

# HIGHGATE NEWS

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

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

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## MONTHLY LUNCHEON

Monday 17th August 2015

Venue: Gallipoli Room

Time: 1130 hrs for 1215 hrs



### GUEST SPEAKER: PETER FITZPATRICK

Following a distinguished Army career, including the SASR, Lt Col Peter Fitzpatrick AO entered the business world with a bang. His civilian achievements are a plethora of successful and senior roles as a CEO, Chairman and as a board member; and as an educator of CEOs. We eagerly look forward to his presentation. Widely experienced in a wide variety of businesses, charitable organisations, industry and Trusts, Peter holds that leaders need to be visionaries and agents of change, committed to action rather than status or position.

For the Monthly LUNCHEON (17th August) PLEASE enter your name electronically on the BOOK-IN SHEET (by 1400 hrs Thursday 13th August) - using the web-site. Cost is \$30 a head.

**Method:** GO TO the web-site HOME page. Double-click on "JUNE LUNCHEON" below the photo of the Flame of Remembrance and **AS IF BY MAGIC, the printing will change colour and be underlined.** 'Click' on it again 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. EFT details appear at the TOP of the Book In spreadsheet.

You may need to Double-click IN the 'empty' cell for your name to register.

## President's Report

My warmest "Thanks" and Congratulations to Geoff Simpson for organising the OBE / OBN celebrations last month. Getting a "bio" on all the participants was a great effort, and made for entertaining summaries about "our Birthday Boys".

Although Leon Griffiths wasn't at the lunch, he delivered the all-important sword in time for the cutting of the cake. Thanks Leon.

Kevin Cass-Ryall gave us a brief update on Ramsay Health, its growth and its philosophy, which was very informative and interesting. Unfortunately he is

*Continued P.2*

## FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

LUNCHEON: 17 August, 2015 (Committee meeting at 11.00am that day)



(Continued from p.1)

away from Perth so frequently we had to take the opportunity for him to address us whilst we had him! Many members commented that although it meant crowding the day a bit, they appreciated having him attend, and hearing his talk.

A warm "Thank You" too to **Greg Wilson**, who stepped up to volunteer to become our Sub-Branch Secretary. It goes without saying that the committee accepted his offer unanimously. Welcome to the Committee Greg!

Thanks also go to Ray Galliot for offering to organise a trip to Dwellingup. No firm date has been set as yet, but it would involve a bus trip down to Dwellingup to catch and board the renovated steam train down there; enjoy a lovely trip through the bushland forest whilst dining on an excellent meal - washed down with a glass of "something nice" - and then returning to Perth by bus at journey's end. Wives, partners and friends all welcome - cost per head will be \$95 'all up'.

The 2015 RSL State Congress is to be held in October. Sub-Branch Motions for consideration must be at State HQ by 28 August. Ken Bladen is chairing a sub-committee to receive and consider Motions. Motions need to be passed at the next luncheon before being forwarded to HQ. **If you have a motion, please address it to Ken urgently.**

In the latest Sub-Branch Signal, State President Graham Edwards reports further on the proposed redevelopment plans for ANZAC House, which appeared in the June issue of the Listening Post. I would remind members that there is a LINK to the monthly Sub-Branch Signal on the front page of our website. Just scroll down the page and click on "Sub-Branch Signal" to go to the latest issue.

Whilst on the web-page please check the Roll of Honour. If you don't have an entry, please go the web-page "Membership" and download the Membership Form guidelines and complete a CV. This can be submitted via email.

I look forward to you all joining us at our August luncheon.

Yours in fellowship,

**Peter**

### Sub-Branch Snippets ....

**Barry Campbell**, who recently underwent bilateral knee replacements, surprised his HAG colleagues by turning up to share lunch with them last Tuesday. He's doing so well, he's been able to discard his elbow crutches and is able to walk "on his own" (albeit a bit gingerly!) Glad things went so well for you Barry!

The "Reflections" Project, to photograph as many WW2 survivors as possible, continues to be conducted by the Australian Institute of Professional Photographers. A number of our Highgate WW2 veterans were able to arrange their "sittings" directly with the AIPP on-line; but others were unaware. However, just prior to our last OBE Lunch, photographer: Bruce Maconachie kindly set up in ANZAC House, and took pics of **Bob Elliot, Keith Morris, Tom Horton, John Hately** and **Harry Lodge**, who might otherwise have missed out. You all looked very handsome fellas! It's a shame **Abe Sher** - down with the flu - couldn't make it too.

A little birdie has told us that **Don Rae** has just departed for a spot of R&R in Northern Italy for a month .... a little spell of "La Dolce Vita", eh Don? Don't forget to give George Clooney a wave if you see him!

