2013 ANZAC Day

Read page 2 for a country Sub-Branch success story
From the Presidents Pen!

During the recent meeting of The National Executive of the RSL I advised other Eastern State delegates that Western Australia did not, and would not, support the NSW move to drop the RSL and simply have us referred to as the “League.”

I advised the meeting that if necessary WA would go it alone or “die in the ditch” but either way insisted that we would keep the title RSL. I believe this view fairly reflected the strong feedback I have received during talks with Sub-branches and members. The National decision was to leave the RSL “brand” alone but if NSW wanted to it could pursue the matter within that State.

I also conveyed to the National Executive the fact that this year’s turnout and support from the public for ANZAC Day was exceptional. I told them this was the result of tremendous cooperation, support, volunteer effort and professional approaches from ANZAC House and our Sub-Branches that ensured a high standard of commemorative service across the State and this augured well for the future of the RSL in Western Australia.

Feedback indicated great support and turnout across the State but the Kings Park Dawn Service drew the biggest crowd in Australia and was therefore the largest attended Dawn Service in the world.

Well done to all now let’s work together to build on our solid reputation in a way which both enhances our future and increases our membership.

Graham Edwards State President

All Hands In At Beverley

Just ten weeks ago the State President and CEO visited Beverley to discuss the possibility of closing the Sub-Branch.

Delighted at the unexpected number who attended this meeting, open discussion resulted in volunteers for certain roles and a high degree of enthusiasm for the ANZAC Day requirements.

Beverley conducted a hugely successful ANZAC Day commemoration and recruiting drive for new membership. Congratulations to all members who have kept Beverley alive and now moving forward with confidence to the centenary of ANZAC.

Philip Orchard – RSL WA CEO / State Secretary
The ANZAC Day Service conducted at Bakers Hill was the best attended ever. With over 200 people attending the service, a record was set. The Sub-Branch only recommenced in 2007, and continues to have a stronger community attendance.

After the service, all the people attending were invited back to our meeting hall for drinks, food and fellowship. It was also pleasing to note people (including children) who had not laid wreaths in previous years, participated this year. The day was a great success, and reinforced the fact that more and more people are remembering and respecting the values of ANZAC Day.

Lin Booth - Secretary/Treasurer

North Beach

North Beach Sub-Branch held their annual ANZAC Day Dawn Service on 25 April. The big screen, professional sound system and parking attendants, provided by funding from Lotterywest was very welcome and allowed the crowd, which was estimated at 3,000, to be involved and follow the service. The Sub-Branch was very pleased with the number of younger veterans attending and joining with our members to remember our fallen comrades.

Following the Dawn Service a Gunfire Breakfast was provided at the North Beach Bowling Club, where Sub-Branch members mingled with younger veterans, dignitaries, local residents and the many children, who received Certificates of Attendance.

Rob Sweet – Secretary – North Beach

Osborne Park Sub-Branch

The Osborne Park Sub-Branch ANZAC Day Service was held at Main St, Osborne Park Sub-Branch premises.

Approximately 400 people attended the service which consisted of Sub-Branch members, local councillors, State and Federal parliamentarians, Scout Group and members of the public.

All service personnel assembled at 0650 hours ready to march to the front of the Sub-Branch premises at 0700 hours. The parade was under the control of parade commander Norm Wells, Ex Warrant Officer Class 2. The Flag Bearers were Mr Colin Guthrie, Mr Randal Fosbender and Mr Ted Guthrie. A “fly past” by five tiger moths preceded the commencement of the service The President of the Sub-Branch delivering a welcome address to members and guests.

A pianist and choir led the crowd in singing the ANZAC Day hymns and personal ANZAC Day reflections were delivered by the Deputy Mayor of the City of Stirling, State and Federal Parliamentarians and representative from the Scout Group. Wreaths were laid by the Sub-Branch President, dignitaries and members of the public. A bugler played the last post and a reverent one minute silence was observed. The President then recited the Ode of Remembrance. Following the singing of the National Anthem the ANZAC Day Co-Ordinator concluded the service and extended an invitation to all present to attend the Gunfire Breakfast.

According to President Stephen Ibbotson the day was a great success and he was especially delighted with the increase in crowd numbers from previous years.

Sharon Ibbotson – Secretary

Tammin Sub-Branch

A lovely autumn day saw over 100 people gather at Memorial Park for the 2013 ANZAC Day Commemoration Service and it was most pleasing to see so many young people and children present.

Our lone ex-serviceman from WWII, 93 year old Mr Graeme Fowler, was given a big welcome and he was assisted by Trevor Telfer, a new RSL member who recently transferred from Bunbury.

Rod Stokes, son of past President the late Bernie Stokes conducted the service, Graeme’s son Brian conducted out the flag raising ceremony and wreaths were laid by several community organisations.

The address was given by long time Tammin resident Margaret Wheeldon who reminded all that ANZAC Day was not a day of celebration but one of remembrance. She gave an insight into life at home while the boys were away fighting in WWII. She touched on the number of young men that went from the district in both WWI and WWII, the rationing of food and other commodities, the difficulties of the gas producers which were attached to all vehicles to replace petrol, the part that Red Cross played and local activities to raise war bonds. A highlight of the day was the unveiling of the Sub-Branch’s Charter which replaces the lost original Charter which was presented in 1946, this was carried out by Graeme and Trevor aided by Rod and Brian.

Those present then enjoyed a Gunfire Breakfast organised by the 26 affiliate members.

Lainy Packham - Secretary/Treasurer

Beaches

Behind the Scenes at the North Beach ANZAC Day Service

A lovely autumn day saw over 100 people gather at Memorial Park for the 2013 ANZAC Day Commemoration Service and it was most pleasing to see so many young people and children present.

Our lone ex-serviceman from WWII, 93 year old Mr Graeme Fowler, was given a big welcome and he was assisted by Trevor Telfer, a new RSL member who recently transferred from Bunbury.

Rod Stokes, son of past President the late Bernie Stokes conducted the service, Graeme’s son Brian conducted out the flag raising ceremony and wreaths were laid by several community organisations.

The address was given by long time Tammin resident Margaret Wheeldon who reminded all that ANZAC Day was not a day of celebration but one of remembrance. She gave an insight into life at home while the boys were away fighting in WWII. She touched on the number of young men that went from the district in both WWI and WWII, the rationing of food and other commodities, the difficulties of the gas producers which were attached to all vehicles to replace petrol, the part that Red Cross played and local activities to raise war bonds. A highlight of the day was the unveiling of the Sub-Branch’s Charter which replaces the lost original Charter which was presented in 1946, this was carried out by Graeme and Trevor aided by Rod and Brian.

Those present then enjoyed a Gunfire Breakfast organised by the 26 affiliate members.

Lainy Packham - Secretary/Treasurer
Bencubbin Sub-Branch

The traditional Dawn Service was held at the Mukinbudin War Memorial at 0600 hrs.

The MC was Cr Gary Shadbolt, the Shire President of Mukinbudin. Mia Davies MLA, the Member for the Central Wheat Belt, gave the address and also read out the names of the fallen. Dudley and Tim Squire read the Prayers.

Wreaths were laid by Mia Davies MLA and Stephen Sprigg. Cr John Shadbolt played the Lone Piper’s Lament. Veterans on Parade included RSL, Sub-Branch President Len Cargueg, 3rd Battalion, the Royal Australian Regiment and the Australian Intelligence Corps, and Ken Onn from the Royal Australian Engineers. The flag attendant was Cr Rodney Connerford, Deputy President of the Shire of Mukinbudin. There were approximately 140 people in attendance. After the service a Gunfire Breakfast was served in the adjacent park. The breakfast was generously supplied by the Shire of Mukinbudin. The Service was organised once again by Mr Stephen Sprigg, an affiliate member of the Bencubbin Sub-Branch.

The next service was held at Bencubbin at 9.30 am. The MC was Len Cargueg. Addresses were given by Cr Paul Gillett, Shire President of Mt Marshall. Garth Carrick, 9th Battalion RAR gave an inspiring address. Wreaths were laid by the Shire President, (Cr Paul Gillett) and, Mrs Donna Cooper. A number of children placed flowers on the War Memorial. Prayers were read by Mrs Donna Cooper. The names of the fallen were read by Len Cargueg. The flag attendant was Garth Carrick. There were 43 people attending from all parts of the South of the Shire. After the service a scrumptious morning tea was served in the Bencubbin Recreation Centre.

Thanks to the ladies: Mrs Donna Cooper, Mrs Jill Carrick and Mrs Sharon Kett to name a few for bringing the refreshments and serving it.

The next service was held at the Beacon War Memorial, near the ‘Beacon Men’s Shed’ at 11.00 am. The MC was John Cashmore, HMAS Sydney III. John Cashmore and Carine Miguel each gave an address. Prayers were read by Roxanne Cashmore. Brandon Poole and Matt Dunne read the Ode. The names of the fallen from Beacon were read out by Len Cargueg. Bruce Ingleton was the flag attendant and a choir from Beacon Primary School sang hymns. Cr Christopher Kirby laid a wreath on behalf of the Shire of Mt Marshall. Matt Cashmore also laid a wreath. There were approximately 70 people in attendance. After the Service, people moved into the Men’s Shed where morning tea was served. This was the third service since they recommenced in Beacon in 2011.

Following the morning tea, the assembly went to the Beacon Country Club to watch the Collingwood/Essendon game on the big screen.

Len Cargueg JP – President

Dawesville Sub-Branch

In the dark before dawn men, women and children of various nationalities and many wearing medals earnt during service for their country or wearing medals of loved ones never met, gathered at Dawesville foreshore for the 2013 Dawn Service at the Dawesville War Memorial.

As the dawn light forced its way through the cloud turning the Peel Harvey estuary water into an eerie grey colour, the gathering would be forgiven for thinking that they were actually standing on the shoreline of ANZAC Cove with the only element missing being the rugged shoreline.

The record crowd of approximately 1,200 shows that Western Australians in particular are becoming more patriotic and were very heartened by the number of children who attended, this shows the future of ANZAC Day is in good hands.

The ceremony was overseen by members of the Dawesville Sub-Branch with Branch President Col Gibson as master of ceremonies. The Ode was recited by Sub-Branch secretary Fred Abbott. Branch Warden Nigel Skene maned the flags.

A special thanks to the 1st Falcon Scout Group for forming a Guard of Honour at the War Memorial and also St Johns Ambulance for their attendance.

Both the Australian and New Zealand National Anthems were played and in general conversation, it was appreciated by New Zealand expats who attended the service.

Meanwhile, at 0500 hours and two kilometres north of the Dawn Service at the Port Bouvard Sport and Recreation Club, another group of Dawesville Sub-Branch members and volunteers were serving a hearty Gunfire Breakfast under supervision of fundraiser Rick Lundberg.

450 sausages, 15kgs of bacon, 600 eggs, 400 hash browns and copious amounts of baked beans, fed approximately 500 patrons.

In the afternoon both Col Gibson and Nigel Skene conducted the opening ceremony at the reserves football match between South Mandurah and Mandurah at the Falcon Oval and presented the ANZAC Medal for best on ground to Joe McConnell. Fred Abbott conducted the opening ceremony at the Halls Head Oval at the game between Halls Head and Baldivis.

But let us not forget the reason we were there, to reflect on those have made the ultimate sacrifice in many campaigns and conflicts around the world in order that we are able to live in a free and democratic country.

Bob Henley - Vice President and Public Relations Officer

Nedlands Sub-Branch

Each year the number attending the Service conducted by the Nedlands Sub-Branch and supported by the Nedlands City Council has a result in an increase of public support. This year the number exceeded 200. Among those attending were Mrs. Tonkin, widow of past Premier John Tonkin and Mrs. Ruth Reid, widow of Professor Reid, ex-Governor of WA, who served as a Navigator on Bomber Command.

Dr Ken Collins AM CitWA, Deputy Mayor of the Nedlands City Council, gave an interesting address and Reverend Marc Dale led the prayers and also played the Last Post on a bugle which was used at Gallipoli. The Kingsway Methodist Church lead in the singing of the hymns and the National Anthem. The Nedlands Council gave great support in advertising the Service, keeping the surrounds in immaculate condition and in providing light refreshments for all at the end of the Service.

At the end of the Service, Secretary Doug Arrowsmith requested for new members and was pleased to receive a few enquiries. The Sub-Branch must get younger people to join to keep the Sub-Branch alive.

Ms Mishia Elliott of the Nedlands Council is already urging the Secretary to plan ahead for expanding the Service for not only 2014, but for the Centenary year. She has been of great help for this year’s Service.

Doug Arrowsmith – Secretary – 9387 4317 Showing part of the gathering of 200 people.
Federal Member for Perth, Stephen Smith MP attended the Bedford-Morley Sub-Branch ANZAC Ceremony on Sunday, 21 April, ahead of commemorations for the 98th Anniversary of ANZAC Day.

“I was very pleased to be able to attend this local ceremony at the memorial in Salisbury Street, Bedford.”

“I was pleased to be able to welcome my former Parliamentary colleague, Mr Graham Edwards, following his recent election as the new State President of the WA Branch of the RSL,” said Mr Smith. Others in attendance were the local member for Maylands Lisa Baker MLA; the Mayor of Bayswater, Terry Kenyon; Bedford-Morley RSL Sub-Branch President Reg Cream, Peggy Jack from the Women’s Auxiliary and City of Bayswater Active Citizenship Award recipient for 2013 Ted Dubberlin JP. Wreaths were laid in honour of those who paid the ultimate sacrifice from this area.

