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The official newsletter of the Highgate (WA) Sub-Branch of the Returned & Services League of Australia

President's Report

President

Norm Manners
Telephone: 9405 2421

Senior Vice President

Bob Norris
Telephone: 9302 3529
Mobile: 0417 337320

Junior Vice President and Treasurer

Richard Adams
PO Box 7146
PERTH WA 6850
Telephone: 9284 6288
Email: rpadams@westnet.com.au

Immediate Past President

Ian Mulholland
Telephone: 9572 2632

Secretary

Ron Adams
37 Tooday Glen
CHITTERING WA 6084
Telephone: 9571 0127
Email: sechighgate@westnet.com.au

Editor

Bob Arnold
6 Currajong Road
DUNCRAIG WA 6023
Telephone/Fax: 9448 2757
Email: arnold@wn.com.au

Welfare Officers

Clare & John Curtis
Telephone: 9271 4520
Email: curtisJ@bigpond.net.au

Pensions Officer

Jim Eayrs
Telephone: 9341 2979

KOREA REMEMBERED

Last week, on a windy morning slashed with rain, Phillip Skelton and I joined fellow branch member, Wojciech Gorski, at the Court of Contemplation in Kings Park, to remember those men who gave their lives in Korea.

Although the conditions were miserable, with Phillip losing both his hat fur felt and an umbrella, it was a moving ceremony with some fifty Australian and Korean men and women attending and giving a robust rendition of both the Australian and South Korean national anthems before our own Rev. Sunnyl Kim led us in prayer.

In all it showed the devotion to mates and fellow combatants that still flows strongly within the veterans of this "Forgotten War".

EIGHTY-SEVENTH COMMEMORATIVE LUNCHEON

The men of Highgate's Honour Avenues Group and a representative from the Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority, commemorated the 87th anniversary of the opening of the first Honour Avenue in Kings Park on the 3rd of August 1919, with a luncheon at ANZAC HOUSE held on the same date this month.

In 1919 some 2,000 of Perth's dignitaries and citizens braved lashing winds and heavy rain to listen to speeches from the Governor of Western Australia, Sir William McCartney, Mr. Arthur Lovekin, the President of the Kings Park Board and the Ministers for both Mines and Education.

Four hundred and four trees were planted on the day each displaying a plaque dedicated to a young Western Australian killed in World War One. Today Highgate repair and maintain some twelve hundred and fifty plaques extending over three Honour Avenues.

LEGACY DONATIONS

I am pleased to announce that on behalf of Highgate RSL Sub-Branch we were able to donate \$1,000 each to both Perth and Fremantle Legacy this year.

It is a conservative gesture toward the continuation of the wonderful support these men offer the widows and children of our comrades in arms who, through war, have not returned or, subsequently have died from their injuries or illness. We wish them well in their work ahead.

I look forward to seeing you all at our August luncheon until then good health and good cheer.

Norm Manners



HAPPY BIRTHDAY "OBE's"

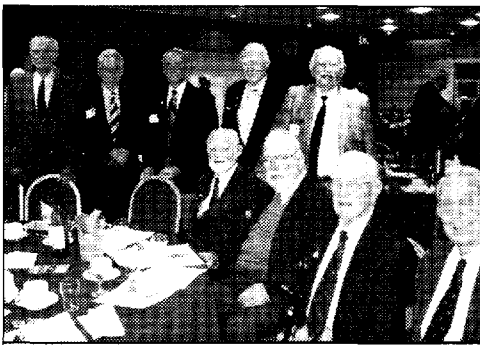
At the last luncheon on July 17 we celebrated once again the 80s and 90s birthdays. Unfortunately we had no one turning 100 this year — although Sir Charles Court AK KCMG OBE, by vicious furphy, will be 95 in the shade this year. This gives us all good cause for us to all hang in till 2011 to witness that incredible cake cutting episode!!!



The cake cutter this year was *John Berg* who turned 90 that Monday. Like someone half his age he whirled that big Japanese sword around before plunging through

icing to the cardboard box holder. I almost lost an arm from it.

The other birthday boys were Talbot Bashall, Eric Watts, Ron Allan, Bob Dawson,



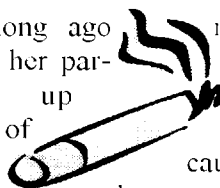
Octogenarians, Plus

Kevin Egan, Ted Gawthorn, Eric James, Douglas Job, Keith Johnston, Bob Judge and John Lenton. A very eloquent response was provided by Eric Watts who turns 90. Now here's another 90 year old who, like Sir Charles, is defying age. It does not weary them.

Richard Adams.

PENSION OFFICER'S REPORT

Not so long ago my granddaughter told her parents that she had taken up cigarette smoking. Naturally none of us were too happy with this because we knew only too well the dangers and diseases that



