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As the Acting State President, I would like to apologise for the State President’s absence due to illness.

This day we commemorate the seventy anniversary of the landing of Gallipoli which is being commemorate throughout Australia and New Zealand. There are very few opportunities for us today who remember the first Anzac Day and those who took part in that historic landing.

There is little that one can say on this occasion that has not been said many times before, but we must remind ourselves and future generations that the “good life” we enjoy today is a result of the sacrifices made by those who went before and in particular those whom we honour in our commemoration service today.

At the dawn service this morning His Excellency the Governor, representatives of Federal and State Governments, Service Chiefs, Civic Leaders, Members of the Diplomatic and Consular Services and general public laid wreaths at the State War Memorial, where the names of Western Australians, who gave their lives, are perpetuated.

We are indebted to a great number of people who make the smooth running of this day possible. The Chief Marshal and his assistants, Police; Bands, St John Ambulance and so many other helpers behind the scenes, too numerous to mention. All are to be congratulated for the wonderful job they do.

In 1978, in an effort to add a new dimension to Anzac Day, the RSL with support and consent of the Federal Government established the Annual Anzac Awards.

These awards would recognise the efforts of Australians who have given service to their fellow human beings and the community in some positive way outstanding way, and promote the concept of international understanding.

The two categories of the awards are:

**THE ANZAC PEACE AWARD:** One-only of which is awarded to an Australian citizen in recognition of his/her efforts in promoting international understanding and thus make a contribution to world peace.

**ANZAC OF THE YEAR AWARD:** Seven of which are awarded annually to recognise the efforts of ordinary Australians who have given service to their fellow human beings and to the community, in some positive and compassionate way.

The names of this year’s winners were announced on 24 April. The winner of the Anzac Peace Award is Anthony Cahalan of Sydney, who, while a student himself with the Student International Exchange Programme, fostered the idea of student exchange and has put some years of voluntary work into its aims and objects.

Of the seven winners of the Anzac of the Year Award, one is a West Australian. I refer of course to Mrs Mary Hasleby of Geraldton whose work in connection with a...
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LISTENING POST — WINTER, 1985
great many charitable organisations in that area.
On your behalf, I extend our congratulations to all the
winners of the awards.
In this particular year — 1985 — chosen as International
Youth Year, we should remember that 45 percent or more
than half a million persons unemployed in Australia, are
under the age of 24 and are receiving unemployment
benefits. It is possible that in addition there is a large
number of persons who are not registered as unemployed,
and these "hidden" unemployed compound the problem
of finding jobs for all those who want to work.
Various employment programmes such as the
community employment programme have served to
provide some short term relief for a few people, but it is
not enough. There have been many expensive exercises,
one of which appear to offer any long term advantages
either the unemployed or to the community. Some of
the jobs created will have no impact upon the creation of
long term employment. The return to acceptable levels
of unemployment will be a long and exhausting process.
There is a pressing need to provide some form of pre-
employment activity for the many thousands of young
people who have never been employed, and are caught
up in the vicious circle of "no job without experience
and no experience without a job".
For some time the RSL has been advocating the
development and to implement a national scheme for
community service aimed particularly at young people.
The scheme would attempt to fill the gap between leaving
school and entering the work force. Not only would the
scheme provide individual persons with a return for their
efforts, and a challenge, but it would also develop a firm
foundation for the responsibilities and obligations of each
individual as a citizen.
We note that the Premier of Western Australia has
recognised the role of a national service scheme in the
character building of young people. He recognises and
so does the RSL that such a national scheme should not
be confined to purely military training but should have a
number of streams which enable young people to develop
in the area of their own choosing.
The League has constantly advocated stronger defence
forces for our country and has, since its inception,
supported the ANZUS agreement, believing it to be the
cornerstone of any defence policy affecting Australia's
area of involvement.
The League at a recent meeting of its national executive
re-affirmed its full support for Australia's continued
participation in the ANZUS treaty. The RSL recognises
that while this treaty exists, Australia has certain
commitments which must be honoured if we are to expect
assistance in return.
The League has extended congratulations to the
Government and its sensible and responsible stand on
ANZUS. It is felt that our views are shared, not only by
the entire ex-service community but by the vast majority
of concerned Australians. The RSL believes however that
this commitment must be expressed in practical ways if
it is to be of real value.
We trust that those responsible will search for ways and
means to find an end to the impasse that has developed
regarding the ANZUS Treaty.
While the League is committed to the retention of the
National Flag, which has basically been our country's
symbol since federation, there are elements in the country
who would set aside, or tear down this symbol of unity,
on the pretence of putting it in place something more in
keeping with the times in which we live.
If the flag is changed, it would be as a result of apathy
on the part of the population, rather than by universal
public demand. Let us all therefore make ourselves aware
of what would eventuate and play a more positive role in
the retention of the National Flag in its present form.
As today is a day of commemoration and a time of
reflection on the past, and to honour the memories of
those thousands of men and women who gave their lives
or suffered as a result of war, a quotation of Alfred
Housman, a lecturer in English at Cambridge University
is appropriate, written by the poet after visiting war
cemeteries in France at the conclusion of the Great War.

"Here dead we lie because we did not choose to
live and shame the land from which we sprung life,
to be sure is nothing much to lose but young men
think it is and we were young."

Acting President,
J.P. HALL, B.E.M.

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<th>Day</th>
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<td>Sundays</td>
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R.S.L. protests to Government over new repatriation legislations

15 May, 1985

The Hon. G. Scholes, MP
Acting Minister for Veterans' Affairs
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr Scholes,

As I indicated to you this morning the RSL and I am certain the whole veteran community of Australia is deeply concerned with many aspects of the Government's economic statement of last night as they affected Australia's serving and ex-service population.

My special concern and that of the League is the fact that the economic statement has breached undertakings given by the Government in respect of any proposed changes to veterans' entitlements under Repatriation legislation. These undertakings were twofold.

The first was that there would be no major changes in legislative provisions affecting veterans without consultation with the RSL and the veteran community. The second was that there would be a period of three to four months before changes incorporated in the proposed Veterans' Entitlements Bill which the Government planned to introduce before the end of the present sittings were debated in the Parliament.

At this point I must protest most strongly at the breach of undertakings which were clear and unambiguous. The statement itself contained a number of areas that will give the ex-service community cause for deep concern. These are:

1. Section 47 and the benefit of doubt provisions of the Act. It was appreciated that following the "O'Brien" case moves were afoot to introduce some exclusions relating to Section 47. The proposals contained in the statement, however, go well beyond what the RSL would consider in any way responsible. The fact that Section 47 will now be amended to state that a pension will not be granted unless there is reasonable "hypothesis" linking a claim for incapacity or death with eligible service is tantamount to obliging the veteran or the widow to establish proof of a case. This is quite contrary to the spirit of this Section of the Act. Further to this is the requirement that, where the death of a veteran had occurred 40 years or more after his last date of service, Section 47 would not apply to the widow's claim. I believe this is penny pinching and imposes a burden on the widow without any logic or reason. After all there can be little difference between the veterans situation 39 to 40 years after his service. It has all the appearances of a figure that has been grabbed out of the air merely because it is 40 years since the end of the second world war.

2. The new rules on the award of TPI pensions will, we believe, impose hardship in many cases. Veterans have generally regarded the TPI pension as a higher level of compensation for total and permanent disability. The remuneration aspect of this has not been significant in attitudes towards the TPI pension over the years. To introduce this limitation now means that the unemployed under 65 could be rejected because he is unemployed. The veteran over 65 who is retired and is on a 100% pension for a heart condition, for example, cannot obtain the higher level compensation because he too is not receiving earned income or "remuneration". This restriction is unacceptable and needs review.

3. The plan to terminate dependants pensions is strongly opposed by this organisation. You will recall that we have made a number of submissions to the Government on dependants allowances with a view to them being continued in a helpful and practical way. I would now suggest that this matter should also be reviewed, that the dependants allowances be continued, that certain options for the wife and children of the pensioner be included. There should be one important additional provision that is, that when a general rate pensioner dies from a "non-accepted" disability that his wife should continue to receive 50% of his principal pension. Before the husband's death there are two people living in the home receiving the principal pension of $66.30 per week. After the pensioner's death the widow is still faced with set expenses in running a home. She deserves, in our view, to continue to receive 50% of her husband's war compensation.

4. It is a matter of concern that the Government plans to terminate resettlement loans for serving personnel. We would strongly recommend that this matter be reviewed, that a new resettlement loans scheme would be introduced, that it should be controlled by private financial institutions and with an interest subsidy paid by the Government in much of the same way as that proposed for the new Defence Service Homes Scheme. In this way greater controls will be imposed on the borrower, more flexibility will be brought into the scheme and the Government will not be required to meet the cost of the principal sum.

The RSL is attracted to the concept envisaged for the modified Defence Service Homes Scheme. Its success will depend on the size of the interest subsidy that is made available to the borrower. At the present time our understanding is that this interest subsidy will be based on the existing loan of $25,000. The amount of that loan was set some 5 years ago and since that time there have been massive changes in the cost of housing construction. We strongly urge the Government to increase the subsidy on an amount that reflects the present economic levels in the housing industry, possibly $35,000 or $40,000. The other features of the loan which introduces much greater flexibility are welcomed.

The other matter on the Defence Service Homes Scheme on which the RSL seeks a review is the fact that it will not apply to new enlists in the Defence
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1/2 Kg Mince  1 Chicken  1 Kg Lamb Cutlets
1/2 Kg Sausages  1 Kg Pork Roast  1 Roasting Leg
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Forces after the introduction of the legislation. We strongly urge that the scheme should remain available on an on-going basis to serving personnel.

One other matter relating to defence service homes is that of the continuation of the defence service homes insurance cover. It is important that this should be safeguarded for all those now in the scheme and those who will come in subsequently.

There are other matters contained in the statement that give us cause for concern. These will be examined and will be the subject of further negotiations. Again I would express the League’s very real concern at the way in which this whole matter has been handled. It gives the impression of agreements being repudiated and greatly affects the confidence veterans have in the Government. I do hope that the whole matter can be deferred, dealt with in conjunction with the new Veterans’ Entitlements Bill and subsequently debated in the Budget Session of the Parliament.

Your sincerely

Sir William Keys

National President

CONCESSIONS AND BENEFITS

TRAVEL

Westrail
Free rail passes are available to T. & P.I. and blind pensioners for travel on all routes in the metropolitan area. Westrail also offers one free second class return trip, or two single trips, per year for travel outside the metropolitan area. Apply to the Community Welfare Department.

M.T.T.
Veterans in receipt of 75% disability pension or over are also entitled to a free Metropolitan Transport Trust Destination Pass. T. & P.I. pensioners qualify for a free All Routes Pass. Apply to the Community Welfare Department.

FARES

M.T.T. and Westrail Services
The following travel concessions are available to holders of Pensioner Health Benefit/Travel Concession Card (PHB) and to holders of a War Widow’s Concession Fares Certificate (CFC).

Holders of PHB and CFC cards are entitled to:
- reduced fares on all MTT services in the metropolitan area; and
- reduced fares on regular Westrail services in country, and metropolitan areas and one free single or return journey per year outside the metropolitan area.

Australian National Railways
Australian National Railways provide unlimited free rail travel, which covers the first-class fare component, but not charges for sleeping berth and meals, on its services to:
- holders of the Victoria Cross and the George Cross and their wives and widows;
- World War 1 Veterans who served in the Australian Forces and their wives and widows;
- World War 1 Veterans who served in allied forces during World War 1 and their wives and widows; and
- Australian and allied World War 1 merchant mariners who served in a theatre of war during World War 1, their wives and widows.

If you think you may be eligible you may apply for a World War 1 Travel Concession Card from this Department.

Free travel is also provided to the following organisations:
- Blinded Soldiers’ of St Dunstans, Australia.
  — Free travel once a year for each member and attendant.
- Limbless Soldiers’ Association
  — Free travel twice a year between Port Pirie Junction and Alice Springs and over A.C.T. Railway.
- Free travel between Serviceton or Broken Hill and Kalgoorlie. A limited number of passes is allotted annually by the association.
- Free travel as required for members travelling between their homes and work up to a maximum distance of 55 kilometres.
- Free travel for attendants accepted by the Department of Veterans’ Affairs while accompanying members.
- Australian Federation of Totally and Permanently Incapacitated Ex-servicemen and Women.
- Free travel between Port Pirie Junction and Alice Springs.
- Free travel between Serviceton or Broken Hill and Kalgoorlie. A limited number of passes is allotted annually by the association.
- Free travel for attendants accepted by the Department of Veterans’ Affairs while accompanying members.
- Australian and Allied World War 1 merchant mariners who served in a theatre of war during World War 1, and their wives and widows.

Where an extended journey involves both State and National Lines, a reduced fare is available to PHB card holders.

For further information contact the Railway Booking Office.

