



HIGHGATE



Issue 503
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Website: <http://Highgate-rsl.org.au>

NEWS

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

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Monthly Luncheon

Monday 21 February 2011

Venue: Gallipoli Room
Time: 1130 hrs for 1215 hrs
Guest Speaker: Kevin Davidson MVO OAM

Kevin has successfully held many diverse and challenging appointments during his career, requiring him to live and travel extensively overseas and throughout Australia. It is these unique senior executive experiences and strong personal attributes that he brings to the positions of Chief Executive Officer of RSL Care WA and Chief Executive Officer of The Returned and Services League of Australia – WA Branch.

In June 1999, following a 22 year career with the Royal Australian Navy, Kevin was appointed Senior Advisor and Executive Branch Head to Governor-General, Sir William Deane, AC, KBE, and remained in the role serving Governors-General Dr Peter Hollingworth AC, OBE, and Major General Michael Jeffery AC, CVO, MC until May 2004.

Kevin has been awarded numerous awards and commendations for outstanding logistic and administrative service delivery in a range of high level and complex environments. These awards include an MVO (Member of the Royal Victorian Order) presented personally by Her Majesty The Queen, and an OAM (Medal of the Order of Australia) presented personally by former Governor-General, Sir William Deane, a letter of appreciation from former United States President, George W. Bush, and several other national commendations.

Topic: Government House Canberra



President's Report

Highgate ended 2010 on a high note which augers well for the year ahead. Our December meeting and Christmas luncheon was a really feel-good occasion that set the scene for a most enjoyable holiday period. During the function Dr Peter Harries consummate entertainer and raconteur delighted us with reminiscences liberally sprinkled with his ready wit, words of wisdom and song. Since then Peter has paid us a big compliment by seeking to transfer his RSL membership to Highgate – please make him welcome when you next meet. During the holidays military-related activities lightened somewhat but did not stop. On the home front I tiptoed around Lego masterpieces - mostly tanks and battleships, and visited the Army Museum at Fremantle with a five year old dressed from head to toe in camouflage gear. On Christmas Day I opened a well chosen gift from a fellow Highgate member - a beauti-

(Continued on page 2)

**IF ATTENDING THIS LUNCH AND NOT ON THE PERMANENT LIST
PLEASE ADVISE BOB ARNOLD BY 17 FEBRUARY 2011**

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Committee: 7 Mar 2011 Monthly Luncheon: 21 Mar 2011



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fully illustrated picture book that I now commend to you - *My Grandad Marches on Anzac Day*. Author Catriona Hoy drew on her own childhood experiences to portray the history and significance of ANZAC Day through the eyes of a little girl. She goes to the Dawn Service with her dad and sits on his shoulders to watch grandad march in the parade. With ANZAC Day not too far away you could ask for it at your local library or bookstore – suitable for 2-6 year olds.

Congratulations are in order for Phillip Skelton, Deputy Warden at the State War Memorial, who was a recipient of an RSL (WA) Australia Day 2011 Award for Community Service. Whilst always emphasising that the Warden, Sub Wardens and Deputy are a team, Phillip is modest when it comes to accepting praise for the pivotal role he plays within that team, his dedication and meticulous attention to detail. Anyone who has witnessed the Sub-Wardens at a wreath laying service in Kings Park cannot fail to be impressed. Well done Phillip.

As I write 2011 is well underway. It is not too late to make a resolution or two in regard to active participation in Sub Branch activities that would help make 2011 a best-ever for Highgate. The rewards are immeasurable – strangers become nodding acquaintances, who soon become friends and before long a very strong bond of comradeship exists. More hands make for a lighter work load; more heads, more ideas and a stronger Sub-Branch to carry out the Highgate mission.

May I presume to offer just a few suggestions?

- resolve to attend Highgate luncheons regularly (put the dates in the diary now) and make sure that you **BOOK IN**.
- bring a guest once or twice a year
- encourage a friend or two to join Highgate (double our membership overnight)
- ring up a member whom you haven't seen for a while and check that they are well
- bring your partner to the next so-

cial function.

Have a chat with either Phillip Skelton or Norm Manners about joining the Sub-Wardens or Honour Avenues Group. I commend these activities to members. You don't need 'time to spare', if you like what you are doing you will always find the time to do it.

Our Monthly luncheon is still \$25.00. A gentle reminder - it is not just a courtesy but a necessity for catering purposes that those intending to come should book in by the closing date (generally Wednesday PM prior to the luncheon). Monies are payable at the door; if your name is on the list and you do not turn up, look for a bill in the post as we still have to pay ANZAC House for each meal ordered. Please try to do the right thing and save embarrassment all around.

