



Issue 470
December 2007

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

MONTHLY LUNCHEON

Monday 17th December 2007

Venue: Gallipoli Room
Time: 1130 hrs—Fellowship, 1215 hrs—Luncheon
Guest Speaker: (On this occasion the title Guest Speaker is probably stretching it a bit.) - For our Christmas Meeting we have Don King who is a Korean War Veteran, Entertainer and Compère and he will be accompanied by that accomplished musician, Ken Bladen
Your attendance will indicate your appreciation.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Luncheon Meetings

As our membership ages, fewer members attend our luncheons. That is but a fact of life. Highgate over the last 4 years has been most circumspect when providing the ANZAC Club with catering numbers for each Luncheon. Lately it has become more difficult to be as precise. However, as the ANZAC Club conducts itself as a business it must take more responsibility as to the commercial risk involved in catering. Prices continue to rise and I understand that as from early next year we will see another price hike. We will reopen dialogue over the menu and the commercial risk very shortly.

Highgate History Booklet

My Highgate History Booklet 1947-1997 was left downstairs' as we went up to Luncheon. When I went to collect the booklet it was not there. Would the member who took it home for safe keeping please bring it to the December luncheon.

Labelling Software

At the October Meeting I was given some Labelling software by Bob

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FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Committee: 4th February 2008
Monthly Luncheon: 18th February 2008

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Norris. A member, whom I can't remember, borrowed the software; well Mr Borrower I need it back so that we can produce Name Badges etc for members. At your earliest convenience please.

Christmas Luncheon

There is no doubt that our entertainment for the Christmas Luncheon is going to be one of the highlights of our regular luncheons. We have had many distinguished and interesting guest speakers during the year but there is something special about the Christmas Luncheon and we can look forward to this one being a most joyful event.

Holiday Period

To all members, families and friends we wish you a safe, **Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year**.

Regards
Ian



After the wise men left along came the three politically correct guys.

As he was drilling a batch of recruits, the sergeant saw that one of them was marching out of step. Going to the man as they marched, he said sarcastically:

"Do you know they are all out of step except you?"

"What?" asked the recruit innocently.

"I said -- they are all out of step except you!" thundered the sergeant.

"Well, Sarge, you're in charge -- you tell them!"



23 Radar Station—Operators and Mechanic going on shift.

Centre — Our member, Cpl (or is there a third stripe hiding under the fold in the sleeve) Eleanore Wells with a friend, and one lucky guy.

Lylton Queensland —1943

MEET YOUR SUB-BRANCH COMMITTEE

Each month, subject to space and the ability of your committee members to provide the editor with a restricted c.v. we will, through these pages, introduce a member of the committee. In this way you can better get to know those who are working on your behalf. The first this year is the Immediate Past President -

Norman G Manners:

Born in Kalgoorlie his family moved to Wiluna during the depression. Some years later Norm and his elder brother were sent to Perth to live with their grandparents and complete their education.

In 1940 his brother joined the RAAF as a trainee pilot and was sent to England after being awarded his wings at Kalgoorlie. Meanwhile Norman attended West Leederville Primary and then on to Perth Boys High School where he was made Prefect and his height assured him of a place in the school's football team. In 1943 his only brother was killed in the Middle East after a period of flying fighter aircraft in Britain.

On leaving Perth Boys Norm was presented with the school's first For Service Award.

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SUB WARDENS DUTIES

There are no Wreath Laying Services scheduled for the newsletter reporting period.

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As President of Perth Boys Dramatic Club Norm had studied radio as well as stage drama and had a strong leaning toward commercial radio. He joined Nicholson's Radio 6PR, TZ,CI, as the office boy, in 1948.

He then moved to the top rating station, 6IX-WB-MD-BY to do the racing panel and other programmes.

Later Norm moved across to 6KY-NA to become Programme Manager of a station that was last in the ratings. Cancelling all the other piecemeal programmes and replacing them with the first top forty format in WA and extending broadcast hours to 24 hours, proved a winner and the station went to number one. a position it held for eight years. Norm then decided he needed a new challenge and looking at the new medium, television. He joined Channel Nine Perth.

Having, in the meantime married and produced four children, who with wife Pauline, wanted more attention, Norm decided to leave television for a leading advertising agency and the position of Director of Radio & Television. After some four years an opportunity arose to join Jack Bendat and Kerry Stokes as advertising manager for their considerable number of shopping centres and was opening manager of the then new Grove Plaza.

After opening Whitford City, Norm, in association with his artist son Brett, created their own agency which they called Manners Market-

ing & Media which operated for some four years until Norm went back into property management.

From there he retired to write the biography of Vivian Bullwinkel an Australian Army Nursing Sister who was the only survivor of a World War Two massacre of 21 nurses by the Japanese. The book was well received throughout Australia and is now in its third reprint.

During the latter years Norm has found time in which to be Founding Chairman of community radio station 89.7FM Wanneroo, JVP,SVP and finally President of the Naval Military & Air force's Club W.A.

He served for 16 years in the Army Reserve firstly with the 10th Light Horse Regiment and then as SO3 Western Command HQ as their Public Relations Officer/Recruiting. He also had a period of full-time-duty Training/Air and an attachment with the US 25 Tropic Lightning Division. He retired at the age of 55 years.

Currently Norm is a member of the Royal Australian Armoured Corps Association and Highgate RSL Sub-Branch, where he is Immediate Past President after holding the positions of Junior Vice and Senior Vice before taking the chair. He is also Chairman of Highgate's Honour Avenues Group.

