year-old Harry Staff, performed the cutting-the-cake ceremony with the Sergeant-Major's sword.

In the background, the band of the Scots Guards, conducted by Major Duncan Beat, played "Click Go The Shears."

In addition to receiving a slice of the cake, each In-Pensioner was given a bottle of beer — but not, as one might imagine, Australian lager. "Most of the In-Pensioners are not over-fond of lager, and much prefer English bitter," says the Royal Hospital's Adjutant, Col Bill Mackay.

Mr Slade, escorted by the Royal Hospital's Governor, Sir Antony Read, then met the In-Pensioners and spoke to a number with Australian connections, including Battery Quartermaster Sergeant Pat Nolan, who visited relatives in Perth in October.

The ceremony was brought to a rousing finale when Sir Antony and the Agents General representing all the States assembled near the band to sing "Waltzing Matilda."

Among the guests were former Governor of WA, Sir Wallace Kyle, now the United Kingdom representative for the RSL.

OLDEST IN-PENSIONER

The oldest in-pensioner at the Royal Chelsea Hospital in London, Harry Staff, cutting the Christmas Cake. With him is L.W. Slade, Agent General for WA, former Governor and now RSL representative on the BCEL. Air Chief Marshal Sir Wallace Kyle and the Governor of the Hospital, Gen Sir Antony Read.
Letter to the Editor

Sir: Reading through the last issue of “The Listening Post”, I am happy to assist as far as I am able, so please accept my small donation of $5.

One item I thought might be of some interest is the Brigadier Wisdom Trophy donated for competition between the 64 platoons of the 7th Brigade held after the Armistice of the Great War at Charleroi, Belgium, on January 16, 1919, and was won by A Platoon of the 28th Bn, of which I was Lieutenant in Command.

The Trophy is engraved with names of all members of the platoon, and is held by 28 Independent Rifle Coy. RWAR for competition within their Company.

In 1977, I was invited to visit the Officers’ Mess at Campbell Barracks where the Trophy then was, and a photo of the Trophy was taken being held between myself and Major John Elliott, who at that time was OC of the Company.

A copy of this photo, with short detail, appeared in the “Australian Army’s “‘The Soldiers’ Newspaper” of October 27, 1977, and the Army was good enough to send me a copy of this issue of the paper.

Many members of the platoon have passed on since those days, but I hope that many, like myself, still survive. At present, I know of only two who, like myself, are members of the 28th Bn Assn.

Recently, one member of the platoon — Rolf Allam — offered to put on a dinner for all surviving members of the platoon if I could locate them.

Can “The Listening Post” help?

I was on parade with a small number of 28th Bn men last Anzac Day, and one of my daughters took some coloured photos.

She also took some coloured photos of some of the bands on parade, which I thought might interest you.

I can be contacted at • C/- Little Sisters of the Poor, Glendalough Home, Mt. Hawthorn, 6016, where my wife and I have a small flat in the Home.

— Our flat is just inside the Rawlin Street entrance gate of the Home, and if you care to call we would be pleased to welcome you or any representative interested.

My phone number is 444 0342. — A.J. (commonly known as Mick) FLANAGAN.

Letter to the Editor

Sir: First of all, let me wish your sub-committee all the best for 1981, and that goes for the RSL in general.

The purport of this letter is as follows: In the Middle East in 1941, about 130 West Australians were transferred from the 24th ITB (2/28, 32, 43 Bns) at Mugas to the 17th Bde (one of whom was the present RSL president Len Turner).

Most of these chaps ended up in the 2/7th Aust Inf Bn, which had been captured in Crete, missing the evacuation. Quite a few of these WXers were still there at the end, when General Adachi surrendered the 18th Japanese Imperial Army to the 2/7 Inf Bn, though there had been a high percentage of casualties — battlewise throughout their service.

I have just received advice that the “2/7th Aust Inf Bn History” has been completed and is in the hands of the publishers. The request that I would like to make is that “The Listening Post” publishes this news in the next edition.

There are quite a number of the 130 still about, but there were scattered, and contact has been lost. I would like them to contact me — Wally Fleming, c/- Anzac Club, Perth, at Lot 6, Jarrahdale Rd, PO Mundijong, WA 6062, or Terry Evans, B3 Dyson Street, South Perth, 6151.

“Just for old times sake”

Particulars re the History — $20 is the slug. Apply to Cec. H. Wilton, Secretary, 2/7th Bn Assoc., 47 Fifth Street, PARKDALE, Vic. 3194.

Names, information wanted

The Australian War Memorial is appealing for names and information to be recorded in a commemorative book of Australians who died while serving in the forces of other Commonwealth countries with Allied forces, in the merchant marines, or as members of philanthropic bodies who served with the Australian forces, e.g. representatives of the Australian Red Cross, Australian Comforts Fund, the YMCA, war correspondents, photographers and artists.

In addition to the commemorative book, a bronze plaque in memory of these Australians will be erected in the Cloisters adjacent to the Roll of Honour.

Research has indicated that official records available for compilation of the commemorative book are neither complete nor accurate. Any information such as full name, organisation/unit in which service was performed, dates of service, and date and place of death would be of great value.

Australians must have served in the following conflicts and died as a result of this service during the following periods:


This information should be forwarded to the Director, Australian War Memorial, P.O. Box 345, Canberra City, ACT 2601.

Nationwide Appeal — Somme 1916

Dear Sir,

I would very much like to hear from men who took part in the Autumn Battles on the Somme 1916 and who would be willing to help me with details concerning various actions.

I am therefore writing to you to ask whether you could consider putting a small notice in your newspaper to this effect. Replies should be sent to the above address.

I intend to write a new account of these battles with individual experiences from both sides. My interests in this stems partly from the fact that my father served with the 17th Kings Royal Rifle Corps there.

I am most grateful for your help in these matters.

Yours sincerely,

Tony de Belder

Uppsala,

SWEDEN.
NATIONAL NEWS DIGEST

MERCHANT MARINERS WHO DIED IN THE WORLD WAR

These personnel are not mentioned on the Commemorative Panels in the cloisters of the War Memorial. So that recognition may be given to them, the Council of the War Memorial has resolved to establish a Commemorative Book, in which the names of both the Merchant Navy and Australian members of Allied Forces are to be recorded and kept on view.

It has been difficult in the past to obtain full records and this is where State and Sub-Branches can help, by reviewing their records so that the National Office can advise the War Memorial.

THE BATTLE OF KAPYONG

On the evening of April 23, 1951, South Korean forces were streaming through the Australian positions in full rout, disrupting Australian telephone communications. The common Chinese attacked 3 RAR in great numbers but the line held, allowing the UN Forces to re-group.

The Battle of Kapyong, on April 24, 1951, was a turning-point in the war in Korea and for, the role that 3 RAR played, they were awarded the US Presidential Citation, a Unit VC.

To commemorate this important battle, RSL Travel have put together an attractive tour at an attractive cost. The length of the tour is 15 days, visiting Manila, Seoul and Taipei, all for $1200.

MEMBERSHIP RECORD?

Ex-gunner Roy Pearson MBE, of Lucinda Point, who served with 108 HB, is in his 90th year and has clocked 62 years of RSL membership.

Can anyone better Roy’s record?

MORE ABOUT HERBICIDES

The RSL National Solicitor has advised that his New York office has provided some information on two of the points that Judge Pratt handed down in his judgment in the Federal District Court late last year:

- There could be a class action against the five chemical company defendants but not against the US Government.
- The chemical companies cannot bring counter suits against the military or the US Government because of the doctrine of Sovereign immunity.

Some excerpts from the Judgment are:

- A class action suit is an appropriate and superior method for a fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy.
- A single trial of common issues has obvious benefits and efficiency...any determinations reached in the class action would bind all defendants as well as all members of the class, except those who chose to opt out.

SAME THING

The RSL has asked the Minister for Veterans’ Affairs to expedite the hearing of a sample of medical cases from Vietnam through the appeal structure of the repatriation system. At present the full appeal procedures were taking up to two years to complete. This is unacceptable.

It is essential that sample cases be given top priority for appeal so that all evidence could be examined by impartial and objective authorities.

It could be quite possible to have a number of cases taken through the entire appeal system, right to the High Court if necessary, within two to three months. In this way the best possible legal opinion can be obtained on the evidence available.

Another matter of concern to the League was the delay in the epidemiological study. This was partly answered in the Minister’s Press Statement of January 14 but it is important that there should be regular progress reports and that nothing be allowed to stand in the way of early results being obtained from the study.

The recently-announced counselling service would be of value, and the League is seeking early consultations with the Minister and with representatives of the Vietnam Veterans Association on the system of counselling to be adopted.

NEW STATE SECRETARY

Vic Cato handed over the State Secretariatship of Tasmania last December. His successor is Wally Sutherland.

Wally served with BCOF, Japan, Korea and Vietnam. He was awarded the MBE in 1976 and was discharged on 31 January 1978, with the rank of WO1.

Wally and his wife, June, have a grown up family.

HMAS “WARRNAMBOOL”

During the afternoon of September 13, 1947, the “Warrnambool” struck a mine whilst on mine-sweeping operations at Cockburn Reef which is north of Cairns in north Queensland. Three officers and 29 ratings were injured in the explosion. Three of whom later died of their injuries. The fourth was presumed lost at sea.

Harbour Defence Motor Launch (HDML)/1326 made an effort to tow the disabled Corvette clear of the minefield and the reef but were unable to do the job due to strong tidal currents. It drifted back to the reef and the mines. It finally turned over and sank.

Due to their size, each HDML had a mother-ship, and No 1326’s mother was “Warrnambool”. The commander of 1326, Lt Schultz, later to be Commander Schultz, later to be National Secretary Schultz, told his telegraphist. “Make to KATOOMBA, ‘do you want to be mother?’” The reply came back, “gratefully accept”.

(NOTE: The Navy makes to”, the Army sends signals)

On October 25, 1980, the wife of Prime Minister Fraser launched the new patrol-boat “Warrnambool” after a simple ceremony of remembrance was held at Cairns.

Wreaths were laid by the Deputy Fleet Commander, NOIC Queensland and a Naval cadet from Cairns.

The Cairns Sub-Branch who initiated and organised the wreath-laying ceremony have offered to provide copies of the programme and the speeches to anyone who is interested.

VCs NOs 25 AND 26

Two more Victoria Crosses have been handed over to the Australian War Memorial, Lt Chowne’s and Maj Badcoe’s.

Lt Albert Chowne won his VC at Dagua (Sepik District) whilst serving with 2/2 Battalion. He enlisted as a private with 2/13 Bn, promoted to corporal in 1941 and received his third stripe in 1942. He served at Alamein and in the campaigns at Loe, Finschhafen and Sattelberg. He won an M.M. at Finschhafen in 1944, he was commissioned and posted to his old Unit. He was transferred to 2/2 Bn just before the Sepik campaign.