Another of our members on a wonderful overseas sojourn is our popular "Senior Vice": **Steve Chamarrette**. Steve and Joanne have joined with a number of his other ex-7RAR mates and their spouses to visit Europe and Turkey - with a special destination being Gallipoli. Hope you are enjoying every minute S and J!



### TEE-HEEs and Fiddle-Dee-Dees Corner .....

**A wee, amusing anecdote, courtesy of Ray Mawson (see opposite) .....**

"On my last night of my last camp as CO16RWAR I decided to play a trick on the Officers. So after a formal night in our Mess and time in the Sergeants' Mess, I arranged with the Drum Major of the Pipes and Drums to meet me next morning just before Reveille as I wanted to "wake up" the officers by leading the Band through their huts.

This he duly did, and with me in the lead, the Pipes and Drums began their Reveille tune of "Johnnie Cope". I went through each room, opening the doors and calling "Good morning gentlemen" with the pipes and drums following. I have never seen so many men sit straight up in bed - shock, bewilderment and horror on their faces, as the Scots band tramped into their rooms. From there we went into the second hut, repeating the process. All went well, with the same result, and we had a great laugh. When I returned to MY room I was startled to note that the time was not yet 0600hrs. The whole camp, including HQ CMD 5 MD were awake and the Sergeants had the Diggers out on parade perhaps 30 minutes before time - thinking it really HAD been Reveille. I expected some rebuke, but was forgiven, even by the Camp CMD - who was none other than Col Bob Mercer."

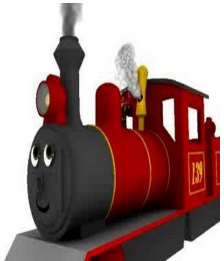
**(Thanks Ray! A "gotcha" moment, if ever there was one!)**



## SUB WARDENS DUTIES

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

Sunday **2 August 2015** : 1200 for 1230 hrs - United Macedonian Community Council of WA  
Sunday **9 August 2015** : 1030 for 1100 hrs - HMAS Canberra-Shropshire Association WA  
Saturday **15 August 2015** : 0915 for 1000 hrs - Victory in the Pacific  
Saturday **29 August 2015** : 1020 for 1050 hrs - National Malay and Borneo Assoc (TBC)



***“ALL ABOARD!! ....” Join us on a TRAIN TRIP AROUND DWELLINGUP***

***As anyone who has a love of trains knows well - there is nothing quite like being pulled along in a wooden carriage by an old-time steam-engine, hissing and belching a bit of smoke! It's nostalgia-on-wheels folks!***

**Plans are in train to organise this excursion for September, if possible. DATE: still to be advised. But cost will be \$95 per head - meal included. Bus transport to and from the Hotham Valley Railway (Dwellingup) included.**

**Wives, pals, partners ALL welcome to join us. Should be fun!**

## ***“The Way We Were” Gallery ..... Our Golden Oldies .....***

One sees that Hollywood has released a movie recently called “Ant-Man” (good grief!) - having produced another one some months ago named “Iron Man”. If they are ever looking to make an “Energy Man” film, they could do well to look around some of our Highgate stalwarts - 'cos some of our members who combined successful civvy careers with equally successful stints as CMF and Reservists AND well-adjusted family lives - could certainly serve as the prototypes!

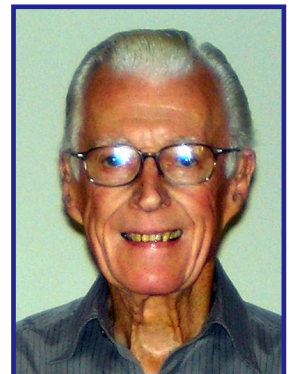
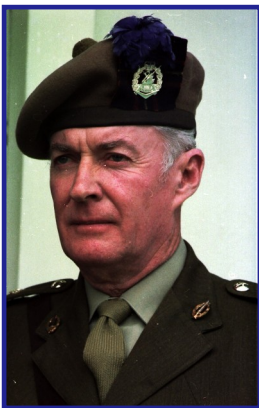
One such member is Ray Mawson - born on St Patrick's Day (17 March) in 1928 - and a WA-lad through and through. He was a twin - just five minutes younger than his brother: Glyn. Even as a young kid, Ray was initially obsessed with the Navy and at only 13 years, sought to be an RAN Cadet Midshipman (at Flinders, Vic) - asking his Dad to sign the papers. His Dad, a WWI veteran, had won a Military Medal in the Battle of Menin Road, aged just 21. Having suffered war injuries, he no doubt wanted to protect his sons from the horrors of war, and firmly said “No”. He urged Ray - still only 16 at war's end, to get on with his studies instead. Ray reached WA Uni “Junior” standard, then started work on 7 Jan 1944 as an office boy on 7/6d (75 cents) a week!