Please spare a thought for RSL and other families here in Carnarvon, Queensland, NSW and Victoria whose lives have been turned upside down by torrents of water; traumatised by bushfires often lit by arsonists, travellers whose plans have been disrupted by volcanic eruptions and severe snow storms, and for our men and women serving in places such as Afghanistan. The images are etched in our minds.

Think also of an image where everything on the surface is rosy but underneath someone is drowning as they try to cope with their own disaster – perhaps medical, social or financial problems. Who knows when the next tsunami or thunderbolt will strike but one thing we can do is to be mindfully aware and to look out and care for one another.

Subs are now due. Keep the Treasurer happy, save postage on reminders, send yours in now. Thank you to members who have already done so and a particularly big thank you to those who added a donation for Highgate.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the February meeting.

Yours in fellowship

Martyn

—SITUATIONS VACANT—

WANTED A FEW GOOD MEN

Highgate RSL Sub-Branch men who are willing to work for the memories of over 1,400 Australian servicemen and women whose lives were cut short on foreign battlefields and for many there were no remains to bury and console the next-of-kin.

The plaques, in the Honour Avenues of Kings Park, are a symbol of the graves they do not have and are therefore treated as such by relatives, their extended families and the community as a whole.

We, Highgate RSL Sub-Branch, are the custodians and as former servicemen and women it is our responsibility to care for these plaques with both dignity and pride

The commitment is every Tuesday morning in Kings Park from 0800 to 1200 hours plus four new plaque dedication ceremonies a year.

Uniforms plus new head and foot wear are supplied and a fully equipped workshop and mobile work station are available. You are covered by Botanic Gardens & Parks Authority insurance

The work includes plaque tooling, painting, stippling, boring of holes and installation of posts and plaques in the Honour Avenues, aligning existing plaques hit by motorists, replacing stolen unit/services badges, maintaining records.

Parking on site is available and free of charge.

The team consists of 14 Highgate members who work closely together with a great spirit and these vacancies have occurred only through retirement because of age (90years) and illness.

The preferred age of applicants is up to 70 years to ensure length of service however, if over this age and fit we would like to hear from you.

For more information, or an expression of interest, contact anyone of the following committeemen:

Norm Manners-Chairman

9405 2421

Alf Till-Deputy Chairman

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SUB WARDENS DUTIES

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

Sunday 13 February 2011 - 1030 hrs for 1100 hrs - Women's Royal Australian Army Corps Association (WA)
 Monday 14 February 2011 - 1030 hrs for 1100 hrs - National Servicemen's Association WA Branch.

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9387 5113
 Ken Jones-Secretary
 9448 2415
 Robin Slater-Asst. Secretary
 9450 4025

EDITOR

For reasons, associated with vision problems I am reluctantly resigning from the editor's position following the April issue of the newsletter and as a consequence we urgently need a member to put his hand up to take over this rewarding position.

I will be available to give any assistance and advice that may be needed during a handover period.

Bob Arnold – Editor
 9448 2757 or
 bob.arnold@highgate-rsl.org.au



Editorial

Is there anything new?

The following is a short extract from a book published in 1910 'A Précis of Strategy' and written by Brevet-Lt. Colonel W.D. Bird, DSO (In 1910 Late Professor Indian Staff College)

"The struggle to live and the survival of the fittest are fundamental principles of the scheme of our existence.

Formerly conducted in the crudest fashion, the barbarity of the fight for existence between individuals has now been modified by codes of law.

But no tribunal has as yet been universally recognized whose decisions all nations will obey; hence, in vital international relations, the struggle for existence is still carried on in its harshest form, and force, but little refined by social custom, determines the issue.

In other words, war is still the decisive factor in international policy, which is really conducted under a continual, though more or less veiled threat of war.

War has often resulted from some incident, such as an insult, real or fancied, to the national dignity, from religious persecution, or from anarchy in a neighbouring state. The ambition of a ruler, the interests of civilisation, or even the desire to distract attention from domestic policies by foreign quarrels, have been responsible for war.

Yet in 2011, despite the astounding advances in technology, particularly in communications, we are no closer to achieving harmony with our fellow man than we were one hundred and one years ago. The foregoing paragraphs from Colonel Bird's book are as relevant today as they were way back then. And, we shouldn't be surprised if

our descendents in 2111 don't make the same observation.

