Congress refuses to widen eligibility for members

A move at Congress to widen the eligibility membership rule was defeated by a large majority.

Introduced by the Geraldton branch, it sought to extend eligibility to anyone honourably discharged from the armed forces after a minimum of two years service.

Since the inception of the League only those with overseas service to their credit have been eligible, although at the Victorian State conference recently a motion for relaxation was agreed to.

Strongly supporting the move at Congress were Mr F. Turner, the Albany and Denmark delegates, who argued that acceptance would open up a big avenue of recruitment.

State President Pearson said that about 18 years ago the W.A. branch in a nation-wide plebiscite had voted in favour of widening eligibility but that in the Eastern States there had been a move to restrict the move.

That was now a move in the East for a widening because of the need for more recruiting, the proposal is one of many actions to retain membership of the league and a good one, Mr Turner said.

Another nation-wide plebiscite had been proposed to test the position today.

Governor opens 58th Congress

The Governor, Air Commodore Hughie Edwards, is welcomed on arrival at Anzac House to open the 58th State Congress by State President and Mrs Percy Pearson.

RSL Community role praised

The attendance for the occasion was a tribute to the organisation, the Governor, Air Commodore Hughie Edwards said when opening the 58th State Congress of the League on July 19.

It was the first Congress opening by His Excellency who was greeted on arrival at Anzac House by State President and Mrs Pearson (see picture above). Awaiting his arrival on the dais were the National President, Sir Arthur Lee, the Premier Sir Charles Court, the Leader of the Opposition Mr John Tonkin and representatives of the armed forces, the diplomatic corps, the Perth City Council and other leading citizens.

Mr Pearson opened proceedings by reading a message of loyalty to the Queen and asking His Excellency to convey it to her.

In his address the Governor said that in a rich and young and under-populated country it was good to see the League taking the active role it did.

In the absence of the President Mr John Turner, the Governor referred to the important role it played in the community.

Mr Pearson’s address was reported overseas. Presented for the first time this year were the mem bership pennants and those in the branches with a membership increase for the year of 15 per cent or better.

Making the presentations was the chairman of the committee, Mr G. Briggs. The 15 recipient sub-branches were Balli k, Bedford-Morley, Coolgardie, Dwellingsup, Gnowangerup, Karriargan, Koorda, Lake Grace, Meekatharra, Murchison, Nannup, Osmington, Northam, Port Hedland and Taxation.

The ARMS Games trophies were presented by State Vice-President Turner to: Archbishop Bisho p Memorial Shield: Wembley-Flora; Bill Holder Memorial Shield: Wembley; Gold Medal: Cooldale; Brookman Shield: Wembley; Wembley; Bertie C. Collopy (runner-up Highgate).

Mary Cornell Trophy (best Poppy Day figures on membership basis): Highgate (Mullen runner-up); Geraldton Shield (most efficient of the smaller country sub-branches): Northampton (runner-up Karridale-Augusta); Merw Williams Trophy (best veteran Home effort on a membership basis): Bayswater-Melham (runner-up Highgate).

The ARMS Games trophies were presented by State Vice-President Turner as follows: Archbishop Bishops Memorial Shield: Wembley-Flora; Bill Holder Memorial Shield: Wembley; Gold Medal: Cooldale; Brookman Shield: Wembley; Wembley; Bertie C. Collopy (runner-up Highgate).

Approval given for new homes project

At Congress this year the War Veterans Home in 21-unit Lions Village at Albany was authorised to the development of three acres of land in Mt Lawley about half a mile from the home.

The first stage of the project provides for 10 units - double and single - and is expected to cost about $70,000.

The Finance committee chairman Mr J. Turner, told delegates that a feasibility study had been made of a proposition for erecting residential units for elderly people.

Occupation of the units workforce follow on a down-payment of an amount yet to be determined.

There was a question as to whether the Commonwealth aid would be raised to $1 , but whatever happened it would be necessary to determine a “ceiling” for double and single units.

It had been calculated that Mr Turner said that the 10 units at $1 each would provide a net profit of $30,000 to build.

At the figure the Commonwealth ratio of aid might range between $4,000 and $7,000 for double units.

Factors that must be considered were the number of prospective purchasers, and the amount of Commonwealth subsidy calculated and on what terms.

Building costs for the project had risen sharply since last December, so that it was necessary for all-clear as soon as possible.