It was the first VC to be won by the veteran 6 Div which was forming 5½ years previously. He is buried in the Loe War Cemetery.

Chowne’s Street is just up the road from National Headquarters.

Major Peter Badcoe joined the Australian Training Team Vietnam in August 1966. His VC was awarded for three
separate acts of bravery: under heavy machine gun fire he saved a wounded American; three weeks later he led Vietnamese troops in a successful attack on a heavily fortified position; and a month later, he twice rallied Vietnamese troops, leading an advance on an enemy MG post.

A comment by one of his colleagues was: "He was not brave once or twice, he was brave every day of every week he served there."

Besides his VC, he was honoured with the US Silver Star, the National Order of the Republic of Vietnam (Knight), three Crosses of Gallantry (with Palm, Gold Star and Silver Star) and the Armed Forces Honour Medal (1st Class). He is buried in Terendak Cemetery, Malaysia under the epitaph: "He lived and died a Soldier."

Footnote: The League’s Defence Adviser, Maj Gen D. Vincent, attended the Badcoe presentation because he had a special interest in it. As Task Force Commander, Gen Vincent wrote the Citation that appeared in the Commonwealth Gazette of October 26, 1967.

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**BRAVERY AWARDS**

Item 3, Page 38, of the June 1980 National Executive Meeting resolved:

"that the National Executive be requested to express concern that the Australian Bravery Awards may supplant the Imperial Honours for service and civilian personnel and that a reassurance be obtained from the Government that this will not happen."

This was presented to the Minister for Administrative Services, whose reply is as follows:

"I refer to your resolution concerning Australian and Imperial Bravery Awards.

You will appreciate that the Australian bravery decorations, which were established in February, 1975, form one of elements of the Australian honours system. Nominations for these Australian awards are considered by the Australian Decorations Advisory Committee.

The establishment of the Australian bravery awards does not affect the statutes and regulations of Imperial awards of bravery. These Imperial Bravery awards remain available and the Government can forward recommendations when this is desired and appropriate.

The views expressed in the attachment forwarded have been noted and will be retained for future reference.

KEVIN NEWMAN

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**NEW ANZAC CLUB**

It is anticipated that the Anzac Club, situated in the new Anzac House, will be opened to members in the not too distant future.

New tables, chairs, bars, games room, kitchen — and of course a brand-new lift — will be a few of the features and amenities that all members can enjoy. The new building is on the site of the original Anzac House, corner of Irwin Street and St. George’s Terrace, Perth.

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**A HAPPY BIRTHDAY, 6 DIV**

Forty years ago, in January 1941, six Australian Battalions and two regiments of 25 pdr, plus a Brit Bde and two armoured brigades, attacked Bardia. It was garrisoned by the 62nd, 63rd, 64th and 1st Blackshirt Divisions.

In the Battle of Bardia, the Allies came second, the cost to Australia was 130 killed and 326 wounded. The 16 Bde’s tally of POWs between noon and dusk on January 4 was 10,000, give or take a thousand or two.

On January 21, Tobruk was attacked and fell next day. On the 30th, 6 Div entered Derna and on February 6, the Australians entered Benghazi.

January and February were a busy two months for Australia’s Fighting Sixth and to celebrate events which took place 40 years ago, arak and chianti corks have been heard popping around the countryside.

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**NO BIKE, HE’S FLYING**

This year’s Europe ‘81 Tour that takes in Athens, Cairo, Alex, Crete, etc. will have its own resident padre. He is Rev Alan MacLachlan, an 81-year-old Great War digger who got caught near Niplon (Greece) in the World War.

In the Kaiser’s war, he served with the Royal Naval Flying Service and in 1920 did a 400-mile trek, chasing the Mad Mullah around Somalia. He came to Australia in 1923 but still retains his Presbyterian accent.

He heard the bugle early in November 1939, and served with YMCA and AASC. After his capture in April 1941, his first staging camp was the POW Compound at Corinth, he also knows the compound at Salonika which is on his visiting list. For 2½ years he served as padre at the Naval POW camp near Bremen.

As Presbyterian padres prefer Scotch to beer, word to this effect is being sent to the Hofbrauhaus in Munchen for special arrangements to be made on the night the Tour is entertained by the Afrika Korps.

Padre Mac is leaving his bike back in Croyden (NSW) during May.

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**TWENTY-FOUR HOURS LEAVE**

Again I return home
The train rattles past the plains
The hills far from my hand
And the subalps slide
Red roofs and glare of tin
Post, rails and stations pass the window
Then change of trains and trees crawling by
Are green as I remember trees of home
Then smell of sea and the jolting, climb
Of the home train up the pygmy hill
I am home. I am home, for a day now
I am more than an army number
I am a husband, a father
Tonight I will sleep in a bed
Only the morning will awaken me
I am home.

GHR 547618

LISTENING POST — AUTUMN 1981 — 15
### ANZAC DAY — 1981

PROVISIONAL ORDER OF MARCH

CHIEF PARADE MARSHAL — LT. COLONEL M.A. COUNT, MBE.
ASSISTANT MARSHALS — A.G. DOUGLAS, P. WHITE, D.C.M.

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<td>2/R.A.A.F. 25 Squadron</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R.A.A.F. Contingent</td>
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<tr>
<td>W.A. POLICE PIPE BAND</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W.A. Police Contingent</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. John Ambulance Brigade Contingent</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y.A.L. BAND</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>R.S.L.—State Executive</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand Delegation</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legacy Wards</td>
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<tr>
<td>PERTH FORTRESS SALVATION ARMY BAND</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naval Association of Aust (WA) Section</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canberra/ Shropshire Association</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fleet Air Arm Association</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submarine Old Comrades Assn of W.A.</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W.R.A.N.S.</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merchant Navy</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHANNEL 7 CONCERT BAND</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Mounted 10th Light Horse</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Mounted 10th Light Horse Mounted Reserve</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th Light Horse Regiment</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th Cavalry Division</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royal Australian Armoured Corps</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/2nd Commandos</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/5th Commandos</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/9th Commandos</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Z&quot; Special Force Assn of W.A.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Z&quot; Special Force Australia Inc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>FLOREAT PARK SALVATION ARMY BAND</td>
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<tr>
<td>Royal Aust Artillery Assn of W.A.</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>8th Battery</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/3rd Field Regiment Artillery</td>
<td>35</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/7th Field Regiment Artillery</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/3rd Light A.A. Regiment</td>
<td>12</td>
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<td>SOUTHERN DISTRICTS BAND</td>
<td>36</td>
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<tr>
<td>Engineer Units</td>
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<tr>
<td>R.A.E. Ex-Servicemen’s AAsn</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/6th Field Park Company</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/4th Workshop</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/4th Field Squadron</td>
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<tr>
<td>R.A.E.M.</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guild of Signals Unit Assn of W.A.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7th, 9th Division Signallers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Army Indepdtd Signallers Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pioneers</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>CITY OF PERTH BAND —</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FORM UP LEFT SIDE PIER STREET</td>
<td>11th &amp; 2/11th Battalions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th/52nd Battalions</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MORLEY SALVATION ARMY BAND —</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FORM UP LEFT SIDE OF PIER STREET</td>
<td>16th Battalion AIF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/16th Battalion AIF</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CITY OF BELMONT BAND —</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FORM UP LEFT SIDE OF PIER STREET</td>
<td>28th Battalion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/28th Battalion, 24th Anti-Tank</td>
<td>150</td>
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<tr>
<td>NORTHERN DISTRICTS BRASS BAND —</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>FORM UP NORTH SIDE ST. GEORGE’S TCE</td>
<td>140</td>
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<tr>
<td>AT PIER STREET</td>
<td>Air Force Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W.A.A.F.</td>
<td>60</td>
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<tr>
<td>26 City of Perth Squadron</td>
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<tr>
<td>WESLEY COLLEGE BRASS BAND</td>
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<tr>
<td>460 R.A.A.F. Squadron</td>
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<td>458 R.A.A.F. Squadron</td>
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<tr>
<td>South East Asia Command</td>
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<tr>
<td>HOSPITAL CARS</td>
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<tr>
<td>CITY OF SOUTH PERTH PIPE BAND</td>
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<tr>
<td>32nd Battalion</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/32nd Battalion</td>
<td>60</td>
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<tr>
<td>25th Brigade</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/43rd Battalion</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>44th Battalion</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>PERTH LADIES HIGHLAND PIPE BAND</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>48th Battalion</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/48th Battalion</td>
<td>60</td>
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<tr>
<td>Korea &amp; S.E. Asia Forces Association</td>
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<td>Vietnam Veterans</td>
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<td>S.A.S. Association</td>
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<td>FREMANTLE LADIES HIGHLAND PIPE BAND</td>
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<td>Thirty Niners Association</td>
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<td>Ex.P.O.W. Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>Machine Gunners</td>
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<td>2/3rd Machine Gun Battalion</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/4th Machine Gun Battalion</td>
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<tr>
<td>CITY OF FREMANTLE CALEDONIAN PIPE BAND</td>
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<td>Australian Army Service Corps</td>
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<tr>
<td>Australian Army Medical Corps</td>
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<td>CITY OF GOSNELLS PIPE BAND</td>
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<td>New Zealanders</td>
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<td>Middle East V.A.D. s</td>
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<td>A.W.A.S. (Aust Women’s Army Service)</td>
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<td>W.R.A.A.C. (Women’s Royal Aust Army Corps)</td>
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<td>Red Cross Aides</td>
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<td>WEST AUSTRALIAN IRISH PIPE BAND —</td>
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<tr>
<td>FORM UP IN IRWIN STREET</td>
<td>British Old Contemporaries</td>
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<tr>
<td>Household Guards</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>British Ex-Servicemen’s Association</td>
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<td>KALAMUNDA PIPE BAND</td>
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<td>1940 Dunkirk Veterans Assn</td>
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<td>Pegasus (Parachute) Assn of WA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canadian Ex-Service Personnel</td>
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<tr>
<td>SCOTCH COLLEGE PIPE BAND —</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>FORM UP IN IRWIN ST.</td>
<td>Greek-Australian Ex-Servicemen’s Assn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polish Ex-Servicemen’s Assn</td>
<td>60</td>
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<tr>
<td>Netherlands Ex-Servicemen’s Assn</td>
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</table>

16 — AUTUMN 1981 — LISTENING POST
RIVERVALE-CARLISLE SUB-BRANCH

The following is a resume of president Bob Blake's annual report for 1980.

Thanks go to the Committee who responded to the challenge after a great sesqui-centennial year in 1979.

Receipts on the 1980 Poppy Day were down on previous years, but it was pleasing to note the excellent response by members to man the allotted area for Poppy selling in the city.

One of the outstanding achievements of the Sub-Branch was the support given to the Vietnam veterans' claim on chemical warfare injuries. This resulted in big well-attended special meetings held in our hall, and the formation of a new Sub-Branch consisting only of Vietnam Veterans.