the habit can cause. I also knew, from my dealings with veterans, of a few of the diseases that the Repatriation Medical Authority considered could be caused by cigarette smoking so I decided to search through the RMA's Statements of Principles to see how many I could turn up that included cigarette smoking as a causative issue. The list is pretty large and includes the following: Inflammatory Bowel Disease, *Malignant Neoplasm of the Oral Cavity or Hypo pharynx*, Adenocarcinoma of the Kidney, *Ischemic Heart Disease*, Cerebrovascular Accident, *Malignant Neoplasm of the Lip Epithelium*, Subarachnoid Haemorrhage, *Artherosclerotic Peripheral Vascular Disease*, Rheumatoid Arthritis, *Carotid Arterial Disease*, Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus, *Malignant Neoplasm of the Oesophagus*, Non-Aneurismal Aortic Atherosclerotic Disease, *Buerger's Disease*, Malignant Neoplasm of the Larynx, *Malignant Neoplasm of the Cervix*, Impotence, *Malignant Neoplasm of the Bladder*, Acquired Cataracts, *Colorectal Adenoma*, Acute Myeloid Leukaemia, *Macular Degeneration*, Chronic Bronchitis and Emphysema, *Malignant Neoplasm of the Lung*, Malignant Neoplasm of the Pancreas, *Malignant Neoplasm of the Stomach*, Goitre, *Malignant Neoplasm of the Liver*, Peptic Ulcer Disease, *Malignant Neoplasm of the Colorectum*, Gingivitis, *Periodontitis*, Chronic Sinusitis, *Aortic Aneurysm*.

The granddaughter hasn't ceased smoking but she has promised to reduce it, so we are hopeful! If you want to use this list to help someone kick the habit, then feel free to do so.

Best wishes

Jim Eayrs



Retired Sub-Wardens Remembered

A number of Sub-Wardens have carried out their duties at the State War Memorial for over 30 years and some close to 50 years. When they were no longer able to continue they gracefully faded away, not seeking any recognition. However that changed when the Highgate Committee decided that they should formally retire instead of quietly go. The decision was to present a pewter medallion to each retired Sub-Warden who had attended most wreath laying services each year for at least ten years.

As there were no written records, enquiries revealed 16 Highgate members qualified. Please contact Phillip

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COMING EVENTS

This Months Luncheon: Monday 21 August 06

Venue:	Gallipoli Room	Time:	11.30 hrs Fellowship, 12.30 Luncheon
Speaker:	Wojciech Gorski	Topic:	The Polish Revolution
Committee:	4 September 06	<i>(Remember, Lunch is now \$30.00 and it will be much appreciated if you tender the correct amount)</i>	
Luncheon:	18 September 06		

Sub Wardens Duties

Wreath Laying Ceremonies currently scheduled at the State War Memorial Kings Park

Sunday 10 September 2006 — 1145 hrs for 12 noon — Maltese Association

Sunday 10 September 2006 — 1700 hrs for 1730 hrs — RSL National Congress

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Skelton (9452 1883) if we did not know of your qualifying service, or that of someone you know.

A presentation ceremony was held on 17 July 2006. 13 recipients were able to attend, as recorded in the photo. As money



Standing: Basil Sprenger, John Fitzhardinge, Allan Shellabear, Simon Holman, Tom Ferrero, Bob Elliot, Warren Smith, Ian Douglas.

Centre: John Hately, John Surridge, Ron Stone, Philip Loffman, Ean McDonald, Pat Mehan.

Front: Phillip Skelton, Ann Bradford.

Absent: Kenneth Broadhurst, Tom Horton, Alan Saville

raised by the RSL should be used primarily for welfare, separate funding was sought for the medallions. Defence Service Homes Insurance provided a grant of \$1,000 and State Manager Ian Douglas presented medallions to 7 of the recipients. Medallion manufacturer Buckingham Pewter donated the artwork and making the mould and Managing Director Ann Bradford presented medallions to 6 recipients. The other three were presented later by President Norm.

The Sub-Wardens perform an important duty that is greatly appreciated by the approximately 30 different organisations (45 organisations years ago), that each year conduct a wreath-laying service on a day close to the anniversary of a day with special meaning for them. The silent dignity with which the Sub-Wardens carry out their duty adds significantly to creating the atmosphere of quiet reflection and remembrance that is the purpose of each service.

Perhaps even more importantly, the silent service of the Sub-Wardens gives the clear message to members of the public looking on, especially young people, that if those men consider it so important to turn out in the way they do, then there really must be something important on which to reflect and remember. Participation by the Sub-Wardens contributes to passing the message on to the next generations – the message that the sacrifice by those before them has made possible the wonderful open, free, democratic way of life we enjoy today; and that we must remain eternally vigilant to keep it that way.

Highgate Sub-Branch was formed in 1947. Two retired Sub-Wardens were foundation members – Warren Smith and John Fitzhardinge. Very soon after the Sub-Branch was formed, the State Branch invited the Highgate Sub-Branch to provide an honour guard at the State War Memorial. This we have proudly done ever since.

Phillip Skelton

(The most noble of all dogs is the Hot Dog, it feeds the hand that bites it.)



Say it with *Flowers*

With Thanks to Ashlea Hatcher

Hollywood Private Hospital was recently transformed into a sea of beautiful roses when a very appreciative patient delivered around 2,000 roses to the hospital.



Tubs overflowing with red, yellow and pink long stemmed roses arrived at Hollywood's supply department on Friday 31 March and were promptly distributed around the hospital for staff and patients to enjoy.

Sadly, John Butler, 52, and his son are currently undergoing chemotherapy in the Carroll Day Suite at Hollywood.

Mr Butler surprised staff with the roses to say thanks for the "truly excellent" care he and his son have been receiving at Hollywood.

Hollywood hospital and property services manager Wayne Williams said he had seen some remarkable things happen around the hospital, but this topped the lot.

"It was just overwhelming seeing all of those roses and it was an absolutely tremendous gesture. It lifted everyone's spirits," Wayne said.

According to Mr Butler, a rose farmer from Nowergup,

he simply wanted to thank the staff here for their amazing work and make other patient's happy and brighten their day.

—*What a Beautiful Gesture*—