At $2500 the chairman W. S. Lennie said that in the board’s view the project should be entirely self-supporting, whatever the type of unit involved, and that the rate of subsidy to be paid would not be expected to continue for other purposes.

The plans must be conditioned by the number of prospective purchasers, and be subject to an in-coming of $4,000 to $5,000.

Country Vice-President F. Gunn said the 21-unit Lions Village at Albany and an in-coming of $4,000 initially.

Final term for State President

State President Pearson was re-elected to office at Congress this year for his tenth and final term.

He announced at the opening session of the conference that he intended to stand down at the end of the current term.

He said he was making the announcement because he was sure the R.S.L. had reached a position of strength to allow a successor plenty of time to come to the fore.

Mr Pearson first took office in March, 1965, and has been re-elected on each occasion every year since.

VICE-PRESIDENTS

Mr L. Pearson was re-elected senior and Mr L. J. Turner junior Vice-President.

EXECUTIVE

Mr L. Pearson was re-elected Deputy-President.

EXECUTIVE

Wide survey of the League's activities

Whatever the changes made to the repatriation system, which had taken so long to build, the League must ensure that its established principles remained intact.

This was a main point in the State President's address to Congress last month. Following a meeting of the Executive, the new member of the League's staff, Mr Frank Statham, for his interest and the diligence with which he carried out his duties. He had handed over to Sir Harold Dallen on November 11. Also due for thanks was Mr Doug Parke, who had continued to act as Assistant Warden for the past ten years, and the Public Service, Prost, Mt Lawley, and the Brimbrans and the Thirty-fivers Association for the building of the W.S.A. Since Remembrance Day there had been 15 wreath-laying ceremonies with five more pending.

VETERANS HOME - The target in the $120,000 fund for Legacy Veterans Home - launched in October 1972 - was reached on March 10 this year, the home's 13th anniversary. The campaign, which the (Mr Pearson) had opened the new wing known as the Howes Wing, in the presence of the West Australian Premier, Mr Lilley, and other friends. 40 residents were occupying the new wing, believing the home, if best of its kind in Australia.

Many commemorative services had been held at the home, including service by Lieut-Col. George W. Leeuwin House. The 40th anniversary of the veterans' association at Geraldton, was marked with $11,000 in hand. Because of increased numbers, the home board had increased its donation to $13,000 on a dollar-for-dollar basis, and a start should be made soon on the first stage. R.S.L. Shop.

For the year ended December 31, the shop had produced a net profit of $8,165 and another good year was anticipated. Mr Alan Walsh had retired as manager to be succeeded by Mr Fred Haste.

Profits were paid to the Veterans Home and members were urged to do more business there and encourage their friends to do likewise.

CROWNING GLORY - The competition was now in its fifth year and a joint undertaking by the League and Legacy and the Reserve Benevolent Society was substantially on the program.

The League's share last year was $5,800 - $1,000 more than in 1972. A similar result was hoped for this year. For a successful 1975quest sub-branches should be established by the Department of Housing and Construction.

FINANCE - With a small membership fee and declining membership, the problem of estimating costs was very real and this, coupled with the financial difficulty, was overwhelming, must affect the League's financial base.

The Finance Committee had been watching affairs closely and the League was now in a better position than for the last four or five years. The committee had appeared in the List of Firms, with more detailed information was available.

The Aged Fund was currently making grants to 90 veterans and incurring a monthly disbursement amounting to $90. $6,500 was continued useful.

WELFARE - The League's welfare work among ex-servicemen and women and their families was meritorious and called for close liaison with the League's Department of Community Social Security, the Red Cross, Civilian Aid Bureau, State Housing, Police, Selective Service, hospitals, funeral directors, Service Councils, R.S.A. Council, the Good for the Gaul Council and Emergency Housekeeping.

At Christmas some 300 hampers had been sent out.

Numerous cases of hardship in respect of British migrants had received the British Commonwealth Ex-Service League in London. On occasions funerals had been arranged. Over the year's assistance had been given in 1,692 cases.

HOUSING - The chairman of the League's Housing Committee, Mr Frank Rohan, was in charge to keep the League in close touch with developments at State level. A key position was that of the Commonwealth study of welfare housing.

Some 40 welfare houses had been returned to the League and the Commonwealth and most had been satisfactorily.

Some of the delegates attending this year's Congress were showing keen interest in the proceedings when this picture was taken.