“Making the event even more memorable was the strong attendance of veteran, Sub-Branch members and the younger members of rangers and scouts organisations from our local community,” said Mr Smith.

Mr Smith spent ANZAC Day at Hellfire Pass on the Thai-Burma Railway line.

The Northam RSL conducted very successful events on ANZAC Day. The Dawn Service was attended by over 400 people which is a significant increase on previous years. The Gunfire Breakfast was the most successful to date with approx 160 meals being served.

The Dawn Service was broadcast live by Radiowest to the Northam and Merredin areas. This is a great way for our service to reach people in outlying areas as well as people, such as the elderly, who are unable to get to the service in town. Northam Warden Mr Ed Freeman-Smith read the Ode.

The ANZAC March stepped off with a 10th Light Horse Regiment re-enactments on horseback leading, large numbers marched and included RSL members and former service personnel, serving members of 79 Squadron RAAF, 519 Army Cadet Unit, WA Police, St John Ambulance, Fire Brigade, Salvation Army, Girl Guides and all five Northam Schools were represented. Also in the parade were several restored military jeeps and a truck.

The parade was attended by immediate past President of the RSL of WA Mr Bill Gaynor OAM RFD, who read the ANZAC address during the service. The address was well received with warm applause. Luis Lim played the Last Post and Reveille at both the Dawn and Main service. Secretary Reg Stevens read the Ode, with Ministers from local Churches delivered prayer reading. The Combined Districts Concert Band attended in strong numbers lead by Bandmaster Mayuka Jubur. The band marches in the parade as well as playing all music during the service. Approximately 20 wreaths were laid on the day and many hundreds of poppies were placed by the public on the Memorials.

Organiser, Secretary Reg Stevens, when asked by the local press, stated that the day had gone perfectly, including weather and every part of the service. Crowd attendance at the Dawn Service was more than double that of last year, with a conservative approximately 2,500 people, it was very pleasing to see the number of young people in attendance.

After the Service there was the traditional Gunfire breakfast which was split in two locations - The Memorial Hall and the RSL Sub-Branch, everyone in attendance appeared to have enjoyed both the service and the breakfast.

Reg Stevens – Secretary

The crowd at the Dawn Service was more than double that of last year, with a conservative approximately 2,500 people, it was very pleasing to see the number of young people in attendance. After the Service there was the traditional Gunfire breakfast which was split in two locations - The Memorial Hall and the RSL Sub-Branch, everyone in attendance appeared to have enjoyed both the service and the breakfast.

Arthur J Stanton - Vice President (Ceremonial)

The crowd at the Dawn Service was more than double that of last year, with a conservative approximately 2,500 people, it was very pleasing to see the number of young people in attendance. After the Service there was the traditional Gunfire breakfast which was split in two locations - The Memorial Hall and the RSL Sub-Branch, everyone in attendance appeared to have enjoyed both the service and the breakfast.

Arthur J Stanton - Vice President (Ceremonial)

City of Cockburn Sub-Branch

Dawn Service at the City of Cockburn:

Commencing at 5.30pm on Wednesday, 24 April, Venturers and Rovers from the Bibra Lake Scout Group took up an overnight vigil on the monument. They dismounted at 5.30am then immediately after the RAN HMAS Warramunga Catafalque slow marched onto the monument.

The service commenced with the Dawn Service Preamble presented by Mayor Logan Howlett JP, this was then followed by the ANZAC Dedication by Mr Digger Cleak OAM. The Dawn Service Address was presented by CMDR David Teitzel CSM, Commanding Officer, HMAS Warramunga.

The crowd at the Dawn Service was more than double that of last year, with a conservative approximately 2,500 people, it was very pleasing to see the number of young people in attendance. After the Service there was the traditional Gunfire breakfast which was split in two locations - The Memorial Hall and the RSL Sub-Branch, everyone in attendance appeared to have enjoyed both the service and the breakfast.

Arthur J Stanton - Vice President (Ceremonial)

Reg Stevens – Secretary

Sub-Branch Services ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATIONS

Bedford-Morley Sub-Branch

Port Kennedy Sub-Branch

City of Cockburn Sub-Branch

Dawn Service at the City of Cockburn:

Commencing at 5.30pm on Wednesday, 24 April, Venturers and Rovers from the Bibra Lake Scout Group took up an overnight vigil on the monument. They dismounted at 5.30am then immediately after the RAN HMAS Warramunga Catafalque slow marched onto the monument.

The service commenced with the Dawn Service Preamble presented by Mayor Logan Howlett JP, this was then followed by the ANZAC Dedication by Mr Digger Cleak OAM. The Dawn Service Address was presented by CMDR David Teitzel CSM, Commanding Officer, HMAS Warramunga.

The crowd at the Dawn Service was more than double that of last year, with a conservative approximately 2,500 people, it was very pleasing to see the number of young people in attendance. After the Service there was the traditional Gunfire breakfast which was split in two locations - The Memorial Hall and the RSL Sub-Branch, everyone in attendance appeared to have enjoyed both the service and the breakfast.

Arthur J Stanton - Vice President (Ceremonial)

Port Kennedy Sub-Branch

Sub-Branch Services ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATIONS

Bedford-Morley Sub-Branch

Federal Member for Perth, Stephen Smith MP attended the Bedford-Morley Sub-Branch ANZAC Ceremony on Sunday, 21 April, ahead of commemorations for the 98th Anniversary of ANZAC Day.

“I was very pleased to be able to attend this local ceremony at the memorial in Salisbury Street, Bedford.”

“I was pleased to be able to welcome my former Parliamentary colleague, Mr Graham Edwards, following his recent election as the new State President of the WA Branch of the RSL,” said Mr Smith. Others in attendance were the local member for Maylands Lisa Baker MLA; the Mayor of Bayswater, Terry Kenyon; Bedford-Morley RSL Sub-Branch President Reg Cream, Peggy Jack from the Women’s Auxiliary and City of Bayswater Active Citizenship Award recipient for 2013 Ted Dubberlin JP. Wreaths were laid in honour of those who paid the ultimate sacrifice from this area.

“Making the event even more memorable was the strong attendance of veteran, Sub-Branch members and the younger members of rangers and scouts organisations from our local community,” said Mr Smith.

Mr Smith spent ANZAC Day at Hellfire Pass on the Thai-Burma Railway line.

The Northam RSL conducted very successful events on ANZAC Day. The Dawn Service was attended by over 400 people which is a significant increase on previous years. The Gunfire Breakfast was the most successful to date with approx 160 meals being served.

The Dawn Service was broadcast live by Radiowest to the Northam and Merredin areas. This is a great way for our service to reach people in outlying areas as well as people, such as the elderly, who are unable to get to the service in town. Northam Warden Mr Ed Freeman-Smith read the Ode.

The ANZAC March stepped off with a 10th Light Horse Regiment re-enactments on horseback leading, large numbers marched and included RSL members and former service personnel, serving members of 79 Squadron RAAF, 519 Army Cadet Unit, WA Police, St John Ambulance, Fire Brigade, Salvation Army, Girl Guides and all five Northam Schools were represented. Also in the parade were several restored military jeeps and a truck.

The parade was attended by immediate past President of the RSL of WA Mr Bill Gaynor OAM RFD, who read the ANZAC address during the service. The address was well received with warm applause. Luis Lim played the Last Post and Reveille at both the Dawn and Main service. Secretary Reg Stevens read the Ode, with Ministers from local Churches delivered prayer reading. The Combined Districts Concert Band attended in strong numbers lead by Bandmaster Mayuka Jubur. The band marches in the parade as well as playing all music during the service. Approximately 20 wreaths were laid on the day and many hundreds of poppies were placed by the public on the Memorials.

Organiser, Secretary Reg Stevens, when asked by the local press, stated that the day had gone perfectly, including weather and every part of the service. Crowd attendance at the Dawn Service was more than double that of last year, with a conservative approximately 2,500 people, it was very pleasing to see the number of young people in attendance. After the Service there was the traditional Gunfire breakfast which was split in two locations - The Memorial Hall and the RSL Sub-Branch, everyone in attendance appeared to have enjoyed both the service and the breakfast.

Reg Stevens – Secretary

The crowd at the Dawn Service was more than double that of last year, with a conservative approximately 2,500 people, it was very pleasing to see the number of young people in attendance. After the Service there was the traditional Gunfire breakfast which was split in two locations - The Memorial Hall and the RSL Sub-Branch, everyone in attendance appeared to have enjoyed both the service and the breakfast.

Arthur J Stanton - Vice President (Ceremonial)

Reg Stevens – Secretary

City of Cockburn Sub-Branch

Dawn Service at the City of Cockburn:

Commencing at 5.30pm on Wednesday, 24 April, Venturers and Rovers from the Bibra Lake Scout Group took up an overnight vigil on the monument. They dismounted at 5.30am then immediately after the RAN HMAS Warramunga Catafalque slow marched onto the monument.

The service commenced with the Dawn Service Preamble presented by Mayor Logan Howlett JP, this was then followed by the ANZAC Dedication by Mr Digger Cleak OAM. The Dawn Service Address was presented by CMDR David Teitzel CSM, Commanding Officer, HMAS Warramunga.

The crowd at the Dawn Service was more than double that of last year, with a conservative approximately 2,500 people, it was very pleasing to see the number of young people in attendance. After the Service there was the traditional Gunfire breakfast which was split in two locations - The Memorial Hall and the RSL Sub-Branch, everyone in attendance appeared to have enjoyed both the service and the breakfast.

Arthur J Stanton - Vice President (Ceremonial)
Darling Range Sub-Branch

Prior to our local ANZAC Day March on Saturday, 20 April, our Sub-Branch hosted a visit from the Gooseberry Hill cubs. They with Cubs from Kalamunda and Forrestfield Cub groups have traditionally mounted a vigil at our Memorial on ANZAC Eve as part of their community service. They were fascinated with our memorabilia. All local Cub groups joined in our local March. Well done Cubs and leaders.

Our local ANZAC Day March and Service was easily the biggest seen in Kalamunda and was very well received. A highlight this year was the participation of a number of local schools within the Kalamunda Shire, twenty schools had been invited to join in the march and to lay a wreath by their representatives. Some of the schools involved were Kalamunda Senior High School, Lesmurdie Senior High School, Darling Range Sports College, Mazenod College and the primary schools of Kalamunda, Forrestfield, Marys St Mount, Walliston and Lesmurdie. Their enthusiasm to participate bodes well for the future. Our members were led by the Kalamunda District Pipe Band, and were joined by local community service groups such as the SES and Kalamunda Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade. Our bugler on the day, and at our Dawn Service, was Bennett Carpenter from Carmel Adventist College. The service was well received and was followed by light refreshments back at our Hall.

The Dawn Service saw the most impressive crowd ever seen in living memory, estimated at 1,500 locals and non-locals, with approximately 270 attending the Gunfire Breakfast which followed. As we were limited by space constraints at the Memorial we will have to put on our thinking caps next year to cater for this so all those attending may be able to view the service (perhaps tiered seating and screens of the service).

Doug Carpenter - Secretary/Membership Officer

Pinjarra Sub-Branch

Pinjarra RSL had a busy time over the week leading up to ANZCA Day, participating in ANZAC Services at Carcoola Primary School, Pinjarra Primary School, Austin Cove Primary School and St Joseph’s Primary School.

As well as organising Pinjarra’s Dawn Service, 11.00am Service and the Service, 11.00am Service and the Gunfire Breakfast which followed.

City of South Perth Sub-Branch

Over 650 personnel attended the ANZAC Day Service in the Memorial Gardens in South Perth. The Service, lead by the Reverend Peter Johnstone, of the South Perth Uniting Church, was attended by members of 3 Squadron of the Pilbara Regiment who formed the Catafalque Party, members of the City of South Perth Sub-Branch, local dignitaries and students from the colleges in South Perth, plus representatives of Service Clubs and many residents from South Perth.

Kevin Trent, President of the Sub-Branch said it was the “largest crowd we had seen in recent years.”

In a departure from the traditional format used in the past, those attending were addressed by Flt Lt Sarah-Jane Leech, a qualified RAAF Pilot who spoke on her experiences as a young mother and an active member of the RAAF having served in Iraq, Afghanistan, Solomon Islands, East Timor and Indonesia.

"It is on such occasions that we are reminded that the ANZAC spirit extends beyond our own experience and throughout our modern day community. "It is the support of our community that affirms that our efforts are recognised as making a positive contribution to our society and our country," she said.

On the Friday before schools went on holiday many members of the Sub-Branch attended School Services held in honour of the Servicemen and Women paid the ultimate price in the many wars in which Australians have been involved.

Barry Stinson - Vice President

Geraldton City Sub-Branch

Four generations of a family attended out 2013 ANZAC Day service in Geraldton.

Mr Gordon Adams from Katoomba NSW was 19 years old when he was stationed in Western Australia as part of the 2nd Division, 35th Battalion during 1942 & 1943. Following a 71 year gap he and his extended family visited Geraldton for a trip down memory lane and to march in the 2013 ANZAC Day Service. Mr Adams Senior was accompanied by his son Geoff from Bathurst NSW, his Grandson Heath (10 year, 5 CER) and Great Grandson Lochlan from Baldivis WA.

