



HIGHGATE



NEWS

Issue 536
February 2014

Website: <http://Highgate-rsl.org.au>

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

President

Peter Farrell

Tel: 9246 1367 - 0458 720 022

Email: peter.farrell@highgate-rsl.org.au

Vice President

Steve Chamarette

Tel: 9242 1865

sunridge@it.net.au

Junior Vice President

Geoff Hourn

Email: ghourn@gmail.com

Immediate Past President

Leon Griffiths

Tel: 9332 9039 - 0439 033 399

Email: leon.griffiths@highgate-rsl.org.au

Secretary

John Cleary

Tel (Mob): 0417 955 864

PO Box 7141 APPLECROSS
WA 6153

Email: john.cleary@highgate-rsl.org.au

Treasurer

Richard Adams

PO Box 3551

PERTH WA 6832

Telephone: 0411 737 723

Email: richard.adams@highgate-rsl.org.au

Editor

Margot Harness

Telephone: (H) 9293 1076

(M) 0438 936 405

Email: margot.harness@highgate-rsl.org.au

Pensions Officer

Margot Harness

Telephone: 9293 1076

Website

www.highgate-rsl.org.au

Email: john.cleary@highgate-rsl.org.au

MONTHLY LUNCHEON AND AGM

Monday 17 February 2014

Venue:

Gallipoli Room

Time:

1130 hrs for 1215 hrs

GUEST SPEAKER: We will be privileged to be addressed by the eminent geneticist: Clinical Professor Jack Goldblatt AM, MB, ChB, MD, FCP, FRACP - Director of (amongst other things) the Familial Cancer Program of WA. He has co-authored a phenomenal 229 medical papers on all manner of genetic research into aspects of cancers, asthma, the immune system, vaccine responses and genetic syndromes. This will be very interesting!



For the next Luncheon (Monday 17th February) **PLEASE** enter your name electronically on the **BOOK-IN SHEET** (by Friday 14th February). Cost: \$30, paid at Reception Desk or EFT.

Method: GO TO the web-site. Double-Click on "**FEBRUARY LUNCHEON**" under the photo of the Flame of Remembrance and **AS IF BY MAGIC**, the printing will change colour and the spreadsheet/Book In list will appear).

FOR THOSE WITHOUT email please call **Margot Harness: 9293 1076** (or any of the committee listed at left) to book in.

Please note that the Book-In Sheet allows you to enter a "P" in Column 3 to indicate you are a **PERMANENT** booking.

president's Report

Welcome to our 2014 year. I trust that everyone had a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

In line with our State President, we want to encourage and recruit recent veterans and current members of the services to join the RSL. Currently only 13% of our members are under the age of 65; and 43.5% are over 80. We intend to place some adverts in newspapers and on the internet; but the best recruiters are you: the current members. If you have someone in your family or amongst friends or people you know, who have served in Afghanistan, Iraq, East Timor, Solomon Islands or any of the peacekeeping

Continued P.2

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

LUNCHEON - 17 February 2014

(Committee: 10am same day)



(Continued from p.1)

Missions, please encourage them to join. Remember to use the Business Contact "card" (distributed on tables at the Christmas Luncheon). If you need more - please see me.

Currently we plan the following "special" social activities for the year:

- 25th April is our Gunfire Breakfast;
- 29th June our Sunday Luncheon at Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club;
- 9th November: our annual Memorial Lunch.

Other suggestions and offers to organize events would be most welcome. Your committee has had a most fruitful planning day, but needs input from members as well.

We are currently looking at using Mailchimp for sending group emails to members. Should you receive a "Mailchimp" message - please check it. We would encourage as many members as possible to accept the newsletter by email as sometimes the post of late has been a little slow and also some have not received their newsletter.

We are actively trying some measures to look after the welfare of our older members in particular and to encourage them to continue to come to luncheons and be involved. We know that for some, making their way to ANZAC House using public transport is no

longer possible. Please contact one of the committee or Margot and let us arrange some help. Those who may require a carer, please feel free to bring them along with you, **but indicate this (and his/her name) when you make your booking.**

Remember: your mates need you and you need your mates!

It has been decided to give members aged 80 and over a Voucher for their birthday, which will be redeemable for a monthly luncheon at no charge. Margot has kindly volunteered to send out the birthday cards to all members and Vouchers to those who are 80+.