SERVICE HOMES - In a recent reshuffle of Government, department the Defence Service Homes (formerly War Service Homes) Department had become a part of the new Department of Housing and Construction.

Housing under the Defence Service Homes Act, formerly a function of the S.C.C., were administered by the Housing Division of the Department of Housing and Construction.

There was no shortage of building blocks at the moment. Two Congress members had expressed the need to be made soon on hampers had been sent to numerous migrants.

YOUTH - There had been continued youth activity. For the first 6 months of this year the executive had sponsored the R.S.L. Junior Band. The boys were now being sponsored by Channel 7. The R.S.L. continued to sponsor the Grizzles Rhythm League, which had the use of the ballroom.

Many sub-branches were undertaking supervision of sporting activities at weekends.

Riverton S.H. had continued its excellent work for the recruits at Leeuwin. Operation Stand-in on Fathers Day last year had proved a great success. Executive memb.
W.A. had acted as host for the national contests over the Christmas-New Year period.

A new competition for the Sydney Memorial Trophy had been won by the A.O.T. branch. The Jack Hamilton VC event had been won by South Australia.

A new club had been formed in W.A. A.R.M.S. GAMES - The current season had seen five contests only in the field though some convivial evenings had followed.

The Archbishop Riley Memorial Shield had been won by Wembley-Floreat and the Bill Holder Shield (for runner-up) by Mt Hawthorn.

The Yellow Cab Cup for highest aggregate score in rifle shooting had been won by Wembley-Floreat.

An executive committee was examining a proposal for revitalising the games.

ANZAC CLUB - The Club had ended the year with a profit of over $4,000. Increasing costs had led to a rise in liquor prices over the counter but these were lower than at hotels.

Provisional and associate membership was proving successful and to date 130 such members had joined.

BUILDING SOCIETIES - The League continued to conduct eight terminating building societies for ex-service persons not eligible for Service home.

ANZAC HOUSE - A year ago a semi-Australian Government instrumentality had shown interest in the re-development potential of the Anzac House site, and the then-Premier was interested in the possibility.

Meantime the League had conferred with the new Premier and further discussions would be held.

FLOOD RELIEF - The State branch, through sub-branch efforts, had been able to contribute $3,413.70 to the R.S.I.L. Queensland flood relief appeal.

STATE EXECUTIVE - During 1973 there had been 11 life Membership and 19 Certificate of Service awards, and 14 awards for 50 years of continuous League membership.

Twenty-seven sub-branches had been visited by the State President, some more than once. Two group conferences and a district meeting had given direct contact with 85 additional sub-branches, and there had been 111 official calls and public appearances by him.

Other State Presidential attendances included all National Executive meetings, the last National Congress, various meetings of the Australian Forces Overseas Fund and of the Miss Crowningshield committee.

Participation as an R.S.I.L. representative in the British Commonwealth Ex-Services League biennial conference (in New Zealand) had been a memorable experience.

The conference had been presided over by Lord Beaufort of Burmah who, after 27 years in office as Grand President, had handed over to His Royal Highness, Prince Philip.

Delegates had represented some 30 countries with populations totalling about a quarter of the world's population.

Mr Pearson said he had become deeply aware in his term of office of his commitment to people and of the responsibility facing him. While there had been times of trial and physical strain there had been the privilege of enduring friendships and of meeting people in positions of leadership.

At the invitation of the National President in recent years he had accompanied the then South Australian president Sir Thomas Eastick on a tour of Israel as a guest of its Government. It was against that background and with some reluctance that he now gave notice of his intention not to seek re-election in 1975. Such notice should enable any aspirant for the position ample time to adjust his personal commitments accordingly.

On his retirement he would have lived ten years in office, representing a fair span of his life and it seemed proper in the interests of the League for him to stand aside.

NATIONAL NOTES

CONGRESS - All States and Papua-New Guinea had been represented at the 58th National Congress held in Perth from Oct. 28 to Nov. 2 last year, the co-delegate to the State President being Vice-President L. J. Turner.

During Congress the then Premier, Mr Tonkin, had given over the entire space at his disposal for use of Anzac House before the presentation during Congress. From left they are: The Colonel Collett Cup, the Yellow Cab Cup, the Newdegate Cup, the Philips Cup and the Mary Cornell Cup.

There are some of the main trophies which were on display at Anzac House during the presentation during Congress.

Continued on page 4.