Gordon Adams (5th Battalion), Heath Guest (5CER), Lochlan Guest, Geoff Adams

Member of the Pilbara Regiment in the Catafalque Party, Flt Lt Sarah-Jane Leech of RAAF Base Pearce, Kevin Trent, President City of South Perth Sub Branch, and Hamish McCamley of Wesley College who played the Last Post and Rouse

Sue O’Donnell - Secretary

Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade. Our bugler on the day was Bennett Carpenter from Carmel Adventist College. The service was well received and was followed by light refreshments back at our Hall.

The Dawn Service saw the most impressive crowd ever seen in living memory, estimated at 1,500 locals and non-locals, with approximately 270 attending the Gunfire Breakfast which followed. As we were limited by space constraints at the Memorial we will have to put on our thinking caps next year to cater for this so all those attending may be able to view the service (perhaps tiered seating and screens of the service).

Doug Carpenter - Secretary/Membership Officer

Pinjarra Sub-Branch

Pinjarra RSL had a busy time over the week leading up to ANZCA Day, participating in ANZAC Services at Carcoola Primary School, Pinjarra Primary School, Austin Cove Primary School and St Joseph’s Primary School.

As well as organising Pinjarra’s Dawn Service, 11.00am Service and the Gunfire Breakfast which followed.

City of South Perth Sub-Branch

Over 650 personnel attended the ANZAC Day Service in the Memorial Gardens in South Perth. The Service, lead by the Reverend Peter Johnstone, of the South Perth Uniting Church, was attended by members of 3 Squadron of the Pilbara Regiment who formed the Catafalque Party, members of the City of South Perth Sub-Branch, local dignitaries and students from the colleges in South Perth, plus representatives of Service Clubs and many residents from South Perth.

Kevin Trent, President of the Sub-Branch said it was the “largest crowd we had seen in recent years.”

In a departure from the traditional format used in the past, those attending were addressed by Flt Lt Sarah-Jane Leech, a qualified RAAF Pilot who spoke on her experiences as a young mother and an active member of the RAAF having served in Iraq, Afghanistan, Solomon Islands, East Timor and Indonesia.

"It is on such occasions that we are reminded that the ANZAC spirit extends beyond our own experience and throughout our modern day community. "It is the support of our community that affirms that our efforts are recognised as making a positive contribution to our society and our country," she said.

On the Friday before schools went on holiday many members of the Sub-Branch attended School Services held in honour of the Servicemen and Women paid the ultimate price in the many wars in which Australians have been involved.

Kevin Trent - President

Representation of local schools within Kalamunda Shire after they had laid wreaths.
Sub-Branch Services

Ellenbrook Sub-Branch:

On the last day of the first term approximately 1,200 students from the Ellenbrook schools joined together for the schools’ ANZAC Service, conducted with RSL members.

Father Francis Nguyen conducted the opening prayer and the guest speaker, Barry Gratwick, spoke eloquently about service and its place in Australian society. Senior Sergeant Gratwick related the history of the SAS as an example of service at the highest level.

A feature of the service is the students telling the audience what ANZAC Day means to them and their families. An increasing number of students have searched back through the family records and found members who served in World War I. Such recounts give an added dimension to the wreath laying.

Neil MacNeill - Principal

Karridale-Augusta Sub-Branch

The Karridale-Augusta Sub-Branch held our ANZAC Day Dawn Service in the Memorial Park in Augusta. The crowd of approximately 400 gathered in the darkness to remember those who paid the supreme sacrifice.

President Brian Neal led the Service as we stood in silence to reflect. As the sun rose over Flinders Bay we stood to remember them.

A Gunfire Breakfast was enjoyed by the ravenous crowd, of course the tot of rum in the coffee was well received.

Augusta’s Main ANZAC Day Ceremony was also well attended with approximately 300 people. Many laid wreaths on the main Memorial and Nurses’ Memorial.

President Brian Neal led the service and Canon David Hawkins gave the prayers. The address was given by Lieutenant-Commander John Wilson, RAN fitting, this being his last day in the Navy. Members of the Karridale-Augusta RSL wished John a happy and long retirement.

Les Challis on drums and Kim Hornybrook on the bugle were much appreciated by those in attendance.

A hearty hamburger lunch was enjoyed by many, and, thirsts were well quenched.

Robert Stiles

Local school children laying a wreath on the Nurses’ Memorial.

Applecross Sub-Branch

Despite threatening weather, a crowd of 450 veterans and public attended the March and Service held at the Clock Tower Memorial, Melville Civic Square.

703 Squadron Australian Air Force Cadets provided an Honour Guard for the Memorial. The Applecross Sub-Branch President, Greg Hunter, welcomed everyone to the ceremony.

Guest speaker, Capt Wayne Gardiner RFD, gave an interesting address that was received well by the audience. The Town of Victoria Park Brass Band led the march and provided accompaniment to the hymns and anthems throughout the ceremony.

They were complimented by “the One Achord Choir” vocal harmonies. The City of Melville provided morning tea for all attendees at the conclusion of the Service.

It was pleasing to see an increase in the number attending and especially the number of children participating.

Helen Pickering - Secretary

Introducing the new ADCU

Deeming Access Account.

A great way to earn interest without affecting your retirement.

To find out more or apply today, enquire in branch, visit www.adcu.com.au or call 1300 13 23 28.
Bullsbrook and Districts Sub-Branch

This year we estimated a crowd of 800 plus for our Dawn Service and around 370 meals were cooked for the Gunfire Breakfast.

Many stayed on for fellowship, games of cards and Two-Up and a luncheon consisting of pea and ham soup and Irish Stew.

We thank all the many volunteers who helped make this day so successful and look forward to next year’s ANZAC Day.

Penny de Grussa - Secretary

Ravensthorpe Sub-Branch

ANZAC Day in Ravensthorpe was once again a very successful event. Our very small branch was very proud to have ex Servicemen, Volunteer Firemen and Volunteer St John’s Ambulance members marching to the tune of bagpipes of Duncan Sullivan.

There were about 150 locals and visitors watching the march and giving them a well deserved applause when arriving at the War Memorial.

After the service everyone was invited to morning tea provided by our local Hospital Auxiliary Ladies.

After morning tea everyone was then invited to the Ravensthorpe Golf & Bowling Club for a BBQ and drinks.

A great day was had by all who attended and keeping the ANZAC tradition well and truly alive in Ravensthorpe.

Peggy Cox - Secretary

City of Mandurah Sub-Branch

For the number of people it was so quiet, then you heard the Bagpiper. As the piper slow marched through the War Memorial for the Dawn Service, people moved forward and it was then that all realised how many people were there.

Once again Mandurah had a great turnout to both our Dawn and Main Service’s. Again it seems both are growing in numbers every year.

We thank all the many volunteers who helped make this day so successful and look forward to next year’s ANZAC Day.

Penny de Grussa - Secretary

Cottesloe Sub-Branch

The success of the Cottesloe ANZAC Day service was due to the efforts of Sherilee Mcready from the Community Development and Events Officer and the Shire Rangers Neil Reeves and Sorin Boata.

We tend to focus on the event and tent to overlook those who make our events possible.

Dr Neville Green - Secretary

Port Hedland Sub-Branch

The Service was attended by well over 1,200 people.

Following the Service there was a Gunfire Breakfast held at the Pilbara Regiment in Wilson Street.

Visitors were welcomed to ‘ANZAC House’ on Sutherland Street from 9am.

Robyn Middleton - Secretary
Wyalkatchem Sub-Branch

The Dawn Service was held under a cloudy sky at the War Memorial which had been lit up especially for the occasion. We were pleased with the attendance of approximately 75 people from our small community who braved the early morning.

The service was conducted by our Sub Branch President Eddie Garner who laid a wreath and also gave the address which related to the first West Australian recipient to receive the Victoria Cross, Second Lieutenant Hugo Throssell.

We considered Hugo to be a local as he owned land in our shire. Three of our local “boys”, who have walked the Kokoda trail, and each armed with a rifle and bayonet, fired the salute to conclude the Service. A Gunfire Breakfast followed at 0700 hours at the RSL Hall and was very much enjoyed by all.

The General Parade and Service at 1,100 hours was also very well attended with approximately 145 people gathered at the War Memorial. The service was conducted by our Membership Officer, Paul de Pierres who also delivered the address.

A total of 17 wreaths were laid by several organisations. Refreshments followed at the RSL Hall and many complimentary comments were made by attendees to both events on the recent upgrade and improvements to our Hall.

Tom Cleverly - Secretary

Armadale Sub-Branch

The Armadale RSL had what is believed to be the biggest turnout for the ANZAC Day Dawn Service to date, with an estimated 4,500 to 5,000 people attending the Dawn Service. There was an estimated 100 to 150 people in the March from the Armadale RSL Sub-Branch, and for the first time those who did march, marched right into Armadale Memorial Park halting just before the flagpole.

The President Mr Peter Hillbrick, delivered a very inspiring opening address, with many people coming up to him with their sincere thanks. Some 35 wreaths and floral tributes were laid at the Armadale Memorial Obelisk.

It was very heart-warming to hear so many of those that attended giving their congratulations, and for the first time after the conclusion of the Dawn Service there was a resounding applause that came from those who attended.

Those that attended were invited back to the Armadale Sub-Branch for a Gunfire Breakfast where around 150 to 200 breakfasts were served, there were an estimated 500 people who passed through the doors of the Sub-Branch throughout the day, two course lunch for $10.00 was enjoyed by 50 to 100 people.

“Two-Up” and also a “Crown and Anchor” game were running simultaneously. There were raffles and entertainment throughout the day.

All in all the Armadale RSL Sub-Branch ANZAC Day Memorial Service and ANZAC Day activities was a very well received event

Anthony Mulvaney - Hon Secretary

2013 Len Hall Football Match

The Annual Len Hall Match, 26 April 2013 – Fremantle Dockers v Richmond
Quinns Rocks Sub-Branch

The Quinns Rocks Sub-Branch held its annual ANZAC Day Commemorative Dawn Service on April 25. The local community turned out in force with over 3000 people in attendance including student representatives from numerous high schools and colleges within the local area, all of them in full uniform.

Music and Choir was provided by Peter Moyes Anglican Community School, Brigadier P White AM RFD provided a stirring ANZAC Day Address and students from Mindarie Senior, Peter Moyes Anglican Community School and Butler College also participated.

The Scottish Coastal Pipe Band provided pre Service Music and the RAAF were gracious in providing a low level fly past right on time.

As well as conducting the Dawn Service and Gunfire Breakfast Members of the Sub Branch also provided Guest Speakers to 14 Schools within the community for their respective ANZAC Day Commemorative Assemblies.

The Gunfire Breakfast was a great success with over 600 breakfasts being served.

Arthur Ventham RFD MBA - Advocate

Ellenbrook Sub-Branch

In the pre-dawn darkness over a thousand residents of Ellenbrook reverently filed into the Ellenbrook Memorial Amphitheatre for the Dawn Service. The picturesque surroundings of this commemorative service brings to the audience firsthand memories of the rugged beach landings at Gallipoli 98 years ago.

In a culmination of months of planning the Ellenbrook Sub-branch put together a moving ceremony that included meaningful prayers and dedications (Craig and Kate Anderson), Jeremy Garlett’s brilliant didgeridoo playing, Andrea Taylor’s soulful rendition of “The Band Played Waltzing Matilda”, Sing Australia Swan Valley, the Ellenbrook Community Youth Performance group, all of the Scouts and Guides from Ellenbrook and Herne Hill, 701 Squadron Air Cadets (Pearce), and the Swan Valley Anglican Police Rangers.

The Gunfire Breakfast proved very popular and our hardworking members and friends managed to feed about 500 people. We are extremely grateful for the companies and people who make this aspect of ANZAC Day so popular with the families.

The President, Stephen O’Neil, said that there was growing support for ANZAC Day in Ellenbrook and we need to work closely with Swan City Council to ensure that we can accommodate all the people who want to pay their respects for our service people in the future.

Neil MacNeill - Secretary

Jurien Bay Sub-Branch

This year’s ANZAC Day Service was again organised a fitting tribute to the POW’s on the Burma railway and it was very obvious that an extensive research was done by all who spoke.

The Dawn service at 0600hrs was well attended, approximately 200 plus, this has increased over the past years from 50 back in 2003. After a short welcome address by the Sub-Branch president the Last Post was sounded at 0600hrs.

Hendrikus Chattillon - President

COMMEMORATIONS

Quinns Rocks Sub-Branch

Narrogin Sub-Branch

During the course of a week the members of the Narrogin Sub-Branch attended services by the Senior High School, Combined Primary schools, Highbury Progress Committee and aged facilities, all services were very well organised especially the schools where the event was run by the students.

The theme this year was in memory of the POW’s on the Burma railway and it was very obvious that an extensive research was done by all who spoke.

The Dawn service at 0600hrs was well attended, approximately 200 plus, this has increased over the past years from 50 back in 2003. After a short welcome address by the Sub-Branch president the Last Post was sounded at 0600hrs.

Hendrikus Chattillon - President

Ellenbrook Sub-Branch

The Quinns Rocks Sub-Branch held its annual ANZAC Day Commemorative Dawn Service on April 25. The local community turned out in force with over 3000 people in attendance including student representatives from numerous high schools and colleges within the local area, all of them in full uniform.