Looking forward to seeing you at lunch on the 17th February.

Yours in fellowship,

Peter



Congratulations!

Heartiest "Congratulations" to our own Merry Troubadour: Dr Peter Harries PhD - who was awarded the OAM in the Australian Day Honours List. Well done Peter!!

Hear Ye Hear Ye Our hard-working Treasurer, Richard Adams (who does such a good job, it is unlikely he will ever be 'relieved' in this role!) - backed up by President Peter - wants to encourage as many members as possible to utilise payments to the Sub-Branch by Electronic Transfer (EFT) please. This includes pre-payment for Monthly Luncheons (\$30). For those who use electronic banking, the Highgate RSL Sub-Branch is with the CBA. BSB is 066-001, A/c: 00925571. **Ensure you include your surname.** This will help ease Richard's burden a great deal, and will be much appreciated.

A Pun Can be Fun Corner

After years of bounding over the Highlands, young Rob Roy MacGregor began to pine a little for the comforts of home and perhaps t'was time to take a wife. There'd been two bonnie lassies who had lived near his modest croft cottage and caught his roving eye: the pretty Jeanie MacTavish - she of the light, brown hair and pert manner; how he had fancied *her*, before racing off to the Clan wars.

And then there was Flora MacGillicuddy - a plainer, chunkier lass - well-speckled with freckles, daughter of a brewer up in the fens. She had always been able to tickle him and make him laugh.

So Rob pondered this dilemma before making his momentous decision. It would be Flora. She was only a whisky maker, but he loved her still.

NEED A LIFT TO ANZAC HOUSE TO ATTEND MONTHLY HIGHGATE LUNCHEONS?

If so please contact me personally on 9244 8072

Ken Bladen



SUB WARDENS DUTIES

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

Sunday 9 February : 1030 for 1100 hrs - Women's Royal Australian Army Corps Association (Annual Corps Day)
Friday 14 February : 1030 for 1100 hrs - National Servicemen's Association of Australian WA Branch Inc

"The Way We Were" Gallery Our Golden Oldies

Some men, it seems, were destined from birth for "a Life on the Ocean Wave". That certainly seems to have been the case for our long-time Member: Stephen Scriven, who has served in the Merchant Navy, Royal Navy and Royal Australian Navy during a long, interesting life.

Born in Penarth, South Wales in 1930, Stephen spent part of his youth in Dorset at boarding school - doing well academically - until, aged 16, he went to live in Italy for a year and studied Italian. The following year, he moved to Manchester and commenced an electrical engineering apprenticeship, becoming a Junior Engineer on engine room layout and steam turbine testing on completion. As each year passed, Stephen steadily improved on his qualifications and spent time at sea, acquiring his Second Class Certificate of Competency as Engineer of a Steamship in 1956: the same year he joined the Institute of Marine Engineers as a Graduate and joined the RN Reserve as a Sub-Lieutenant.

It seems this studious young fellow wasn't one to rest on his laurels. He continued to study and work his way up the ladder in his field (achieving his Certificate of Competency as Extra First Class Engineer of a Steamship in July 1960), in tandem with time spent with the RN including service on HMS GRENVILLE, which patrolled off Iceland during the "Cod War" of 1959; and as Chief Engineer on Merchant ships, mostly around Britain.

Stephen met his wife, Yvonne, at a Flying Angel club dance in Fremantle during a "stopover" whilst working for the Blue Funnel line. They married in Perth then returned to England to allow Stephen to finish his studies. They emigrated to Australia in 1961, as "10 Pound Poms", settling in Melbourne; where he found employment with the Australian Dept of Shipping and Transport whilst simultaneously studying welding and ship design at the RMIT. He seems to have been a master of what, today, is termed "multi-skilling", because he *also* became a Lieutenant in the RAN Reserve at the same time! Perhaps for these reasons he was transferred to WA to take up the position of Marine Engineer Surveyor and Examiner of Engineers, with multiple responsibilities: surveying ports and ships of all kinds along the WA and NT coasts, maintenance of the Lighthouse Vessel "Cape Don" and investigating all reported hull and machinery accidents. Safety in shipping has always been of paramount importance to him.