Married now for 53 years he lives in Regent Waters Wanneroo with his four adult children and grandchildren all within a 5 kilometre radius.

MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA AND BURMA THAILAND RAILWAY MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

Re-creation of the show titled "Fun with FA" Put on by the Aussie POW's working on the "Death Railway" at Hintok Road Camp in 1943.

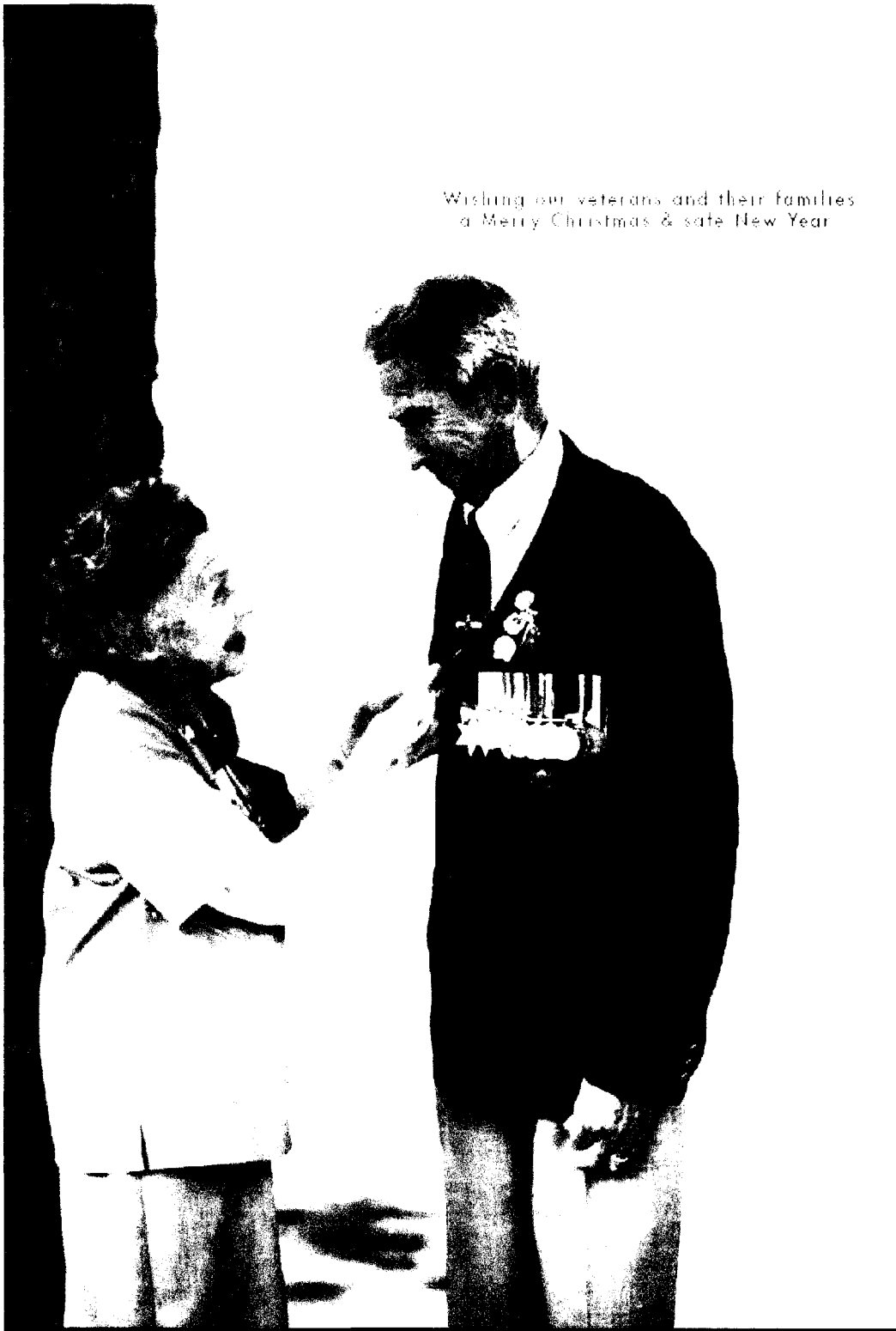
**TUESDAY 18TH DECEMBER
AT 7-30PM AT RAAF CLUB
RAAF ASSOCIATION ADMIN BUILDING, BULL CREEK DRIVE, BULL CREEK.**

In April this year the "Darlington Players" put on a "One Off" Special Show for all those on the "Quiet Lion Tour" in Thailand and the many dignitaries visiting Hellfire Pass for the ANZAC Day Dawn Service. This re-creation was the brain child of Keith Flanagan. The Darlington Players have kindly agreed to put it on once again for the Christmas Function. It is a warm, funny and nostalgic show with a lot of songs and skits reflecting the music of that time.

In order to make this wonderful production available to a much wider audience the MHS and the BTRMA have reserved the theatre hall at the main RAAF Club premises. This has a capacity for 400 people and we would like to get it filled to as near of its capacity as we can. The club bar will be open to purchase drinks. There will be a subsidised charge of \$10.00 including finger food supper per person to cover costs. This will be a special event and our members and supporters are encouraged to bring as many family and friends as possible to join in the fun.



Wishing our veterans and their families
a Merry Christmas & safe New Year



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