Music and Choir was provided by Peter Moyes Anglican Community School, Brigadier P White AM RFD provided a stirring ANZAC Day Address and students from Mindarie Senior, Peter Moyes Anglican Community School and Butler College also participated.

The Scottish Coastal Pipe Band provided pre Service Music and the RAAF were gracious in providing a low level fly past right on time.

As well as conducting the Dawn Service and Gunfire Breakfast Members of the Sub Branch also provided Guest Speakers to 14 Schools within the community for their respective ANZAC Day Commemorative Assemblies.

The Gunfire Breakfast was a great success with over 600 breakfasts being served.

Arthur Ventham RFD MBA - Advocate

Ellenbrook Sub-Branch

In the pre-dawn darkness over a thousand residents of Ellenbrook reverently filed into the Ellenbrook Memorial Amphitheatre for the Dawn Service. The picturesque surroundings of this commemorative service brings to the audience firsthand memories of the rugged beach landings at Gallipoli 98 years ago.

In a culmination of months of planning the Ellenbrook Sub-branch put together a moving ceremony that included meaningful prayers and dedications (Craig and Kate Anderson), Jeremy Garlett’s brilliant didgeridoo playing, Andrea Taylor’s soulful rendition of “The Band Played Waltzing Matilda”, Sing Australia Swan Valley, the Ellenbrook Community Youth Performance group, all of the Scouts and Guides from Ellenbrook and Herne Hill, 701 Squadron Air Cadets (Pearce), and the Swan Valley Anglican Police Rangers.

The Gunfire Breakfast proved very popular and our hardworking members and friends managed to feed about 500 people. We are extremely grateful for the companies and people who make this aspect of ANZAC Day so popular with the families.

The President, Stephen O’Neil, said that there was growing support for ANZAC Day in Ellenbrook and we need to work closely with Swan City Council to ensure that we can accommodate all the people who want to pay their respects for our service people in the future.

Neil MacNeill - Secretary

Jurien Bay Sub-Branch

This year’s ANZAC Day Service was again organised a fitting tribute to the POW’s on the Burma railway and it was very obvious that an extensive research was done by all who spoke.

The Dawn service at 0600hrs was well attended, approximately 200 plus, this has increased over the past years from 50 back in 2003. After a short welcome address by the Sub-Branch president the Last Post was sounded at 0600hrs.

Hendrikus Chattillon - President

COMMEMORATIONS

Quinns Rocks Sub-Branch

Narrogin Sub-Branch

During the course of a week the members of the Narrogin Sub-Branch attended services by the Senior High School, Combined Primary schools, Highbury Progress Committee and aged facilities, all services were very well organised especially the schools where the event was run by the students.

The theme this year was in memory of the POW’s on the Burma railway and it was very obvious that an extensive research was done by all who spoke.

The Dawn service at 0600hrs was well attended, approximately 200 plus, this has increased over the past years from 50 back in 2003. After a short welcome address by the Sub-Branch president the Last Post was sounded at 0600hrs.

Hendrikus Chattillon - President
Three Springs – Arrino Sub-Branch

Veterans and descendants marched this ANZAC day at Three Springs.

Our remaining three WWII veterans are now all wheelchair bound.

Over 250 people heard our guest speaker Mr Anthony Thomas, talk of his trip to ANZAC Cove for the 2009 ANZAC Day Service.

A further 200 people attended the 7am service in Mingenew and another 120 at the 7am service in Carnamah so good attendances all round.

Ray Morgan - President

City of Cockburn Sub-Branch: Parade

The RSL City of Cockburn ANZAC Day Parade assembled in the RSL car park, the parade marched into Forrest Road and Carrington Street, to the Memorial Hall Monument. The Parade was led by a 6x6 Studebaker Trucks carrying Veterans unable to march. It was followed by mounted troopers from 10th Light Horse Memorial Troop.

The Parade Commander was LEUT Colin Verhuel, HMAS Warramunga, who led a RAN Contingent comprising of 36 sailors, this was followed by a small Police Contingent and Veterans and Members of the RSL City of Cockburn. Canning City Brass Band provided the music and cadets from 56 Army Cadet Unit provided the Cadet Colour Party. Included in the march were Cadets Scouts and Guides as well as Affiliate Members.

The ANZAC Day Address was presented by LT CMDR Jye Flood, HMAS Warramunga, the First ANZAC Resolution was read by Chaplain Monica Mendez, Hamilton Senior High School, with the Second Resolution read by Mrs Gabby Ryan DVA.

This year we replaced the Hymns with a modern version of "Lest We Forget" and "Australia Remembers", these are up-beat songs and are attractive to the younger generation. The Parade and Service was again well attended with an estimated 1,500 attending.

After the Service the Sub-Branch was full, firstly with the Youth participants receiving a complimentary sausage sizzle and soft drink. Bar staff were run off their feet but managed to keep all present in a happy mood. At 1.00pm 109 people sat down to the ANZAC Day Luncheon which was catered for by WA Spit Roast, well recommended.

The ANZAC Day Raffle was a huge success, thanks to some of the kind donations from some of our local businesses; prizes included a BBQ and a Patio Gas Heater from Bunnings, Microwave Oven and a Vacuum cleaner from The Good Guys plus a huge amount more. We look forward to a bigger and better ANZAC Day 2014.

Arthur J Stanton - RSL Vice President (Ceremonial)

Ballajura Sub-Branch

Once again the weather was perfect, warm with a light breeze. It was with a great deal of pleasure that I, as President of the Sub-Branch, saw all of our planning and preparation come to fruition.

It is estimated that we had a crowd of between 1,000 and 1,500 people come along to the Dawn Service, and then we fed about 350 people at the Gunfire Breakfast, this was accomplished by our capable cooks Michael Clarke, Terry Farrell, Tony Beekwilder and Les Debonde plus all of the other Sub-Branch members who helped with the serving and setting up and finally cleaning up afterwards.

A feeling of satisfaction comes over me when I see all of the younger people who are coming along to the Dawn Service, I spoke with a young fellow of about 5 years old and he told me that he had to get dad out of bed to bring him along, some people did not need dad to get them out of bed.

Our new principal of the College, Mrs Cheryl Townsend, was representing the College on her first ANZAC Day as Principal and she said that she was thrilled with the support that we had from the public. The Local Member of Federal Parliament, Luke Simpkins, came along and at one stage was seen serving breakfast.

I feel that ANZAC Day is growing because of the interest in the 100th anniversary and this is leading to larger crowds and a better understanding of what ANZAC Day is about.

Lest We Forget.

Mike Gilmore - President of Ballajura Sub-Branch
For some members of the City of Rockingham Sub-Branch, ANZAC Day can be a very long day. Some Committee Members and Volunteers started around 3.30am with preparations for the Dawn Service, then across the road to the Gunfire Breakfast for some sustenance and lastly, final bits and pieces for the March and Main Service, with people joining them along the way.

After the Main Service, it was off to the Rockingham RSL Sub-Branch to catch up with friends, family and mates. Transport is always provided for the elderly and infirm veterans to the March and then back to the RSL for the ANZAC Day function. Here they were joined by many people from the community who come each year to pay tribute to the “Spirit of ANZAC”.

This year about 500 people attended the ANZAC Day function with a wonderful feeling of cheer and goodwill permeating the Sub-Branch.

The weather was perfect, with the elderly Veterans either sitting inside the hall or enjoying themselves out under the marquees.

For those who liked a bit of a flutter, there were raffles for the faint at heart and Two-Up for those who enjoyed a bit of a challenge. Plenty of smiles all round from both groups with their respective wins. The buffet prepared by Sub-Branch caterers Frank Weber and Sue Kent and their dedicated band of helpers was a treat.

With the band keeping things lively, mates and comrades talked, laughed at jokes and reminisced about times gone by.

As the day drew to a close, people started drifting off to their respective homes. Another ANZAC Day gone, but those from the past to whom we owe so much; not forgotten.

Wendy Gray - Honorary Secretary

City Of Rockingham Sub-Branch

For some members of the City of Rockingham Sub-Branch, ANZAC Day can be a very long day.

Some Committee Members and Volunteers started around 3.30am with preparations for the Dawn Service, then across the road to the Gunfire Breakfast for some sustenance and lastly, final bits and pieces for the March and Main Service, with people joining them along the way.

After the Main Service, it was off to the Rockingham RSL Sub-Branch to catch up with friends, family and mates. Transport is always provided for the elderly and infirm veterans to the March and then back to the RSL for the ANZAC Day function. Here they were joined by many people from the community who come each year to pay tribute to the “Spirit of ANZAC”.

This year about 500 people attended the ANZAC Day function with a wonderful feeling of cheer and goodwill permeating the Sub-Branch.

The weather was perfect, with the elderly Veterans either sitting inside the hall or enjoying themselves out under the marquees.

For those who liked a bit of a flutter, there were raffles for the faint at heart and Two-Up for those who enjoyed a bit of a challenge. Plenty of smiles all round from both groups with their respective wins. The buffet prepared by Sub-Branch caterers Frank Weber and Sue Kent and their dedicated band of helpers was a treat.

With the band keeping things lively, mates and comrades talked, laughed at jokes and reminisced about times gone by.

As the day drew to a close, people started drifting off to their respective homes. Another ANZAC Day gone, but those from the past to whom we owe so much; not forgotten.

Wendy Gray - Honorary Secretary

City of Fremantle Sub-Branch

Our Sub-Branch for the week leading up to ANZAC Day was extremely busy being involved in attending and also in running ANZAC services for the local schools and nursing homes in the Town of Victoria Park and surrounding suburbs.

A first this year was the attendance at the East Victoria Park Primary School who held a moving service to honour ANZAC Day and those who served.

Our ANZAC Eve Service this year on Wednesday 24 April 2013 was a huge success and was attended by over 300 people from the local community and surrounding area. It was especially pleasing to see an increase in the number of younger people attending.

We also played a part in the Town of Victoria Park’s ANZAC Dawn Service at Rushton Park which was well attended by the local community, by presenting the Ode and ANZAC Requiem on the morning. We were also asked to lay a wreath of remembrance.

One of our Sub Branch Members, Mr Edward Lawrence, represented our Sub Branch in the City of Fremantle’s ANZAC Dawn Service and March again this year and laid a wreath.

We are very happy with the increased attendance at our ANZAC Eve services which continues to grow yearly. The support by our local community with their attendance and indeed the businesses and Parliamentarians from the area with donations to ensure the success of the evening is greatly appreciated by the Sub-Branch and we look forward to their continued support in the future.

Jacquie Liddiard – Secretary / Treasurer

Yanchep – Two Rocks Sub-Branch

Yanchep-Two Rocks Sub-Branch had a record number in attendance at the Dawn Service, and also at the 11.30am service at Yanchep National Park.

We appreciated the attendance of invited guests, local clubs and members of our community, as well as visitors from overseas and interstate.

In previous years some of our senior members who cannot march, have not been able to join in the march past, so this year we arranged transport for them to enable them to join in and this was very much appreciated by all.

Our Services were well advertised by the media which resulted in quite a few enquiries and after the Dawn Service the President was interviewed by ABC Perth Radio.

It was heartening to see this day so well supported by so many members of our growing community.

Gladys Shave - Secretary
Mt Lawley – Inglewood Sub-Branch

Crowds to Northampton’s ANZAC service continue to grow each year, estimates of between 550 to 600 people attended this year as people spilled onto the streets to show respect to our fallen soldiers.

Commander Ian Cook of the Royal Australian Navy addressed the crowd, commenting on the changes in our Defence Force, from the role played by woman in the front line and the perils our soldiers face in modern war and natural disasters. Northampton’s RSL Museum has steadily grown in the past 12 months with the recent addition of a Centurion Tank that saw service in the Vietnam War on proud display.

Northampton was proud to have one of its oldest members, Mr RG Cornell age 92, ex 2nd /28 Battalion, and most of his family present on the day (he was right marker and marched on the parade).

Once again the young children present were invited to come forward and lay red poppies at the base of the memorial at the conclusion of the wreath laying, this innovative idea has proved very popular.

Kevin M Gill - Treasurer

Northampton Sub-Branch

Although our membership is small, with meeting attendances around 14, we have just run a very successful ANZAC Day commemorative event with a march led by 20 servicemen and women joined with service and school groups.

This was followed by a wreath laying ceremony at the cenotaph. Our ANZAC service in the Town Hall attracted approximately 300 people which allowed standing room only. We also hold Vietnam Veterans’ and Remembrance Day commemorative services and dinner.

A feature of these events is the consistently strong participation of the local school students to the great delight and satisfaction of our members.

Judy Lill – Secretary / Treasurer

Mt Barker Sub-Branch

It read ‘This Bidet toilet seat simply replaces your existing toilet seat and will automatically clean you without toilet paper’, it also said the Bidet can be installed in just a few minutes. After reading that, Mr Brown who has suffered with a medical condition for years said that he was so excited he decided to investigate further. Trevor contacted The BIDET SHOP® and spoke with a helpful gentleman by the name of Stephen who explained how easily a Bidet toilet seat could be fitted to their existing toilet and then he proceeded to explain the benefits that it could bring to them.

He pointed out that once you had finished going to the LOO, you simply pressed the ‘auto wash button’ and the Bidet provides a stream of warm water to clean you thoroughly. Then an in-built fan dries you off with warm air and that you no longer needed toilet paper.

