



Highgate Highlights

Official newsletter of Highgate RSL Sub-Branch
Returned & Services League of Australia (WA)
www.highgate-rsl.org.au

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Peter Garside & Jack Suriano

From our President

Our Remembrance Day Service at the Flame of Remembrance in Kings Park, followed by a formal luncheon at Frasers, was conducted on Mon 14 November.

We all join in sincerely thanking everyone who contributed, including:

- ° Piper Mick Coyle who created an appropriate ambiance by playing traditional and appropriate music on his bagpipes
- ° In keeping with military tradition, WA's finest bugler, David Scott, played the Last Post bugle call that signifies the member has gone to their final rest
- ° Deputy Warden Geoff Simpson, Bill Wilson and the Sub Wardens who fulfilled this important function for us, and for the community throughout the year
- ° Outgoing State War Memorial Trustee, Peter King welcoming address
- ° Rev Tim Harrison for conducting the Service (during which I laid a wreath on your behalf at the Flame of Remembrance).

Following the Service, members and partners moved to Fraser's Restaurant where fine food, good service and fellowship were enjoyed by guests and members. Peter King spoke on the historical aspects of the Flame of Remembrance and the origin of the pool water (the Royal Australian Navy collected the waters from oceans around the world).

(continued page 2)

Christmas Party 2016 our last ANZAC House meeting

- ° Book your seats now for RSL Highgate's Christmas Party, which will be our last meeting in ANZAC House until at least 2019.
- ° The entertainment will be first class and not to be missed, and you are encouraged to bring wives, partners and guests to enjoy a fond farewell to the room where we have formed friendships and happy memories. And if it is hot on Monday, 'summer dress' is acceptable, so coats and ties are optional. Come and revel in this historical occasion.

To book your lunch, please enter your name electronically on the booking page via the website, (before 12 noon on the Friday prior to the meeting. Go to our website home page at www.highgate-rsl.org.au and double-click HIGHGATE MONTHLY LUNCHEON below the photo of the Flame of Remembrance and you'll be transferred to the booking sheet page.

The booking sheet also lets you enter a 'P' in column three to indicate you are a permanent booking.

Electronic funds transfer details are on the spreadsheet.

For those without internet, please call any Committee Member to book in. Cost is \$30 per person.

Important dates & events | please diarise now

- ° 1100 | Mon **19 Dec** | Committee Meeting
- ° 1130 for 1215 | Mon **19 Dec** | Christmas Luncheon
- ° No meetings in January
- ° 1100 | Mon **20 Feb** | Committee Meeting - **WA Club**
- ° 1130 for 1215 | Mon **20 Feb** | February Luncheon - **WA Club**
- ° **Address:** Level 11 - 12 St Georges Terrace Perth (opp. Concert Hall)

Last Post | Lest We Forget

Helen, beloved Wife of John Harper-Nelson & Charlotte, beloved Wife of Abe Sher

At Christmas, we especially remember with deep sadness and affection all our departed Members and their loved ones, and convey sincere condolences and sympathy to their families



From our President *(continued from page 1)*

Geoff Simpson awarded a medallion to Ray Mawson to recognise his service as Sub Warden. In addition, Geoff announced the retirement of Bill Wilson after 28 years of service as a Sub Warden. Bill ceremoniously then handed to Geoff the *clicker* which is synonymous with Bill at SWM Services. It is highly appropriate that all members of Highgate thank Bill on behalf of the WA community for his long and dedicated service as a Sub Warden and a job well done. Special thanks are also extended to Peter Harries for entertaining the luncheon group with iconic songs from all the wars in which Australia has participated. Finally, like on so many previous occasions Ken Bladen stepped up to lead us in the National Anthem to conclude the day on a good note. To all those who contributed to making the day a success, including luncheon organisers Roger and Annette Buddrige, Howard Montagu and Leon Griffiths, 'Thank you'.

Mike Harness has reported another successful Poppy Day collection which resulted in over \$14,000 in donations, about half of which is retained and the remainder to RSLWA HQ. Our thanks to all the collectors for your great efforts which contribute so strongly to our ability to provide welfare assistance to members in need.

Please note that our last meeting in 2016 is the Christmas Luncheon on Monday 19 December. Geoff Hourn has promised that the entertainment will be first class and not to be missed, especially as this is our last function in the Gallipoli Room, pending the opening of the new ANZAC House in 2019. Consequently, the Committee encourages and welcomes all members, wives, partners and guests to enjoy a fond farewell to the room where we formed friendships and have happy memories of fellowship experienced. Remember, if it is hot on Monday, 'summer dress' is acceptable so coats and ties are optional. Come and revel in this historical occasion. On behalf of the Sub Branch Committee, I wish you and your families a merry Christmas and a happy and healthy 2017.

Steve Chamarette

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Happy birthday to Highgate Members celebrating this month, including:

John Adeney, Richard Albury, Bill Bailey, Shalom Coleman, Barry Cooke, John Deykin, John Fisher, Ray Galliot, Mike Harness, Jim Irving, William Kynaston, Greg Lakeman, Duncan Warren and Phil Zeid

DVA ONLINE IN WA

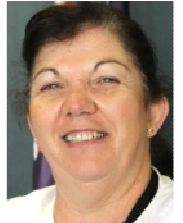
MyAccount now provides WA veterans with a more immediate way of conducting business with the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA), giving access to services anytime and anywhere. All you need is a registration number, a computer and an internet connection.

Using MyAccount, you can book transport to medical appointments, view payments and card information, lodge travel claims, change contact details, apply for additional entitlements, request replacement cards, view and request forms, and view the status of your claims. More services will be available in the future.

Watch the MyAccount video at myaccount.dva.gov.au and then call 1800 173 858 during business hours to register.