When Egypt's Nasser grabbed the Suez Canal in 1956, Ray thought another war was about to commence, and he should join the CMF in preparation. By now a married man of 29, with a wife, two children and a mortgage, Army Recruiting declared him (to Ray's chagrin) “too old” for Artillery or Armour - but told him they'd like him in the Pay Corps! He decided to join anyway - and from mid-1957, a long and varied Army career ensued, which saw him promoted to officer rank and later successfully transfer to IRWAR - which gave him his big chance to switch to infantry. Over several years he had witnessed the reorganisation of the Army to and from the “pentropic” Division, eventually seeing it return to its Brigade-style structure; and IRWAR split to become two battalions: designated 16RWAR and 11RWAR. Courses at JTC Canungra and Infantry centre Ingleburn assisted him with his Corps change. In 1965, by now an Inf Captain, he was selected to do an orientation course in Papua New Guinea, and after several postings, he became CO 16RWAR. The highlight of his service was, in 1967, being attached to 2RAR in South Vietnam, as an ARES observer. On leaving the ARES (1984/5) he became active in the Rotary Club of North Perth and served as President for two years.

Concurrently with all this, Ray was a Fellow Certified Practicing Accountant and served in several local and national companies

at senior executive level. He had married Hazel in December 1952, and they had two daughters and a son. On retirement in 1991, he and Hazel volunteered to serve with The United Mission in Nepal where they administered a 50-bed hospital in the remote village of Amp Pipal, and then became Director and Administrator respectively of a 150-bed hospital in the town of Tansen. They returned to Perth in late 1999. They had also trained Nepalis in business and management. He resumed his Highgate links, and became a SWM Sub-Warden.

Ray also retained his long-time interests in the RWAR Assn, All Saints Church Floreat, 16Bn Cameron Assn, Army Museum of WA, and Probus Club of City Beach. Now, despite having lost his wife and son to illness, he remains active, and close to his two daughters and grandchildren. **All** solid evidence that this is a “Salt of the Earth” kinda man!



## LAST POST

Ken Birks

Lest We Forget







## HPH'S TOP NURSING AWARDS - "PEOPLE CARING FOR PEOPLE"

On International Nurses Day, Hollywood celebrated its nursing staff with an inaugural awards ceremony that recognises the excellence and compassion they bring to Hollywood.

International Nurses Day is celebrated around the world each year on 12 May, the anniversary of Florence Nightingale's birth. HPH boasts a fabulous team of over 700 nurses - many of whom moved here from overseas and chose to make Australia their home.

So this year, to acknowledge the exceptional patient care and service its nurses provide, the **Hollywood Nursing Excellence Awards** were introduced. These awards are an initiative developed by the Clinical Services Executive team and received an overwhelming response throughout the hospital. Of the 60 nominations submitted, 11 nurses were subsequently presented with an award.

Hollywood's Chief Executive Officer Peter Mott and Deputy Director of Clinical Services, Kathy Pedler, hosted the awards in front of a very excited audience of nurses, managers and family members. In his opening speech, Peter commented on the Hospital's amazing nurses. He said: "I would like to say a very sincere thank you to all of our nurses for the work they do, the contribution they make, and the care they provide for our patients."

Kathy added: "Everyone knows that the fundamental element of what we do every day at Hollywood is summed up in the words of Paul Ramsay: "people caring for people" - and that's what our awards celebrate today: nurses caring for our patients, caring for each other in the teams they work in, and caring for their colleagues across other disciplines and services."



"Congratulations are in order for two of the Prize-winning, top-notch Nurses: Dervilla Keaney (L) and Tricia McCamish (Centre) with CEO: Peter Mott

Peter Mott announced the following winners of the awards:

### 2015 GALLIPOLI MEMORIAL AWARD

**Dervilla Keaney**, Registered Nurse (Hollywood Clinic); **Tricia McCamish**, Enrolled Nurse (Theatre)

### COMMUNITY AWARD

**Judith McDowall**, Registered Nurse (Pope Ward - not available on the day)

### EXCELLENCE AWARD

**Sarah Black**, Registered Nurse (Diabetes Educator); **Hayley Roberts**, Enrolled Nurse (Starcewich Ward)

### RAMSAY SPIRIT AWARD

**Anna Dawes**, Registered Nurse (Hollywood Clinic); **AND Fintan O'Looney**, Registered Nurse (Hollywood Clinic)  
**Everton Do Nascimento**, Enrolled Nurse (Donaldson Ward - not available on the day)

### TEAM PLAYER AWARD

**Alison Christie**, Registered Nurse (Goldsworthy); **Sophie Hancock**, Registered Nurse (Axford)  
**Abbey Middleton**, Enrolled Nurse (Day Surgery Unit)

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

**HOLLYWOOD**  
PRIVATE HOSPITAL



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BY THE OFFICE OF THE HON ALANNAH MacTIERNAN,  
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR PERTH