This unfortunately worked against our own Sub-Branch membership, however the main object of membership is to build the strength of the State Branch in general.

Anzac Day Service was again held in conjunction with the Belmont Sub-Branch. This was well-attended and well-organised.

This year we supported a "Girl of the Golden West" candidate, a pleasant and lovely girl, Miss Loretta McGuire. Members accepted the challenge as did the committee, in particular our now retired secretary, Ralph Steggall, and his good wife.

A total of $600 was raised from "trash and treasure." Cash donations totalling $1,400 came from the Sub-Branch which assisted Miss McGuire to reach a grand total of $6,028, and she was crowned "Charity Queen" at the Presentation Ball. Miss McGuire worked tirelessly to bring about her magnificent total.

Support for the Kewdale School Cadets in the form of trophies and books was appreciated by the young people, and Sub-Branch attendance at their marching-out parades was accepted.

Cash donations to the War Veterans' Home, plus two chairs, is the other end of the spectrum showing the Sub-Branch is active in all areas pertaining to returned men and district welfare.

Help us to help them by supporting your Branch. Be an active member and bring a new member along.

Bingo is still being supported well by the public. Members are responding well to the roster system to keep the nights operating. Special thanks to Alan, Reg and Bruce.

Belmont Senior Citizens are using our hall for mid-week day meetings at a special fee.

The Belmont Netball Association winter finals were attended by me and trophies donated by the Sub-Branch were presented.

Once again we make the point that your Sub-Branch is very active. Attend your monthly meetings and show by your support that the spirit of returned men is still alive.

New State Secretary for Tasmania

The new State Secretary for Tasmania is: W.C. Sutherland, MBE, State Secretary, Returned Services League, Tasmanian Branch, Box 421 F, GPO, HOBART, TASMANIA 7001.

RSL continues to help community

The annual general meeting of the Murray sub-branch of the Returned Services League, held on Sunday, December 14, attracted a good turnout of members.

A major item on the agenda was the election of office bearers for the coming year.

Bert Curtis was re-elected president, while George Ashman, already almost a permanent fixture in the role of secretary, was re-elected for yet another term.

Ross Lee continues as treasurer. Mr Lee was also congratulated by members for being honoured with life membership of the league.

The branch has been busy throughout the year raising money and contributing to local worthy causes.

In the final distribution for the year, donations were made to the Pinjarra Community Development Committee ($75), the Murray District Hospital, for amenities in the geriatric ward ($100), the RSL War Veterans Homes ($150), and $25 each to the Pinjarra scouts, Pinjarra guides and Pinjarra pioneer youth group.

The treasurer, in his report, told members that despite ever increasing costs, particularly in shire and PWD rates, and the low rentals charged for hire of the RSL club house, the branch had managed to break even over the past 12 months.

Pleasing features had been the noticeably lower incidence of vandalism to branch buildings and property, and the fine job done by volunteers from the sub-branch and the ladies auxiliary.

In his president's report, Mr Curtis paid tribute to the people of Pinjarra for their continued support of the sub-branch, and urged all local ex-service men and women to join the branch, which offered not only good comradeship but also an opportunity to serve the community.

"BRAVERY IN THE FIELD"

This 28 minute documentary is all about a Great War digger who won an MM but lost a leg. With no war pension, he used to hock his medals and later redeem them when he was flush.

Three young hoods go on a glue-sniffing exercise and when they are nice & high, they beat up a dear little old lady who sells Remembrance Day poppies. Flushed with success, they then turn their attention to the Old Dig, who goes down fighting but not before he lands a well-aimed blow from his walking-stick across a nose.

With nose spread across his face, the glue-sniffer finishes up in the same hospital as the Old Dig. Here he gets all remorseful and realises what a naughty boy he has been.

When his nose gets better, the px-hood returns the poppy money to the dear little old lady, returns the old fellow's gongs and everyone lives happily ever after.

Good stuff!!

This Canadian movie is tastefully done and is available from the High Commission, Commonwealth Avenue, Canberra 2600.
**NARROGIN SUB-BRANCH**

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

In presenting my annual report as the retiring President of 1980, I wish to thank my fellow office bearers in our Secretary — Graham Dawson and our Treasurer Vin Dawson. I am strongly convinced that without the effort, time and energy that these two gentlemen gave to the Sub Branch, we as a Branch would have experienced great difficulty in continuing our services to the members who require assistance and help, which we, of the R.S.L. can give to members and dependents less fortunate than ourselves.

I would also like to thank the committee who on every occasion were always prepared to work to ensure that any function held by the Branch was a success and to the members who readily offered their services at working bees and particularly to Bill Albones for his expertise and labour given in the work he performed to the institute. Also to Geoff Bealey for his position of Acting Treasurer whilst Vin and his wife were enjoying a well earned holiday.

1980 has been quite a sound year for the Branch, however as age and retirement have affected our physical numbers at meetings, it is very pleasing to see the same band of strong members attend our monthly meetings regularly.

Anzac Day services were well attended and the branch was also well represented at the school services of the Primary and High Schools. A large contingent and their wives also attended a dawn service at the Agricultural School.

Annual Reunion was socially a great success with representation from neighbouring sub branches. My thanks also to the members who represented this branch at the group conference held at Lake Grace and the most informative report they gave of it. Perhaps the most enjoyable function held was the family Xmas tree, at which the Sole Parents Club were our guests.

This branch is most fortunate that we have a small but strong Womens Auxiliary who have supported us throughout the year. They have combined with our members as collectors for our street appeals. To these ladies and our members who performed these duties and gave us their time I personally say Thank You.

Our Ladies have willingly responded to our requests for assistance for Wreath Making for Anzac Day, catering for our social evenings and through their hard work and efforts have made a very handsome donation to this Branch. To our Ladies I say Thank You with sincere appreciation of your work to this branch.

When elected to the Chair in February 1980 I was hopeful of success by becoming fully involved in several projects. However, Gentlemen, I must apologise because as the months of 1980 passed by, I was soon to discover that my ambitions as your President were being subdued owing to increased pressures of my work, a situation which I sincerely apologise for, in as much that I could not give the Branch my fullest support.

In closing I ask that you give your incoming President, Office Bearers and Committee your fullest support and that 1981 be another good year for the Sub Branch.

Finally it is with deep regret that we mourned the passing away of Members in 1980 and I ask you all to stand in remembrance of these members.

**J.G. CRANFIELD, President. 12/2/81**

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**YOUTH ACTIVITIES**

In the past five years, the Servite College Cadet Unit has become very closely associated with the Mt Hawthorn Sub-Branch of the RSL. On Anzac Day each year they present a wreath of remembrance. Originally this was presented to the Sub-Branch for their service held each year in their hall in Oxford Street, Leederville, but commencing last year the wreath is now appropriately laid by the Cadets themselves on the War Memorial, King’s Park.

So it was with great pleasure that the Mt Hawthorn Sub-Branch received and accepted an invitation to attend the cadets’ passing-out parade on Sunday, October 26, 1980. Quite a large crowd of interested people including parents and special guests attended the parade held on the parade ground of Servite College.

Captain O’Riley is to be congratulated on the smart appearance and proficiency of both the senior and the junior cadets, who were reviewed by Commanding Officer of No 5 Cadet Group, Major J. Langridge, with Jack Shanahan, Principal of Servite College and Gordon Gregson, ex-principal of Tuart Hill on the dais.

After the march past, numerous awards were given to outstanding cadets. The chief award was won by WO2 Steven Slinger. This was the Headmaster’s Award.

I am pleased to report that the Sub-Branch has passed a motion to award a trophy for 1981 to the cadets. This, with trophies to the Mt Hawthorn Primary School and also to the Gangemi Dancing Class, is an indication of the Sub-Branch’s interest in youth activities. — F.G. NEAL

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**PENSION SCHEME**

Item X 2(d) page 29 of the December 1980 National Executive Minutes resolved:

> "that action be taken to pursue the PNG ex-servicemen’s pension scheme and the PNG armed constabulary matters and at an appropriate time a Press release should be made stating the RSL’s strongly held views on the lack of action on the part of the Australian Government”

This was presented to the Minister for Veterans’ Affairs whose reply is as follows:

> "I refer to your letter concerning resolutions relating to the Papua New Guinea Government’s request for financial assistance in making gratuity payments to PNG nationals who served during the World War, and former members of the Royal Papuan Constabulary and for the extension of repatriation benefits to former members of the constabulary.

> "The matter of Australian Government contribution to the PNG Government’s gratuity scheme is receiving detailed consideration and the League’s concern about this matter is well known.

> "The question of extending repatriation benefits to former members of the Royal Papuan Constabulary is also a matter for the Government to consider. However, at this time, the situation remains the same as previously advised.”

— TONY MESSNER
Successful Geraldton RSL YEAR

Another highly successful year during which the Geraldton Sub-Branch won the Collett Cup for the outstanding rural sub-branch of the year for the 17th time, was reported by president Graham Till at the annual general meeting on February 9.

He said financial membership had risen slightly to 173 and there had been improved attendances at monthly meetings, but there was a need for more of the younger veterans to take part in Sub-Branch affairs.

Mr Till said donations made by the Sub-Branch during the year totalled more than $2,500. Those to benefit included the War Veterans’ Home at Mt. Lawley; the Regional War Veterans’ Home at Geraldton; Legacy; The Aged Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen’s Relief Fund; Lions Club Lifepak portable cardiac care system appeal; and Naval Cadets. Money-raising efforts reached more than $3,000, including $1,550 for the Girl of the Golden West Quest.

Referring to Anzac Day, the president said the participation of many young people, including army and naval cadets, augured well for the retention of the occasion as a Day of Remembrance and not merely a public holiday.

The annual pilgrimage to the War Cemetery at Utakarra had been highlighted by the presence of a State Executive member Norm Healy, who expressed the opinion that very few people outside the Geraldton region realised the size of the Cemetery where 83 servicemen and women who were killed or died in the Geraldton area during the World War were buried. Mr Till commended the action of Ern Wick in subsequently replacing the broken jars used to hold flowers in the Cemetery.

He also said that he had been honoured to present the naval cadets of training ship “Morrow” with their new colours made available by the Sub-Branch.

A print of the painting of the Battle of Kapyong in Korea in which Three Battalion Royal Australian Regiment took part was presented to the Sub-Branch by Derek Andrews who served in Korea and by the Sub-Branch secretary, Mrs Pam Burgess, whose deceased husband, Ken, was in this 1951 battle which earned a Citation for its participants.

RSL APOLOGY

We are delighted to report the following two members in excellent health. Due to circumstances beyond our control they were included in the deceased lists.

M. KNEZEVICH, Kelmscott Sub-Branch 501. Yugoslav Army.

E.G.G. JACKSON, Bicton-Palmyra Sub-Branch WX 450 2/11 Bn.

AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION (W.A. DIVISION) INC.

Five Branches and seven Groups meet monthly at Air Force Memorial Estate, Benningfield Road, Bullcreek. Air Force Association Club open to members daily.

State President Mr. L. Gordon. Further information obtainable from State Secretary, Mr. A.V. Elliott. Tel 332 7205.

WOMAN OFFICER

A second woman Officer of the Geraldton Sub-Branch in Mrs Pearl Hodgson, previously of the Carnarvon Sub-Branch, was elected treasurer at the annual general meeting. She joins the top table with Mr Pam Burgess, who was re-elected secretary for her second year and Graham Till, who was re-elected president, also for his second year.

One of the younger members, Derek Andrews, who served in Vietnam and Korea, is the new senior vice-president, while Ron Rake is the new junior vice-president.

Re-elected to office were membership officer John Spendlove; veterans’ affairs officer Bill Cunningham; Birdwood House Trust members, Bill Cunningham and Clem Burns; hospital visitor Clem-Burns; public relations officer Peter Barden; and auditors Bill Cunningham and Reg Warnett.

(B) A former president, vice-president and secretary of the Canning Districts Sub-Branch, Peter Brown, was elected to the management committee which includes Messrs Cunningham; Fred Heath, Burns, Spendlove and Joe Willers.

Peter was also elected to the Geraldton Regional War Veterans’ Home Committee which includes Messrs Warnett (chairman), Cunningham and Burns and Mrs Burgess.

Bert Lock, aged 90, who has been an RSL member for 60 years, again occupied the chair for the election of officers. The president welcomed new member Vic Painter to the meeting.

Several members volunteered to be collectors for the street appeal for the local Refuge Home for Women and Children on March 20. — B.J.B.

CHRISTMAS SURPRISE

The ABC’s regional journalist at Geraldton, Bernard Joseph (“Peter”) Barden, received an unexpected Christmas present -- Life Membership of the RSL.

The Certificate, signed by the National President and other National Officers, was presented to Mr Barden by another Life Member, Bill Cunningham.

Life Member Clem Burns presented Mr Barden with his Life Membership badge and also with a miniature Life Membership badge.

The recipient has been public relations officer of the Geraldton Sub-Branch during most of his 24 years in the town and has contributed regularly to “The Listening Post” and to the local news media.

In addition, he compiles the annual submission for the Colonel Collett Cup competition for the WA rural sub-branch with the most meritorious service of the year -- a competition which Geraldton has won 17 times.

Mr Barden said it was a pleasure to be PRO for such a virile sub-branch, which received outstanding support from its women’s auxiliary, which had won the Country Cup 18 times as the outstanding country auxiliary in WA.

Members of the women’s auxiliary joined sub-branch members for a Christmas Party after their December meeting.

They enjoyed a bountiful supply of chicken and coleslaw which Mr Barden won in a competition in which organisations were asked why they would like Kentucky Fried Chicken to cater for their Christmas functions.

G. TILL (President).
ASSOCIATED LADIES COMMITTEE (R.S.L.)


To the wives of Congress Delegates and other Ladies interested in R.S.L.

In an effort to present a different format for our Annual Congress gathering, your Committee has planned a bus trip, combined with a picnic luncheon.

The bus trip will be by courtesy of Alcoa of Australia Ltd, to visit their various venues. These tours have been strongly recommended to us and the buses will be provided by the Company, free of charge, and the day will be completely informal. A picnic lunch will be catered for, but your “mug” for a cuppa — if possible — will help. Total cost $4.00 per person.

Buses leave Bus Stop in the Esplanade near Howard Street, (Just around the corner toward William Street, from R.S.L. Headquarters — Sherwood Court) at 9 a.m. SHARP, and those travelling are urged to be ‘early’. The return journey will be via Mandurah and the Coast Road — arriving back in Perth approximately 4 p.m.

As numbers will be limited to 80 passengers, will you please return the enclosed form promptly with remittance (Before June 8th, 1981) — to Associated Ladies Committee (R.S.L.) C/- Anzac House, Box C 128, G.P.O., Perth.

OR

Mrs. C. Bruce, 18 Minibah Street, Wembley Downs. 6019.

N.B. Cheques payable to the Associated Ladies Committee (R.S.L.)

NORMA TURNER
The Associated Ladies Committee (R.S.L.)

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ASSOCIATED LADIES COMMITTEE (R.S.L.)

BOOKING FORM — BUS TRIP JUNE 20th, 1981.

NAME(S): .................................................................
ADDRESS(ES): .......................................................................
SUB-BRANCH OR ORGANISATION: ...............................................
[If Applicable]
REMITTANCE — CHEQUE ..................................................
— CASH ........................................................................

20 — AUTUMN 1981 — LISTENING POST
R.S.L. GIRL OF THE GOLDEN WEST QUEST

During the last twenty years the R.S.L. and Torchbearers for Legacy have conducted a quest 'Miss Crowning Glory' jointly, to raise funds for Legacy, widows, children and the R.S.L. War Veterans' Home.

Torchbearers for Legacy have now decided to discontinue their partnership in this Quest, and the R.S.L. has decided to continue with the Quest as funds raised are urgently required to maintain the War Veterans' Homes.

The State Executive wish all Sub-Branches to be involved in the Quest as we will need their full co-operation and support. Should any Sub-Branch not be in a position to support a Candidate themselves, they may seek assistance from another Sub-Branch in a joint effort.

We have been successful in obtaining prizes from previous Sponsors, and brochures will be printed, and forwarded as soon as they become available. In the meantime an ENTRY FORM is enclosed herewith in order that Sub-Branches can get their Committees working and approach and select Candidates immediately.

R.S.L. GIRL OF THE GOLDEN WEST QUEST

ENTRY FORM

To be accompanied by a black and white photograph of the Candidate in an 'interest' setting. (All photographic reproduction rights shall be vested with the RSL Girl of the Golden West Quest Committee)

I wish to enter the 1981 RSL GIRL OF THE GOLDEN WEST QUEST:

DATE: 1981

My relevant personal details are:

NAME (in block letters) .............................................

ADDRESS ................................................................. Post Code

TELEPHONE NUMBER: HOME ........................................ BUSINESS

OCCUPATION .................................................................

WHERE EMPLOYED .....................................................

MARITAL STATUS ............................................................

HOBBIES, INTERESTS ....................................................

SPORTS, etc .................................................................

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN/SECRETARY ................................

NAME .................................................................

ADDRESS .................................................................

POST CODE .............. PHONE ........................................

I/We hereby agree to abide by all conditions set out in the published form of Condition of Entry, and also agree to remit all monies raised to: The Hon. Secretary, RSL Girl of the Golden West Quest Committee, G.P.O. Box C128, Perth 6001, irrespective of whether or not the qualifying amount of $300 is reached.

I/We certify that the Candidate named has attained the age of 18 years:

Signature of Candidate

Chairsman or Secretary of Committee
Welcome to a bright New Year

Welcome to a bright new year, may I wish you a happy and prosperous 1981.

Once again, Executive members packed and delivered our Christmas Cheer parcels, a much loved chore. This year we varied our parcels according to the recipients needs, and Sully and I spent a full day sorting out socks, shirts, and pyjamas etc. for the different Homes and hospitals.

I am sure everyone was pleased with their parcel, made possible by the generous donations by the Auxiliaries. Thank you so much for your good work and continuous support to this Fund.

The end of the year is always a busy time, so many functions to attend, and we thank the various organisations for their invitation and their hospitality.

The Millen-Victoria Park Auxiliaries’ “Fun and Friendship Day” was a happy one, with those attending enjoying the games and luncheon. We were pleased to have the Vietnam Veterans Auxiliary girls with us, and look forward to seeing them at other functions.

While I was attending the Kojonup Sub-Branch and Auxiliary Dinner on November 8, Mrs Rolfe attended the Cockburn Sub-Branch and Auxiliary Dinner and presented Life Membership to Mrs Chilcott, and Certificates of Service to Mrs Kelly and Mrs Beccaria.

Mrs Preedy and Mrs McPartland laid the Auxiliary wreath during the Service at the State War Memorial on Remembrance Day and Mrs Holder represented the Executive at the Service at the War Veterans’ Home. I attended the Girl of the Golden West Ball.

Cunderdin Auxiliary held their Christmas Luncheon on November 20 and their guests included Members of Executive and representatives of Auxiliaries from the surrounding districts. Although a hot day for travelling, we all enjoyed meeting members and exchanging Auxiliary news.

On November 26, I caught the Australind to Waroona where the Auxiliary, together with the Harvey and Murray District Auxiliaries, held an informal luncheon to give me the opportunity to meet the members and to thank them for their work in helping to care for our Ex-servicemen and women, and perhaps answer queries on Auxiliary work and function.

BUSY WEEKEND

George and I attended the Scarborough Sub-Branch and Auxiliary Dinner on November 28, the start of a busy weekend, as Kath Adams and I were among the guests at the Mandurah Sub-Branch and Auxiliary Dinner on the Saturday and George and I enjoyed, the Millen Auxiliary Christmas Tea for the residents of the War Veterans’ Home at the Millen Hall on the Sunday.

On the Monday, Sully, Maisie and I enjoyed a Birthday Luncheon with the Millen girls, George and I attended the Garden Party at Government House on December 4 and next day, after delivering Christmas Cheer parcels at the War Veterans’ Home, Executive members catered for the Leagues “At Home”.

Mrs Sullivan and I had the pleasure of attending the Rockingham Auxiliary annual Meeting and we thanked our host and hostess for their transport and hospitality.

It was a pleasant drive to Northam on December 10 when Mrs Minson (our driver), Mrs Sullivan, Mrs Angel and I enjoyed the hospitality of the Auxiliary at their Christmas luncheon. I had the pleasure of presenting Mrs Sunderland with her Life Membership.

George and I were among the guests at the happy Christmas Party at the War Veterans Home and we have attended civic receptions at Council House for two visiting Ambassadors.

While spending Christmas with our family at Falcon, we called in to see George and Vi Symington, who in January celebrated their golden wedding. Vi is still her bright self, keeps her, cheery smile and sends her greetings to all her friends in Auxiliaries.

Mandurah Sub-Branch and Auxiliary are going to miss two of their faithful members, Frank and Allison Cayley, who have moved to the City. I am sure we will see Allison busy as a member in another Auxiliary soon.

Sully and Maisie have been attending to their duties after the break over the festive season; there is always banking and correspondence to see to.

Our first Executive meeting was on February 9, and I hope the girls have enjoyed their rest and are looking forward to another busy but rewarding year.

Don’t forget that agenda items etc are due soon, as our Conference is just around the corner.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the League for the transport provided to allow myself and members of Executive to attend country Sub-Branch and Auxiliary functions. This is greatly appreciated by us all.