North West Residents
Pensioners who have a travel concession card and who have lived north of the 26th parallel for more than two years continuously, are entitled to one free return trip (lasting up to three months) a year to Perth by a regular passenger service. This concession does not apply to dependants.

Application forms must be submitted to the Transport Commission (telephone 386 7511) a month before the first intended date of travel.

Private Bus Service
PHB and CFC holders are eligible for reduced fares on private bus services to Albany, Bunbury, Busselton, Geraldton, Kalgoorlie and Mandurah.

Australian National Shipping Line
A reduction of 50% on passenger fare (excluding those for deluxe and luxury berths) may be granted to the following pensioners travelling on the Australian National Line ship ‘Empress of Australia’ (Melbourne-Tasmania):
- T. & P.I. pensioners and attendants;
- Limbless Veterans and attendants;
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• Blinded Veterans and attendants; and
• Service Pensioners who hold PHB cards.
This concession does not apply to passage money for a pensioner's vehicle or pets.
For further information contact the Tasmanian Government Tourist Bureau.

Air Services

Eligible pensioners living in Western Australia can travel on Airlines of Western Australia or Skywest Airlines flights at half the published fare (except to Rottnest Island).

Pensioners must be aged over 65 (males) and over 60 (females), and a certificate must be obtained from this Department before application is made to the airlines or travel agent. The concession does not apply on Mondays or Fridays, or during busy periods, and is subject to loading.

Reservations can usually be confirmed 24 hours before the flight.

FUNERAL BENEFITS

What are Funeral Benefits?
Funeral benefits are not designed to meet the full cost of funerals for a Veteran or his/her dependants, but to assist by contributing towards the total expenses involved.

The Veteran's next-of-kin or any person responsible for payment of the funeral expenses may apply. The cost of transporting the body may also be met in some circumstances. Assistance may also be provided in respect of the funeral of a World War II, Merchant Mariner or Boer War Veteran. Some further information is given below. More details can be obtained by inquiring at any office of the Department.

How Much?
The maximum benefits available are $550, $40 and $20, depending on eligibility. The amount paid will, in some circumstances, depend on whether payment towards the cost of the funeral has been received from any other source, for example, from the Department of Social Security.

When is $550 Payable?
Up to $550 may be granted towards the funeral expenses of:
• any Veteran who dies as a result of service;
• any Veteran who was receiving the Special Rate (including T. & P.I.) Pension when he or she died, or is later judged to have been eligible to receive a pension at that rate;
• any Veteran who died in a hospital or similar institution, or while going to or from a hospital, if the Department of Veterans' Affairs had approved the hospitalisation or travel;
• any Veteran who has been discharged from hospital while terminally ill, if the Department of Veterans' Affairs had approved the discharge;
• any Veteran with dependants, or any widow receiving a War Widows' pension with children who left an estate with a net value of less than $5,000 (this is in addition to the value of the family car); or
• any Veteran without dependants, or any child of a deceased Veteran, or any widow receiving a War Widows' pension who leaves an estate which is not sufficient to meet all liabilities including funeral expenses. (Detailed information about how the value of an estate is calculated can be obtained from the Department of Veterans' Affairs.)

-When is $40 Payable?
$40 may be paid to:
• a Service Pensioner* or the spouse of a Service Pensioner*, who has paid or is liable to pay for the funeral of:
  — the spouse of the Service Pensioner*;
  — a child of the Service Pensioner*; or
  — a Service Pensioner*;
• a person receiving a pension from the Department of Social Security* who has paid or is liable to pay for the funeral of a Service Pensioner*.

-When is $20 Payable?
$20 may be paid to any person who has paid, or is liable to pay for the funeral of a Service Pensioner*.

The Service Pensioner or Department of Social Security Pensioner must be eligible to receive pensioner health benefits.

How to Apply

Applications for Funeral Benefits should be made as soon as possible. You can phone the Department or R.S.L. Welfare Officer and ask for an application form to be sent to you, or call into one of our branch offices and collect one. You may also apply by letter.

Transportation Costs

When a Veteran dies while living away from his/her usual home, payment at Departmental expense, of the cost of returning the remains to the usual place of residence will not normally be approved. However, when absence from the Veteran's usual home was on medical advice, payment not exceeding the amount it would cost to return the remains to the usual place of residence may be made when:
• the Veteran's death has been accepted as service-related; or he/she was receiving one of the Special Rates of disability pension at the time of death; or
• the Veteran died in, or while travelling to, or from an institution to which he/she had been authorised to proceed.

This allowance does not apply to local or metropolitan funerals or to Veterans who die outside Australia, and is only payable when a specific charge for transportation has been made.

Assistance by Office of Australian War Graves

When the death of the Veterans is service-related the Office of Australian War Graves will provide a memorial plaque and maintain the grave of a deceased Veteran. A pamphlet on this service may be obtained from any branch office of the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

Who is a Veteran?
A Veteran is a person who served in the Australian Forces:
• in the 1914-18 War;
• in the 1939-45 War;
• as a member of the Interim Forces;
• in the Korea Malaya Operations;
• as a member of the British Commonwealth Far East Strategic Reserve Force;
• On Special Overseas Service in special areas; or
• as a member of the Regular Defence Force on or after 7 December 1972.

Any enquiries regarding bugler, Funeral Advice or help contact, Welfare Officer (R.S.L.) Patricia Rowland on 325 9799.
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NEW DEFENCE CHIEFS IN W.A.

Commodore R. (Malcolm) Baird, R.A.N. has been appointed Naval Officer Commanding W.A.
Born in Geelong, Victoria and entered the R.A.N. from Geelong College in 1948. He graduated with the Kings Medal in 1951. He qualified as a watchkeeping officer in H.M.A.S. Anzac before joining the Royal Yacht, Britannia to take charge of the first Anzac contingent to be posted to the Royal Yacht in 1956/7.
Commodore Baird joined H.M.A.S. Warramunga as Navigating Officer and in 1958/9 commissioned the Royal Australian Naval College at H.M.A.S. Creswell.
He undertook R.N. exchange in H.M. Ships Teazer and Whirlwind on the staff of the Captain, 2nd Frigate Sqn. He served on the Fleet Staff in H.M.A.S. Melbourne for two years. He was Executive Officer of H.M.A.S. Yarra for 2 years before joining U.S.S. Salisbury Sound to plan a major SEATO exercise. He was Fleet Communications Officer in 1967 and joined the Navy Office as Deputy Director of Communications in the rank of Commander in 1968. Took command of H.M.A.S. Yarra for 2 years in mid 1970. After service on the Joint Staff of Dept of Defence from 1972-74 to Joint Services Staff College from which he was promoted to rank of Captain.
He planned the second major exercise in the Kangaroo series before taking command of the Royal Australian Naval College in January 1976.
He took command of H.M.A.S. Brisbane in January 1978 after which he became Australian Naval Adviser in the High Commission in London. He joined Navy Office as Director General Naval Manpower and Training in the rank of Commodore in August 1982.

Brig. J.H. Townley, A.M. has been appointed Commander 5 Military District.
Born in Townsville Brig. Townley was educated in Brisbane and joined the service in 1957, after attending R.M.C. Duntroon.
He served with 103 Field Battery in Malaysia in 1962-3 and in Vietnam in 1965-66.
He was an Instructor at the School of Artillery, Sydney in 1968-70 and was Staff Officer at Directorate of Artillery Army H.Q., Canberra in 1970-71.
He served with the 104 Field Battery in Singapore in 1971-73 and as Staff Officer Directorate of Artillery Army Office, Canberra for 1975-76. From 1978-80 he was Exchange Officer, as Lt Colopel, at U.S. Army Fort Hood, Texas and was Director of Artillery, Army Office in 1981-82 and Director of Directorate of Combat Development Army Office in 1983-84.

Group Captain G.W. Neil, D.F.C. has been appointed Officer Commanding R.A.A.F., Pearce W.A. and promoted to the rank of Acting Air Commodore.
He was born in Cremorne, NSW and joined the R.A.A.F. in 1959 after training as a pilot in the active Citizen Air Force. He flew Vampire, Meteor, Sabre and Winjeel aircraft in a number of flying and instructional posts in Australia, Malaya and Thailand from 1960-64.
Since 1965 he has held staff and unit positions. In 1970 he served as a forward controller with the U.S. Air Force in Vietnam and was awarded the D.F.C. for his professional competence, skill and devotion to duty on a visual reconnaissance mission.
He is a graduate of the R.A.A.F. Staff College and Joint Services Staff College. The new Officer Commanding, R.A.A.F. Pearce is Air Commodore Graham Neil, D.F.C.
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12 – LISTENING POST – WINTER, 1985
RSL PRIORITY LIST
ON VETERAN AFFAIRS

The RSL has decided that the following eight items, in
order of priority, are its principle aims to be submitted to
the Australian Government for consideration in the

1. Defence Services Home Loan.
We seek that the maximum defence home
loan be increased to $50,000 with interest charge on
amounts to $12,000 at 3.75%; $12,000 to $15,000 at
7.25% and amounts between $15,000 and $50,000
at 10%, and the waiting time for loans be eliminated.

2. Medical Services
We ask the Government initiatives to increase
financial allocations be continued to include the
upgrading and extensions of medical, dental and
allied treatment services in repatriation hospitals and
that this be accelerated.

3. Dependants: Allowances
We seek the following concerning dependants' allowances:
(a) That the spouse and children of living veterans
be given the option to combine their pension with
the principal pension and the whole of the
pension then be payable subject to indexation.
(b) That provision be made for the grant of a
Bereavement Allowance on the death of a war
pensioner based on 12 weeks payment of a
combined veteran's and wife's pensions which
were payable immediately prior to the veteran's
death.
(c) That on the death of a veteran, in circumstances
in which a war widow's pension is not payable,
50% of the pension payable to the veteran and
dependants at the time of death be paid to the
widow with the widow having the option to elect
to take a lump sum payment.

4. Service Pension Eligibility
We ask that World War II repatriations disability
pensioners be eligible for the service pension at age
65.

5. Free Medical and Hospital Treatment
The league asks that repatriation medical and hospital
treatment benefits be extended to veterans of World
War II, who are in receipt of a service pension, at the
age of 70 years.

6. Service Pension Eligibility
We ask that service pension eligibility be extended
to all veterans whose service in the Australian
Defence Force during World War II qualify them for
the “Returned from Active Service” Badge.

7. Subsidy for Advocacy Service
We ask that a Government Subsidy be granted to the
RSL to assist in the provision of an adequate
advocacy service at the hearing of applicants for
review of decisions under Repatriation and associated
legislation.

8. Recognition of Special Status of Members of the
Defence Force
The RSL ask that the Government recognises the
special status in our society which members of the
Defence Force deserve, that takes into account their
liability for combat service anywhere at any time, the
frequent moves, that they are subject to military
discipline, their frequently long working hours under
arduous working conditions, the very high standard
of professional military performance which is required
and the considerable period of separation from home
and family, and determines their conditions of service
accordingly. Specifically, all former Defence Force
personnel who served between January 2, 1949, and
December 6, 1972, should be eligible for Repatriation
benefits.

KNOW YOUR STAFF

Norman Johnston was appointed War Compensation
Officer in March 1985. He served in the Army for 23 years
with the Royal Australian Regiment which included two
tours in Vietnam.

He also served in New Guinea and Canada on a
exchange basis.

His last posting being O.I.C. Northam Army Camp from
Norm is married with 3 children.
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The Returned Services League Report by Mr N Johnston War Compensation Officer

The following report covers the period from the 8th of March, 1985 to the 16th of May, 1985 (inclusive). During this period 30 Veterans were represented at the Veterans Review Board, a further 3 applications by Veterans were re-listed, with 3 applications being withdrawn at members request. During the same period 137 interviews were conducted, not including several Veterans that arrived without appointment. The number of phone enquires has continued to escalate, as more Veterans become aware of the Advocacy service the Returned Service League provides free of charge.

Listed below is the results of the Veterans Review Board:

1. Veterans' Review Board — Entitlements
   8th March 1985 to 16th May 1985
   Cases handled by the League
   RESULTS
   Disbursements
   accepted
   7
   Adjudged
   7
   Waiting decision
   Total
   7
   2. Veterans' Review Board — Assessments
   8th March to 16th May, 1985
   Cases handled by the League
   RESULTS
   Increase in pension
   (including four TPI)
   14
   Waiting decision
   3
   Adjudged VZ
   4
   Relisted
   2
   Unsuccessful
   2
   Withdrawn
   Total
   29

4. There are currently 23 cases scheduled to be heard between the 16th of May and the 16th of June 1985, all have been listed. A further 15 cases are waiting to be listed by the Veterans Board sometime after the 16th June 1985.

Files on a further 35 applicants have been received by this office, and are being processed through the normal channels. Between 16th May and 31st May 1985 interview time has been solidly booked, 25 interviews are scheduled.