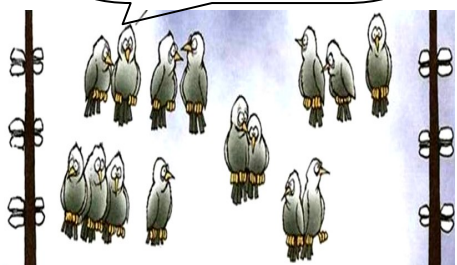
Internet Scams

Our ever patient and always most helpful Hon Sec was considered by a scammer from a far off land to be a possible victim. He failed. But, it is worth bearing in mind that there are many out there trying to out wit us and obtain personal details. This particular brand purports to be from Microsoft and knows of a fault with your computer and offers to rectify the problem. Bid him or her goodbye; Microsoft will not contact you. If you have a problem you can contact them.

FOR YOUR 2011 DIARY

- 21 March—Monthly Luncheon
- 25 April—Gunfire Breakfast
- 16 May—Monthly Luncheon
- 20 June—Monthly Luncheon
- 18 July—OBE's Luncheon
- 15 August—Monthly Luncheon
- 19 September—AGM Luncheon
- 17 October—Monthly Luncheon
- 21 November—Monthly Luncheon
- 19 December—Christmas Luncheon

It's a bit freaky with this wireless technology



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

If so please contact me personally on 9244 8072

Ken Bladen



HOLLYWOOD PRIVATE HOSPITAL ATTACKS SKIN CANCER IN CAMPAIGN

(With thanks to Richard Calautti Hollywood Private Hospital)

The Mole Patrol is back again, only this year we're not only talking about crimes against the skin, we're looking out for specific **skin-cidents** with the help of the Mole Patrol SPOT team – they're real life medical specialists who'll be out and about checking your dodgy moles – for FREE!

Hollywood Private Hospital and Joondalup Health Campus are again joining forces with Nova 93.7FM, Invisible Zinc, Barbagallo and The West Australian newspaper to repeat last year's very Aussie skin cancer prevention campaign aptly named the 'Mole Patrol' held from Australia Day until the end of March.

This year, Mole Patrol will be supported by Perth-based skin specialists RediMed and their "spot team" for FREE preliminary skin checks and provide advice on what looks sufficiently dodgy to warrant more medical attention. The spot team is headed up by leading Plastics and Reconstructive Surgery specialist Dr



Hanh Nguyen.

To combat this **skin-cidious** behaviour, Hollywood Private Hospital and Joondalup Health Campus are despatching the Mole Patrol with a skin-checking medical team to key Perth locations during the course of the campaign, along with the prize-giving Nova Casanovas, to blow crimes against skin wide open.

Let's face it, we all know the sun smart message, but people are basically crap at doing what they should under our blistering sun.

These covert sun-operatives will be looking out for serious **skin-cidents**. A no **mole-rance** approach will apply. If you've contravened these simple sun

smart messages, you'll be slapped with a **skin-fringement**.

Along with the Casanovas and the Barbagallo Mole Patrol cars, the team will be handing out Invisible Zinc packs, beach balls, frisbees, hats, sun "bracelets", tattoos and t-shirts to those sun lovers that need a little extra help adhering to the sun smart message.

So, look out for the moley Barbagallo cars and the Casano-

vas handing out Invisible Zinc, along with other sun smart paraphernalia at various Perth locations

For more information on the locations, promotion and prizes visit:

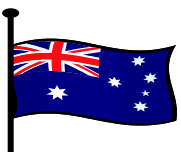
www.buggeroffmole.com.au

Researchers from the University of Western Australia

are seeking people over the age of 50 to join the West Australian Participant Pool (WAPP). WAPP members are invited to participate in various studies being conducted by the School of Psychology at UWA, investigating the factors that help or hinder successful ageing. Participation is always voluntary and can take place at the University, by telephone, mail, or online. Those residing outside WA are very welcome to participate in studies conducted online or by mail. Current research includes looking at how we respond to emotions across the lifespan and how sleep problems affect memory and mood.

Interested? For more information, or to join the WAPP, please visit: <http://tiny.cc/wapp> Alternatively, contact Dr. Romola Bucks on 08 6488 1303, or e-mail romola.bucks@uwa.edu.au.

John Harper-Nelson.



LAST POST

Robert Hillman

Colin Gunn

Lest We Forget

This publication is produced with the support of Hollywood Private Hospital and their generous assistance is greatly appreciated.

HOLLYWOOD

PRIVATE HOSPITAL