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THE LISTENING POST, August, 1974 — Page 3
Repaying the Returned Servicemen’s Fund

At Congress the current President, Mr. Arthur Lee, was the recipient of a gift from the W.A. Branch in appreciation of his services to the community. It is a traditional way of expressing appreciation for a person’s efforts. The League is pressing for the restoration of the Schools Broadcast Service. The League seeks restoration of broadcast

At the May executive meeting of the W.A. Branch, Mr. Pearson said that after being informed of a decision to keep the service chairmanship, he had written to the Executive Committee, asking for the decision to be reviewed. The decision, before Anzac Day, Mr. Pearson said, had in no way been binding. The services would not be continued if the schools were being used to make their own Anzac commemoration arrangements.

Mr. Pearson referred to remarks made by the minister and Finance Committee chairman of the Kings Park Board, Mr. Thomas, concerning the cessation of the service. At the ceremony for the unveiling of Anzac Memorial on April 21 – Anzac Day – a statement had been made regarding the cessation of the service and consideration was given to the matter. He said about 13 of the services had been held that year, all of them.

Mr. Pearson told the executive it was important for Anzac Day to be celebrated in an adequately spiritual manner. It was the last of the special commemorations of the Anzac Day, and the last special service of the year. It was time to look forward to the next Anzac Day, and to the next commemoration.

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Women's Auxiliary Notes

Executive members have a busy time

Executive members attended City of Perth auxiliary's birthday party on April 23 and the State President, Mrs Rowe, presented a Certificate of Service to Mrs D. Johnson.

The Anzac Eve service at the Veteran's Home was attended by executive members. The State President and Secretary laid a Wreath at the Dawn Service and attended the Esplanade Service.

On June 5 executive members were guests at the Bellevue birthday luncheon, Mrs Rowe presented Mrs Gurney with her life-membership certificate. Medebes Rowe, Ford and Lowe joined the Mandurah auxiliary at a Luncheon on June 19th. Mrs M. French received Certificates of Service.

On July 1 Medebes Kemp and Ferro were guests of the Waroona-Ilam auxiliary and Mrs E. Wood received a life-membership. The State Treasurer, Mrs Lowe, and her husband are on a short holiday in England. Best wishes to them.

Conspicuous absentee

Conspicuous by his absence at the opening of Congress this year was United States consul in Perth Mr William H. Bruns. At the June executive meeting State President pictured and Mr Bruns had notified him of his inability to be present because of his transfer to Japan.

Annual Conference of the auxiliary was held from July 8 to 11. At the conference was Mrs Stewart, N.S.W. State Treasurer, and Mrs Rowe presented a book to the library as a memorial to the late Mrs Tomich.

The Country Cup was won by Geralda with Peregour second and Mt. Barker third. The Metropolitan Cup was won by Bellevue City of Perth second and Millen third. Millen Auxiliary had the honour of being the first winners of the Ann Stockman Perpetual Trophy. State Executive for 1974-75 consists of State President, Mrs A. Rowe; Imm. Past President, Mrs J. Ames; senior Vice-President, Mrs G. Rolfe; junior Vice-President, Mrs L. Bettridge; Country Vice-Presidents, Mrs Wellstead (Katanning) and Mrs Sains (Morawa); State Secretary, Mrs G. Ford; State Treasurer, Mrs N. Lowe; committee, Medebes Angel, Buckle, Chilcott, Ferro, Holder, Jolley, Kemp, Mortimer, Wykink, Sullivan, Symington and Young.

A LONDON READER REMEMBERS ANZAC

Pertaining to a letter received from Mr John Churchill (formerly Princetale Road, London W11, 4N.J., England):

It was with deep interest that I read the article "The Spirit of Anzac is not dead" (Listening Post - February 1974).

I have sent the issue on to the sister of the Australian Gallop, Mrs Simpson who will be honoured to see him mentioned.

She is now in her eighties and is at present in the St John's Nursing Home, Hastings, Sussex (Eng.).

During the Great War one of my four brothers who had been with the Royal Marines on Gallipoli thrilled me (then a schoolboy) with tales of the exploits of the men of the 22nd Battalion, the end of which saw the final roll-call of the greatest of all the heroic battalions sustained by the gallant 9th Australian Division, and us of the 51st Highland Division.

My own service with the Seaforth Highlanders covered the period from 1929 to 1945, including Dunkirk, Alamain, Tunisia, Sicily and D-Day - plus some of the best moments of my life. With all due respect to the British Army, the Commonwealth troops were not only the finest fighting force of the Great War, but also the best of the Allies. With all due respect to the British Army, the Commonwealth troops were not only the finest fighting force of the Great War, but also the best of the Allies.