DISABILITY PENSIONS

1. When an application for a new disability claim is lodged with the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA), there are a number of factors that will affect the length of time it will take for that application to be fully processed. Some of these factors are:
   a. Date of Application (all applications are processed in the order they are received).
   b. Whether there is sufficient up to date information on the Veterans file in regards to the claimed disability.
   c. How much further information is required by the DVA ie “medical reports/opinions” before the new claim is presented to the “Delegate” for decision.
   d. How busy the Specialist is that is to investigate the new claim ie how long a Veteran may have to wait for an appointment, or how long it will take the Specialist to complete his report and send it back to DVA.
   e. How many claims are already awaiting decision by the “Delegate”.
   f. Whether the Veteran is available to attend the Specialist on that day.
   g. The claim may require more than one Specialist report/opinion.
   h. If the Veteran chooses to invoke his right in gaining access to his Service/medical records through the Freedom of Information Department, this process could also slow down the procedure.
   i. Internal delays within the DVA ie sickness, Annual Leave etc.

2. From 1st January 1985, a new determining system was introduced in an effort to speed up the processing of claims. This meant that all outstanding claims from the old system were re-directed back to the DVA for determination. There were many claims outstanding at the changeover date of 1st January, 1985, this, coupled with a consistent flow of new claims, and taken in conjunction with any of the above factors, has caused some delays.

3. In March/April, 1985, the Department of Veterans Affairs, in an effort to clear some of the back log of claims, brought in a team of four “Delegates” from Canberra. These four “Delegates”, combined with the five West Australian “Delegates”, cleared in the order of one thousand claims in a period of three weeks.

When the Veterans receive the “Delegates” decision, he may choose to accept it, or lodge an appeal against it. In the event that the Veteran appeals against the decision of the “Delegate”, the claim then goes before the Veterans Review Board for consideration. This appeal must be in writing, and addressed to the Veterans Affairs Department. On receipt of the appeal, the DVA prepare a report referring to the evidence under the control of the Department that is relevant to the review. All things being equal, the Veteran should receive a copy of this report within 6 weeks of his application for a review by the Veterans Review Board. This document is referred to as a 107 VE report.

On receipt of the VE report, the Veteran has 28 days in which to make comment in regards to the report, before DVA forward the Veterans files to the Veterans Review Board (VRB). When the VRB receive the files from the DVA, the application is then listed for hearing. Currently, the waiting period for a hearing is in the proximity of 6 to 8 weeks, however, there are moves afoot to shorten this period of time in about August/September 1985.

LISTENING POST — WINTER, 1985 — 15
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HONOUR FOR WW1 VETERAN

Narrogin Vice President, Brian Dowsett and Secretary K. Madgen journeyed to Armadale on 18th April to present a Fifty Year Service Certificate to Les Harvey, who incidentally celebrated his 90th birthday on that day.

Les joined the 10th Light Horse and served mostly in France with the 11th Bn was wounded and returned to Australia in 1919.

He joined the Williams Repatriation Association before it became the Returned Services League and has continued his membership with the League.

NARROGIN NEWS

ESSAY COMPETITION

In conjunction with the Narrogin High School the Narrogin Sub-Branch conducted an essay competition on the theme "What Anzac Day Means To Me".

The competition was over a period of six weeks prior to Anzac Day and carried prizes of $50 for the best boy and girl. Adjudicators were Grant Froome, Norm Ross and D.R. Perry.

(Note — unfortunately because of lack of space we are unable to print the two essays but the League congratulates DALE FRANCIS and DARREN MITCHELL on their excellent essays.)

EX-SERVICEWOMEN'S AGM

The AGM of the Returned Ex. Servicewomen's Sub-Branch was held in February when we welcomed new Office Bearers. Mrs J. Dowson and Miss Sue Thomas were re-elected Vice-Presidents and Mrs Ruth Donaldson, Treasurer. We welcomed a new Secretary, Mrs Edna Broomhead, who takes over from Miss Geraldine Smith.

The President thanked our past secretary and all office-bearers and members for their support and reported that 1984 was a successful and interesting year with good attendances at meetings and membership numbers increased.

In February the Sub-Branch confirmed its support for the retention of the Australian Flag and become a corporate member of the Australian National Flag Association.

Fund raising functions during the year were well supported and a donation of $200 was made towards improvements at the War Veterans' Home. Just prior to Christmas members entertained and served afternoon tea to residents of the Clifton and Vasey Wings and were able to view some of the recently completed en-suite rooms.

Guest speakers at meetings were Brigadier Abel Dacre OBE who spoke about the Brigade of Gurkhas in Hong Kong, Mrs Gayle Gibson, who advised on nutritional diet, and Mrs Barbara Clinton from Red Cross Headquarters in Perth.

The Sub-Branch was represented at all Anzac Day and Remembrance Day Services at the State War Memorial and at the War Veterans' Home and the Anzac Day Parade on the Esplanade. Proceeds from Poppy Day sales were a slight increase on the previous year. During the winter and spring months, popular picnic outings for members and friends were organized by Miss Sue Thomas, some within the metropolitan area and some to the country, and members are looking forward to more of these gatherings in 1985.

L. Fealy
PRESIDENT

War Veterans' Home

CLIFTON AND VASEY CONVERSIONS

It seems a lifetime ago that we began talking of modernising and converting the ladies section of the Home and yet here we are today, nearing the conclusion of the building and painting programme which will cater for 31 single ladies and 3 married couples, each with the privacy of their own bed/sitting room and en-suite whilst still retaining a main lounge in each block where they can meet with their friends.

Most of the residents must have felt like chess pieces on a chess board as they are moved from place to place to allow work to proceed. We thank them for their patience and fore-bearance during the interim period of the building programme.

We are delighted with the finished job and hope shortly that the dining room and kitchen (nearly completed) will be in operation so that residents in this area will then enjoy facilities as good as those provided in the Frail Aged Section at Howes Wing.

We must take this opportunity of thanking everyone who assisted so much toward the completion of the project.

To our Board for their foresight in setting the wheels rolling to our Architects for the planning, to all R.S.L. Branches and Kindred Associations, to everyone who assisted so much towards the completion of the project, please accept a big thank you from all.

J.P. HALL (Chairman)

CITY OF PERTH SUB-BRANCH

Meetings held second Tuesday of each month, Anzac House, 28 St George's Terrace, Perth at 1815 hours (6.15 pm).

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18 — LISTENING POST — WINTER, 1985
The Flag — Why Change?

As consensus and reconciliation are the watchwords of today, the prospect of a divisive debate on changing the Australian Flag would seem better avoided.

This proposal has been raised when the present flag is enjoying overwhelming community support. Opinion polls indicate that some 70 percent of the population do not want to change the flag — an approval rating that far exceeds that of any politician, political party, and most institutions in our society.

It is optimistic to believe that an alternative flag could command a similar level of support.

It is one of those issues which has the potential to exacerbate political divisions, to set newcomer against Australian-born, and indeed, migrant against migrant. (Over 40 percent of our migrants are British).

National flags, after all, are not merely catchy designs to be compared one with another, they are symbols which over a period of time become invested with deep-rooted emotions and traditions.

Pride in the flag has little to do with qualities of colour and design, but everything to do with how people feel about their country, its achievements and its past.

Some of the supporters of a new flag seem to think that the debate will merely be about the appeal of various patterns on cloth. They misunderstood how the argument will develop. In order to shake the strong public support of our flag it will have to be demonstrated that it represents an era better forgotten, that ‘a new look’, a break with the past is essential.

Changing the flag would be about re-writing the past and transforming the present. It would be about changing the nature of Australian society. Indeed, calls for a new flag were already being linked with demands for a new constitution.

There are a disgruntled few who seem to believe that our past and our achievements should be a cause for shame; that we need to start all over again with a new national identity, a new social structure and a new symbol of nationhood.

In fact, Australia has a lot of which to be proud. Too much of human history is unfortunately a story of political oppression, violent social conflict and poverty.

Australia’s political and economic freedoms, its absence of violent social conflict and its relatively high standard of living are rare and precious achievements; these foundations are now being built upon by those of many and varied national origins, who peacefully co-exist in Australia as Australians.

Some groups promoting the change understand its symbolic significance better than others. That those committed to a platform of radical social change should seek to transform our central symbol of national identity is entirely consistent with their goals.

But there is no good reason why those with more moderate social philosophies should help advance their aims. A new flag would only serve to weaken, not enhance unity.
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NANNUP
Robertson won her medal in 1979, one of the first to be given, for her work for Girl Guides, Red Cross and the Auxiliary. Mrs Windsor received hers in 1982 for Auxiliary, Senior Citizen and Red Cross work. For her interest in Auxiliary and Girl Guides, Mr Clues received hers in 1984. Mrs 'Ford' received her medal for her work for the Auxiliaries and the League. The Victoria Park Auxiliary has been functioning since 1927 and it is indeed an honour that four of its members have been given this award for their dedication and support to the aims and objects of an Auxiliary, the welfare of ex-servicemen and women. It must be unique in the realms of the League in this State that an Auxiliary has had this honour.

State President Len Turner sent Joy the following letter of congratulations.

On behalf of the State Executive and members of the League, heartiest congratulations and best wishes on having been awarded an Australia Day Achievement Medal.

In nominating you for the award we recognized and deeply appreciate your enthusiastic and dedicated service to the League and its members for a long time, and we are indeed proud and gratified that your excellent service has been recognized in your award of the Australia Day Achievement Medallion.

DUAL HONOUR

When Mrs. Joy Ford received the City of Perth Civic Medal this year, she became the fourth member of the Victoria Park Auxiliary to receive this Award. Mrs.

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LISTENING POST — WINTER, 1985 — 23
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SERVICES - TO ST. JOHN AMBULANCE........... 1361
TOTAL............................................ 5396
HOSPITAL CARS................................. 35
JEEPS..................................................11

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CMDRE J.H. PARTINGTON
CAPT. J. LANCASTER
LT. CMDR. L. GOLDSWORTHY

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28 BN
ALF BROOKS 89 yrs.

2/32 BN
GEO DAVIDSON (Qld.)
BLUEY VICKERMAN (Qld.)
CLEM MARWICK 84 yrs.

RAA
BRIG. R.M. DAVIS
BRIG. R. BALE (Patron)

ANZAC SERVICES

BELLEVUE

A well attended Schools Anzac Service at Blackboy Hill was the first of a series of acts of Remembrance to be held over the Anzac Day period.

School children from local schools were hosted by the children of Greenmount Primary School for the Children’s Anzac Service. In all, just over 600 children and 100 adults were witness to a sincere but simple ceremony. School choirs from Greenmount School and St. Anthony’s School sang Anzac songs and led the assembly in singing hymns.

Mr. Jim Naylor, Principal of the host school, Greenmount, introduced the Consul for New Zealand, Mr. J. Robinson, who delivered a short but meaningful address on the meaning of Anzac.

Guests at the ceremony included representatives from the Shire of Swan and Mundaring, Mr. Mike Hall of the State Executive of R.S.L. and Mr. Roley Edward — a Gallipoli veteran. Who, incidentally, is as he puts it “just reaching a hundred years of age”.

WAR VETERANS HOME

More than 200 people, including representatives from the Armed Services, attended the Anzac Eve Service at the War Veterans’ Home, Mt. Lawley.

The service was conducted by the pupils and Choir from the Perth College, and an excellent address given by the Rev. D.N. McGregor. Prayers were given by Jacqueline Raison; Penelope Robins, Larissa Taylor, Cherelle Witney, Fiona Steele. The Scotch College Brass Ensemble and Boarders’ Choir Perth College greatly assisted the service. The 1st Tuart Hill Scouts were also on duty to assist with the parking arrangements.

Twenty three wreaths, including Mt Lawley High School and Coolbinia Primary School, were laid by Kindred and Unit associations. During the afternoon tea the Jnr Vice President of the League and a member of the Board, Rolfe Nyman presented the Perth College and 1st Tuart Hill Scouts, with Certificate of Appreciation from the State Branch for services given to the Home since its inception.

LISTENING POST — WINTER, 1985 — 25
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BASSENEDEAN-GUILDFORD

Members of the Bassendean-Guildford Sub-Branch held their two ANZAC Day Services. Led by the Perth Ladies Highland Pipe Band and, Branch President Keith Phelps, the Bassendean parade, saw 300 ex-Servicemen and community groups on parade.

Parade Marshal, Roy Brown always does a superb job controlling the parade. This year we had to enrol two assistant marshals to assist him. A colourful service was conducted at the Bassendean War Memorial, with an estimated crowd of 700 in attendance. A most pleasing sight was the members of ethnic groups wearing national dress.

At the conclusion of the above service and a hurried "cuppa" supplied by the good ladies of our Women's Auxiliary, several members attended the second service which was held at Stirling Gardens Memorial, in Guildford. This service was attended by at least 200 people and was very impressive with members of the Guildford Grammar Cadet Unit, under the command of Captain Grey mounting guard at the memorial, relieving the Guildford Venturers Troop, who, had maintained a Vigil since dusk on ANZAC Eve. The Bassendean Sea Scouts for the fifteenth year maintained a Vigil at the Bassendean Memorial.