Until next time
Regards,
JOY FORD
(State President)

WOMEN’S AUXILIARY STATE EXECUTIVE:

State president: Mrs Ford, 7 Read St, E. Victoria Park. 6101 Tel: 361 3867.

State secretary: Mrs Sullivan, 49/9th Avenue, Maylands 6051. (Tel 271-9724)

22 — AUTUMN 1981 — LISTENING POST
Great War Sisters die in 1980

The year 1980 saw the passing of Eulalie Margaret Hamersley and Allana Annie Gray, members of the Returned Sisters' Sub-Branch, both Great War Sisters, who with their colleagues had been involved in maintaining the Branch during its formative years.

EULALIE MARGARET HAMERSLEY, who died on May 13, 1980, was related to a well-known pioneer family of the same name and was one of the first group of five nurses to be accepted for nurse training at the Perth Childrens' Hospital (now PMH) when it opened in 1909.

On completion of the three-year period, she joined the staff of the Fremantle Public Hospital for adult nursing experience and in 1915 enlisted in the Australian Army Nursing Service, sailing for overseas service on the "Mooltan" on May 24, 1915. She subsequently saw service both in the Middle East and in France.

Following her discharge from active service, Miss Hamersley nursed privately as a member of the Australasian Trained Nurses' Association Club at No. 9 Mount which provided nurses for community care, and in 1927 undertook midwifery training at the King Edward Memorial Hospital, in Subiaco.

On joining the Medical Department, Miss Hamersley was appointed relieving matron and nursed in an incredible number of hospitals in widely-scattered parts of the State, including Kununoppin, Dalwallinu, Coolgardie, Donnybrook, Southern Cross, Cue Wyalkatchem, Carnarvon and Mornington Mills.

During the World War, she joined the staff of the Receiving Home for Wards of the State in Walcott Street, Mt. Lawley and finally the Repatriation Department at the Edward Millen Home in East Victoria Park.

For many years following her retirement, Miss Hamersley lived on her property at Kalamunda and attended meetings and functions of the Sub-Branch until frailty necessitated admission to a nursing home where she died.

ALLANA ANNIE GRAY was one of a group of trainees of the Perth Children's Hospital who enlisted in the Australian Army Nursing Service in 1917 and saw service in India and on return from active service undertook Midwifery training at the King Edward Memorial Hospital Subiaco in 1921.

Her main interest, however, was in the nursing of ex-servicemen who were mentally ill, and to this end she undertook further training and gained her "Mental" Certificate to enable her to join the Repatriation Department staff at Lemnos Hospital where she remained until retirement.

For a short time, Miss Gray was a guest at the Howes Wing of the War Veterans' Home, but disability made it advisable for her to be admitted to a nursing home where she was happy and comfortable. She died on December 15, 1980.

Poppy Day and the WA Aged Fund

The WA Branch of the RSL has conducted the Poppy Day appeal each year since the end of the Great War. The proceeds from the sale of poppies and wreaths has provided relief of the aged and the needy. In the early years the proceeds were divided between the RSL relief fund and the various sub-branch amelioration funds, and in 1932 the WA Aged Sailors and Soldiers' Relief Fund Trust was established by an Act of Parliament.

The Act directed that half the net proceeds of the annual Poppy Day appeal should be paid into the trust fund which, it was enacted, should be applied for the benefit of aged or invalid sailers, soldiers and nurses eligible for membership of the League, and for widows of soldiers or sailors who fought in the Great War (1914-1918).

Later amendments gave the League the sole right to conduct the annual appeal, included the word "Airmen's" in the title and extended the eligibility for relief for those who served in the 1939-45 and later wars.

The object of the fund was to dispense out-door relief to aged ex-servicemen and their dependants; to augment a measure pension in necessitous cases and relieve hardship in ex-service homes.

In practice the latter of the two methods has been the one chiefly employed.

In 1980, 60 persons received an average grant of $20 per month. The maximum number of persons to whom grants were made in any one year was 160 in 1961, but since then, due mainly to deaths, the number has declined rapidly.

Total grants paid from the Trust in the past five years are as follows: 1976 — $10,955.00; 1977 — $10,915.00; 1978 — $10,879.00; 1979 — $10,765.82; 1980 — $17,536.20.

It is certain that the number of applicants from the Great War will continue to decrease; it is equally certain that steadily increasing applications for relief will be received from the ageing veterans of the World War, 1939-45.

For this reason the trustees of the fund, with the assistance of generous grants from the Anzac Day Trust and continuance of the Annual Poppy Day Trust Appeal, are using the present interregnum to build up the fund.

The care of the aged is in safe and sympathetic hands. Trustees are always pleased to hear from sub-branch officials who might be aware of eligible persons requiring assistance.

References: Returned Sisters' Sub-Branch records; Membership records of Nurses' Board of WA; "The West Australian" May and December 1980; Victoria Hobbs, "But Westward Look" — History of Nursing in Western Australia. 1980; personally knowing Miss Hamersley and Miss Gray and their friends and colleagues. — VICTORIA HOBBS.

A THOUGHT FOR YOU

MAY YOU LIVE AS LONG AS YOU WANT, AND MAY YOU NEVER WANT AS LONG AS YOU LIVE. — H. BLACKSTONE

LISTENING POST — AUTUMN 1981 — 23
COMO SUB-BRANCH NEWS ON CODE OF CITIZENSHIP

Como visited three schools in 1979 — Como Primary, Collier Primary and Penrhos College. We met and discussed the proposal of the Code of Citizenship with each of the Principals in turn. The small delegation from the Como Sub-Branch were excellently received and came away most pleased that each school and the college would be very proud to receive the framed certificate from the Sub-Branch and adopting the ideals in its conception. The presentation of the certificates were duly made during R.S.L. Week by President Mr Watson and Vice President Mr Blakers to the scholars chosen to receive them on behalf of the schools and college.

A further development was the idea that the Sub-Branch could improve on and follow up the above presentation, by annually awarding to a boy and girl student, a certificate to be known as the “Junior Citizen of the Year Award” based on upholding the ideals embodied in the Code of Citizenship. Presidents the task was given of coming up with a Junior Citizen Award and a suitable Honour Board that would be a worthy reminder to those passing through the school.

The Honour Board is of Laminated Jarrah. It carries in colour the crest of the League at the top central point of the Board and at the bottom a Poppy of Remembrance. All inscribing has been carried out in gold lettering. The centre of the Board carries the wording of the Code of Citizenship while on each flank of the Code provision has been made for annual inscription of the names of the successful boy and girl student. Judging of the winner is the overall task of the Principal and his staff.

It was agreed that the Sub-Branch conduct a pilot scheme in the first instance and as Collier School already had a “Citizenship Award” scheme in operation, this school was selected to be first to participate. Close liaison was maintained with the school Principal (Mr. S. Payne) in the design and preparation of the certificates and the Honour Board.

On October 15th, at a most excellent Annual Presentation of school prizes, Como Sub-Branch was privileged and honoured to make the presentation to the students (Karen Crew and Hudson Lynes) and to Mr Payne who received the Honour Board on behalf of the school.

An open invitation is extended to anyone interested to see the Honour Board so proudly hanging in Collier Primary School.

In the year 1981 it is hoped the Como Sub-Branch will be able to expand this award scheme to the other school and college in their area.

D. WATSON
President
Como-Sub-Branch

SERVICE MEMBERSHIP

The requirements for Service Membership still appear to be misunderstood: Cards are available from Anzac House — “Notes for the information of Service Members or prospective Service Members of the R.S.L.” and “Application for Service Membership.” These are free to members and non-members for the asking, at the front counter.

The main points covering Service Membership are:
1. Any person is eligible who has served for at least six months in the Armed Forces of (a) the Commonwealth of Australia; (b) any country presently or formerly a member of the Commonwealth of Nations; (c) any country or place presently or formerly a Crown Colony of the United Kingdom; or (d) the USA.
2. No person shall be admitted as a Service Member if he or she is eligible to be an Ordinary Member.
3. A Service Member shall have the same rights, privileges and duties as an Ordinary Member — except that he/she will not be eligible to hold office as National President; as a member of the State Executive; or as president of a sub-branch.

It is anticipated that the RSL will consist of Mainly Service Members. This means that the above minor restrictions must lapse in the course of time.

Since its introduction in 1976, Service Membership has added a considerable number of excellent members throughout Australia.

The current figure for Western Australia is just under 1,000 with many holding office in sub-branches. The potential runs into many tens of thousands.

All we need to do is to reach them.

R.J. NYMAN

VALE

GALLIPOLI VETERAN DIES

The City of Perth Sub-Branch lost one of its oldest members with the passing away recently of Jack Syme. With his death the number of men who landed at Gallipoli in 1915 reduces the figure to approximately 100.

Jack had been a hard worker for ex-servicemen for many years. Not only was he a member of the League, but had been president of the 10th Light Horse Association and also president of the Gallipoli Legion of Anzacs.

Whilst visiting Kalgoorlie recently State Executive member Mike Hall (right) met George (Rip) Hayhow (left) Eastern Goldfields Vice-President and President of Kalgoorlie Sub-Branch, and Frank Ward, Secretary of the Sub-Branch.

24 — AUTUMN 1981 — LISTENING POST
Rockingham Sub-Branch

The annual general meeting of the Rockingham District Sub-Branch was held on Saturday, February 7, and a record number of members attended.

This marked the conclusion of an increasingly successful year, with membership steadily rising. During 1980, a 15 per cent improvement in financial members was effected.

The important feature of the increasing membership is the interest shown by men and women of younger years, and these include not only Korean and Vietnam Veterans, but also those currently serving.

Welfare officers of the RSL cater for regular visits to the Shoalwater and Rockingham nursing homes, as distinct from personal calls to elderly and hospitalised veterans.

It is the intention of the Sub-Branch later this year, through its welfare officer, to help those in need of assistance in interpreting the work carried out by the parent body, and in any matter needing experienced help in dealing with the Dept of Veterans Affairs.

The members of the Sub-Branch also willingly share in the programmes such as Red Cross, Poppy Day and Quest Appeals, all aimed at the ever-growing need to make easier the lot of the not so fortunate.

Again, the Rockingham RSL has taken a keen interest in the naval patrol craft “Acute”, operating from HMAS “Stirling”, and its crew, under the Command of Lt. Daryl Nield — all of whom are on transfer to other ships. The new crew under Lt. Lyn Walter will be made equally welcome when they settle in.

During the year, several social outings have been exchanged, for the locals, including a tour of the “Stirling” base, a guided inspection on an American nuclear submarine, and a Christmas barbecue on the Base foreshore.

Anzac Day, as organised by the RSL in Rockingham, is expected to be bigger than ever this year. All service bodies not already aware of the arrangements for the parade on that day, are very welcome to take part.