Seagoing service as an RAN Reservist saw him promoted to Lieutenant Commander and time on HMA Ships "Sydney" (1964), and "Anzac", and later assignments on "Duchess", "Vendetta" and "Brisbane" before promotion to Commander (E) at the end of 1976.

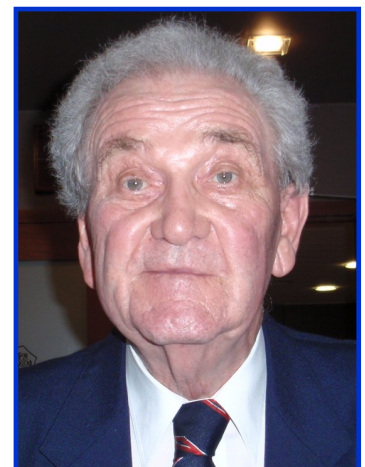
Somewhere along the line, this perennial "student" studied the Japanese language part-time, and was sent to Japan for six months on a Fellowship to work with that country's Ministry of Transport, and study their survey system. But a major feather in his cap was being involved in the construction of the replica of HM Bark "Endeavour" from the project's inception until the hull was completed, which coincided with his retirement from the Department after 30 years service.



Yvonne and Stephen have a son, Richard, and daughter, Catherine. Their two granddaughters are now both University students.

Stephen has always maintained strong social links with the many friends he made over the years, both in the shipping industry and the Navy. He has been a loyal member of Highgate for many years.

Stephen struck "stormy waters" last year when he suffered a stroke, but is slowly regaining his strength. We were delighted that he was able to join us for the Christmas Luncheon - Good for you Stephen!

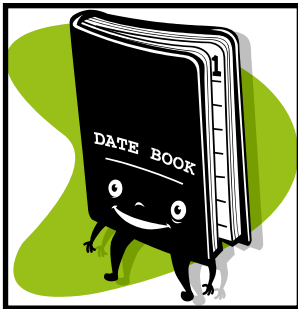


LAST POST



All deceased men and women of Highgate Sub-Branch. R.I.P.

Lest We Forget

**EARLY REMINDERS. Mark in your Diaries**

ANZAC Day. 25 April - GUNFIRE BREAKFAST. Venue, time and cost still to be advised.

SUNDAY LUNCHEON AT ROYAL FRESHWATER BAY YACHT CLUB. To be on 29th June. Cost still being investigated and will be advised. You may like to invite family and friends to join you. It is usually a wonderful day in one of the most "plum" dining locations on the Swan River.

Seeing ourselves as OTHERS saw us!

Our Treasurer, Richard Adams, has come by a re-print of a little, bound book issued by the US Army during WW2, entitled: "Instructions for American Servicemen in Australia 1942". This has caused our Richard much merriment, and he thought he would share some of the contents - as the "tiny-tome" seems to breathe life into the witty words of the great Scottish poet: Robbie Burns: "O wad some Power the giftie gie us, To see oursels as ithers see us"!

The instructions get off to a flying start with the words: "You and your outfit have been ordered to Australia as a part of a world-wide offensive against Hitler and the Japs - a drive that will end in Tokyo and Berlin. You are going to meet a people who like Americans and whom you will like. The Australians have much in common with us - they're a pioneer people who believe in personal freedom, love sports and they're out to lick the Axis all the way the main point is they like us, and we like them".

Some observations are gems, and even to those of us "locals" who have lived in "Oz" all our lives, brings home the changes that have occurred in the 70 years since the original book was written: "Australian cities can be pretty dull places on Sundays. For all their breeziness, the Australians don't go in for a lot of drinking or woo pitching in public. So maybe the bars, movies and dance halls won't be open on Sundays, but there are a lot of places in America where that is also true. There's no use beefing about it - it's their country."

Not surprisingly, the similarity yet differences of a shared language are noted. "Australians have a habit of pronouncing "a" as "i" - for instance: "the trine is lite todi". Some people say it sounds like the way London Cockneys talk, but good Australians resent that. And it isn't true anyway....."

















The intricacies of slang are noted: "fair dinkum" roughly translates to "genuine"; "to feel crook" means to feel lousy; and "beaut" means swell. "Australians swear a lot, the commonest being "bastard" (pronounced "barstud"), "bugger" and "bloody" - this last being used with nearly every other word".