Several members attended services at primary schools and the Cyril Jackson High School. The theme of the address given by the Sub-Branch President was:— ANZAC Day, its origin and why 70 years later we still pay tribute on 25th April.

Membership is on the increase in our Sub-Branch and heaps of social events are being planned by the Social Committee, so we look like having another busy year. We have a Task Force and Welfare Committee which works in co-operation with the local Council Welfare Officer doing Community Work and these chaps are kept reasonable busy.

BICTON-PALMYRA

Approximately 200 ex-servicemen, relatives and children attended our annual dawn service at Edinburgh Hall.

Refreshments were served following the service.

Annual Dinner

Due to the success of last year’s dinner, the committee has decided to continue the event.

It will be held on October 19th, at the Foss Street hall. Pre-dinner drinks will be served at 6.30 pm, an excellent meal will be arranged, this will be followed by dancing until midnight to The Jean-Fitch Trio so a good time is assured. As in the past the dinner will be heavily subsidised, so the cost will be a very reasonable $15 each for member and partner, extra guests are welcome at $17.50 each. This cost includes pre-dinner and dinner drinks.

The Christmas BBQ will be held December 22nd. To cover expenses a charge will be made of $5 per adult and those over 14 years, and $1 per child from 6 to 14 years. This cost covers BBQ pack etc, and liquid refreshments.

Members and guests will be welcome. Father Christmas will attend to hand out presents to those children whose parents have brought presents.

In order that catering arrangements can be made it is imperative that the Sports Officer Eddie Bateman be advised of the number to attend.

Members are reminded that the Sub-Branch is active socially. The following activities are available to all members and guests:— Full bar facilities from 10am to 1pm each Sunday. Carpet bowls, pool, darts, and other activities are available to members during these times.

Full bar-facilities from 4pm to 8pm on Fridays with the same sports facilities. Closing time is dependent on patronage, and is left to the discretion of the Bar Manager. Carpet bowls are played every Tuesday afternoon. All members and guests are welcome.

General Meetings

Members are reminded that general meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month commencing at 7.30 pm. All members are encouraged to attend.

Life Member

Congratulations to Tom Foster, who visited our sick members for many years, on the award of Life Membership for his contribution to the League’s work among ex-servicemen and his community effort.

Don Burns and Brian McLaren have again accepted the onerous duties of President and Secretary respectively. Brian is also Treasurer.

This is our Secretary’s fifth year in the job and completion of this term will equal the record length of Frank Marshall’s period of office. Brian’s attention to detail in his work has maintained Bicton-Palmyra’s status as one of the most active Sub-Branches in the State.

TUDOR LEE

Publicity Officer

BELMONT SUB-BRANCH NEWS

ANZAC SERVICE

On 21st April, a rather warm day, a precisely 1430 hours the former C.S.M., Mitch Cadden, bellowed “RSL Ar-ten-shun” His order was obeyed by the members of both the Belmont and Rivervale-Carlisle sub-branches. Then led by the stirring music of the Perth Ladies Highland Pipe Band the parade marched off towards the City of Belmont’s War Memorial.

It was reported to be the biggest contingent seen for some years, also the onlookers were also reported to be bigger in numbers, it seems to reflect the increasing trend of people to again participate in, and observe, the traditions which over the past decade, or so, had seemed to have been forgotten.

This year the address was given by the President of the Rivervale-Carlisle sub-branch, Mr Norm Healy. This was followed by the wreath laying ceremony, and the sounding
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Off Patterson Rd, 1km north CBH and CSBP turn off
of the "Last Post" and "Revielle" by a bugler from the City of Belmont band.

Amongst the marchers were the Air Training Corps, the Boy Scouts, Girl Guides and for the first time the State Emergency Service as well as the Carmel College Cadets. Most of the youngsters questioned on the meaning of ANZAC service stated it was for "the men who died in the wars" and "to honour those that did not return."

After the parade it was a quick retreat back to the Belmont branch headquarters for some much needed "liquid" refreshments for all the parched throats. Also the Belmont Ladies Auxiliary proved tea, coffee and sandwiches to make it an enjoyable afternoon.

Some of the people on parade were ex-WO2 Mitch Cadden who saw service with 2 Div Sigs in New Guinea and New Britain during W.W.II, and again as a 'Military Policeman' in Vietnam, at both Nui Dat and Vung Tau (no wonder everyone jumped when he barked his orders). Ex-WO2 Phillip 'Tubby' Baker who was with the 2/11 in New Guinea during W.W.II, with 3rd Battalion in Korea and with 22 Construction Company in Borneo during the Indonesian Confrontation. Both Mitch and 'Tubby' were in the same recruit training intake (35th A.I.T.B.) during W.W.II, however they did not catch up with one another again until they became members of the Korea and South East Asian Association.

Another veteran was ex-Sgt Ted Jolley who during the W.W.II saw service in Libya, Crete, Greece, Ceylon, Syria and Lebanon. Ted is also the proud recipient of a medal presented to the forces who served on Crete in 1940-41. This medal, together with a certificate, was presented to Ted by the Greek Consulate General in Perth in 1981.

A lady present, Pam Kossick, was wearing a beautiful cameo brooch. When asked about it she replied that it was given to her mother, wife of Sgt Paul Hepburn. Apparently the brooch was given to all wives and mothers of Geraldton servicemen in April 1917 by "S.R.L.E." Unfortunately Pam Kossick does not know what the initials stand for, so if there is anyone reading this that knows what the initials 'S.R.L.E.' stood for could you contact the Secretary of the Belmont Sub-branch.

ANNUAL DINNER

The Belmont Sub-branch held their annual dinner on the 27th April at their headquarters in Leake St. There were 162 people in attendance for the 5 course meal. The invited guests were the State Juniper Vice-president of the R.S.L. Rolph Nyman, representing the State President, and his wife, together with the Mayor of City of Belmont, Cr Fred Rae and Mrs Rae.

Also amongst the people who attended was Mr Bill Williams, who is one of the older members of the Belmont branch, Bill is 94 years of age and is the holder of the M.M.

After the speeches, and dinner, it was time to carry on with the dancing to the music of Mr Ted White. Apparently Ted White has been the music maker for the Belmont branch since 1970. The job of M.C. was given to Len Keynes, the Junior Vice-President of the Belmont sub-branch, who ensured the proceedings for evening flowed along and that the participants in this dinner were kept under control.

The hall was decked out in the colours of red, white, and blue; how patriotic one can get. Last year the colours were green and gold. A lot of people are interested already as to what colours will be used to decorate the hall next year. Apparently it was very successful for all concerned, and the organisers certainly deserve a pat on the back for a wonderful evening.

Just a note to let you known that more people wanted to attend, but due to the size of the current hall a cut off figure had to be adhered to. Who said that Belmont sub-branch was not progressive.

WANNEROO

Sub Branch President Doug Collins addressing the Wanneroo parade.

There was a big turn out on Anzac Day at the Wanneroo Memorial. A contingent of veterans from World War, Korea and Vietnam led by Roy Bell, the flag bearer, headed a parade of local cadets, scouts and guides from the Shire area. The parade marched to the music of the Balga Salvation Army Band, supported, for the first time, by the Wanneroo Concert Band. Wreaths were laid by the Sub-Branch President, Shire President Cr. Trandos. Many private wreaths were also laid.

Sub-Branch President, Doug Collins gave an excellent address to the 800 assembled for the service. Former Sub-Branch Secretary Doug Newman offered prayers of remembrance while Mrs Newman gave the prayers for the women in war and at home.

GERALDTON

An RSL Life Member, Mr CLEM BURNS, said, the hundreds of wellwishers who lined the streets to applaud the marchers in the main observance represented the highest number he had ever seen — and his first ANZAC Day parade was in 1921 when he was six years of age.

Mr BURNS said about 500 people marched to Birdwood House for the main observance — including 84 ex-service personnel, 150 personnel from U.S.S. GRIDLEY, U.S.S. DOWNES and H.M.A.S. MORESBY; and the remainder from youth groups.

Captain WILLIAM STEPHEN CLARK of U.S.S. DOWNES said he was very impressed by the whole
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ANZAC Day ceremony — particularly the participation of such a large number of young people.

Forty-three wreaths were placed at the Birdwood House Memorial — mainly being representatives of a variety of community organisations.

The RSL Sub-Branch President, Mrs LORRAINE GILBERT, said in her ANZAC Day address that the very least they could do for the ANZACS and their successors was to remind forgetful Governments of the RSL motto — THE PRICE OF LIBERTY IS ETERNAL VIGILANCE.

Mrs GILBERT said they should not allow a minority to sever the ties and friendship they shared with the UNITED STATES — to whom they also owed a debt of gratitude for their freedom.

Following the singing of “Land of Hope and Glory” and “Advance Australia Fair”, a member of the RSL Sub-Branch, Mr GEORGE COMPTON, began singing “God Save Our Queen” — to which there was an immediate response from the Town Band and the huge assembly.

There was a wheel-chair participant among the marchers — Mr DES SMYTHE, who served in the Second-Third Field Regiment and also in Allied Intelligence in World War Two. The 80 year old former Captain and Acting-Major was pushed in his wheelchair by the GERALDTON Sub-Branch Secretary, Mr CHARLES PHILLIPS, after having lost both his legs as a result of the berri-berri infection that he suffered in BORNEO.

One-hundred people took part in the Dawn Parade march — about twice as many as last year.

B.J.B.

COOLGARDIE

Since our last contribution to the “Listening Post”, we in the Eastern Goldfields have had another Quarterly meeting. This time the venue was at Kambalda and it turned out to be a very happy occasion as the Kambalda Ex Servicemen’s Club was officially opened.

From Coolgardie, 12 of us travelled by bus to Boulder where we picked up several members and proceeded to Kambalda, where the meeting was opened by Bob Martin. Business was quickly dealt with and then all present (approximately 40) moved into the new premises and were regaled with ample refreshments. Thanks to the Ladies for a magnificent lunch.

Following the luncheon we returned to Coolgardie via Boulder and according to the bus driver — what we called singing, sounded like tomcats on a hot tin roof. However, it was a thoroughly enjoyable day and very much appreciated by all present. The next quarterly will be held at Boulder on 23rd June and any member in the district is cordially invited.

Anzac Day and what a magnificent response. Fifty members and citizens turned up at the Dawn Service (5.45 a.m.) and says much for the community spirit. Our thanks again to the Ladies for their efforts foodwise.

Our thanks also to the local Headmaster and Staff for bringing all the children down to the War Memorial for the special Anzac Day Service from Kings Park, especially as this was the first time this had ever happened in Coolgardie.

“The Bushranger”

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BUNBURY

Hundreds of Bunbury residents gathered for the traditional Anzac Day service. They cheered the veterans who marched in drizzling rain, remembering the Australians who died on the beaches of Gallipoli 70 years ago. They recognised too, the efforts of comrades who fought in subsequent battles, in the World War and Vietnam.

A colourful array of medals adored the veterans. Miss Edith Harler, of South Perth, is one of only three women in WA entitled to wear the Florence Nightingale medal for services to nursing in wartime and peace. It was a boat-shaped medal of pure gold, bordering a raised portrait of Miss Nightingale in silver on a red enamel cross.

Miss Harler, who served in the Middle East and New Guinea, paid tribute to the comradeship and resilience of Australia soldiers, and those who survived the tragedy of war.

Earlier, when scouts had kept an all-night vigil on Bunbury’s war memorial, a dawn service was well attended.

The morning’s Anzac Day service was a community effort with help from Bunbury City Band, school students, St John Ambulance officers and the police.

Roman Catholic Bishop of Bunbury Peter Quinn, led the Lord’s Prayer and Bunbury Cathedral Grammar School student Kathryn Osborne presented the Anzac requiem.

In the march past, Bunbury Mayor Dick McKenzie, guest Miss Harler and Returned Services Leage branch president Alf Mainstone accepted the salutes.

7TH AUST INF BN. (AIF)

Members of the 7th Bn (1939-45) Association, are anxious to contact all Western Australian ex-members of the 7th Aust Inf Bn (AIF), who served in Darwin, New Guinea and Bougainville.

For further information, please contact Jack or Contact Allan L. Pedder, 62 Hotham rd., NIDDRIE, Vic. 3042.

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BUNBURY NOTES

At a time when many Sub-Branches are experiencing difficulties we are enjoyed our best year for some time, writes Alf Mainstone, Sub-Branch President. "I feel that one of the main reasons for this is the harmonious relationship existing between our younger and older members."

Our increase in membership is not confined to young members but many WW2 vets are now joining for the first time or rejoining after many years away from the RSL.