Interested parties, in whatever field or area outlined above, are advised that information can be had from the Hon Sec, D.A. Aplin, (095) 277-815.

SCARBOROUGH RSL NOTES

By JIM HUGILL

The annual Sub-Branch dinner was held on November 28, 1980. It was a successful night with good old-time music which was enjoyed by all. State president Len Turner, and State Women’s Auxiliary president, Mrs J. Ford, gave reports on the State position.

Two Certificates of Service were presented during the evening, to George Halnan and myself.

We have now paid out on several death benefit requests for financial members of our Sub-Branch. Those eligible should contact the secretary for further information.

At the last meeting President A. Brown gave his report for the year in which a number of donations were made to different organisations, including Legacy and Headquarters Furnishing Fund for the new club.

He gave his thanks to the members for their support during the past year and to the ladies for the several social evenings they had arranged in their homes.

The Sub-Branch continues to attract the numbers, in both summer and winter, since we have held our meetings at the Doubleview Bowling Club.

The election of officers for the forthcoming year resulted: President, A. Brown; senior vice-president, J. Bartlett; junior vice-president, J. Hugill; Hon. secretary, H. Grafton; treasurer, S. Lewis; minute secretary, S. Lewis; auditor, R. Loxton; mem. officer, R. Kolin; committee, N. Elms, B. Jones, J. Bailey, R. Kolin, A. Denigh, D. Angus; trustees, A. Brown, J. Hugill; funeral benefits committee. A. Brown, J. Bartlett, H. Grafton.

ON A FULL-TIME BASIS

The Welfare and Counselling Service is now available on a full-time basis at Anzac House during the normal office hours. It is suggested though, if possible, an appointment be made if you are seeking help, as this could save you a wasted journey if I am visiting a Hospital or needy family.

Assistance is offered by the League to all ex-servicemen and women, and I have been pleased to note that in recent months more ex-servicewomen and war widows have come forward with their problems.

However, I must point out that the League does not offer a legal service. If you wish to discuss your legal problems, we can refer you to the appropriate source, be it legal aid or a private lawyer. We know they have the ex-service persons’ interests at heart.

Over the past 12 months, we have had approximately 1,439 ex-service personnel contact the Welfare and Counselling Service for assistance, and it can be seen by the following figures that there has been quite an increase in those requesting help or advice.

In 1978, there were 978 cases; in 1979, 1,244; and in 1980, 1,439.

BEVERLEY N. SWAN
(Welfare Officer)

LISTENING POST — AUTUMN 1981 — 25
WEARING OF PRIVATE MEDALS

Item 3(d) page 32 of the December 1980 National Executive Minutes reads:

"that approval be sought from Her Majesty The Queen for the wearing of private medals such as the Greece and Crete Medal, the Somme Medal and other similar medals, in conjunction with those approved by Her Majesty."

It was resolved "that no action be taken on this matter but that the National Executive circulate routine orders to State Branches covering the wearing of medals."

The question of wearing private medals has been raised from time to time and I quote below extracts from Departmental letters on this subject:

(a) "As you will be aware Government House is the authority on the wearing of insignia. We are, however, pleased to advise that only medals and decorations awarded and approved by Her Majesty The Queen may be worn on the left breast."

(b) "The proposal by the Greek authorities to award the commemorative medallion had been brought to my notice previously in connection with the recent Battle of Crete celebrations.

"There are strict rules which do not allow Australian servicemen and ex-servicemen to wear foreign decorations and medals issued in respect of campaigns already recognised by British or Australian awards. This, of course, is the case in respect of the Greek campaign of 1941."

"However, as it is a commemorative medallion and not a campaign medal, there is no objection to the medallion being issued on a personal basis to Australian survivors of the campaign. It may not be worn on Service uniform and should not be worn on a medal bar with officially approved decorations and medals."

THE UNWRAPPED CHOCOLATE SOLDIER

You saw him in your town, a-strolling down the street,
You saw him in his uniform that always looked so neat.
You heard him in the dance hall with your hand upon his shoulder,
Cussing fate and his bad luck the unwrapped Chocolate Soldier.

You labelled him a 'Choco' because he did not fight,
You thought he didn't have the guts to stick up for the right,
You heard him in the bar and if you felt a little bolder,
You didn't hesitate to say 'another Chocolate Soldier'.

But now your tone is different when war is at your door,
You rarely hear the saying 'Chocolate Soldier' any more,
By God, you'll thank your maker, before you are much older,
For the man who kept the Japs away — the unwrapped Chocolate Soldier.

You don't know how he cursed the flies and swore at dirt and heat,
He's put away the uniform that always looked so neat,
He wears a ragged pair of shorts, a shirt when it is colder,
He's putting up with pests and flies — the unwrapped Chocolate Soldier.

He's living in a leaky tent, his rations often short,
He thinks of all the steak and eggs, the beer that once he bought,
But when the Zeros fill the sky, his rage begins to smoulder,
When he sees his coppers fall and die the unwrapped Chocolate Soldier.

His "ack-ack" guns and small arms too were shields of your defence,
His body first to take the blow and if you're not too dense,
You'll take your hat off to the man before you are much older,
The man you used to spurn and name — 'another Chocolate Soldier'.

Relics Acquired

The first Distinguished Service Medal received by the War Memorial was donated by Mrs Johnston, of Orbost, Victoria. It was awarded to her late husband for bravery on motor launches during the withdrawal from Tobruk. Mrs Johnston also gave her husband's other medals, and had earlier presented his uniforms from the 1939-45 War.

A rare collection of 15 different RAN sailor's cap bands dating from 1914 to 1939 was given by Mr K. Gottard, and the original casting of the ship's crest of HMAS Platypus, dating from 1917, was donated by Mrs F. Twiss.

An outstanding group of 1914-18 War medals was provided by Mrs D. Cilmson, of England, including her late husband's Military Cross and Military Medal and Bar. The MM and bar of Lance Corporal E.A. Sykes, 31 Bn AIF, and the MMs of Private J.V. Solomon, 25 Bn AIF, and Private V.M. Ogden, 34 Bn AIF, were also received. A Military Cross awarded to Lieutenant C. Styan-Browne, 43 Bn AIF, who also served in the Boer War, and a rare China Medal (1900) awarded to Stoker W.H. Horricks, an Australian, for service on HMS Protector during the Boxer Rebellion were purchased by the War Memorial.

HONOURS

CONGRATULATIONS

Mr. Len Turner, State President of the R.S.L. in Western Australia, was awarded the Member of the British Empire, in the New Year's Honour List. Len has been an outstanding and dedicated member of the League since 1944 and was elected State President in October 1980.

Congratulations are also extended to The Reverend Rabbi Dr. Shalom Coleman, C.B.E. of Mt. Lawley. Mr. Peter A. Haynes, O.B.E. (Broome Sub-Branch) and Mr. A.R. Connell, A.M. (Bicton-Palmira Sub-Branch).

Mr. Tom Doyle, K. St. J. (Margaret River Sub-Branch) received the highest award of the St. John Ambulance Association that of Knight of Grace of the Order of St. John Jerusalem.
BOWLS CARNIVAL

The Sam Crook Memorial RSL fours carnival was held at the Kojonup Bowling Club on January 15, 1981. It continues to draw ex-servicemen together for a pleasant day’s competition, and 22 teams played four games of 12 ends.

Notices of the carnival were sent to 26 clubs. Players came from Albany, Emu Point, Mt Barker, Broomhill, Borden, Busselton, Wagin and Katanning and joined the Kojonup chaps for a great day’s bowling.

The carnival was first held in 1976, and the winning groups have their names inscribed on the Sam Crook Shield which is kept in a showcase in the Kojonup Bowling Club.

These are the winners of the Shield since its inception:
1976: T. Beveridge (skipper), M. Baker (third), W. Scully (second), A. Gell (leader), from Wagin.
1981: W. O’Brien, E. McLeem, Ms. J. Giese (sub), C. Yates (from Busselton).

T. North, of Busselton, sent his apologies, but his Busselton boys knocked up their third victory. Bill O’Brien was loud in his praise of his No. 2 player Ms. Jacqueline Giese, who played some excellent shots.

The Kojonup groups have not won the major yet, but they certainly show out in the morning or afternoon rounds or as runners-up.

The title of the carnival was changed to the Sam Crook Memorial Fours with the passing of Sam Crook in 1980.

The Kojonup Sub-Branch members wish to thank all the visitors for making the carnival a great success.

— G.R. MEYERS,
(Hon. Secretary, Kojonup Sub-Branch).

Make Your Sub-Branch Stronger
By D.H. BRUCE, State Secretary

In a recent report on the National Executive meeting held in Canberra, an attached appendix covered the minutes of the Planning and Development Committee of the RSL.

Two important matters contained in the minutes are drawn to members’ attention for their consideration and action.

ASSISTANCE TO SUB-BRANCHES

The Committee recommended that State Branches give special consideration to smaller sub-branches, especially those facing difficulties in survival.

It was further recommended that they receive every possible assistance in continuing to function, including consideration of amalgamation of smaller sub-branches where appropriate.

It is important that the assets of the League be fully protected at all times and that funds collected in the name of the League be retained for that purpose.

VIABLE METHOD

If Service Membership provides the viable method of boosting the League in the future, as our numbers diminish, then it may be necessary to re-form some sub-branches to ensure the progress of the League.

Every effort should be made to retain the structure of the RSL as an Australia-wide organisation to continue the traditional roles of the RSL in national affairs and in safeguarding the interests of defence and welfare of both our service and ex-service personnel.

The Committee also recommended that State Branches give consideration to every possible means by which sub-branch meetings can be made more interesting and so attract better attendance. Some sub-branches are at present enjoying some of the suggested methods such as:
* a rotary type dinner meeting commencing at 6pm and ending at a reasonable hour.
* combined women’s auxiliary and sub-branch meetings at which members of both organisations could take part in matters of mutual interest.
* luncheon meetings, which could be for the general public, with a guest speaker. This would make the community more aware of the RSL.
* luncheon meetings for sub-branch members only, with guest speaker and with provision of special activities at the conclusion of the meeting. This is especially important in attracting and retaining the interest of both ordinary and service members.
* meetings on Sunday morning.

W.A. RSL BOWLS SECTION
PROMOTES LOCAL & INTERSTATE BOWLS AMONG R.S.L. MEMBERS

HEADQUARTERS:
KITCHENER PARK BOWLING CLUB

PRESIDENT:
TOM McINTYRE,
15/51 Alexander Drive,
Mt. Lawley, W.A. 6050
Telephone: 271 6037

Troop Ship “Boonah” - 1918

With the approach of Anzac Day, Eric Heenan would be glad to hear from any of that band which left WA on the “Boonah” in 1918. The “Boonah” arrived in Durhan, the day after the Armistice was signed, then later returned to WA after many of its crew contacted the dreaded Spanish influenza, which later swept through the country.