Trevor and Aileen decided on the spot to purchase a Bidet and have it shipped to their home, taking advantage of The BIDET SHOP®'s offer of free delivery. The Bidet was delivered to their home in just a few days. Trevor was delighted to find that the installation process was easy as Stephen explained and the seat fitted perfectly on their original toilet Bowl. Trevor said that he and Aileen have found that apart from the comfort and health factors, the Bidet toilet seat had many benefits, including a heated seat for those cold mornings and other great idea’s incorporated into it like instant warm water, and power and water saving settings.

Mr Brown said the Bidet is the best investment they had made in their personal health and hygiene and after years of toileting problems Mr Brown no longer finds going to the loo an issue.

“Give it a go” they say. “We did and we couldn’t be happier.”

For more information please call The BIDET SHOP® on 6102 5610 (local) or 1800 243 387 (national).

Don’t forget to mention our RW8 to receive the RSL Members Discount!

Trevor & Aileen Brown

The toilet seat that changed our lives!

Trevor & Aileen Brown

Wished that they had found the Bidet toilet seat years ago. “It’s Marvellous” they say!

Trevor a Returned Serviceman says he knew his luck had changed when he saw the Bidet in an advertisement in the local newspaper.

ALL SMILES... happy customers Aileen and Trevor Brown.
City of Rockingham Sub-Branch

Well ANZAC Day has come and gone once again for another year, but it does not take one day a year to remember those that have come before us and now sadly no longer with us. ANZAC Day for some of us here at Rockingham started very early that day. 3.30am to be precise as the Memorial had to be set up for the day’s events.

We started with a Dawn Service as most do and looked over the oval and around the Memorial as dawn broke to the bugler. We estimated that over 5,000 attended our service.

Our Dawn Service went well as it is modeled on the original service held in Albany, however the laying of the wreaths and poppies by the public had to go a further five minutes as there were many more paying their respects. With the Dawn Service completed it was off to the Gunfire Breakfast held by Rotary, as is every year since I have attended ANZAC Day. With breakfast out of the way the volunteers and committee had done the final adjustments before the main service. The waiting did not seem that long as time flies by. The Assistant Secretary and his marshal got the parade formed up just before the Navy band arrived from Perth and the march stepped of one minute late with a large contingent from HMAS Stirling leading the march. Not bad as the band had to travel all that way from the city march to ours. The only sad part of the day was noticing the dwindling number of veterans participating in ANZAC Day, but it’s a fact of life, however the public did attend with approximately 10,000 in attendance.

The main service also went well with salutes taken as marchers passed the dais, prayers said by the Navy Chaplain, fly over by the RAAF, music played and hymns sung by the choir and wreaths laid by official parties and the public.

Even though it went well the committee noticed some small area that we have to tweak before 2015, but all in all a sterling job done by both the President and Secretary of the Sub Branch and those who helped run the day.

Once the equipment was packed up, it was back to the Sub-Branch to renew old friendships and make new ones, with members, invited guests and visitors numbering over 500 to make the afternoon enjoyable. Some enjoyed it more than others as they walked away from Two-Up with smiles on their faces.

From The President, Secretary and Committee, a thank you goes out to those who attended the ANZAC Day services at Rockingham this year and years gone by.

Mark Stevens - Assistant Secretary

[Image 28x1055]  

[Image 29x1084]  

[Image 32x1120]  

[Image 410x358]

Wanneroo-Joondalup Sub-Branch: Joondalup Memorial Service

Veterans travelled in Golf Carts, generously supplied by ADH Golf Carts and some Veterans travelled in fully restored Willeys Jeep, owned by Mr Richard Craven. There was a terrific turnout for the March. Mr Luke Simpkins MP was the guest speaker. VIPs and members of the public lay floral tributes.

A fly pass of three PC9 aircraft and magnificent weather made the event an ANZAC Day I hope the Veterans will remember.

Wendy Tuffin - President

Denmark Sub-Branch

Scouts manned the vigil overnight. We have a new war memorial, constructed with the heritage items and looking as per the previous memorial but moved back and substantially strengthened. The previous memorial was closer to the road, causing a greater safety problem.

The funding was provided by the Lotteries Commission, which is most gratefully appreciated by the Denmark RSL and the Denmark Community. We served 235 eggs, buns and bacons for breakfast to those who stayed and there would have been just as many who did not stay.

The RSL main contingent arriving at the Memorial for the main service and were joined by many community groups and a large contingent from the Patriot Motor Cycle group, some from Albany and others from as far away as Bunbury.

We had a student from the High School, Ms Sophie Reeves, give a talk on her recent trip to Canberra. Each year we find a student and parent to travel to Canberra to visit the War Memorial, War Museum, the Houses of Parliament, the National Art Gallery and to have a call on the Governor General.

There is a competition in the final semester each year for the year nine students, to prepare a project on the topic of ANZAC Day. It may be in any form, be it a written story, a song, a computer power point presentation, an art project or whatever the student desires. The winner is selected by a panel of teachers and RSL Members.

Our main speech was given by the owner of the local hardware store. His father was in the 2/2nd Commandos in Timor when they were left there, unknown of for several months by the Australian government who had not heard from them. He gave a great talk about some of the action, and in more detail about the assistance given to the Australians by the Timorese and his family’s continued friendship with the East Timorese.

Mark Davies
Albany Sub-Branch

Kapyong Day on 24 April and both the ANZAC Day services, the Dawn Service and the mid-morning Parade and Commemoration Service, were all attended by arguably the largest number in Albany’s history.

Kapyong Day was commemorated in the historic St John Anglican Church, the Church being packed to capacity with an overflow group outside. The service was honoured by the presence of four Korean War veterans, two of whom were members of 3RAR during its historic stand at Kapyong for which the Battalion was awarded the United States President’s Unit Citation.

The ANZAC Day Dawn Service was conducted at the Desert Mounted Corps Memorial on Mt Clarence with the number of participants stretching the capacity of the Memorial site. The Service concluded with one of the most spectacular sunrises in recent years. The Service was broadcast nationally on the Community Radio network.

The ANZAC Day March and Commemoration Service on the Albany Peace Park was attended one of the largest crowds of participants and spectators in recent years. HMAS ANZAC and HMAS Stirling provided an impressive naval contingent for the Parade and Service. Particularly pleasing was the large number of primary and secondary school students formally participating in their school groups during their term school holiday. The parade was reviewed by Commodore Bronco Ogrizek, Director Future Submarine Project, Chief of Navy’s Office. In Commodore Ogrizek’s address he made mention to the impending Centenary of the arrival of the new Australian Fleet into Sydney Harbour in October 1913. The Service was overflown at 1100 hours by a tight formation of four PC9 aircraft from 2 Flying Training School, RAAF Base Pearce. During the march off of the parade, salute taken by Commodore Ogrizek, as is the local custom, the Albany Sub-Branch members opened ranks to allow the school students from all the Albany schools participating to march through to applause of the RSL members. As the students marched through the RSL and off the Peace Park, ten aircraft of the Albany Chapter of the Sports Aircraft Association of Australia performed an impressive flypast.

Also as customary, a large number of the participants gathered at the Stirling Club to continue their reminiscences.

Peter Aspinall - President

Dongara Sub-Branch

Once again the ANZAC Day marchers proudly followed the flag carried by our most senior member and WWII veteran Keith Miller to a commemorative ceremony held in Memorial Park as did the large crowd which had lined the streets to watch the march.

The formal ceremony was conducted by the president Peter Pendlebury, wreaths were laid on behalf of each of the military services, by community groups and services and by private individuals. Pastor Mark Craine led the prayers and in the singing of hymns and anthems. And most importantly a minutes silence was observed by all.

Once again the Air Cadets from Geraldton did an outstanding job of the ceremonial duties. As in many other areas of Australia, attendance at the dawn service is increasing noticeably. Attendances at both services this year would have been of a similar size.

Annette Pendlebury

Manjimup Sub-Branch

About 400 people attended the Dawn Service with about 275 enjoying the Gunfire Breakfast. The 11.00 am service attracted approximately 1,000 people. The guest speaker was Sub Lieutenant Benjamin Piggott from Royal Australian Navy in Watsons Bay, Sydney.

John Crook - Secretary

Gosnells Sub-Branch

This year the annual ANZAC Day service in Gosnells was attended by some 1500 to 2000 veterans and residents.

The highlights of the service were the re-worked grounds (which is a credit to the City of Gosnells), the singing by Mrs Jill Armstrong family and friends with three young lads singing the New Zealand National Anthem and the RAAF flypast as the RSL wreath was being laid.

Harry Rosielle - Secretary
Australian Army Day
APRIL 25th 2013

LEST WE FORGET
In the confusion and emotional numbness that follows when a person dies, it can be difficult for grieving relatives to make decisions about funeral arrangements.

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

There are many benefits to a PrePaid Funeral Plan:
- The opportunity to design the funeral service as you wish and not as others would like it.
- Our price inflation guarantee. By taking out a PrePaid Funeral Plan you effectively freeze the price of your funeral costs in the future.
- A PrePaid Funeral Plan does not become a part of your estate and is not subject to any administration.
- You will lessen the anguish that family may feel regarding whether they did the right thing.
- We will arrange an obligation free appointment to discuss your personal needs.
- Your PrePaid Funeral Plan can be paid in instalments.
- Special extras for RSL members:
  - Free extra limousine
  - No administration fee for immediate payment in full
  - 5% discount on selected coffins

For more information call John Ranger at Bowra & O’Dea on (08) 9231 5100.

Bowra & O’Dea. Simply a matter of trust.
A delicately hand-crafted brooch honouring those who served our nation courageously

HAND-APPLIED 18-CARAT GOLD PLATE

GENUINE SWAROVSKI CRYSTALS

An elegant symbol of life’s fragility, the poppy makes a fitting tribute to those who laid down their lives in service of our great nation. Now you can honour a loved one who served with the “Flanders Fields Poppy Brooch,” a tasteful fine jewellery exclusive from The Bradford Exchange.

A moving first-of-a-kind design

Inspired by Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae’s epic poem _In Flanders Fields_, this stunning treasure brings its poppies to life again to honour our diggers in a truly meaningful way. Hand-applied 18-carat gold-plate accents the finely-crafted brooch to create a truly opulent look. Six radiant Swarovski crystals rest in the centre of the bloom which is hand-enamelled in red to capture the lifelike vibrancy of the poppy. Wear this elegant brooch next to your heart and know that our diggers will be remembered always. The brooch is accompanied by a Certificate of Authenticity reproducing McCrae’s _In Flanders Fields_ poem as a beautiful finishing touch.

Superb Value. Satisfaction Guaranteed.

This exclusive brooch is exceptional value at just $99.99, payable in two easy, interest-free instalments of $49.99, plus $9.99 postage and handling and backed by our 120-day guarantee. This touching Anzac tribute is only available from The Bradford Exchange for a limited time, so don’t miss out. To reserve your brooch, send no money now. Just return the coupon today.

Arrives in a handsome presentation case with a Certificate of Authenticity

Certificate reproduces the _In Flanders Fields_ poem

A Fine Jewellery Exclusive from The Bradford Exchange

For quickest delivery, order online:
www.bradford.com.au
Quoting promotion code: 68822

Only 2 instalments of $49.99

A delicately hand-crafted brooch honouring those who served our nation courageously.
Photos by Jeff Keen – RSL WA Photographer
It was a beautiful service and at Rottnest we had one of our biggest turn outs yet. The crowd most certainly enjoyed the Gunfire Breakfast following the service.

Helen Priestley - Event Planner - Rottnest Island Authority

Ellenbrook SFC ANZAC Tribute Day

Saturday, 27 April was our traditional ANZAC Tribute Day.

This has been a tradition that has been carried for many years and strongly supported by the Ellenbrook RSL and the greater Ellenbrook community.

The football club was blessed to enable all four sides the chance to play together on the same day, at the same facility which increased spectator numbers to almost a full house. The Colts played first and played well but were unable to secure a win as was the Reserve grade. We then held our tribute with all players lining around the two flags placed next to the ground at the bottom of the hill. Stephen O’Neil, (Ellenbrook Sub-Branch President,) once again, showed his passion with the reading of the Ode prior to the League side taking the field. It would be fair to say that both teams are lifted with inspirational drive that this day carries and this was very evident as both teams attacked the ball with courage and valour.

Ellenbrook League side won against Noranda by 15 points and Zac Alterman starred by winning the Most Outstanding award for his gut running and superior skills but, it would be fair to say, that it was a combined team result that we all can be very proud of. The third grade played after the League side in its first twilight match. The feeling of the day carried the players through to the end with a stirring 42 point win (and their first ever win).

Again, I would like thank the Ellenbrook RSL, Ellenbrook SFC members and all supporters for making 2013 ANZAC Day Tribute Match another day that will never be forgotten.

Adrian Hughes, Ellenbrook Eels
Commemorations

Wangaratta, Victoria

Port Kennedy members, Les Crowe and Geoff Trevor-Hunt OAM along with Geoff’s wife Philomena, were in Wangaratta Victoria for a very well attended ANZAC Day Service at the War Memorials there.

With the weather being so beautiful the spirit of Anzac Day was at its best. Visiting the Wangaratta RSL after the march, it was great to see so many people there for the lovely lunch that was put on by the members and also to see the renovations that have been carried out over the last couple of years.

Philomena Trevor-Hunt

The Lost Diggers

Both ladies, former employees of the RSL in the pre 40’s, were treated to lunch by Graham Edwards, RSL WA President; Denis Connelly, RSL WA Vice President and Philip Orchard, RSL WA CEO/State Secretary.