The RSL represents only about 20% of the veteran population in the Bunbury area, so there is potential for a much bigger Sub-Branch. Suffice it to say that I am very pleased with the inroads which are being made in the area of membership.

Helpers at the hall are always welcome when spare time permits. It is becoming the rule rather than the exception to see a couple of extra faces between 8 and 10 each day.

Stan Sheldon, John Searle and John Haynes just to name a few, have given considerable help during the last couple of months.

Because of the more attractive looking hall we are getting an increase in bookings, and of course this means with the hall trading account in the black, that more improvements will be possible in the future.

Our Welfare Officers are continuing their good work and of course they do not discriminate between RSL and non RSL members.

The combined DVA and RSL venture earlier in the year was an overwhelming success, indicating the need for a DVA office in country centres. This is the basis of one of our resolutions to State Congress which will be pursued to the fullest.

One of our main objectives this year is to have the ANZAC Park Memorial redeveloped with the view to eliminating some of the problems associated with it at present.

Many thanks to all for a top ANZAC Day effort.

Don't forget that meeting date — 3rd Wed of every month.

BALIKPAPAN TOUR

A tour is being organised by a group of former members of the Silent Seventh Division to revisit Balikpapan in Kalimantan (Borneo).

One of the group, Brian Bohan, has recently visited the area to arrange a suitable itinerary and a welcome by local dignitaries.

Points of interest at Balikpapan will include: The landing beach, the airstrips of Manggar and Sepingang, villages in Balikpapan and across the harbour, former campsites and a trip up river to meet the Dyaks. Also a visit to Samarinda.

Balikpapan a complete ruin during occupation by the 7th Div is now a prosperous oil and timber centre with a population of about 140,000. A number of the oil people have homes in W.A.

As well as the "off the beaten track" section to Balikpapan for 5 days the tour will include 5 days in Jakarta so that the ladies may take advantage of the shopping opportunities which abound. Jakarta a sprawling metropolis of 7 million was once referred to by Ian Fleming, creator of James Bond, as one of "the thrilling cities" of the world.

4 days of luxurious lying on the beach at Bali will round off the tour.

All accommodation will be first class and the tour will be fully escorted.

For information and a brochure please ring Brian Bohan on 446 6774 or Motive Travel on 322 2666 (P.O. Box 40, West Perth, 6005)

It is believed that the tour will have wide appeal for all veterans and anyone at all interested in an unusual tour of our near neighbour Indonesia.

The tour is planned for October, 1985.

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ELVA M. RILEY

Elva Riley, who died on 20th March at the S.C.G.H. was a member of the Australian Army Nursing with strong traditional links. Her aunt, Mrs Pat Morris served in the Gallipoli campaign during World War I and during her training days at R.P.H. Elvas was a contemporary of Anne Jewell, matron of the ill fated hospital ship 'Centaur' sunk by enemy action.

On joining the A.A.N.S. Miss Riley was posted to the 2/2 A.G.H. and saw service in the Middle East and Australia.

Post war she was for many years on the staff of the Royal Childrens Hospital in Melbourne before retiring to live in Western Australia.

A memorial book has been placed in the Library at the War Veterans Home in her honor.

Victoria Hobbs — Returned Sisters Sub branch R.S.L.

HEROINE DIES

One of Australia’s most famous wartime nurses, Matron Ellen Savage, has died.

Matron Savage was awarded the George Medal for her selfless and courageous care of survivors of an enemy naval attack off the Queensland coast.

When the hospital ship Centaur was torpedoed by a Japanese submarine in 1943, the then Sister Savage worked for 36 hours in a cramped lifeboat to help others who had escaped from the sinking ship.

Of 12 nurses on the Centaur, she was the only one to survive.

Sister Savage was awarded a Florence Nightingale memorial scholarship in 1947 and studied hospital administration in England for 18 months before returning to her home in Newcastle.

She was appointed matron of the Rankin Park Hospital, a unit of Royal Newcastle Hospital, where she worked till illness forced her retirement in 1967.

More than 40 years after the ordeal, Matron Savage (72) died in the environment she had worked in most of her life.

She collapsed while waiting for a taxi after an Anzac Day luncheon at Sydney Hospital.

FLORENCE ISABELLA HOLLAND

Mrs Florence Isabella Holland, who died at Warne House, Mandurah on 6th February 1985 had a long association with the South African Nursing Service having served during both first and second world wars.

After completing her Nursing training at Johannesburg, Florence Thoms joined the Army Nursing Service and when war ended, married George Meade. Their only son Roland was killed in action during World War II, and his mother rejoined the Army Nursing Service, and was appointed matron of a base hospital.

In 1964 Mrs Meade came to Western Australia where she married James Holland, a first war veteran, in Kalgoorlie. For a while they resided in a cottage at the War Veterans Home, and subsequently after the death of her husband Mrs Holland moved to Mandurah to be nearer to her step-son and his family to whom she was affectionately known as "Tommy", and where she died at the age of 91.

The Returned Sisters' Sub branch have placed a book in the W.V.H. library in her memory.

V. Hobbs — for Retd Sisters Sub Branch

BELMONT SUB BRANCH

On the 16 of February 1985 we placed at rest a very dear friend and Club Member, Charles Eric Richards will always be remembered for his devotion to the R.S.L. and the people he associated with each of his visits, which were very regular even in the worst of weather.

WX 1150 Pte C.E. Richards served in the 2/6 Aust. Infantry Battalion A.I.F. from 1941 to 1943, having served 644 days overseas.

In April 1977 the R.S.L. awarded Charlie a Certificate of Service for services rendered over many years. In the past Charlie farmed the Dowerin area and was well known throughout the district.

It was our privilege to have known and associated with Charlie even if only for a short period of time and our lives will be a little saddened by his passing.

"LEST WE FORGET"

A tribute to a loved and respected late member, Mrs Dorothy Hadlow, born 13th September 1900, passed away 5th May 1984, widow of the late L. Hadlow (AIF 1914-18).

Mrs Hadlow was an inaugural member of the Quairading Branch of the RSL Women’s Auxiliary and served in the Branch at all levels of office from President down. She was awarded life membership badge on 28th May 1973.

Mrs Hadlow was active in the Branch until 1983 when ill-health slowed her attendance; her advice and guidance was invaluable.

(Mrs) L.D. Shen ton
Hon Sec/Treasurer
Quairading RSL Women’s Auxiliary

WILLS

We have been informed of numerous cases where the families and beneficiaries of ex-Servicemen’s estates have experienced difficulty and hardship because members had not up-dated their wills. In most cases, ex-service personnel had made wills on induction into the Service during the war, but had never up-dated them. Consequently, their validity has been open to question and lengthy delays have occurred in processing the estate.

All members in this situation are urged to up-date their wills as a matter of priority.

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76 SQUADRON ARMOURERS
I, on behalf of several friends in Sydney, am seeking to locate names and addresses of former War-time personnel of Armament Section, 76 Squadron RAAF with the intention of holding a reunion in the near future and therefore ask your journal to assist in locating likely contacts in Western Australia.

For more information they can contact the undersigned.

John Short
3 Roma Street, Wagga Wagga
New South Wales, 2650

2/3 AUSTRALIAN LIGHT ANTI-AIRCRAFT REGIMENT

We need your help with stories and photographs in compiling the history of our Regiment.

Please contact: For R.H.Q. and Ancillary Troops — Clive Rose, 12 Dendari Ave, North Balwyn 3104.

For 7th Battery — Les Harris, 2/19 Clifton Road, Hawthorn East 3123.

For 8th Battery — Ron Bryant, 6 Blanche Ave, Parkdale 3195.

For 9th Battery — Cec Rae, Tucks Road, Shoreham 3916.

RED BARON

Dr Walter V. Powell, Associate Professor of Slippery Rock University, Pennsylvania, 16057-9989, USA, is doing research into the death of Baron von Richthofen in Bertangles, France on 21 April 1918. He is seeking contact with any Australian Army or Flying Corp persons who may have been present at that event.

PRINCE OF WALES/REPULSE

The Ministry of Defence (UK) has given approval to an Australian Company to dive and film the wrecks of HMS REPULSE and HMS PRINCE OF WALES. It is to be part of a documentary on the history of the ships.

The expedition to the South China Sea will be made in May 1985 and the Australian release of the film should coincide with the RAN-75th Anniversary in 1986.

The film is a unique and exciting project and of significant historical interest, and you can help. If you served in these two ships at any time and in the escorts of Force Z — HMS VAMPIRE, HMS ELECTRA, HMS EXPRESS and HMS Tenedos.

Personal recollections and photographs of the ships and of their final action on 10th December 1941 are needed.

Also accounts from those serving in Singapore at the time.

Please write to Commander Gordon Dalrymple, P.O. Box 139, Collaroy Beach, NSW 2097.

POW

Mr F.W. Atkey of April Gottage, The Green, Compton, Nr. Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 9HE, UK, was a member of the British Army who was captured on Crete in 1941. He was subsequently POW at Neuukoln, Berlin, Sta1ag I1ID, Camp 401 and Zernsdorf Camp 428 near Konigswusterhausen. He and his POW comrades at the time are holding a reunion shortly and would like to hear from any of the following who were prisoners with them:

Cliff Kirkpatrick, 23 Reid St, NARRABRI, NSW.
Jack Rich, 121 Simpson St, WELLINGTON, NSW.
David Thompson, 10 Studley Flates, 94 Alfred St, Wilson Point, NORTH SHORE, NSW.
Ray Johnson (Medical Sgt), c/o Sydney State Railway, Sydney.

LANCASTER SQUADRON

Three English members of 622 Squadron based at Mildenhall, England in 1944 wish to contact surviving Australian crew members, Harry Peck (Pilot), Jack Barchard (Navigator), Alan Long (Bomb Aimer) and Ron Cargill (Woperaor). They are invited to get in touch with Dennis Pudney of 19 Bridge Road, Desborough, Kettering, NN1422LF, Northants, England.

GROUP CONFERENCES

In order to keep in touch with members and Sub-branches throughout the State, as many Group Conferences as possible are held in each year. They consist of a whole day spent in a country Centre during which a team from the State Executive, Veterans Affairs, D.S. Homes and the R.S.L. Women’s Auxiliary speak to Delegates from surrounding Sub-Branches answering any questions and get to know local problems. They are intensely interesting affairs, embodying morning and afternoon tea, lunch, a wreath-laying ceremony, a Civic Reception and considerable exchanges of ideas.

To run such a conference it is necessary for a Sub-Branch to act as Host. This entails a certain amount of work locally but the main is performed at Anzac House and a full run down of what is required at Sub-branch level is supplied. The sequence is as follows:

An area is selected as being due to have a Group Conference. A Sub-Branch in the area, preferably central to it and of a reasonable strength, is invited to act as Host.

Upon acceptance, State Headquarters sends them a list of requirements, which include:

1. The booking of a suitable venue (a hall; R.S.L., Town or Shire, C.W.A. etc) and arranging as a Conference Room.
2. Arrangements for morning and afternoon tea and lunch.
3. The booking of overnight accommodation, if required, for a given number of State Executive Members.

Anzac House keeps a close liaison with the Host Sub-Branch.

No cost is involved by the Host, in fact if there is a local Women’s Auxiliary, they or the C.W.A. look after the rations and make a profit. The Sub-Branches who nominate Delegates, to State HQ, pay for each a small fee of about $12.00-$15.00. State HQ then pay all costs.

The local Authority usually arranges a Civic Reception, after a wreath-laying ceremony.

If your Sub-Branch would like to act as Host for such a District Conference, get in touch with your District Vice-President or the State Secretary.

Rolfe Nyman

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**LIFE MEMBERSHIP**

1. The requirements for Life Membership are covered by National By-Law No. 4 — Article 10 and W.A. Branch By-Law No. 16. The main requirements are —
   (a) Ordinary Membership of at least 15 continuous years.
   (b) NOT less than 10 years OUTSTANDING service to the League.

2. At present, only 15 per year may be issued, so the bestowing of this honour is very competitive. Application can be made to Anzac House at any time, but they are judged annually in October. To make sure any such application is given favourable consideration, the following points are important —
   (a) What is written on the application is that on which the application will be judged.
   (b) The service required to qualify is SERVICE TO THE LEAGUE, nothing else should be mentioned.

3. Thus, make the following action is taken —
   (a) Make sure a Committee, NOT just the Secretary, assembles and checks the citation. Many members may be able to contribute information.
   (b) Take pains that everything that can be said in favour of the nominee is said is relative and is correct.

**WELFARE REPORT**

The number of ex-Service personnel requesting assistance from the R.S.L. Welfare and Counselling Services from 1.4.84 to 1.4.85, 5,497.

