



HIGHGATE



NEWS

Issue 506

May 2011

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

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

President

Martyn Thompson
Telephone: 9383 2681

Vice President

Leon Griffiths
Tele: 9332 9039 - 0439 033 399
Email: leon.griffiths@highgate-rsl.org.au

Junior Vice President

Peter Farrell
Tel: 9246 1367 - 0458 720 022
Email: peter.farrell@highgate-rsl.org.au

Secretary

Margot Harness
**32 Lenori Road
GOOSEBERRY HILL WA 6076**
Telephone: (H) 9293 1076
(M) 0438 936 405
Email:
margot.harness@highgate-rsl.org.au

Treasurer

Richard Adams
**PO Box 1013
SUBIACO WA 6904**
Telephone: 0411 737 723
Email: rpadams@westnet.com.au

Editor

Bob Arnold
**6 Currajong Road
DUNCRAIG WA 6023**
Telephone 9448 2757
Email: bob.arnold@highgate-rsl.org.au

Pensions Officer

Jim Eayrs
Telephone: 9341 2979

Website

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

MONTHLY LUNCHEON

Monday 16 May 2011

Venue:

Gallipoli Room

Time:

1130 hrs for 1215 hrs

Guest Speaker:

WgCdr Russell Page



In this 90th Anniversary year of the RAAF, we are honoured to be addressed by the current Commanding Officer of the Combat Support unit at RAAF Base, Pearce.

"Russ" joined the RAAF in 1985 and attended No 70 Navigator Course before graduating in 1987. He has had a varied career - Postings include Navcom duties on P-3C Orions (10Sqn), a UK posting (RAF GD Aerosystems course 1992/3), multiple courses and postings within Australia on various fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters, and further staff courses in the UK and US.. He has held his current post since Jan 2008.

IF ATTENDING THE MAY LUNCH AND ARE NOT ON THE 'PERMANENT LIST' PLEASE ADVISE BOB ARNOLD BY 12 MAY. (FROM THE JUNE LUNCH ONWARDS, YOU WILL NEED TO CONTACT MARGOT HARNESS: 9293 1076)

President's Report

In spite of the school holidays and extended Easter break, a crowd estimated at more than 40,000 gathered in Kings Park on ANZAC Day to silently remember the origins of the Dawn Service and the 102,000 Australian service personnel who over time have made the ultimate sacrifice. Ann Spiro our first female Sub Warden was amongst the 12 Highgate Sub Wardens on duty, all of whom would have risen extra early that day.

(Continued on page 2)

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Committee: 6 June 2011 Monthly Luncheon: 20 June 2011



(Continued from page 1)

Congratulations Ann. I thank all of the Sub Wardens sincerely for their dedication and role they take in ensuring that the Dawn Service runs smoothly, something quite difficult to achieve when much is carried out in darkness and half light. Over the Easter weekend 60 young Mormon missionaries assisted Carine Senior High School students in cleaning the 1471 Honour Avenue plaques in preparation for the Australian flag and a flower that the students placed by each plaque on ANZAC Day eve.

JVP Peter Farrell did an excellent job organising the Gun Fire Breakfast which was attended by 70 members and guests. The Acting US Consul General Neal Vermillion gave a short address in place of US Consul General Aleisha Woodward who had to suddenly return to the USA.

Peter is now planning the OBE Luncheon in July. As proceeds of the raffles are put aside to provide for the occasional extra at our Luncheons, you can expect to enjoy both birthday cake and port this year. Peter has now taken over the Luncheon Guest Speaker Programme; if you hear a suitable speaker please let him know.

I'm sure that members are well aware of the pressure currently being exerted on RSL State Branch to change the longstanding protocol that permits only the names of servicemen and women who were born or enlisted in WA to be inscribed on the State War Memorial; this is done when a conflict has come to an end. If they do not meet the criteria, members of units based in Western Australia such as SASR and Submarine Fleet and Air Force Aircrew, have no entitlement should they be fatally injured in the line of duty. As the matter is to be an Agenda item at State Congress on 26 November I urge you to give some thought to this important issue. Hopefully you will be well informed when it is time to give your Sub-Branch Delegates direction as to how to vote. Whatever decision is made some people are sure to be disappointed.

Have you taken the time to look at the Highgate website lately? John Cleary continues to do an excellent job making the website more interesting. One of the next jobs will be updating the Hall of Honour with deceased members being identified by an asterisk. It has also been decided that widows will have the option of receiving the newsletter in their own name for 12 months following the death of a spouse, and will then be invited to apply for affiliate membership.

The financial year is fast disappearing and as previously notified the AGM will be held in September. In due course nominations will be called for the elected positions. I will be stepping down but hopefully the SVP and JVP will both move up a notch which means Highgate will be looking for a JVP. Time to start thinking – is that for me?? Some of the other changes that will keep the Committee fresh, are already happening.

It is so good when a hand shoots up and a voice says 'I'll give it a go'. Our wonderful Secretary Margot decided to have a change and at the moment is developing a new set of skills by answering the call for a Newsletter Editor. Longtime Editor Bob Arnold is in the process of handing over. Jim Eayrs kindly offered to take on the position of Secretary when he returns from Europe. Phillip Skelton will be retiring from his duties as Deputy Warden of the State War Memorial as he prepares to take on the role of District Governor with Rotary. Geoff Simpson has joined the Sub-Wardens and I am extremely pleased to report that the Honour Avenues Group has four new members. Bless them each and every one, for their willingness.

Currently **our most pressing need** is to fill the vacant position of Membership Officer. We are also looking for a Hospital Visitor to give Ken Bladen a well deserved break and for a Pensions Officer to take over from Jim. If you are interested in becoming more involved with Highgate please, please give some thought to one of these positions and let me know ASAP.