Graham said “We were treated to some interesting stories about the early times of the RSL and the working conditions in those days.”

A special lunch for two dear ladies turned into to a great treat for the RSL when Kathleen Malta presented a copy of Ross Coulthard’s photographic book, The Lost Diggers of Vignacourt.

Mrs Malta explained that the soldier photographed on the cover of the book was her father, Jim Holland, and his photo was only discovered by accident when a family member saw publicity on the lost photographs.

The book presentation was an emotional occasion for the two ladies, Graham, Denis and Philip.

Graham said, “We were all very moved by the presentation and the book will hold pride of place at ANZAC House and so too will the memory of these two special ladies.”

Graham Edwards – State President

Ceremony in Macedonia

On 25 April 2013, a first historic commemoration of ANZAC Day in Macedonia took place at the British War Cemetery in Skopje, Macedonia.

The Commemoration was organised by the Association Macedonian Friends of Australia, with the support of the Australian representative in the Macedonian Parliament, Mr Miki Dodovski. It was only revealed this year, that the soldier John Paterson who is buried in the Commonwealth Cemetery in Skopje was from Perth, Western Australia. The commemoration was held in his honour.

In his address, the representative Miki Dodovski stated the following: “The very first commemoration of ANZAC Day in Macedonia and the revelation that the soldier John Paterson is Australian only confirms the historical friendship between the people of Macedonia and Australia”. He also stated that both the Macedonian and the Australian soldiers give a joint contribution to peace and democracy through ISAF mission in Afghanistan, sharing the values of ANZAC – the ideals of courage, endurance and mateship.

The commemoration was enriched by the presence of a delegate form of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia, the Office of President Ivanov, a delegation of the General Staff of the Army of the Republic of Macedonia, the British Ambassador in Macedonia, His Excellency Mr Christopher Yvon, the honorary consul of Australia in Macedonia Mr Zoran Kostovski and other representatives of the diplomatic corps of the country.

Contact information: anzacmacedonia@gmail.com, Goran Torbakov +389 76 446 746

WA Museum

I attended the ANZAC Day Dawn Service in Albany, followed by the ANZAC Parade and Commemorative Service in the Peace Park.

I defy anyone to listen to the Last Post on Mount Clarence, as the sun rises over St George Sound, and not be moved profoundly as they remember the selfless sacrifice of so many.

And yet there was something at the Commemorative Service that struck me just as powerfully, called the Salute to Youth. After the march past of veterans, local Albany schools were part of the parade and, having paid their respects to the veterans, the compliment was then returned when the veterans formed a guard of honour to acknowledge the young people as part of our collective future.

This may seem a small thing, but to me, that Commemorative Service demonstrated a quality I believe is stronger in Western Australia than in many parts of the English-speaking world… and that is respect between generations. At a time when the media is all too ready to report on young offenders, ‘hooning’ and related matters, I reflected on what a significant statement that Commemorative Service was making.

And I congratulate the Albany RSL for making it.

Albany’s Commemorative Service, with its manifestation of intergenerational respect, gave me much to reflect on. As an events may not completely heal the past or change the world – but it certainly made me proud to call myself a Western Australian.

Alec Coles – CEO
The Quiet Workers for ANZAC Day

At most Sub-Branches, Volunteers and the Committee are thanked for their efforts on a regular basis. However, at our Sub-Branch, and I am sure at others, we have the quiet workers who go about their chosen tasks with no fanfare or fuss and sometimes without the recognition they deserve. I would like to tell you about two people such as this at our Sub-Branch.

Firstly, there is Stan Panting. On ANZAC Day, Remembrance Day and any other commemorative day Stan makes sure that all the Memorial Plaques on our Memorials have a Flanders Poppy. This includes two Remembrance Walls at the Sub-Branch plus the Plaques on Memorial Drive. There are many of these by the roadside. He also weeds and tidies these areas to make sure they are looking their best. Being one of our more senior members, this would not be an easy task. Stan also keeps an eye on the War Graves at the East Rockingham Cemetery, ensuring they are kept clean and tidy. This was much appreciated during a recent Council upgrade of the area.

Secondly there is Les Bell, another of our more senior members. For some years now Les has co-ordinated the distribution of poppies, badges etc for the Annual ANZAC Street Appeal and Poppy Day. He starts his preparations several months prior and makes sure that the office gets the orders in for what is needed. We would really be lost without Les reminding us of things that need to be done on these occasions. Les prepares all the trays, badges, poppies, tables, chairs and collection tins for the collection points and organises for the volunteers to come in and pick up their gear. He has it all down pat like a military operation and this ensures a smooth run on the day.

To these two gentlemen go our heartfelt thanks for a job well done over the years.

Wendy Gray - City of Rockingham
Honorary Secretary

Cuballing Service

Over the last few years, the Cuballing Progress Association has conducted a service commencing at 0730hrs.

Although a small community, a march past of six locals saluted the dais. The Shire President Mr Tim Wittaker welcomed those in attendance and prayers were offered. The service ended with an early morning tea at the Cuballing Hotel supplied by the local.

Hendrikus Chattillon

2013 ANZAC Pilgrimage

104 Australians people met up in Bangkok to pay tribute to the survivors of the Death Railway and the courage and fortitude of all prisoners who worked and died during the construction of the 415 kilometre railway.

Included in the group were 46 high school students from several country high schools and three Mandurah Cadets representing the three services. Peel Health Centre sponsored the Air Force Cadet, Mandurah RSL & the Wally Holding OAM family sponsored the Army cadet and Ex-POW Neil MacPherson OAM sponsored the Navy Cadet.

The first five days were spent learning about the Thai culture and visiting places of national significance then on ANZAC Eve the official party, which included the Minister for Defence Stephen Smith, the Defence Attaché and the Australian Ambassador of Thailand arrived at Kanchanaburi. The three Ex-POWs were each interviewed separately by members of the media.

A solemn Dawn Service was held in Hell Fire Pass. As dawn broke the silence was broken by bird calls echoing through the Pass, it was estimated that several hundred people were in the vicinity.

Neil MacPherson OAM - member City of Mandurah Sub-Branch

RSL WA would like to thank Slicker Stickers for their donation of 1,000 Badges for the ANZAC Appeal.

Popo People Pause

Despite the overcast day, a crowd of people turned out to commemorate ANZAC Day for the first time at the new memorial in Popanyinning.

It was a pleasant surprise to see the large numbers, particularly as there were ceremonies being held in the nearby towns of Cuballing, Pingelly and Narrogin.

The stone for the Memorial was donated by Cr Roger Newman and erected by the Cuballing Shire, Bruce Brennan being instrumental in getting this project completed. The large rock bears the Navy, Army and Air Force plaques and stands proudly at the foot of the new flagpole in front of the recently restored Old Railway Station.

Tim Haslam, Cuballing Shire Councillor and resident of Popanyinning, officially opened the War Memorial on behalf of the Shire and gave an excellent speech referencing returned serviceman Les Lambert, a Rat of Tobruk, who travelled across the Nullabor to set up his farm in Popanyinning.

Hendrikus Chattillon

Attendees at the ANZAC Day ceremony in Popanyinning

ANZAC Cup football match: includes the seven Ex-POWs in attendance

The LisTening Post November 2009

The LisTening Post June 2013

Hendrikus Chattillon
Anzac Day ceremonies have been held in cities and towns around Australia and overseas on 25 April to mark the 98th anniversary of the Gallipoli landings of World War I. Australian Defence Force personnel deployed on operations overseas, including in Afghanistan and the Solomon Islands, participated in local Anzac Day commemorations.

More than 3000 Australian service men and women are serving on operations, continuing the Anzac spirit while serving Australia’s national interests. The sailors, soldiers and airmen and women of Australia’s Federation Guard led Australia’s ceremonial contingent at Anzac Day services held at Gallipoli in Turkey, Villers-Bretonneux in France and Ypres, Belgium. As well, thousands of past and present servicemen and women participated in Anzac Day ceremonies held around Australia.

Anzac Day commemorations remember the original Anzacs who died on 25 April 1915 and honour the men and women who have served in wars, conflicts, peacekeeping, disaster relief and humanitarian assistance missions.

RSL Media Release

2013 ANZAC Awards

National President of the Returned & Services League of Australia (RSL), Rear Admiral Ken Doolan congratulated Mr Andrew Harper on being awarded the 2013 ANZAC Peace Prize, and Mr Peter Dimopoulos, Mr Walter Scott-Smith and Mr Nigel Cox on being recognised for ANZAC of the Year Awards.

“Mr Harper was selected by the RSL ANZAC Awards Committee for the award of the ANZAC Peace Prize in recognition of his sustained and significant contribution to the protection, welfare and repatriation of refugees through the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees”, Rear Admiral Doolan said. “He exemplifies the Spirit of ANZAC within the broader community through his dedication and commitment to others.”

The ANZAC Peace Prize, announced annually, is awarded by the RSL to ‘recognise any outstanding effort by an Australian citizen who has promoted the concept of international understanding and who, in so doing, has made a contribution to world peace.’

“On behalf of the RSL National Executive and Members of the RSL I also congratulate the 3 outstanding Australians who have been selected for ANZAC of the Year Awards”, the RSL National President continued.

“These men are exemplars of community service.”

The 2013 recipients were:

Peter Dimopoulos of Western Australia:
In recognition of over 50 years of dedicated service to veterans and to the community of Perth, through his involvement with many community organisations, particularly with the Bedford RSL Sub-Branch, the Serpentine-Jarrahdale RSL Sub-Branch, the WA Junior Soccer Federation and the Jarrahdale Primary School.

Walter Scott-Smith of New South Wales:
In recognition of over 60 years of dedicated service to the community of Sydney, particularly through his service as caretaker and Chief Cenotaph Attendant at the Cenotaph in Martin Place, Sydney, the Scouting Association and Riding for the Disabled.

Nigel Cox of New South Wales:
In recognition of his years of dedicated and committed service over 30 years to the veteran and wider community of Singleton, particularly through his promotion of the ANZAC tradition and military history at Singleton High School.

The ANZAC of the Year Awards are made annually ‘to recognise the efforts and achievements of up to seven Australians who have given service to their fellow Australians and to the community in a positive, selfless and compassionate manner.’

Rear Admiral Ken Doolan AO RAN (Retd), National President
National Headquarters of the Returned & Services League of Australia
Level 3/65 Constitution Avenue CAMPBELL, ACT
GPO Box 383, CANBERRA ACT 2601
Ph: (02) 6248 7199

Department of Defence

Canning Districts / Victoria Park Sub-Branch Host Navy Crew

In 2008 Canning Districts / Victoria Park Sub-Branch hosted some of the crew off the submarine HMAS Collins. A games afternoon was held with games such as carpet bowls, darts, pool and bocce. The afternoon was a huge success.

Just recently our social secretary, Kathleen, suggested that the Sub-Branch should do something similar again. After discussion, Saturday 11 May was chosen as the date for this year’s games afternoon. A letter was sent to HMAS Stirling asking if any sailors would be interested in attending. Our letter was subsequently passed on to HMAS Stuart, whereby it was told to RSL Sub-Branch secretary that two officers and ten ratings would be attending.

The sailors arrived at about 1115 hours on the Saturday and were given lunch on arrival with refreshments from the bar all day. Games were played well into the afternoon with the sailors leaving at 1730 hours to return to the ship. All in attendance agreed that the afternoon was once again a huge success. Kathleen has suggested that this should be an annual event.

Terry Reynolds – Secretary
An ANZAC Day to Remember

The participants from the Senator Sterle ANZAC Remembrance Tour 2013 returned safely from an 11 day tour of war sites and Memorials from the First World War in France and Belgium during May.

The Remembrance Tour was the initiative of Labor Senator for Western Australia, Glenn Sterle, who is also the Patron of the Darling Range Sports College in Forrestfield.

While there, the group comprised of 21 students, 3 teachers and mentors visited sites including Messines Ridge, Tyne Cot, Fromelles, Hill 60, the Somme Museum and Flanders Fields to pay their respects to the thousands of Australian soldiers who sacrificed their lives so that we could live in freedom. The tour culminated with the group participating in ANZAC Day Services in Villers Bretonneux and at Bullecourt.

“I wanted to give the students the opportunity to really see for themselves the volume of sacrifice that took place during the Great War so that they could appreciate and understand why we remember on ANZAC Day,” said Senator Sterle.

The students, at the request of the Australian Department of Veterans’ Affairs, were tasked with handing out Ceremonial Programmes to guests and directing them to their seats before the Service at the Australian National Memorial at Villers Bretonneux. They also laid wreaths on behalf of the Darling Range Sports College and Western Australia at this Memorial and at the National Australian Memorial in Bullecourt.

“It was an extremely long and emotional day but I was very proud at how the students conducted themselves and of how well they represented their school, their state and their country when participating in the services and when meeting official guests,” Senator Sterle said.

“Before we went away, I said that it was my hope that upon their return to Australia the students would have a new appreciation of what it means to be Australian. I honestly believe that after visiting the sites where so many young Australians were lost that these students have come back with changed outlooks on life and on their country,” said Senator Sterle.

“I commend the students on their commitment to this tour and it was a pleasure to share this experience with them,” said Senator Sterle.