The cases 5,497 load to split into the following areas: — Assistance with legal counselling, Accommodation, Aged Fund, Alcoholics; British, Canteen Trust, Compensation, Defence Services Homes, Death & Funeral Arrangement, Employment, Family and marriage counselling, Financial counselling, Fringe benefits & treatment, Home & Hospital visits, Insurance, Immigration, Legal, Mental Health, Nursing Homes & Hospitals, Pensions, Retraining & Rehabilitation, Social Security Tribunal Assistance for Veterans, State Housing, Taxation, Veterans Affairs — General, Vietnam Veterans, War Graves, War Veterans Home, Small Claims Tribunal, Central Law Courts.

The level of work handled by the Welfare and Counselling Service has increased dramatically, the problems are still the same, however, it would appear more veterans are using the Services provided. Pensions, funeral benefits and accommodation have increased considerably and home and hospital visits have become more demanding. We are very grateful to Mr Bill Rattigan and Mrs Sylvia Phelps for their invaluable assistance with visiting.

The WA Aged Sailors’ Soldiers’ & Airmens Relief Fund Trust has had an increase in case load and without the assistance a lot of veterans & Families would have gone without, I am very grateful for the assistance.

The Welfare and Counselling Service would not have carried its case load, without the assistance of outside agencies help, especially in the legal assistance which has been given free of charge to hardship cases.

**Corrections**

The men and ladies are correct.

Corps of Commissionaires — Staff Number: 13
Roster done weekly for four Government Departments.
Welfare Officer responsible for appointments and dismissals. Also responsible for the duties carried out by the corps and any problems arising from such. New uniforms have been purchased, which gives a smart appearance to the men who are a credit to the R.S.L.

Mrs Pat Rowland
Welfare Officer

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Friday 5pm — 10pm
Saturday 1pm — 7pm
Second Saturday each month: 1pm — 5pm, 7pm — 11pm
Sunday 4.30pm — 7.30pm
Public Holidays 1pm — 6pm

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Social and Dance — Second Saturday each month 8pm
Darts Tournament — each Friday 8.00pm
Sing-a-long — third Sunday each month 4.30pm
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Enquiries: Hon. Secretary, B. Culling, phone 342 4975.
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WOMEN'S AUXILIARY REPORT

This issue of the Listening Post sees us into the second half of 1985, it seems only yesterday that I wrote my last report, no wonder the year goes so quickly.

Since my last report, I have had two wonderful things happen to us. On January 26th, before attending the Australia Day Flag Raising ceremony at Council House with Mrs Sullivan, the State President of the League, Mr. Turner presented me with an Australia Day Council Achievement Medal, awarded me by the State Branch of the R.S.L. for my work for the League and Auxiliaries. On March 12th at a function at Council House, the Lord Mayor presented me with the City of Perth Civic Medal for my R.S.L. work. Both these awards came as a great surprise and I am deeply honoured to receive them. I do sincerely thank those who nominated me for them. I feel I must share them with all Auxiliary Members, for their support over the years enabled me to do the work so dear to my heart, the welfare of ex-servicemen and women.

Mrs Preedy and I attended the Official Opening of the new premises of the Department of Veterans Affairs. On March 13th, I went to the Armadale Auxiliary meeting and found the girls working hard as usual. Anzac Day arrangements being the main item on the Agenda. I also attended the Subiaco Auxiliary meeting where I had pleasure in presenting Mrs. O'Neill with Life Membership. Although small in membership the Auxiliary works quietly and efficiently. Our President and Secretaries meeting was well attended with discussions on several aspects of Auxiliary work on the Agenda. I was a guest at the War Veterans Home Birthday Party, a very happy evening, so much has been accomplished at the Home over the years that one can hardly remember the area as it originally was.

The Darling Range Auxiliary held a very profitable Devonshire Tea morning, and the others attending enjoyed the lovely sunshine as well as the scones, jam and cream (Oh, dear, calories) in the garden of their President, Mrs. Fisher.

I attended the Millen Sub-Branch Anzac Eve Service and helped with the supper (have to as I'm a member of the Auxiliary) then Mrs Taylor and I went to the Dawn Service at the State War Memorial to lay the official Auxiliary wreath. Mrs. Preedy attended the Anzac Eve service at the War Veterans Home and laid the Auxiliary wreath, and Mrs Taylor attended the Air Force Association service at their Estate. It is with deep regret that I report the passing in February of our Executive Member Mrs. Laurel Angel. Laurel will be remembered as our Bride in our Mock Wedding at our last Conference luncheon, she also received our love and respect for her dedicated work for Executive and her Auxiliary. Laurel loved her Hospital visiting she bought a little bit of happiness to those she visited, she will be remembered by us all. Conference will be over by the time you read this, we are hoping for a well attended and rewarding one. We will have Mrs. Margaret Bowles, State President of the Victorian Auxiliaries as our guest this year. That seems to bring you up to date with the news. Take care of each other.

Joy Ford
STATE PRESIDENT

Your Anzac pictures wanted

A photographic record of Anzac Day 1985 is to come out in book form later this year.

This Anzac Day will be the 70th anniversary of the landing of Gallipoli, and the book will be entitled Anzac Day: seventy years on.

The heart of the book will be contributed by amateur and professional photographers capturing Anzac dawn services, marches and re-unions in cities, suburbs and towns all over Australia.

Up to 200 black and white photographs will be complemented by the impressions of a number of writers and historians.

The book will be published by William Collins, and it is hoped that it will contribute to the understanding of an important part of Australia's national identity.

Photographic contributions will be welcome from all amateur or professional photographers. For further details, write to Anzac Day: seventy years on, PO Box 42, Farrer, ACT 2607.

ANZAC OF YEAR

GERALDTON resident, Mrs MARY HASLEBY, has won an Anzac of the Year Award.

Mrs HASLEBY of Wittenoom Street received a great ovation at the main ANZAC Day observance at GERALDTON when the Sub-Branch President, Mrs LORRAINE GILBERT, said the announcement had been made at the ANZAC Day observance in PERTH.

Mrs HASLEBY was nominated for the ANZAC of the Year Award by the GERALDTON Laurel Club.

She served as a nurse in the Voluntary Aid Detachment in the MIDDLE EAST in World War Two and has been active in community organisations at both NORTHAMPTON and GERALDTON.

B.J.B.

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46 — LISTENING POST — WINTER, 1985
**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

Dear Sir,

I should like to forward this small notice for the Listening Post. Bunbury Women’s Auxiliary after being in recess for 12 months is trying very hard to start up again, we have received a few new members some being ex-service women who are very keen to make the organisation work, so with a little luck all may go well for us before the end of 1985.

Jan McGlashan (Secretary)
Bunbury Women’s Auxiliary
174 Blair St, Bunbury 6230

Dear Sir,

The painting referred to by Harry Holland in the Autumn Listening Post would indeed be a reproduction of the Will Longstaf in the Australian War Museum in Canberra. This was purchased by Lord Woolington and presented to the Commonwealth in the twenties or thirties.

As a collector of Longstaff’s paintings I would be interested to know any other paintings by him of war or other subjects are about in Perth or W.A.

Brian Harrison
RMB 137A, Kojonup

Dear Sir,

It is with deep feeling that I write these few words on behalf of our Association.

We all regret your decision in resigning from the Committee of the “Listening Post”, after twenty-five years of dedicated service. However, we appreciate your feelings and understand one cannot continue for ever.

I feel I am speaking on behalf of all ex-servicemen when I say we are proud of your record, as chairman of the Committee you did an outstanding job. The Magazine is something to be proud of and it will be a difficult job for your successor to maintain, the quality and standard that you have made.

We all wish you well for the future and sincerely hope we continue to see you attend our lunches and outings.

On behalf of our ex-gunners I sincerely say thank you Mike.

Len de Grussa
Hon. Secretary
Anti-Aircraft Association
43 Pitt Street,
Dianella, 6062

Re Harry Holland’s letter about the picture “Menin Gate at Midnight” I have in my possession the booklet which accompanied the picture when it was delivered. This booklet “The Gate of Eternal Memories” is the story how Captain Will Longstaff was inspired to do, this Great Allegorical Painting; and was issued by the Australian War Memorial.

There was a great wide demand for copies, so reproductions were made.

The proceeds from these paintings were augmented to keep the Australian War Memorial fund and also to promote the aims and purposes of the War Memorial.

As these pictures hang in the homes of Australians it helps to keep alive the memories of the A.I.F.

Menin Gate is situated on the outskirts of Ypres in France. In the vicinity of Ypres there are 37 cemeteries containing the dead of the Empire, 40,000 are identified soldiers and there are 50,000 graves not known or marked. Hundreds of thousands of soldiers passed through to the battle fields of the Ypres salient. The Menin Road was an avenue of death.

It was therefore fitting that this Memorial to those who fell should be erected on the site of the Gate way.

This is what inspired Laurence Binyon to write this famous verse:

* * *

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn
At the going down of the sun, and in the morning
We will remember them.

Captain Will Longstaff, a well known artist, who served in the Australian forces through the war was at the unveiling of this memorial and was so inspired with the ceremony found it hard to sleep that night. He walked out into the moonlight to walk off his restlessness and in imagination saw steel helmeted figures arise from the Poppy Fields.

He decided he must paint this picture and could not rest until completed.

From the moon lit fields arises a Deathless Army moving past Hell Fire Corner to the line they held, eventually driving back the enemy. While in the foreground bloom the poppies which inspired John McCrae to write his poem “In Flanders Field”.

This picture “Menin Gate at Midnight” was exhibited in London in 1928 and Lord Woolington paid 2000 guineas for the painting. He then thought it fitting to offer it to the Australian War Memorial which they gladly accepted. Before it left England the King and Queen asked for it to be sent to Buckingham Palace. As this painting created a sensation it was then displayed in Manchester and Glasgow before being shipped to Australia. Many interesting photos are incorporated in this book. This painting and book was given to me by my Father in Law, Leslie Winton (an Anzac) and a member of the Western Command Band during WW2.

Sig. W.G. Ryall
9 Div Sigs
9 Shaw Place, Kewdale

Dear Sir,

I was interested and amused to read Mr I.G. Hamilton’s version of the sighting of a drifting mine from HMAS “Manoora” in 1946.

With all respect to Mr Hamilton, whom I presume was an able seaman, I think that his story may have improved with retelling over 39 years. Let us look at it:

He was on the wheel of “Manoora” and hardly in a position to be acting as a lookout.

he sighted a mine “coming toward the ship”. Actually the ship would have been heading for the mine.

He immediately called the Officer of the Watch and

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suggested that the Captain be piped to the bridge. I am sure that the OOW would have promptly told him to watch his steering.

Most likely, what did happen, was that one of the lookouts yelled "Mine dead ahead 500 yards" or something like that.

The OOW, far from depending upon his QM for advice, would have ordered the engine room telegraph operator to ring for "Slow starboard, Full ahead port" or vice versa. Then to another officer (there would have been at least three present) to report to the Captain, by voice pipe to his cabin. The OOW would have ordered the QM to alter course, in accordance with the orders to the engine room. As for the QM taking it upon himself to alter course; this would not have happened or he would have found himself in serious trouble.

In the Navy, at sea, each man has an essential duty to perform.

In this case, Mr Hamilton's was to steer the ship under the direction of the OOW, and even without troops on board, he should have been watching the compass not looking for mines.

In the bridge wings, there would have been lookouts with binoculars searching for anything hostile. Aircraft, ships, sub's or mines and these boys were very keen indeed; their own lives could depend upon their vigilance.

To their credit and usually without recognition, members of the ships' companies, collectively and individually, did much wonderfully brave and clever work in emergencies, but mainly within their own sphere of duty; not in the actual handling of the ship.

Again with due respect to Mr Hamilton, I think that his story is rather fantastic, and anyhow it is now a bit later to be chasing a medal. We can all look back to the times, when we should have been decorated, but were overlooked. After all, the most satisfying decoration that one can wear is the "Returned from Active Service" badge, for which, unfortunately, so many failed to qualify.

L.E. Murphy, Lieut. Cmdr. VRD, RANR (R)
19 Suiza Place,
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RE-UNIONS

- NO. 12 JOINT SERVICES TRIALS UNIT, EDINBURGH FIELD, WOOMERA 1956
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- 34th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
  Would you be kind enough to publicise the fact that the 34th Australian Infantry Brigade Group 2nd A.I.F. Association of Australia will be holding a reunion on Friday, 4th October, 1985 at 7 p.m. at the Paddington-Woollahra R.S.L. Club, 226 Oxford Street, Paddington, to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the formation of the 34th Australian Infantry Brigade Group and attached troops at Morotai Island for service with the British Commonwealth Occupation Force in Japan and Islands north of Australia.
  All information and correspondence to be directed to:—
  President of 34th Brigade Association of Australia,
  Mr. Gordon O'Brien,
  84 Parkes Road,
  Collaroy Plateau, N.S.W. 2098
  Telephone: (02) 982-7731

The BCOF Sub-Branch (Vic) in conjunction with the BCOF Association has planned a National Reunion of all Forces who took part in the occupation of Japan, which includes many who served in Korea.