Eric’s idea is to organise a reunion, to be held in Perth on Anzac Day or the day proceeding.

If this notice comes to the attention of anyone interested, please write to Eric at 28 Almondbury Road, Mt. Lawley, WA. 6050 or phone him on 271 3877.

LISTENING POST — AUTUMN 1981 — 27
Publications

A booklet of colour photographs of the War Memorial and its collections was completed and printed by Scancolor Pty Ltd, of Melbourne with the help of the Memorial's History and Publications Branch. At $2, for 24 pages of 77 pictures, it is proving extremely popular.

The Branch is working on three other important publications: a guide to the Library’s total poster collection, a book of photographs tentatively called “The Australian People at War” and an illustrated work on decorations and medals awarded to Australians.

Wreath-laying ceremonies

The Battle of Britain was commemorated at a wreath-laying ceremony on 15 September attended by about 100 people, including diplomatic and Services representatives.

Other ceremonies in September included one by members of the Returned Services League attending their national congress, members of the Air Force Association attending their biennial federal conference, and one by the Ambassador for Chile, H.E. Dr Jorge Valdovinos.

In October, wreaths were laid by the 2/4 Infantry Battalion Association, and a group of South African ex-servicemen visiting Australia.

SO NOW WE KNOW

The “RSA Review” recently solved a query that has been unanswered for years — why do the Kiwis wear their RSA badge on the right side?

According to the article, right is right. There is no mandatory direction but it has been customary since the NZRSA was first formed to wear the badge on the right.

After the Great War, many servicemen were still in uniform when they joined the RSA, and as they wore their service medals on the left it was considered appropriate to wear the RSA badge on the opposite side.

So now you know.

The 1981 NEW YEAR’S HONOURS

Amongst those who were mentioned in the New Year 1981 Honours list were:

Sir Albert (Albie) Abbott CBE: was created a Knight Bachelor for services to Veterans and the community. Albie what has been Mayor of Mackay for ten years, took over the RSL State presidency of Queensland in June 1974 from Tiny Cameron. He served with the RAAF in the New Guinea campaign.

Sir Ronald Elliott: was also created a Knight Bachelor, for service to banking. He is also State Treasurer for the NSW Australian Forces Overseas Fund.

Ted Morgan: Secretary of the Kogarah Sub Branch was awarded the BEM, as was Norm Gordon, a NSW North-West Councillor.

Len Turner, State President from West Australia, was awarded the MBE for service to Veterans and the community. Syd O'Reilly, from the Footscray Naval Association, also received an MBE.

Joe Courtney, for his continued service to Veterans, and Don Fowler, a member of the Victorian State Executive each got a BEM.

Don Morton, of Forbes, was also on the BEM list.

In Canberra, Mrs. Fran Wilson’s service to the War Veterans’ Home and the ACT Women’s Auxiliary was recognised with a BEM.

Sir Phillip Lynch received a knighthood for er... er.... being a politician.

Australian War Memorial

The Australian War Memorial has an extensive collection of personal records of Australian servicemen and women.

Though material continues to be donated, there is a shortage of personal records from 1945 to the present.

The significant contribution by Australians to the military actions in Korea, Malaya, Borneo, Sarawak and South Vietnam undoubtedly produced personal records, including letters to and from families at home, photographs, diaries, letter-tapes and in-the-field publications.

Should readers of “Listening Post” have collections of such material, the War Memorial would appreciate receiving them to add to the Library holdings.

The War Memorial assures potential donors that, if their records do not duplicate existing collections and come within the categories mentioned above, and are accepted, any conditions of access imposed will be scrupulously observed.

Also, great care will be taken to preserve the material for posterity as a part of Australia’s history in military affairs.

Donations and enquiries should be made to: The Director, Australian War Memorial, PO Box 345 CANBERRA CITY, ACT 2601.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

The end-of-the-year social function of the Returned Sisters’ Sub-Branch was held on December 6, 1980, when members and their guests met at the Esplanade rooms of the Perth United Club for a pre-Christmas luncheon.

Sub-Branch president Miss E. Harler, convenor Mrs. Janes and members of the committee welcomed guests and members who expressed appreciation of the choice of venue and the opportunity of meeting so many of their colleagues.

During the luncheon the usual toasts were honoured and Lt. Col J. Nyman, representing the State president, presented certificates of recognition of service to the following Sub-Branch members who have held office over the years:

Presidents: Miss N. Fullarton, Miss Edith Harler, Mrs Anne Leach, Mrs Peg Janes, Miss Pearl Martin, Miss Florence Welch.

Secretaries: Mrs. Peg Murdoch, Miss Molly O’Donnell.

A certificate of Life Membership of the League was awarded to Miss Pearl Martin for her past service to the Sub-Branch.

In conclusion, the president extended Christmas greetings on behalf of the Sub-Branch, and best wishes for a bright and prosperous new year.

VICTORIA HOBS

REPATRIATION REVIEW TRIBUNALS

When members receive advice that their case has been listed for hearing, please notify Jim Giblett, the League’s Advocate IMMEDIATELY.

28 — AUTUMN 1981 — LISTENING POST
**WANTED — UNWANTED MEDALS**

We want unwanted RN, Army, or RAF buttons, badges, medals, crests, etc. Many people have an assortment of odds and ends, of not much use in themselves, but able when cleaned, sorted and classified into sets to raise some useful cash to help our disabled comrades.

These items should be sent to The Appeals Director, Royal Star and Garter Home for Disabled Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen, Richmond, Surrey, ENGLAND.

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**DECEASED MEMBERS**

**FEBRUARY 22, 1980**


**AUGUST, 1980**

ATKINS, J.N. 2/7 Gurkha Millen

**NOTIFIED OCTOBER 1980**

ALLEN, F.N. WX28639 11W/Pks. Bedford-Morley

BROOKS, H.A. 3483 10th L.H. Katanning

BURY, G.H. 46947 R.A.A.F. Collie

COLES, R.A. WX28782 R.A.A. Albany

COOPER, E.T. WX20665 2/11th Gnowangerup

EGAL, E.E. WX1959 2/31 Bn. Kalgoorlie

FREDERICK, F.M. WX21239 2/1 A.G.H. Katanning

**NOTIFIED DECEMBER 1980**

ANDREWS, H. R.F.A. Bunbury

FARRAR, D.S. WX35626 2/4 Mech. A.E.M.E. Meekatharra

CHAPPLE, C.F. 7931737 R.Armd. Corp. Osborne Park

HARCOURT, G.S. 179200 Royal Art. Moora

PARDOE, S. 168873 Medical Corp. Perth

THOMAS, I. 6592 11 Bn. Mt. Lawley

WEST, M.R. WX501187 Wyndham

**OCTOBER, 1980**

ASKER, W. 5045 A.I.F. Wubin

AYLETT, J.E. 116 44 Bn. Central

BAKER, R.O. WX30176 2/16th Bn. Kalgoorlie

BAKER, R.W. WX27707 2/4 Trapt Pl. Exeterance

BALL, J.P. WX7495 2/4th M/G Bn. West Perth

BARTLETT, S.K. 15132 R.A.A.F. Upper Swan

BELL, R.J. WX27405 28th Bn. Bicton

BEWISHER, E.R. WX25530 56/53 Bn. Perth

BISS, F.G. 7709 10 Bde H.Q. 16 Bn. Gosnells

BOWERS, T.J. WX20337 2/2nd P.NRS. Collie

BRADSHAW, J. 20983 1 Div. Sigs. Nedlands

BRAZIER, A.E. No regt no. or unit Beverley

BROTHERWOOD, W.J. 3986 16Bn. Bassendean

BROUN, W.O.T. WX19033 2/28th Bn. Rockingham

BROWN, D.R. WX32089 2/5 Eng. M.T.T. 4 Brampton

CAMPBELL, T.D. 29219 R.A.A.F. Belmont

CARO, A.E. WX3373 2/16th Bn. Nedlands

CHISNALL, A. WX10582 2/1 Gd. Rgt. Perth

CLATWORTHY, A.G. WX13241 2/28th Bn. Perth

CLOSE, W.J. 82054 18th Sqd NeI. R.A.A.F. Bellevue

COCKER, P.T. 3202 1st Sig. Com. Kalgoorlie

CONDON, A.E. WX4163 R.A.N.

Kalgoorlie

COSTEUR, C.J. WX140097 Subs. Scarborough

DAWSON, A. 1918 28th Bn. Central

DAXTER, H.J. T841062 199 Coy. R.A.S.C. Rivervale

DEBURGH, W.J. WX5151 2/3rd D. Regt. Perth

DILLEY, A.F. WX32660 A.E.M.E. Waroona

DRAKEFORD, F.H. 45595 R.A.A.F. Central

EASTWOOD, H.A. 1805 8th. R.F.A.

Subiaco

EAVES, J. WX38758 4 Beach Sigs. Bassendean

EVANS, S.E. WX29239 15th F. Coy

Regt. Rocky Gully

FAGAN, L.J. WX4938 2/9 M.L.D. Subiaco

FARR, T.W. A5233 R.A.A.F. Bedford-Morley

FARRELL, F.R. WX4309 2/16th Bn. Rockingham

GRAY, F.E. FX4311 R.A.N. Mt. Lawley

GREENWAY, G.V. WX976 2/11th Bn. Williams

LISTENING POST — AUTUMN 1981 — 29
ASSOCIATIONS OF EX-SERVICEMEN

460 SQUADRON RAAF ASSOC. (W.A.)

GALLIPOLI LEGION OF ANZACS
Meets in the Visitors Room, Anzac House, on the third Tuesday of the months of February, May, August and December, at 2.15 pm. Secretary: G.D. Shaw, 4/66 Broadway Nedlands, 6009. Treasurer: J. Anderson, P.O. Box 164, Claremont, 6010.

16th BATTALION AND 4th BRIGADE ASSOCIATION
Committee meets first Monday at 2pm at PBS, 95 William Street, President: C. Sladdon, 59A Henry St. East Cannington. Tel. 458 5573. Secretary: H. Ganson, 11 Fothergill St, Fremantle. Tel. 335 2458. Women’s Auxiliary meets same time same place.

2/16th BATTALION ASSOCIATION

44th BATTALION ASSOCIATION
Committee meets when called. Annual Re-union on advice. President: Roy Collins, 134 Rosebery St, Bedford (271 4448).

EX-POW ASSOCIATION OF WA
President, T.W. Scott, 250 Corinthian Rd, Riverton, Secretary, W.H.P. Hood, 93 Guildford Rd, Mt. Lawley, 6050. Tel. 271 5245. Meetings 1st Wednesday each month in Visitors Room, Anzac House, Perth.

2/4th M.G. BATTALION AIF ASSOCIATION
President: E.W. Wallin, 69 Constance St, Nollamara, 6061. Tel. 349 1409. Secretary: C.J. McPherson, 34 Harold St. Dianella 6062. Tel. 276 2313. Treasurer: R.D. Hampson, 7 View St, Dianella 6062. Tel. 276 9715. Meetings Anzac House 3rd Tues. E/M 8pm.