Conspicuous absence

With league president, Percy Pearson, on her right, and women auxiliary members on her left, the E.S.L Women's Auxiliary State President, Mrs A. Rowe, reads her annual report to Congress.

Support for National Anthem

At the May meeting of the State Executive it was decided to reaffirm State branch support for the retention of the National Anthem.

The League's decision in support of the anthem was made at last year's National Congress in Perth.

Congress then agreed to support retention of the anthem for ceremonial and state occasions but also agreed to the adoption of a "national song" for other public occasions.

WA to host for VAD rally

For November this year the Middle East V.A.D. Association plans the biggest gathering of ex-service women ever held in W.A.

About 90 members - from all over Australia and including one from the United Kingdom and another from New Zealand, will be participating in the four-day reunion in Perth commencing on Friday November 1.

The W.A. branch of the association comprises 29 members. Among the visitors at the Perth rally will be Sister Nell Savage, who survived the sinking of the Australian hospital ship Centaur in 1943, and Sister Bridie who was on the hospital ship Oranje.

Previous reunions have been held in Victoria, South Australia and New South Wales.

The only Voluntary Aid Detachment contingent to serve in the Middle East left Australia in November 1941. Its 200 members included 25 who emigrated to Fremantle.

The Perth reunion will mark the 33rd anniversary of the arrival of the contingent in the Middle East.

Anzac House visitor

A recent visitor to Anzac House was Mr Peter Alexander, general secretary of the Air Force Association of Australia. Mr Alexander is also general secretary of the World Veterans Association and organizing secretary of the Ex-service Action Group.

He was received at Anzac House by State Secretary, Mr Pearson and Vice-President, Mr Turner. "I had quite a discussion with him," Mr Pearson said at the June executive meeting.

He had attended a meeting of members of an association of licensed bookmakers. Some 87% of clubs throughout the State were members of the association, he said.

Of 220 member-bodies only 67 were represented at the meeting, which had voted 53-32 in favour of the re-introduction of poker machines.

It was agreed that the existing facilities for gambling were inadequate and that a return to poker machines be resisted.

Poker machines opposed

The State branch of the League is opposed to the re-introduction of poker machines to the local club scene.

This was decided unanimously at the May executive meeting. The decision was taken after consideration of an invitation from the Royal Commission into Gambling to make a submission to it.

It was agreed to accept the invitation. Mr W. Josephson said that a few nights earlier he had attended a meeting of members of an association of licensed bookmakers.

Bookings limited for ball

Numbers for the R.S.L. Ball this year are being kept down to 400.

This is to avoid a degree of crowding experienced last year.

At the June executive meeting Mr P. Farrow reported that bookings had been coming in very well.

The ball is again being held at the Subiaco Civic Centre - on Friday, August 16.

THE LISTENING POST, August, 1974 - Page 5
At Congress Lieut-Cdr, J. J. Johnson, of H.M.A.S. Leeuwin, was appointed incoming Warden of the State War Memorial.

His term of duty will commence on November 11, when the memorial will be presented with his keys of office by the outgoing Warden, Sir Milner Stahl.

Because of Sir Milner's unavoidable absence it had been decided that his address to Parliament would be delivered on November 11th by the Minister on the War Memorial.

There had been an increase of public interest in the memorial.

On Anzac Day, starting from the Dawn Service, there had been an unbroken stream of visitors to the memorial throughout the day.

Keep this day free

Please keep Saturday, August 24th, free for the Ex-servicewomen's Club Anzac Day Fete & Picnic.

The fete will be held in the grounds of the Royal Hotel, East Fremantle, and all proceeds will be donated to the Anti-Vivisection Society of South Australia.

The organiser will be in charge of the children's section and will be glad to receive any suitable items

PILGRIMAGE TO ALBANY

There is to be a pilgrimage to Albany in November to commemorate an event of 60 years ago.

This was the departure from the port on November 11, 1914, of the first troops to leave Australia in the Great War.

The pilgrimage, covering November 2 and 3, is being organised by the Albany branch of the Returned & Services League of Australia.

The draft programme provides for a parade of returning veterans through the town on the Saturday morning, followed by a commemorative service in the Albert Lagoon Hotel.