Many former members of the Force throughout Australia have indicated they will attend the function which is limited to members of the Association, and is available at $15.

This includes annual subscription of the organisation's quarterly Journal.

Full details on membership and the Reunion may be obtained from:
  The National Secretary,
  Eric Butler, OAM,
  1123 Eyre St.,
  Ballarat, Vic, 3350, Ph (053) 32 1074.

2 FIELD AMBULANCE 20th ANNIVERSARY REUNION
  As 1986 is the 20th Anniversary of the units service in South Vietnam all former members of the unit from 1964 to 1967 are invited to attend a reunion planned for ANZAC DAY 1986 in Sydney.
  If you are interested in attending the reunion, you are asked to contact Terry Woolmer on 066-286208 or Bob (Lofty) Vills on 049-732275 as soon as possible to assist in arranging catering, accommodation and transport.
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MARCH 1985

ANDREW, A., 66 Fd Pk., Subiaco. WX15699.
BOARD, F.G., 2/28 Bn., Mt Barker. WX6009.
CAMERON, I., 6 Div. ASC, Karridale-Augusta. WX1374.
CLAMP, A.J., A/A Sigs, Scarborough. WX33369.
CORNELIUS, F.P., 28 AIB, Claremont. WX20506.
GARTLAND, M., RN, Medina. WX95571.
GOLDSWORTHY, P., 2/28 Bn, Mosman Park. WX36009.
JACK, A.M., 2/1 MG Bn & 2/11 Bn, Mt. Hawthorn. WX475.
KER, R.J., Merc. Marines, Nollamara-Nth Perth. 40803.
McBEAN, A., 2/11 Bn AIF, Central. NX7581.
MURRAY, M.G., 6 Div. Cav., Central. WX2497.
RICHARDS, C.E., 2/6/1 Ir Bn, Belmont. WX11510.
WEIR, J.B., 1st Pioneers, Mt. Lawley-Ing. 2689.

APRIL 1985

BAKER, V.C., 2/24 Bn, Beverley. WX32684.
BASHFORD, J., RFA 4 Bn Fusiliers; Mandurah. 73130.
BATEMAN, M.G., 2/7 Fd Regt., Doverin. WX5960.
CHANDLER, V., RAA Coastal Defence, Medina. W24589.
DONALD, J.B., AMC, Wembley-Floreat. W50054.
DOUGALL, R.G., 8 Div. Sigs., Claremont. WX6856.
FISH, W., 11 Bn, Busselton. 7719.
GIBBONS, G.F., 2/4 Fd Sqn., Wanneroo Dist. WX15499.
GILES, J.W., 43 Fd RAAT, Gascoyne. SX24107.
GRANVILLE, C.L., RAAT, Mandurah. A553.
GROSE, C.W.J., 35 TPT Sqn RAAT, Mt Magnet. 90768.
HALL, H., Police, Central. C1700267.
HIGGS, A.E., 2/32 Bn, Mandurah. WX14524.
HOLLAND, F.I., MNS South Africa, Returned-Sisters. 316780.
JEALES, G.N., 11 A.I.B. AIF, Cunderdin. WX21453.
LAING, J., 1 Bn, Wembley-Floreat. 2877902.
LESLIE, J.R., 36 A Det., N.E. Fremantle. WX7657.
LOVE, P.C., 2/2 Com. Sqn., Rivervale-Carlisle. WX9899.
McIlROY, R.M., 2/14 Bn, City of Perth. WX39721.
McLEAN, F., RAAF, Lakes-District. 80262.
MURPHY, E.V., Essex Regt., Geraldton. 6011814.
NUTLEY, A., Royal Corps Sigs, Armadale. 14663225.
POULTER, S.B., 2/2 HQ, Gd Bn, Morawa-Gutha. WX3101.

TAYLOR, K.H., 7 W/W Pl., Manning. WX31272.
VALENTINE, H.R., 2/1 T. Bn., Bicton-Palmyra. WX34413.
WHITBY, L.G., 19 Garrison Bn, Geraldton. W31286.
WOOD, G.M., 2/16 Bn, Canning Districts. WX5600.
WRIGHT, T.J., RAN, Busselton. 25716.
KIDD, F., 6 Div., Bicton-Palmyra. WX16499.

MAY 1985

BUTLER, N.J., 13th FCC, Mt Hawthorn. WX26985.
CAMERON, A.K., Mobil Laundry, Bedford-Morley. WX19303.
CLARK, R.J., RAF, Millen. 1173774.
COFFEY, R.J., 28 Bn, Belmont. 1909.
ELLIOTT, N.R., 2/11-Bn, Mandurah. WX15796.
GIBSON, J.W., RAAT, Mt Hawthorn. 38039.
GILDESTEIN, J., NZAC, Ravensthorpe. NZ240658.
HALL, H.V., 2/7 Fl. Amb., Nedlands. WX3913.
HEDGES, A.L., 2/4 RA, Claremont. WX32945.
HOOD, W.H.P., 2/4 MG Bn, Central. WX7471.
HOWARD, W., 1st AGB, Nollamara-Nth Perth. QX14279.
HUTTON, H., 2/7 Fd Regt, City of Perth. WX4336.
MARTIN, P.L., 28 Bn, Northam. WX41923.
MCDONALD, H., 4th Div Sigs, Bedford-Morley. 17075.
McINTYRE, T., Art Indian Engs., Highgate. H200071.
MCKENNA, A.G., 21st, 27th & 28 Bns, Mt. Lawley-Ing. 7096.
MEAKIN, A., RAAF, Nollamara-Nth Perth. 1000769.
MORTON, W.J., 2/13th Fd Coy., Rivervale-Carlisle. WX6076.
MURRAY, J.T., 2/16 Bn, Bicton-Palmyra. WX5613.
RILEY, E.M., 2/2 AGH, Returned Sisters. WFX11188.
ROSE, A., 2/16 Bn, Bunbury. WX14083.
RUSSELL, A., 2/16 Bn, Maylands-Railways. WX7797.
SAUNDERS, F., 11-AIB, York. WX29610.
SCHULTZ, R.E., RAN, Wembley-Floreat. 23942.
SCOTT, T.W., 2/11 Bn, Riverton. WX407.
STACEY, A.H., RAAF, Waroona-Hamlet. 45232.
SUMMERTON, F.E., 29th A T Bty, Kellerberrin. SX17980.
SYMMANS, R., AASC, Bedford-Morley. WX32141.
THOMAS, B.B., WAAC, Darling Ridge. 9303.
TEAHAIR, M.M., AWAS, Ret’d Ex-Service Wm. NF40479.
VICARY, F.A.C., RANR, North Beach. F1943.
WHITE, F., 2/28 Bn, Mandurah. WX7375.

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Meets fourth Tuesday of each month, 4 Brisbane Place, Perth. President: K. Norgay. Tel: 367 3102. Immediate Past President: B. Edmondson. Tel: 322 1344. Secretary: B. Hobbs. Tel: 279 7397. Treasurer: S. Barnes. Tel: 446 3306.

NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA CITY OF FREMANTLE SUB-SSECTION
President: Arthur Hewitt, J.P. Tel: 330 3600. Secretary: Bob Beitz, 8 The Pinnacle, Willetton, 6155. Tel: 457 5691. Sub-section meets 8 pm, last Monday of each month at the Navy Club, Marine Terrace, Fremantle. Telephone: 335 3015.

SUBMARINE OLD COMRADES ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
President: A. Hole, 79 Hale Road, Wembley Downs, 6019. Tel: 341 2648. Secretary: M.E. Pearson, 361 Railway Avenue, Armadale, 6112. Tel: 399 5640. Meets in ANZAC House third Thursday of every month, 8 pm. (December excepted).

FLEET AIR ARM ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (INC)
President: T.F. Bushe-Jones, 63 Gravity Street, Beckenham. Tel: 451 9327. Secretary: G.H. Smith, Unit 1/3 Haig Street, Tuart Hill, 6060. Telephone 344 4416. Meets second Wednesday of each month, 71 West Parade, East Perth.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY CORVETTES ASSOCIATION (WA)

WRANS SUB-SERVICE NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
Meets the third Tuesday of each month, ANZAC House, 28 St George’s Terrace, Perth. President: Mrs A. Weetman, 2/55 Second Avenue, Mt Lawley, 6050. Tel: 272 2824. Secretary: Mrs J. Ballantyne, 15a Ellerslie Road, Mt Lawley, 6050. Tel: 271 1911.

ASSOCIATION OF WRANS WA BRANCH
President: Peter Kemmis, 687 Hay Street, Wembley, 6014. Tel: 381 3348. Secretary: John Quinn, 23 Douglas Avenue, Mt Yekine, 6005. Tel: 349 1374. Meets first Monday each month (except January) ANZAC House, 8 pm. When Monday is a Public Holiday, first Tuesday.

10TH LIGHT HORSE ASSOCIATION AIF
Meets socially first and third Friday each month, ANZAC Club, 12.00 pm. AGM: Last Friday in August. President: Roy Capon, 51 Alexander Drive, Mt Lawley. Tel: 271 7049. Secretary and Treasurer: R. Byrne, 2 Laughton Way, Leeming. Tel: 332 8004.

THIRTY-NINERS’ ASSOCIATION
Meets ANZAC House monthly, 12 noon, on the fourth Wednesday. For further information contact either J.P. Hall, President, 173 The Esplanade, Mt Pleasant, Ph: 366 7776. J. Todd, 4 Shearer Street, Myaree. Tel: 330 6616. State Secretary: F.C. Pennell, 21 Siddons Court, Booragoon. Tel: 364 1097.

11TH & 2/11TH AIF BATTALIONS ASSOCIATION
President: T.W. Scott, Riverton. Tel: 457 4902. Secretary: J. Watson, 666 Canning Highway, Applecross. Committee meets third Tuesday each month, 605 Wellington Street, Perth (1st Floor) — opposite the Entertainment Centre.

16TH BATTALION (THE CAMERON HIGHLANDERS ASSOCIATION OF WA)
President: R. (Bob) Mercer, AM, RP, ED, 7 Dunkley Avenue, Applecross. 6153. Secretary: H. Glyn Mason, 9 Jenkins Place, Wembley Downs, 6019. Tel: 341 3926. Annual dinner and three socials as advised.

16TH BATTALION AND 4TH BRIGADE ASSOCIATION
Committee meets first Monday at 2.30 pm, each month, ANZAC Club, Perth. President: C. Sladen, 59A Henry Street, East Cannington, Tel: 458 5573. Secretary: H. Ganson, 11 Fothergill Street, Fremantle. Tel: 339 2538. Women’s Auxiliary meets same time, same place.

2/16TH BATTALION ASSOCIATION
President: Mrs J.A. Hocken, 55th Avenue, Bassendean, 6054. Tel: 279 2063. Secretary: F.H. Sublet, 39 Pitt Street, Dianella, 6062. Tel: 275 4919. Treasurer: J. Paul, 36 Lockhart Street, Como. E-mail: gianm@aol.com

2/6TH BATTALION — 2/4TH ANTI-TANK COY
President: E.A. Jackson, 74 Corinthian Road, Shelley West, 6155. Tel: 457 1306. Secretary: A.S. Thompson, 60 Kintail Road, Applecross, 6153. Tel: 364 2332. Annual Reunion: Last Friday each September.

2/32ND BATTALION ASSOCIATION (WA)

4TH BATTALION ASSOCIATION
Committee meets when called. Annual reunion on advice. President: R. Collins, 134 Rosebery Street, Bedford. Tel: 271 4446.

48TH BRIGADE ASSOCIATION
President: D. Maclean, Unit 2/50 Endeavour Avenue, Bull Creek, 6155. Secretary: T.H. Easom, 5 Lanark Street, Mt Lawley. Tel: 271 2929. Meetings and luncheon held at the Carlton Hotel, 248 Hay Street at 11.30 am on the third Monday of each month.

51ST BATTALION AIF ASSOCIATION
President: H. Bowra, 7 Highland Road, North Perth, Tel: 444 2585. Secretary: G.K. Baron-Hay, 24 Stanley Street, Nedlands. Tel: 386 1554. Committee meetings held quarterly, first Monday in March, June, September and December at 2 pm, ANZAC Club, 28 St George’s Terrace, Perth.

2/2ND COMMANDO ASSOCIATION
President: J.F. Fowler, 84 Brompton Road, Wembley Downs, Tel: 341 1716. Secretary: J.W. Carey, 13 Stoddart Way, Bateman. Tel: 332 7050. Meetings held on second Tuesday of each month at 10.30 am, at ANZAC Club.

2/13TH FIELD AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION
President: A. Jahnson, 75 Valencia Avenue, Churchlands. Tel: 446 4981. Secretary: L. McCarthy, 31 Marrdong Street, Cooloongup. Tel: 442 1927. For details of meetings contact Secretary.