Finally a very big thank-you to John Thornton who donated 50 tickets for Highgate members to attend a performance of *The John Denver Story* at the Regal Theatre on 3 May. As there was no time for snail mail, only members who could be contacted by email were notified.

Hope to catch you at the May meeting. Why not pick up the phone and book in now?

Yours in Fellowship
Martyn

A "Pun can be Fun" Corner

Evidence has been found that William Tell and his family were avid bowlers. Unfortunately, all the Swiss league records were destroyed in a fire ... and so we'll never know for whom the Tells bowled.



SUB WARDENS DUTIES

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

Monday	9 May 2011	- 1030 for 1100 hrs	- Australian American Association (Battle for the Coral Sea)
Sunday	15 May 2011	- 1200 for 1230 hrs	- Consulate of Greece (Battle for Crete and mainland Greece)
Tuesday	24 May 2011	- 1100 for 1130 hrs	- RSL Women's Auxiliaries of WA State Conference
Monday	30 May 2011	- 1020 for 1050 hrs	- North American Veterans' Unit (USA Memorial Day)
Wednesday	1 June 2011	- 0915 for 0945 hrs	- Commemorating Indigenous War Graves Committee



Has he been taking dancing lessons? Only he really knows. Do you recognise the smiling face? To identify the Mystery Man, see page 4

Bletchley Park

Is an estate located in the town of Bletchley in [Buckinghamshire, England](#). During [World War II](#), Bletchley Park was the site of the [United Kingdom's](#) main [decryption](#) establishment, the [Government Code and Cypher School \(GC&CS\)](#) where ciphers and codes of several [Axis](#) countries were decrypted, most importantly the ciphers generated by the German [Enigma](#) and [Lorenz](#) machines. It also housed *Station X*, a secret radio intercept station.

The high-level intelligence produced at Bletchley Park, codenamed [Ultra](#), provided crucial assistance to the Allied war effort. Sir [Harry Hinsley](#), a Bletchley veteran and the official historian of British Intelligence in World War II, has said that Ultra shortened the war "by not less than two years and probably by four years"; moreover, in the absence of Ultra, it is uncertain how the war would have ended.

As well as the National Codes Centre, Bletchley Park houses the [National Museum of Computing](#). It is run by the Bletchley Park Trust and is open to the public. The main manor house is also available for functions and is licensed for ceremonies. Part of the fees for hiring the facilities go to the Trust to maintain the museum. Since 1967, Bletchley has been part of [Milton Keynes](#).

???.. Laurence Connolly, one of our members, spent World War 2 at Bletchley Park UK. He wants to know if any other members of Highgate RSL also served at Bletchley Park and if so he would welcome a call from them

You may recall that in the last issue we featured an item relating to the Premier's Students ANZAC Tour for 2011. Robyn Cleaver, Principle Consultant at the Department of Education, has advised that applications are now open for the next tour. Organisers have asked us to give this competition some coverage and spread the word. Applications open each ANZAC Day - with winners announced on Remembrance Day - 11th November, annually. If you know of any youngster who might like to compete for this unique chance - go to www.det.wa.edu.au/anzac and the relevant web page will open.

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

If so please contact me personally on 9244 8072

Ken Bladen



**WA AGED RETURNED
SAILORS, SOLDIERS & AIRMEN'S
RELIEF TRUST FUND**

**Ready to Assist
Veterans and Dependents in
Need or Necessitous
Circumstances**

**Apply: Welfare Officer
(08) 9287 3707**

WELFARE ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

Members need to be aware of the existence of the **WA Aged Sailors', Soldiers' and Airmen's Relief Trust Fund**. It is administered by the RSL Welfare Officer at ANZAC House, to help **ANY** returned, former or current ADF serviceperson suffering financial hardship.

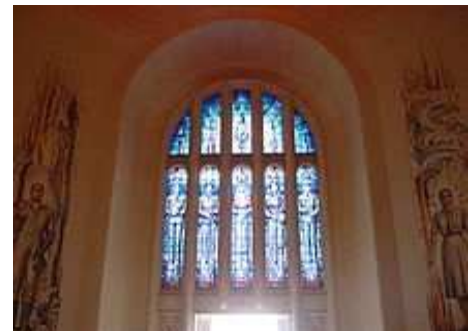
HOME of Australia's Unknown Soldier

The heart of the commemorative area of Canberra's Australian War Memorial is the *Hall of Memory*, a tall domed chapel with a small [floor plan](#) in the form of an octagon. The walls are lined with tiny [mosaic](#) tiles from the floor to the dome. Inside lies the [Tomb of the Unknown Australian Soldier](#).

Three of the walls, facing east, west, and south, feature [stained glass](#) designs representing qualities of Australian servicemen and women. At the four walls facing north-east, north-west, south-east, and south-west are mosaic images of a Sailor, a Servicewoman, a Soldier and an Airman, respectively.

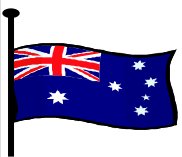
The mosaic and stained glass were the work of the one-armed Australian muralist [Napier Waller](#), who had lost his right arm at Bullecourt during WWI and learned to write and create his works with his left arm. He completed his work in 1958.

For more info: www.awm.gov.au



Our Mystery Man?? It's our Honorary Auditor:
Jim "Twinkle Toes" Boot

LAST POST



Dr David Bennet Ron Bate

Lest We Forget



**THIS NEWSLETTER IS PRINTED AS A SERVICE TO THE VETERAN COMMUNITY
BY THE OFFICE OF STEPHEN SMITH
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR PERTH**

The continuing support of Hollywood Private Hospital and their generous assistance to RSL Highgate Sub-Branch is greatly appreciated.

HOLLYWOOD

PRIVATE HOSPITAL