The dinner will be in the evening at the Grand Hotel, and the final event will be a inspection of Stoneleigh Military Park by the Warden of the State War Memorial.

No member of the public will be admitted to the service at the Desert Mounted Corps Memorial on Mt Clarence.

A Turkish delegation has been invited to attend.

Further details available at Bank Commonwealth, Perth.
$16 million spent on welfare work

Since it was established in 1947 the Services Canteens Trust Fund has spent almost $16,000,000 on relief of distress and educational assistance to eligible ex-service men and women and their dependants. Of this total about $10,000,000 has been spent on educational assistance and the balance, about $4,000,000 will be expended by 1987.

In August and September this year applications will be invited from eligible persons for education awards payable in the 1976 school year. Awards may be made to eligible children in each of the four school years prior to becoming eligible for Commonwealth Secondary Allowance.

In New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania this covers the first four years of secondary school education. In Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia it covers the last year of primary school education and the first three years of secondary education.

Value of Awards

Award payments are $150 for the year in which the child enters secondary school and $110 for other years.

Eligibility

Children of men and women who served in the Australian armed forces between 3/9/1939 and 30/6/47 are eligible for benefits.

Means Test

There is a means test based on the family income for the year ended June 30, 1974.

Applications

Applications must be lodged with the Central Office or the office in the State of domicile of the parents not later than October 15 next.

DETAILS GIVEN ON PENSION INCREASE

The Minister for Repatriation and Compensation, Senator Wheeldon, has elaborated upon recent Government moves to increase repatriation benefits for war widows and service pensioners.

The new measures were introduced in the House of Representatives on July 24 by Mr. Bowen, the Minister representing Senator Wheeldon, Senator Wheeldon said that it was proposed to increase war widows' pensions by $5 to $31 a week.

The pension of a single service pensioner would go up by the same amount to $31 a week and that of a married couple by $5 each to $51 a week.

The Minister said that other repatriation pensions and allowances would be considered in the normal budget deliberations and any increases would be announced in the budget speech.

The proposed increases would become payable from the first pension pay-day after the enabling legislation received royal assent, which was expected to be pay-day August 1. Payments at the increased rates would be made on August 15.

In addition to increasing payments to existing service pensioners the new provisions would mean that many people who were previously ineligible would now qualify for service pensions for the first time.

Persons who considered they might now qualify should write to the Deputy Commissioner of Repatriation in their State.

Annual Ball

The annual ball of the Naval Association will be held in the Embassy Ballroom, Perth, on Friday September 30 (7.30 to 1.30). Admission is $12.50 (doubles) and dress optional.

Peter Josephsen and his Silver Cascades will supply the music and there will be refreshments. Bookings through Mrs. Wasland, 15 Aphabet Street, Baywater, (511 5521).

WRANS on firing line at HMAS Cerberus

Leading Seaman "Lofty" Muston has cause to look concerned. That's his ammunition that WRANs Bridge Annice (left) and Raeledn Chaplin are loading. Bridge comes from Northam (W.A.) and Raedene from Broken Hill (N.S.W.).

Wran Melissa Dennis adjusts the computer as Wran Bridge Annice (foreground) calibrates a recording unit, watched by Petty Officer Angus McMillan. Melissa is from Hove (S.A.).

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THE LISTENING POST, August, 1974 — Page 7
Tribute to Australia

There is now a magnificent Australian War Memorial at Phuoc Le (Bario), capital of Phuoc Tuy Province, South Vietnam, commemorating ten years of military and civil assistance to the Government of the Australian Army.

The memorial was designed by Mr. Malcolm Armstrong, Australian chargé d'affaires in-situ to the Phuoc Tuy Province Government, to commemorate the 5-year anniversary of the United States-Vietnamese War. The memorial was completed at Phuoc Tuy in April 1967.

The memorial was dedicated to the memory of the Vietnamese people who served in the Australian Armed Forces from 1962 to 1972, beside their Vietnamese friends and compatriots in a common struggle for freedom and democracy.

The memorial is a permanent monument of the Phuoc Tuy Province Government, symbolising the friendship between the two countries.

Weekend meetings to continue

The Esperance Sub-branch had a strong representation at the weekend meetings, with over 50 members attending. The Esperance Sub-branch is now one of the largest sub-branches in the state.

The Sub-branches are merging

The Esperance Sub-branch had a strong representation at the weekend meetings, with over 50 members attending. The Esperance Sub-branch is now one of the largest sub-branches in the state.