MIDDLE EAST VAD ASSOCIATION OF WA
President: Mrs L. Fealy, 19 Macrae Road, Applecross. 6153. Tel: 364 3779. Secretary: Mrs P. Payne, 11 Burlington Road, South Perth. 6151. Meetings as called. Annual Re-union nearest Saturday to November 23.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ARMY ORDNANCE CORPS ASSOCIATION

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN SIGNALS ASSOCIATION (WA)
President: Maj. K.M. Weir (Ret.), 277 St Brigids’ Terrace, Doubleview. Tel: 446 1257. Secretary: Mr D. Mettam, 10 James Road, Swanbourne. Tel: 304 7938. Treasurer: Mr Bruce Jellis, Carine Gardens Caravan Park, 245 Balcasta Road, Glenfield. Tel: 447 6270. Meetings ANZAC House, second Tuesday each month, 5 pm.

11TH DIVISION SIGNALS ASSOCIATION
For enquiries contact the President: Alec Caldwell, 150 Harbourne Street, Wembley, 6014. Tel: 397 1866. Secretary: Lt. Col. O.R. Viedan, ED: 23 Halley Street, Innaloo, 6018. Tel: 446 6304. Regular meetings held at the Wembley address. Annual reunion dinners and meeting at RSL in August.

RAE EX-SERVICES’ ASSOCIATION WA

2/4TH MG BATTALION AIF ASSOCIATION
President: P.R. Tomkins, 2 Devil Place Morley. Tel: 276 8514.

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Australasian Legion of WA Branch

Z Special Unit (Aust.) Inc.
Chairman: Captain O. J. O'Neill, 928 William Street, Perth. 6000.

Z Special Force Association of WA
Meetings are arranged by Committee. Liaison Officer/Secretary: Lt. Col. E.W. Durrbin, 14th Battalion, Fremantle. WA, 6160. Tel: 271 1408.

Air Force Club (Inc)
Meetings at RSL Hall, Kintail Road, Applecross. Sundays 4.30 - 11.00 pm. Secretary: Mr. T. Darcy, 29 Wellington Parade, Yokine, WA, 6060. Tel: 444 9158. Secretary: Mrs. Lake, 322 7205.

460 Squadron RAAF Association (WA)
President: F.T. Finkins, 22 Sudbury Way, City Beach. Tel: 385 9841. Secretary: Mr. B. J. Johnson, 63 Kirwan Street, Floreat Park. Bus Tel: 387 4229. Treasurer: Mr. A. J. Smith, 19 Westminster Street, Scarborough. Tel: 341 3014. Meetings four times per year.

Royal Australian Air Forces Association Branch 1210 WA

Australian Legion of Ex-Servicemen & Women (Inc) WA Branch
State President: Mr. L.C.W. Hutchings, 66 Kinsella Street, Joondanna. Tel: 444 4268. Honorary State Secretary: Mrs. D.M. Smith, 4/48 East Street, East Fremantle. Tel: 339 7741. Details of Sub-Branche meetings, please phone 339 7741.

Totally and Permanently Disabled Sailors' Association

Limbless Soldiers' Association of W.A. (Inc)
("Wing and Stumps") President: J.R. Yeates. Secretary: C.C. Brown, C.J. - TPH Memorial House, 88 Colin Street, West Perth, 6005. Tel: 321 5868. Postal address P.O. Box 829, West Perth, WA 6005. Meeting first Wednesday each month except January, 1:30 pm.

Partially Blinded Soldiers' Association of Australia
"WA Branch Inc.
General Meeting held at ANZAC House, 28 St George's Terrace, Perth, each 2.00 pm, first Tuesday each month, except January. Secretary: D.J. Symes, 15 Sandal Place, Dianella. Tel: 376 9500.

Federated TB Sailors' Soldiers' & Airmen's Association
"WA Branch Inc.
Second Floor, Wellington Buildings, 158 William Street, Perth, last Monday. President: Ian Fraseal. Tel: 271 4703. Secretary: Mrs Grace Storer, Tel: 417 9599.

Ex-Prisoners of War Association of WA
President: T.W. Scott, 250 Corinthian Road, Riverton, 6155. Secretary: W.H.P. Hood, 93 Guildford Road, Mt Lawley, 6050. Tel: 271 5245. Meetings first Tuesday each month, at 2.15 pm (except January, when in recess) at ANZAC Club, Perth. Assistant Secretary: A. Robinson, 28 Walcott Avenue, Balga, 6051. Tel: 344 2325. Honorary Treasurer: Dan London, 278A Drake Street, Morley, 6062. Tel: 376 8823.

Ladies Auxiliary Ex-Pow of WA
President: Mrs B. Skillen, 27 Mathiesen Road, Applecross, 6153. Tel: 364 4147. Secretary: Mrs F. H. Duncan, 40 Kennedy Street, Melville, 6156. Tel: 330 2174. Meetings same as Men.

Rats of Tobruk Association (WA Branch)

Korea and South East Asia Forces Association of Australia (WA Branch)
Meets second Monday in June, September and December at ANZAC House, St George's Terrace, Perth. Members will be notified by mail of March AGM. State President: Mr. Noel Congrave, 450 6517. State Secretary: Mr. W. C. Cadden, 277 3631, 53 Wicca Street, Kewdale, 6105.

Regular Defence Forces Welfare Association (WA Branch)
For enquiries contact either the President or Secretary. President: Lt.-Col. R. K. Hill, MC, RL, 138 Hamilton Street, Queens Park. Tel: 458 9203. Secretary: Lt.- Col. E. Lunn, Room 9, Davies Crescent, Kalamunda. Tel: 293 1409.

Royal Australian Regiment Association

Special Air Service Regimental Association
President: Lt.-Col. Deane Hill, 14 Stanley Street, Booragoon. Tel: 364 7752. Secretary: Mr. J. W. B. Finch, 20 Beagle Street, Mosman Park. Tel: 346 1875. Treasurer: Mr. R. G. Gould, 22 Finchley Crescent, Balga. Tel: 342 5128.

Australian Army Training Team Vietnam (WA)
President: P. C. White, 7 Netley Street, Morley, 6062. Tel: 392 9380. Secretary: Mr. F. Ghilotti, 89 Moring Street, Redcliffe, 6104. Tel: 277 7986. Meetings: Swan Barracks. Mess, after ANZAC Day. Kings Park Memorial, 3:30 pm, every July 31 — Birthday reunion.

Vietnam Veterans Family Association of Western Australia
President: Colin Evans, 1 Acacia Way, Duncraig, 6023. Tel: 447 5855. Secretary: Mr. J. Evans, 1 Acacia Way, Duncraig, 6023. Tel: 447 5855. Treasurer: Mr. E. M. Ramsay, 44 Cooronga Road, Miami, 6210. Tel: 093 34 2477. No regular meetings, interested persons can contact any of the above.

Royal Regiment of Fusiliers Association
Chairman: Mr. P. Noyes, 72 James Street, Gosnells, 6010. Tel: 398 4508. Secretary: Mr. S. Kent, 3 Pascoe Street, Kelmscott, 6111. Tel: 390 8054. Meets monthly at ANZAC House.

British Ex-Services Association (Inc)
President: J.G. Buxton, BEM. Tel: 446 4320. Honorary Secretary: Mr. S. Kent, 3 Pascoe Street, Kelmscott, 6111. Tel: 390 8054. Meets monthly at ANZAC House.

Royal Marines Association Western Australia
President: C.W. Agate, 5 Millgate Road, Balga, 6051. Tel: 342 1383. Secretary: J.G. Buxton, BEM, 2 Narget Street, Innaloo, 6018. Tel: 446 4320. Committee meets Seaview Tavern, South Terrace, Fremantle, at 20.00 hrs. Second Monday each month. General meeting same hour and place, last Monday each month.

Guards Association of WA (Inc)
President: Mr. John Hunt, GG. Tel: 363 3340 (after 7.30 pm). Secretary: Mr. D.W. Hunt, GG. Tel: 369 4545. All correspondence to the Secretary, C.J. - P.O. Box 107, Mirrabooka.

The Burma Star Association (Western Australia Branch)
President: Lt.-Col. P. T. (Jack) Allen (Ret), 547 Kalamunda Road, High Wycombe, 6057. Tel: 454 5365. Honorary Secretary: Lt.-Col. R. M. (Ken) Currin, 453 Abernethy Road, Caversdale, 6105. Tel: 277 5733. Meets third Wednesday of each month, in Function Room of ANZAC Club, Perth, 7.30 pm.
THE BURMA STAR ASSOCIATION WANNEROO BRANCH
President: Brigadier N.E.G. (Tony) Manual (Ret). 398 Belmont Avenue, Kewdale. Tel: 277 2367. Honorary Secretary: Rupert Plate, 49 Banksia Street, Joondanna. Tel: 444 4914. Meets second Tuesday of each month at Nollamara Autumn Centre, Sylvia Street, Nollamara, at 7.30 pm.

1940 DUNKIRK VETERANS ASSOCIATION WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BRANCH
Meets first Friday each month at ANZAC House, 8 pm. President: W. Horn, 7 Oakley Avenue, Yokine, 6060. Acting Secretary: Mr. P. Hessell, 24 Myndee Way, Nollamara, 6061. Tel: 344 1758.

NETHERLANDS EX-SERVICEMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
President: Mr. H. Westholt, 56 Weston Drive, Swanview. Tel: 294 1575. Secretary/Assistant Treasurer: Mr. J. de Loo, 77 Stretley Road, Lathlain. Meets last Wednesday each month at Association Headquarters, 8 pm, 8 Hehr Street, Belmont. All correspondence to: Secretary, NESAA, PO Box 99 Belmont, 6104.

POLISH EX-SERVICEMEN'S ASSOCIATION SUB-BRANCH No. 9
President: Z. Krolkowski, Tel: 458 3350. Honorary Secretary: S. Zalewski, Tel: 274 2303. Honorary Treasurer: M. Donner, Tel: 271 0576.

PEGASUS ASSOCIATION OF WEST AUSTRALIA (INC)
Committee Meeting 1st Tuesday of each month, ANZAC Club. Visitors welcome. President: Mr John Hatley. Secretary: Mr A. Harris, 54 Fitzroy Road, Rivervale, 6153. Tel: 458 9111. Any ex Airborne Forces welcome to a very active Association.

St. Dunstan’s Association Luncheon
This was held at Anzac House on Wednesday 17th April when Members of the Returned Ex-Servicewomen’s Sub-Branch served luncheon to some 25 Delegates from all States (except Queensland) who were attending a Biennial Conference in Perth. The Sub Branch has been associated with the Blinded Soldiers Sub-Branch in Perth since the end of World War II and supplied supper and afternoon teas at their meetings until their meetings ceased to be held in Boans Cafeteria.

Mrs Dowson welcomed the visitors in the absence of the President - a very informal luncheon, with light refreshments, was served. Members mingled with the guests, and a very cheerful relaxed atmosphere ensued. Thanks to the organizer, Miss Sue Thomas, all members provided scones, cakes etc. and gave their time to make this function a success. As usual, a helping hand is required, the offers are overwhelming.

The Lord Mayor and Councillors of the City of Perth held a reception for the guests, and members of the sub-branch who have helped at the Blinded Soldiers’ suppers were invited.

New pension rates from May
There will be a 2.6 per cent increase in the main Repatriation pensions and fringe benefits from 10 May next.

The increase is based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) rise over the 12 month period from December 1983 to December 1984.

The new fortnightly rates include: Special rate (TPJ) $351.50; 100 per cent general rate $132.60; Widows’ pension, $188.60; service pension, single $188.60; married (each) $157.30.

ANZACS OF THE YEAR ANNOUNCED
A Geraldton woman, Mrs Mary Hasleby, was one of six people named Anzacs of the Year by the national president of the Returned Services League, Sir William Keys, on the 25th April in Canberra.

The Anzac Peace prize was awarded to Anthony Cahalan (23) of NSW who is serving on the International Youth Year secretariat of the United Nations Organisation in Australia. Mr Cahalan will receive an antique medallion and the other six will get bronze medallions with the inscription: “For exceptional service to the Australian community demonstrating compassion, endurance and dedication.” The other Anzacs of the Year are Mrs Dulcie Magnus of Double Bay NSW; Mrs Evelyn Schaler of Caulfield South, Victoria, The Rev. Alex Kenworthy of Hawthorn Victoria, Mr. Graham Downie of O’Connor A.C.T. and Mrs Florence Cohen of Lae, Papua New Guinea.

FLASH BACKS
Mrs Françoise Burnell, one of the original seven surviving members of the Mt Barkers Pensioners League cutting the cake at the 10th Anniversary of the League on 19th November, 1984. Eric Hill, current President, keeps a watchful eye on the cake.

WANNEROO & DISTRICTS SUB-BRANCH
Meetings held second Tuesday of each month
Wanneroo Tennis Club, Elliot Rd, Wanneroo 8 p.m.
President: D. Collins, Secretary: D. Bruce 401 1338

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