THIRTY-NINERS’ ASSOCIATION
Meets Anzac House Bi-Monthly, on the 4th Wed. Further information contact either J.P. Hall. President. 173 The Esplanade, Mt. Pleasant. Tel. 304 7776; Secretary, A.W. Newland, 81 Jubilee St, East Cannington, 326 8077; Treasurer, J. Todd, 4 Shearer St, Myaree, 330 3936.

11th & 2/1th AIF BNS ASSOCIATION
President: W.T. Scott, 250 Corinthian Rd, Riverton. Tel. 457 4902 or 335 4311. Secretary: C. Wragg, 18 Hubert Rd, Maylands. 6051. Tel. 271 3423. Committee meets 3rd Wednesday every month – Anzac Club. (4 Sherwood Crt.) Annual Reunion to be advised.

MIDDLE EAST VAD ASSOCIATION WA
President: Mrs. L. Fealy, 19 Macrae Rd, Applecross, 364 3779; Secretary: Mrs. Peg Payne, 11 Hurlingham Rd, South Perth, 367 1305. Meetings as called. Annual Reunion nearest Saturday to November 23.

RAE ASSOCIATION
Meets 2nd Sunday March, June, September and November at WACA ground. Secretary: T.R. Beard, Tel. 460 3951.

10th LIGHT HORSE ASSOCIATION AIF
Meets: Fourth Friday in March, August and November at 2.00 pm Anzac Club, President: R. Caporn, Flat 10, W.V.H. 51 Alexander Drive, Mt. Lawley. Tel. 271 7049. Secretary & Treasurer: R.W. Byrne, 2 Birdwood Rd, Melville, 6156. Tel. 330 2595; Jack Syme, 28 Marquis St, Bentley. Tel. 4582946.

48th BATTALION ASSOCIATION
President: D. Maclean, 75 Riverside Tce, Mt. Pleasant, 364 1153; Secretary: S.G. Power, 113b “Wandana”, Thomas St, Subiaco, 381 6208; Assistant & Social Secretary: T.H. Eason, 5 Lanark St, Mt. Lawley, 271 2929. Meetings & Luncheon held at the Carlton Hotel, 248 Hay Street East at 11.30 a.m., on the third Monday of each month.

2/28th BATTALION — 24th ANTI-TANK COY
President: Mr. D. Kemp, 3 School Rd, Karragullen. Annual Reunion Show Week. Secretary: W.A. Carlton, 190 Coode St, Como, 367 4016.

LIMBLESSE SOLDIERS’ ASSOCIATION

28th BATTALION AIF ASSOCIATION
Meets Anzac Club (Visitors Room) 2nd Tuesday in month 2.00 p.m. Reunion Tuesday of Show week. President E. Waller 27 Beagle St, Mosman Pk., 6012. Secretary R.T. Boyes, 84 ‘Crossleigh’ 31 Williams Rd. Hollywood, 6009. 386 7022.

NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC. (WA SECTION) CITY OF PERTH SUB-SECTION
Meets fourth Tuesday of each month, No. 4 Brisbane Place, Perth. President: K. Nordahl, 367 3102; Immed. Past President: B. Edmondson, 322 1344; Secretary: Roy Ward, 271 2451; Treasurer: S. Barnes, 446 3306.

NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (WESTERN AUSTRALIAN SECTION) INC. STATE COUNCIL

WRAAC ASSOCIATION (WA BRANCH)

AIR FORCES CLUB (INC)
Meets at RSL Hall, Kintail Rd.-Applecross. Fridays 4.30 11.00 p.m.; Sundays 4.30 - 7.30 p.m. President: R. Carter Tel. (H) 330 1883. Secretary: B. Davenport Tel. (H) 4504048. All correspondence to: PO Box 153, Applecross. 6153.
**Z** SPECIAL FORCE ASSOCIATION OF WA
Meetings as arranged. Secretary B. Wakeford, 875 Beaufort St, Inglewood, 6052. Phone 271 3802. Liaison Officer, E.W. Dubberlin, 17 Hotham St, Meltham, 6053. Phone 271 1406.

1940 DUNKIRK VETERANS ASSOCIATION
WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BRANCH
Meets first Friday each month at Anzac House 7.30 pm. Secretary: E.R. Bench, 54 Moira Ave., Forrestfield. Tel. 453 9966.

PARTIALLY BLINDED SOLDIERS' ASSOCIATION OF
AUSTRALIA *WA BRANCH INC.*
General meetings held at Anzac House, 4 Sherwood Court, Perth at 2pm first Monday each month, except January. Secretary: D.J. Symes, 15 Siddeley Place, Dianella. Tel. 276 9950.

2/32nd BATTALION ASSOCIATION (W.A.)

FEDERATION TB SAILORS, SOLDIERS AND AIRMEN'S ASSOCIATION (WA BRANCH)
-2nd Floor, Wellington Building, 158 William St, Perth, last Monday, President: Ian Fraser. Tel. 444 7469. Secretary: R. Ross. Tel. 321 5086.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY ASSOC. (WA)
Meetings third Monday at Anzac House at 8pm. President: Peter Kemnis, 697 Hay St, Wembley 6014. Tel. 381 3348. Secretary: John Quin, 23 Douglas Ave., Mt. Yokine. 6060. Tel. 349 1374.

61st BATTALION AIF ASSOCIATION
President: H. Bowra, 7 Highland Rd, Nth. Perth. Tel. 444 2585. Secretary: G.K. Baron-Hay, 24 Stanley St, Nedlands 368 1554. Committee meetings held quarterly at 4 Sherwood Court (RSL H.Q.) 2 p.m. on Monday, 1st December, 1980.

BRITISH EX-SERVICES ASSOCIATION (INC.)

GUILD OF SIGNAL UNITS ASSOCIATION IN (W.A.)
Meets second Tuesday each month 8.00pm Lord St. Drill Hall, Perth, President: Doug Harvey, 150 Lansdown Rd, Kensington, 6151. Tel. 367 4339. Secretary: Dick Koch, 42 Parkside Ave, Mt. Pleasant 6153. Tel. 364 4828.

KOREA & SOUTH EAST ASIA FORCES ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (WA BRANCH)
Meetings second Monday in February, April and July at T/Anzac House, 4 Sherwood Court, Perth. Members notified by mail of October A.G.M. State President, Mr. Jack Gerke, 1 Gerard St, Como, 6152. State Secretary M. Guardian, 53 Wilcac St, Kewdale, 6106. Tel: 277 3881. Executive Committee meets when required.

TOTAlLY & PERMANENTLY DISABLED
SOLDIERS' ASSOCIATION
TP1 Memorial House, 88 Colin St, West Perth 6006. Tel. 321 5457. President: G.P. Maley. Tel. 349 4243. Secretary: J.H. Smart, Tel. 450 5056. General Meetings, monthly second Tuesday at 1.30 pm.

REGULAR DEFENCE FORCES WELFARE ASSOCIATION
(WA BRANCH)
For all enquiries contact President: W/Cmdr. D.T. Coughlin, 114 Empire Avenue, Wembley Downs 341 2393, or Secretary Lieut E.C. Lunn-Garner, R.A.D. Crescent, Kalamunda. Phone 293 1409.

RATS OF TOBRUK ASSOCIATION (WA BRANCH)
President: J. Lethean, 208 McDonald St, Joondanna. 6060 Tel. 444 3431. Secretary: A.J. Holmes, 48 Gregory St, Wembley. 6014. Tel. 381 1024. The committee meets 2nd Tuesday each month.

SUBMARINE OLD COMRADES ASSOCIATION
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
President: Mr. W.R. Smith, 23b Pointer Way, Girrawheen, 342 1066. Secretary: Mr. J.W. Appleton, 9 Thorney Way, Lockridge, 279 1638. Meets in Anzac House, fourth Wednesday of every month, 8pm (December excepted).

POLISH EX-SERVICEMEN ASSOCIATION,
SUB-BRANCH NO. 9
President: George Redziejowski MC, 361 6294; Hon. Secretary: K. Milczarek, 727 7238; Hon. Treasurer: M. Sorocz, 279 3803. All correspondence to: P.O. Box J692, G.P.O. Perth, W.A. 6001.

FLEET AIR ARM ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (INC)
Meets at Riverton Sub-branch RSL Hall, High Road, Riverton. Second Wednesday each month, 8pm. Secretary: N.E. Roper, Private Flat. 45 William St, Perth. 321 5576.

ROYAL AIR FORCES ASSOCIATION
(BRANCH 1210 WA)
President: Adrian Bell, 158 Nollamara Avenue, Nollamara 6060. Tel. 349 1466. Secretary: Audrey Brown. Meetings fortnightly, Tuesday nights at 8pm. 131 James St, Guildford, WA. Dances held every Saturday night. Bingo Thursday nights.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN REGIMENT ASSOCIATION
Meets 2nd Wednesday every month (excepting January). Cameron Barracks, Canning Highway, Victoria Park, President W. Smith. Tel. 407 5430 Secretary: K. Trent Tel. 367 7794. All correspondence to Cameron Barracks.

GUARDS ASSOCIATION OF W.A. (INC)
Meets in Visitors Room, Anzac House, on third Friday every month at 8.00pm. President: Mr. D. Cross. Tel. 2763495 Secretary Mr. T.W. (Bill) Scott. Tel. 457 4902.

Z SPECIAL FORCE
Z Special Force Australia Inc. Chairman: Jack Sue, 321 4979 321 4771. Managing Secretary, K. Scarfe. Tel. 095 27 1703.

AUSTRALIAN LEGION OF EX-SERVICEMEN & WOMEN
(INC) W.A. BRANCH
State President: Mr. J.T. Bostow, 120 Lawrence St, Bedford Tel. 271 8509. State Secretary: Mrs. E.A. Bostow, 120 Lawrence St, Bedford. 271 8509. Details of Sub-branch Meetings, please phone 271 8509.

NETHERLANDS EX-SERVICEMEN'S ASSOCIATION
OF AUSTRALIA
President, J.B.C.P.M. Desertine, 61 Milton St, Yokine. Tel. 444 2167. Secretary: J.D. Van Der Moolen, 31 Jackson Ave, Karrinyup, Tel. 341 1798. Meets 4th Wednesday 8pm Druids Hall 8pm. All correspondence to Box 87 P.O. Wembley 6014.

2/2nd COMMANDO ASSOCIATION
Meetings 1st Tuesday 8pm. Anzac Club 8pm. President: Mr. Gerry McKenzie, Alfriada Ave, Morley. Secretary: A. Wares, 1B Waverley St, Dianella Tel. 276 4304.
Applications should be lodged direct to
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1975

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1980