Honour their spirit, our freedom

A remarkable 50,000 people got themselves out of bed for the ANZAC Dawn Service at Kings Park, showing West Australians in particular are becoming more patriotic.

It was a record for Perth and the biggest crowd in Australia. Many were the younger generation, increasingly remembering those brave Australians who died for our future as the lucky country.

And we’re patriotic for a reason. In WWI alone, nearly 200,000 young Australians died in battle or afterwards from injuries or disease. When you consider Australia’s population was less than five million then, it would be the equivalent of nearly a million Australians being wiped out.

To see so many West Australians young and old proudly wearing medals across the city yesterday was stirring, as I realised how lucky we are to live here.

Radio was full of patriotic Australian songs, and I would urge every Australian to listen to “And the Band Playing Waltzing Matilda” to understand what really happened at Gallipoli, particularly the line “in the hell they called Soula Bay, we were butchered like lambs at the slaughter.”

My wife’s great uncle was one of many Perth boys killed in the Great War. My mother-in-law still cries when she reads his poignant, faded postcard home, saying “I will be perfectly safe little girl. I hope you will not be cross with me when I come home.” Like so many Australians, he didn’t come home. He was only 16.

This teenaged ANZAC has never been recognised because he used an older boy’s identity to be allowed to fight. For the first time, we honour young Will Clancy of North Perth - his real name, from a real family who’ve suffered real pain for decades, because when he died, there was no correct notification.

So many of us have been touched by the spirit of the ANZACs. A close friend has just returned from an ANZAC service to remember her Dad, an SAS soldier who died young after being exposed to Agent Orange in the Vietnam War. State RSL president Graham Edwards should be saluted for highlighting Australia’s previous poor treatment of Vietnam Veterans, who were shunned by Canberra and even the RSL when they returned.

We should all take note of his ANZAC call to the crowd to “honour our ANZACs in our daily lives, with those same qualities of honour, sacrifice, mateship and a fair go for all.”

It’s nearly a hundred years since those qualities helped form who we are, as Australians.

Today, we are free. It’s our duty to keep the ANZAC spirit growing.

By Rick Ardon

Editors Note: RSL WA has obtained permission from The West Australian Newspaper and Channel Seven to publish this article. This was first published in The West Australian on 26 April 2013.

Crown Perth pays tribute to our ANZACs

Crown Perth continued a long-running tradition this ANZAC Day, donating part-proceeds from the Aussie game of Two-Up to the RSL WA Branch.

Two-Up runs at the Casino all year round, and Crown Perth has supported the RSL on ANZAC Day since the resort opened, making the relationship the resort’s longest standing community partnership.

Every year, we pause to commemorate the contribution made by all past and present servicemen and women, and as a mark of respect, the Casino is closed on ANZAC Day from 3am re-opening at 12 noon on Thursday, 25 April.

Chief Executive Officer, Barry Felstead said that Crown Perth placed high importance on their long-term relationship with the RSL.

“Each year, our staff and patrons remember the courage and sacrifices made by our ANZAC’s and we are incredibly proud to stand alongside and support the RSL WA branch with their ongoing support to veterans, which is a very important service to our community,” said Mr Felstead.

Upon re-opening, Crown Perth offered a special lunch deal on ANZAC Day where RSL members enjoyed fish and chips with a soft drink for just $5.00 upon presentation of an RSL membership card. This offer is valid for two people and is available only on ANZAC Day.

Snax is a snack bar located in the Casino at Crown Perth, and is an 18+ venue.

Janie Brackenridge - Partnerships Advisor
- Public Relations – Crown Perth

21 member student group, Glenn and the Honourable the Senator Bob Carr, Minister for Foreign Affairs at the Memorial in the town of Villers-Brettoneux
**Gallipoli 2015 Ballot**

The Minister Assisting the Prime Minister on the Centenary of ANZAC Warren Snowdon has provided further details on the ballot arrangements for Australians planning to attend ANZAC Day commemorations in Gallipoli on 25 April 2015.

“A ballot is the fairest and most transparent approach to the allocation of attendance passes for the centenary commemorations at Gallipoli, within previously agreed and announced capacity of 10,500 places at the ANZAC Commemorative Site,” Mr Snowdon said.

“My New Zealand counterpart, the Hon Michael Woodhouse, Minister for Veterans’ Affairs, has made a similar announcement.”

Following the agreement of the Turkish Government, the Government had previously announced that the places will be shared between Australian and NZ (8,000 Australians, 2,000 New Zealanders) and up to 500 places have been set aside for official representatives and guests, including representatives of all countries that served in the Gallipoli campaign.

Mr Snowdon said the Government had carefully considered options for the ballot, drawing on feedback received from members of the public, the veterans and Defence communities and tour operators as part of a public consultation undertaken in 2012.

Some of the places available to Australians will be reserved for special representatives including:

- Widows of Australian First World War veterans – they do not need to participate in the ballot and will be included as part of Australia’s official representatives, with a companion, if fit to travel.
- Five per cent of places allocated in the ballot will be reserved for Australian direct descendants of veterans of the Gallipoli campaign – with preference being given to the sons and daughters of Gallipoli veterans.
- Five per cent of places in the ballot will be reserved for veterans who have qualifying service or who have deployed on any operations outside Australia, whether they are warlike, non-warlike or peaceetime operations.
- Five per cent of places will be set aside outside the ballot process for representative secondary school children and their chaperones, to be allocated and managed through the states and territories.

The remaining places (3,000 double passes) will be available for all Australians. The following criteria will apply to the ballot:

Applicants must be an Australian citizen or permanent resident of Australia to register, but do not need to be living in Australia at the time of registration.

Applicants must be a minimum of 18 years of age on, or before, 25 April 2015 to register.

Applicants can only register once.

All passes will be issued as double passes – the accompanying pass holder does not need to be an Australian citizen or permanent resident of Australia.

No additional passes will be provided to an individual that is successful in the ballot.

Pass holders must make all arrangements for their travel and cover all costs including flights, accommodation, transport and travel insurance etc.

“The ballot is expected to be open for registrations on 1 November 2013 and close on 31 January 2014. Details on how to register will be available later in the year following the engagement of a provider to conduct the ballot,” Mr Snowdon said.

“Advice will be provided to individuals on the ballot outcome in March 2014, to ensure those successful have enough time to organise and pay for their trip. This will also allow tour operators to make specific arrangements with those travellers who have secured passed for the ANZAC Day commemorations at Gallipoli.”

The Turkish Government has entrusted the Australian and New Zealand Governments to manage the events on 25 April 2015 which include the Dawn Service and subsequent services at Lone Pine and Chunuk Bair. Both governments wish to express their gratitude to the Turkish Government for the level of support that it has provided, and its commitment to the events associated with the Centenary of ANZAC.

“The Gallipoli campaign lasted eight months from April to December 1915, and I encourage those who are thinking about applying for the ballot, and may not be eligible for a special representative place, to consider whether they want to visit Gallipoli at another time in 2015,” he said.

For more information on ballot arrangements visit www.gallipoliballot.gov.au

**Hero’s Sword and Memory Carried by New Generation of Diggers**

Current-day serving soldiers honoured the memory of one of Australia’s most inspiring battlefield commanders during this year’s ANZAC Day March in Perth.

The Commanding Officer (CO) of the 16th Battalion, the Royal Western Australia Regiment, Lieutenant Colonel Rhogan Aitken, led his troops holding the sword of his predecessor, Brigadier Arnold Potts DSO OBE MC, ‘Pottsy’, heroically held-back the Japanese from taking Port Moresby. Their actions were very courageous. We have a lot to live up to,” Lieutenant Colonel Aitken said.

The sword has only recently come into the Battalion’s care. Brigadier Potts’ grandson, Mr Precott Haper, gave it to the Unit just before ANZAC Day and has since formally presented it to the Battalion at Irwin Barracks following the ANZAC Day March.

“I appreciate the generosity of Brigadier Potts’ family and I am humbled hearing many of the stories about ‘Pottsy’. Every veteran I meet says he was a great leader, they really respected him. Very few commanders are spoken of in such glowing terms by their troops, particularly by the rank and file,” Lieutenant Colonel Aitken said.
The editors have included new puzzles to test both our younger and young at heart readers. Sudoku is included in this and future editions of "The Listening Post".

Look upon this quiz as stopping the onward march of Alzheimers Disease!

Sudoku is a logic-based, combinatorial number-placement puzzle. The objective is to fill a 9x9 grid so that each column, each row, and each of the nine 3x3 boxes (also called blocks or regions) contains the digits from 1 to 9 only one time each. The puzzle setter provides a partially completed grid.

Provided by Sudoku.com.au

Easy Sudoku

Hard Sudoku

Support the RSL

MY Community is a loyalty program where the customer at Cash and Carry in WA can determine where much needed funds are able to be directed in the community.

For every $100 (excluding tobacco and liquor products) spent the customer will receive 3 coins to donate. Customers will deposit the coins they have received into a Community group’s deposit box.

Each one of our three Cash and Carry branches (Canning Vale, Baldivis and Bunbury) will have 20 Community groups participating in the program. The way the program works is for every $100 a customer spends in the store, they will receive one token to donate to the local community group of their choice. For example, if a customer spends $300 they will receive 3 coins to donate. Customers will deposit the coins they have received into a Community group’s deposit box.
In-Boardroom with RSLWA

On 21 March 2013, the WA Division were invited to deliver the Not-for-Profit Board program in-boardroom to The Returned & Services League of Australia WA Incorporated. At the time, RSLWA were going through significant change so they engaged Company Directors to assist the professional development of the Board, State Executive, Senior Management and State Representatives.

Facilitator Peter Fitzpatrick AM GAICD, a retired Lieutenant Colonel, who had a twenty year military career and served in the SAS Regiment enjoyed working with the group and managed the military banter in the room with style.

The State President of the RSL, Graham Edwards AM, has revamped the State Executive to form a directorship and committees for the future. The committees will now be involved in activities like strategic planning, rewriting the Constitution, membership & recruitment, heritage & commemoration and community relationships.

The State President said, “This is a challenge for us all. The State Executive is now in a position where they must prepare for the future and ensure RSL remains relevant and with a purpose. We all look forward to the challenge facing us through the Centenary years and beyond and to ensure that through good governance, transparent leadership and consultation with our membership that we can address our challenges with confidence.”

Major events on the RSL horizon include the ongoing commemorations for the Centenary of ANZAC 2015 - 2018. This year’s ANZAC Day Dawn Service at Kings Park, renowned for being the biggest service, drew a crowd size of approximately 50,000 and the march through the City of Perth an estimated 100,000 crowd. RSL expect the crowds to increase throughout the Centenary commemorations. Visit www.rslwaq.org.au.

Kristen Chiera - Education and Board Services Executive Western Australia - Australian Institute of Company Directors

Mr John Cox OAM JP

It is with much regret that RSL WA announces the passing of Mr John Cox OAM JP. John Cox was a long serving member of the State Executive Trustees Committee.

Denis Connelly – Vice President

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. Let us not forget.

SUDOKU SOLUTION

Easy Sudoku

Answer Key:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

ABCBABCC

CDDEDEDD

FFEFEEFF

GHHHGGHH

JJKJIIJI

LAST POST

Navy

J. Holmes, Keir - Albany RSL Sub-Branch
R.4965, Johnston, Keith - Pinjarra RSL Sub-Branch
F.3909, Morris, Evan - Nella RSL Sub-Branch
S.1602, Mountford, Bernard ‘Bernie’ - Bunbury RSL Sub-Branch
P.2120, Napier, Roy - Central Branch

Arny

52962, Bayless, Keith - Jurien Bay RSL Sub-Branch
W.X.18614, Bedford, Lewis - Highgate RSL Sub-Branch
W.X.17849, Brown, Eric - City of Belmont RSL Sub-Branch
W.X.27784, Cherry, Robert - City of Mandurah RSL Sub-Branch

Navy

54165, Donne, Bryan - City of Mandurah RSL Sub-Branch
W.X.21180, Fauxey, Kevin - Osborne Park RSL Sub-Branch
W.X.21200, Farrell, L.D. ‘Nick’ - Yokine-Joondalup RSL Sub-Branch
W.X.21250, Finlayson, Donald - City of Rockingham RSL Sub-Branch
W.X.47495, McKinlay, Barry - Boulder RSL Sub-Branch
W.X.49026, Tonkin, Douglas - Wanneroo-Joondalup RSL Sub-Branch

Navy

45950, Bentley, Albert - Central Branch
8.3038, Johnson, Thomas - Esperance RSL Sub-Branch
13.5222, MacDonald, Silas - City of Mandurah RSL Sub-Branch
44.1360, Matherson, John - Mt Lawley-Inglewood RSL Sub-Branch
41.9064, Waterman, Edwin - City of Rockingham

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

SUB FORMATS DUE RESPECTS TEN SUNS SQUARE RUE VITA BONE FALIER GRAND WINTER EGO SABLE TRUNK DEAL SHI VE THE BIRDS BUTING HORSE RI TA MUSE CAREER COU 3 STAR GREECE TANS LEGS SECT ROSE BRASS ENAME L EMARED妇女 BEAKS SUES BEENS BEIN SPEAR HWW BAD HUM OSS BAY MAINE CAN MONO VAVEL ROLLING STUP SYR YVETAL DERRY HEIR LE SE MASRY BAILS BOSA SH TRIP WERKS HEARTS BODIES THAT ENTER THE COINS MAIN CITY NASHVILLE CHIN ESTATE FIN
Reunions & Services

2nd Intake Junior Recruit Training HMAS Leeuwin 1961

First Ever Reunion
To be held in the Shellharbour area NSW about 110 km south of Sydney.