New RSLWA Vice President

Gabby Ryan has been elected State Vice President of RSLWA to fill the vacancy caused by the untimely death of Denis Connelly.



"I am honoured and privileged – Denis has left huge shoes to fill," said Gabby after a Board meeting voted her into the position until the 2017 State Congress.

Gabby worked in retail until joining the Women's Royal Australian Army Corps in April 1982. She served for 25 years in Ordnance Corps in the Australian Regular Army, attaining the rank of WO2.

She has been a member of City of Cockburn RSL for four years and is currently its Vice President.

Our Poppy Day collections

Our total Poppy Day donations collected last month came to \$14,545; with \$6,873 retained in Highgate's Welfare Fund and the balance to RSL HQ Welfare Fund.

Huge thanks to all our stalwart collectors, including:

Elizabeth Quay

Ray Ward, Alan Downes, Kevin Graham, Les Herbert, Adrian Young, Howard Montagu, Leon Griffiths, Geoff Hourn, Richard Adams, Geoff Simpson, Peter Farrell, Doug Farmer, John Homer, Margot Harness, Mike Harness

Wellington Street

Rod Halcombe, Helen Birch, John Adeney, Ken Bladen, Robert Campbell, Jack Suriano, Steve Chamarette, Bob Arnold, Bruce Campbell (son of Barry) and three persons from the Department of Sport and Recreation

Disclaimer Please note Highgate Highlights source material is edited to remove inappropriate content, and to clarify or shorten the item where needed. Although normal tests for accuracy are undertaken, you should not rely on this material without carrying out your own validity checks. Opinions expressed in Highgate Highlights are not necessarily those of RSL Highgate Sub-Branch or RSLWA. You are welcome to forward information of interest to your colleagues and friends, although we would appreciate acknowledgment as its source.

This newsletter is printed as a service to the Veterans Community by the Office of Tim Hammond MP Federal Member for Perth

Sub Warden Duties | February 2017
Wreath Laying Services | State War Memorial Kings Park
POC: Geoff Simpson OAM RFD | Deputy Warden State War Memorial
Sun 12 Feb 1030 for 1100 Women's Royal Australian Army Corps
Tue 14 Feb 1030 for 1100 National Servicemen's Association of Australia



Remembrance Day Service and Annual Luncheon

Highgate RSL Sub-Branch provides Sub Wardens to the State War Memorial who form an Honour Guard at the State War Memorial and other Memorials as arranged, for wreath laying and other dedication and memorial services.

Each year, close to Remembrance Day, Highgate members and friends gather at the State War Memorial and Flame of Remembrance to honour the fallen and remember their sacrifice.

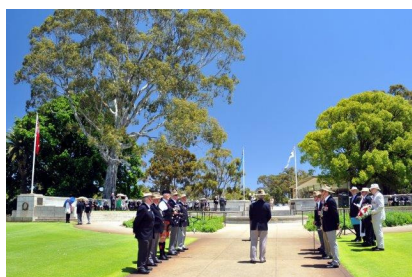
Under the guidance of Deputy Warden Geoff Simpson, Bill Wilson and the Sub Wardens organized this important function for us, as they do for commemorative events for the wider community throughout the year.

Piper Mick Coyle created an appropriate ambiance by playing traditional and appropriate music on his bagpipes, before Rev Tim Harrison conducted the service and President Steve Chamarette laid a wreath on our behalf.

In keeping with military tradition, WA's finest bugler, David Scott, played the Last Post bugle call that signifies the member has gone to their final rest.

Following the service, members adjourned for luncheon at nearby Fraser's restaurant where fine food, good service and fellowship were enjoyed by guests and members.

Outgoing Warden, Peter King, spoke on the historical aspects of the Flame of Remembrance and the origin of the pool water, which had been collected by the Royal Australian Navy from all the oceans of the world.



Bill Wilson's extraordinary Sub Warden service is recognised and thanked

Kings Park & Botanical Gardens Honour Avenue Group

The RSL accepted responsibility for maintaining and preserving memorial plaques along Kings Park's Honour Avenues in 1922.

The first Honour Avenue in Kings Park was dedicated to 404 fallen soldiers in August 1919 on the fifth anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War. Responsibility for maintenance was delegated to the RSL's West Perth Sub-Branch, now known as the Highgate Sub-Branch.

The Highgate RSL Honour Avenues Group processes all requests for plaques and if the RSL's criteria are met, will carry out the work to the high standard required prior to a dedication.

The dedication service involves an Army Padre, bugler, Kings Park Chief Executive Officer, and an honour guard from the Honour Avenues Group. Approximately 10 plaques are dedicated at each service where the person's civilian and military background is read out to the assembled relatives and gathering.

All plaques in the Honour Avenues are cared for by the Honour Avenues Group, whose average age is over 70. This includes placement of new posts and plaques, straightening posts knocked by parking vehicles, refurbishing, or replacing older plaques.

Additional services include placement of an Australian flag on all plaques for ANZAC and Remembrance Days, school tours for local and overseas students, and speaking at service and community organisations.

During weekly inspections of all Honour Avenues, members are always pleased to see flowers laying at the foot of a plaque as this means the family has not forgotten a birthday or date of death of a loved one.

Members working among the plaques see them as crosses, their spiritual grave at home, and although feeling great sadness at their sacrifice, retain a great pride in serving the families and fellow service men and women, wherever they may lay.

The most recent dedication took place on 12 Nov, when 15 plaques were posted by family members under the direction of the Honour Avenue Group.

There are currently over 1,600 plaques along Honour Avenues in Kings Park.

LEST WE FORGET



Our Honour Avenues Group arranged placement of 15 memorial plaques in Kings Park just before Remembrance Day