Other translations given are *cobber* - pal; *wowser* - sourpuss/stuffed shirt; *sheila* - a babe; *shout* - buy drinks for the house; *plonk* - cheap wine; and *stonkered* - tired out - and these are still used today. But many other great expressions listed have, alas, fallen from favour in the modern Aussie vernacular such as: *smooge* - to pitch woo (to beguile a young woman, for those of you who don't recognise it!); *drongo* - a clumsy person; *yakka* - hard work; and *bonzer* - great super which (in the view of your Editor), is rather a pity. They are great words!

It's a glimpse of an older Australia, and in short, quite a **BONZER** little book!

HOW U.S.A. AND AUSTRALIAN EATING HABITS DIFFER

ANNUAL PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION

KIND OF FOOD	U. S. A.	AUSTRALIA
WHEAT & FLOUR	160 LBS. 	203 LBS. 
TEA	1/2 LB. 	7 LBS. 
COFFEE	13 LBS. 	1/2 LB. 
ICE CREAM	9 1/2 QTS. 	4 QTS. 
BUTTER	16 1/2 LBS. 	30 1/2 LBS. 
BEEF	63 LBS. 	112 LBS. 
MUTTON & LAMB	7 LBS. 	81 LBS. 
PORK	55 LBS. 	19 LBS. 

**Hollywood's Enrolled Nursing Program Celebrates 10 years and 255 Graduates**

Hollywood Private Hospital is celebrating the 10-year anniversary of its highly successful Graduate Enrolled Nursing (EN) Program.

The program is part of Ramsay WA's GradPlus Program, which supports a suite of three qualifications in Enrolled Nursing, Registered Nursing (RN) and Midwifery. EN graduates can choose between a six-month general medical and surgical option, a 12-month general and mental health option, or a 12-month direct-entry theatre nursing option.

Hollywood Manager of Training and Development Anne Green says the EN Program was established 10 years ago to address the shortage of nurses in the workforce.

"In 2000, only two per cent of the nursing workforce was made up of ENs," said Ms Green. "Hollywood recognised the important role that ENs could play and developed a robust training program to build numbers and skills for this important group of nursing staff. We started with nine students in 2003 and this year took in 32 students."

One of the unique features of the Hollywood program is the career pathways it offers. Opportunities are available, for example, to high school students through the NextGen Plus Program, which can provide employment as a Patient Care Assistant, with successful students eventually progressing to the EN and RN Graduate Programs, if they wish to.

Hollywood also offers a Partnership Program with TAFE, which can lead to an interview for the GradPlus Program for ENs.

Clinical Nurse Educator and EN GradPlus Program Coordinator Patricia Gurney says that patient care has been enhanced by the development of the EN role at Hollywood.

"The EN role aims to support nurses transitioning into the workforce and encourage lifelong learning," said Ms Gurney. "The GradPlus Program gives this group of nursing staff a solid grounding in skills and leads to many options for learning advanced skills and specialising. The result is that we have ENs who are better equipped to care for complex patients."

Sharon Harry, a mature-aged EN General GradPlus 2012 graduate completed her six-month general medical and surgical nursing to consolidate her skills, and was then offered a permanent role at the hospital, beginning the next stage of her career in mental health nursing at The Hollywood Clinic.

"The support I received was amazing," said Sharon. "The program facilitated everything I wanted to achieve professionally by allowing me to work on different wards to find, ultimately, my key professional interest."

ENs now make up about a third of Hollywood's nursing workforce and work alongside RNs. The scope and profile of the role has grown to the point where an employee can enjoy a long and varied career as an EN.

Over the past several years, Hollywood has received numerous awards in recognition of its excellence in a range of areas, including in workforce training and development.



The most recent group of Ramsay WA "GradPlus" graduates

The continuing support of Hollywood Private Hospital and their generous assistance to RSL Highgate Sub - Branch is warmly and gratefully acknowledged.

**HOLLYWOOD
PRIVATE HOSPITAL**



**THIS NEWSLETTER IS PRINTED AS A SERVICE TO THE VETERAN COMMUNITY
BY THE OFFICE OF THE HON ALANNAH MacTIERNAN,
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR PERTH**