Approximate date is yet to be confirmed, assume Feb/March 2014.

To register your interest and for further details contact
Dave Turner
E: davkat@bigpond.net.au
P: (02) 9520 2810

2/4 RAR Association

The 2/4 RAR Association webpage, www.24rarassociation.com, was launched on 6 May 2013. The website is still in its infancy in regards to gallery content however the progress to date is one that the association committee is very happy with.

The 40th Anniversary of the formation of the 2nd /4th Battalion The Royal Australian Regiment will occur on 15 August this year. As detailed in the What’s New tab of the August this year.

Mike Healy, President

HMS Ganges Association

The WA Division would like to extend a welcome to ex Ganges mates and keep the “Ganges Spirit” alive.

Linda Farey – Secretary

National Malaya & Borneo Veterans Australian Association

50th Anniversary Commemoration Service & Formal Dinner
Secretary John Kearns:
National Malaya & Borneo Veterans Association – South & N. Territory Branch - 73
Berrima Rd Sheidow Park
SA 5158 – (08) 8254 9416
E: kjkearns2@adamin.com
W: www.nmnbva.org.au

Royal Australian Corps of Signals Association (SA)

RASigS National Reunion – Barossa Valley SA – 25-28 October 2013

The President and Members of the RSigs Association (SA) request the pleasure of your company for the 2013 RSigs National Reunion.

Register your interest at http://www.rsigs.com/

Contact President – RSigs Assn SA – Bruce Long – 0417 227 533
E: president.sa@rsigs.com
W: www.rsigs.com/2012_reunion/reunion2013_home.htm

Naval Association – Geraldton

The Naval Association of Australia wishes to form a sub-section in Geraldton and welcome expressions of interest from serving and ex-serving members of the Navy who would like to join the Association.

Telephone (08) 9409 1014 or email jack.ekars@ozemail.com.au

RAAF Rookies course 671 April 1964

To all members of RAAF Rookies course 671 April 1964:
A re-union for the 50th Anniversary will be held in Perth WA on or about the 26/27 April 2014.

Please contact John Kenny
P: 08 9291 9159
E: jandkenny@iinet.net.au
Jim Muscat on 08 9402 1750 or justcattonite@gmail.com for further information.

RAN - HMAS Leeuwin 8th Intake (January 1964) Reunion

23 to 26 April 2014, Wollongong NSW. All RANW IL 8th intake replies direct to either of the following:
Bob Green – (02) 4283 5201
E: robertmgregre@optus.net.com.au or Rick Watkins
P: (02) 4256 2620 – E: rick.w2@bigpond.com

RAN - Proposed WRANS-RAN Servicewomen Reunion

28-30 March 2014

Hobart, Tasmania

Expressions of Interest accepted until the end of May 2013.

All replies and queries direct to:
Cindy Gallahar - 1 Vernon Ave, MONTOROSE, TAS.
P: (03) 6272 2944
W: wrans.reunion2014@yahoo.com.au

HQ Coy - HQ1ALS

Vietnam Reunion - Mildura April 2014

Headquarters 1st Australian Logistic Support Group is holding a reunion over the ANZAC weekend in 2014. A meet and greet on Thursday, 24 April 2014 will start proceedings and the reunion finishes with a dinner on Sunday, 27 April. In between other activities being arranged include the Dawn Service, ANZAC Day March and visits to a number of local attractions.

Wives of Veterans are most welcome, as are wives and children of Veterans who have since passed on.

Details and accommodation arrangements are available from
Tony Brown (03) 5021 2066
M: 0428 852 736
E: tonyrayel1@bigpond.com

RAN Cooks Reunion 2014

A reunion of former serving RAN & WRAN Cooks, will be held in Melbourne, during the long weekend 7 - 10 March 2014.

Current serving Cooks and especially Young Veterans are most welcome.

For all details, please go to the website: RAN Cooks Reunion 2014 or contact
David Dwyer daviddwyer@hotmail.com
Telephone: (03) 9720 8183

50th Anniversary Embarkation

Commemoration 25 May NSW

HMAS Sydney R17/A214 - HMAS Parramatta F05 - HMAS Yarra F07 111 LAA Bty RAA, 7 Field Sqn RAE, 42 TPT PL (AMP) RAASC 5 Sqn RAAC – 32 Small Ship Sqn RAE

To be conducted in Garden Island, Sydney on 24 May 2014

Peter Wallace

Can you Help?

2AIF, 2/4 Motor Transport Coy

I am researching and writing the history of a 2AIF, 2/4th Motor Transport Coy which was captured in Singapore 15 February 1942.

One quarter of the Coy came from WA, a quarter from SA and half from Victoria. If you know anything about WA members of the Coy please contact me. Email: wege@intermode.on.net or phone: (08) 8562 2257. I really wish to contact people in WA who had relatives serving in the 2/4MT and became POWs.

Tony Wege

Lt Maurice James Dease

A relative of mine in London, Major Maurice French, has asked me if I could trace a descendant of Lt F W A Steele. Maurice is organising a back to Mons Centenary Memorial for our Australian to serve in the Great War 1914-18. Service may have been in the Australian, French, Belgian or UK forces.

Seeking: names, photos, information, anecdotes etc. All contacts answered.

Paul de Pierres - piedadpierres@bigpond.com - (08) 9638 1048 – pauldepierrses.wordpress.com

PO Box 76, Wyalkatchem, WA 6485

Read me anywhere, anytime

The Listening Post is available in low resolution online at www.rswahq.org.au

The Listening Post

State Minute

2013 ANZAC Day Addresses

If you wish to get a copy of the 2013 ANZAC Day address by the Governor of Western Australia and the RSL WA State President please visit www.rslwaq.org and follow the prompts to ANZAC Day Events.

In Memoriam

RAANC F25331 CPL JA Nowland (Carroll) 25/8/1946 to 5/6/2012

MJ Carroll

Frenchmen and Belgians From Australia to the Great War

Material is being gathered for a book recording all Frenchmen and Belgians who left from Australia to serve in the Great War 1914-18. Service may have been in the Australian, French, Belgian or UK forces.

Seeking: names, photos, information, anecdotes etc. All contacts answered.

The Listening Post team would like to thank all Sub-Branches who advertised their 2013 ANZAC Day Services in the April edition of The Listening Post. We would also like to thank all who have sent in photos and stories post ANZAC Day for this edition.

Can you help?

Lt Maurice James Dease

A relative of mine in London, Major Maurice French, has asked me if I could trace a descendant of Lt F W A Steele. Maurice is organising a back to Mons Centenary Memorial for our ancestors, Lt Maurice James Dease, who received the first VC in WWI. Lt Steele was a close friend of Lt Dease, and carried him from the field of battle. This being the reason we are trying to locate his descendant who migrated to Australia. We are at present trying to find more information as to when and where he came to Australia.

Tony Wege

Fay Dease

2014

5 Sqn RAAF - 32 Small Ship Bty RAA, 7 Field Sqn RAE, HMAS Yarra FO7 111 LAA

25 May 1964

One quarter of the Coy came from WA, a quarter from SA and half from Victoria. If you know anything about WA members of the Coy please contact me. Email: wege@intermode.on.net or phone: (08) 8562 2257. I really wish to contact people in WA who had relatives serving in the 2/4MT and became POWs.

Tony Wege

Lt Maurice James Dease

A relative of mine in London, Major Maurice French, has asked me if I could trace a descendant of Lt F W A Steele. Maurice is organising a back to Mons Centenary Memorial for our ancestors, Lt Maurice James Dease, who received the first VC in WWI. Lt Steele was a close friend of Lt Dease, and carried him from the field of battle. This being the reason we are trying to locate his descendant who migrated to Australia. We are at present trying to find more information as to when and where he came to Australia.

Tony Wege

Fay Dease
Dear Editor,

As a proud West Australian and an RSL member for many years I wish to comment on an article that was printed in the ANZAC Day edition of the Yass Tribune regarding my eldest son, Lieutenant Colonel Shaun Edmund Fletcher, who is a current serving and highly decorated Australian soldier. I believe him to be more than worthy of mention in our RSL Listening Post newspaper.

Shaun was born in Fremantle in 1968 and bought up in Denmark and Kalumunda and as an Australian soldier he has served in every campaign that Australian forces have been involved in since he joined up in 1986. He was transferred to the US where he served with US land forces for two years at Fort Sam in Texas.

Shaun's story inspires many old service men and women in RSL clubs throughout NSW where he frequently visits and lectures in his own time and to maybe also inspire some of our youth that a local boy from the WA bush can make it up the ladder in the armed services of our nation, and even though the military sends Shaun all over the world, he is still a West Aussie boy from the bush at heart.

Sincerely,

Edmund Fletcher

Rod Garcia

Dear Editor,

I would like to offer this short note as a way of publicly thanking Graham Edwards for giving me the truly great honour that he afforded me on ANZAC Day. I think it was a wonderful, positive day for all those involved; participants and spectators alike. From where I was standing the march looked really good, and I thought the Service was excellent, with some great words and sentiments expressed. Angela Gazey was particularly impressive!

I feel deeply privileged to have played that role and look forward, along with others of my generation, to becoming more engaged with the RSL.

Thanks again and congratulations to RSL WA for presiding over a very successful 2013 ANZAC Day in Perth.

Bruce Willis

LCDR V.B. JEFFERY, OAM RANR Retd

Ubon Veterans Recognised

The Editor,

RAAF service at Ubon (Thailand) was recognised as Active Service and those eligible were awarded the AASM and bar ‘Thailand’ many years ago. This is distinct to service in Vietnam where the bar ‘Vietnam’ was awarded to the AASM and the Vietnam Medal was awarded as the campaign medal.

No campaign medal was ever instituted for active service in Ubon. I understand that in frustration with the dogged Government refusal to even consider a campaign medal for Ubon, Mal Barnes became the main instigator behind the creation of an unofficial medal which was given Royal Assent by the King of Thailand. It would have made a good starting point for a relevant, distinct campaign medal for Ubon.

It has taken 45 years and several enquiries to finally decide on a suitable campaign medal for Ubon with the announcement of the award of the VLSM. At two enquiries it was recommended the Vietnam Medal be awarded but as Ubon was a separate campaign in the same war, it was considered inappropriate.

The award of the Vietnam Logistics Support Medal as the Campaign medal for Ubon service now complies with the Honours and Awards convention for Active service with the award of the AASM, Bar and Campaign medal.

As such, why are Vietnam Veterans discriminated against by not being eligible for the Ubon campaign medal?

It was not possible to be eligible for both the Vietnam and VLS medals for Ubon service yet the holder of the Vietnam medal from other service is now not eligible for the VLSM. It is understandable Vietnam service should not be eligible for both but this time it is being awarded as a campaign medal.

The Tribunal recommended that all who served at Ubon between specified dates be awarded. The Government has changed the whole intention of the Tribunals recommendation with an unnecessary, irrelevant amendment which should be repealed to comply with convention and recognise those who served in both theatres of war.

Sincerely,

Rod Garcia

2013 West Australian ANZAC Day Activities

The Editor,

The extremely well-planned and well-supported, 2013 West Australian ANZAC Day activities saw one of our most memorable and proud days in some years with the largest turnout and supportive crowds in years seen in attendance at activities throughout our State.

After a number of years of growing concern in the slow erosion and decline of the RSLs morale and membership numbers in WA, this proud day was most heartening and was a wonderful rehearsal for the centenary of the ANZAC landings at Gallipoli.

Having been privileged to have been a proud member of the WA Branch of the RSL for some years, and learning that our membership is once again on the increase, I must extend my heartfelt congratulations to our revamped State Executive on their commendable initiative and drive.

Well done!

Lieutenant Colonel Shaun Edmund Fletcher

2013 ANZAC Day in Perth

Dear Editor,

I would like to offer this short note as a way of publicly thanking Graham Edwards for giving me the truly great honour that he afforded me on ANZAC Day. I think it was a wonderful, positive day for all those involved; participants and spectators alike. From where I was standing the march looked really good, and I thought the Service was excellent, with some great words and sentiments expressed. Angela Gazey was particularly impressive!

I feel deeply privileged to have played that role and look forward, along with others of my generation, to becoming more engaged with the RSL.

Thanks again and congratulations to RSL WA for presiding over a very successful 2013 ANZAC Day in Perth.

Bruce Willis

Contact Albert De Buen – 0419 945 950 or forserdoling@optusnet.com.au

ANZAC PLAQUES

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.
Opinions expressed by contributors in articles and reproduced articles are the individuals opinions or the authors of such reproduced articles and are not necessarily those of the RSL. Reproduction of articles (or extracts) contained in The Listening Post are welcomed, provided the source is acknowledged. The Editor reserves the right to accept, reject, sub-edit and re-arrange material submitted for publication.

Deadline for next edition: 26 July 2013

For contributions to next edition.
If possible, submissions should be typed and double-spaced. Preferred method of receiving submissions is via email. Photographs can be black and white or colour. This is your journal and contributions are welcome.
Address to: The Editor, The Listening Post
RSL, PO Box 3023 East Perth, WA 6892
Email: listeningpost@rslwahq.org.au
AMAZING HEROES

Hollywood has been serving our Veterans for over 70 years.