

Highgate Highlights

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

From our President

e normally begin the Highgate year in February but this year, our first meeting was held on 22 January, due to the long list of interesting guest speakers we have for 2018.

Because the State Minister for Veterans Issues is available as our guest speaker in February, John Adeney kindly agreed to bring his talk on West Australia Hill forward a month. Having a January meeting was most successful and we will consider repeating it in future years.

That success, of course, was due to the interest generated by John's topic. The part played in the Boer War by the West Australian Mounted Rifles is little known in the general community and John's well-researched talk gave us a fascinating insight. John has made one archeological visit to West Australia Hill, in South Africa with his colleagues and has planned a further expedition. Hopefully, we can prevail on John to publish a report of his second expedition in Highgate Highlights.

The 2018 year actually began last December for the Highgate Committee, when we met to determine what projects (continued on page 2)

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 20 February at The Western Australian Club

Important: Please book before COB on Wednesday 14 February

The Western Australian Club is located in the Grosvenor Building at 12 St Georges Terrace, directly opposite the byway between Perth Concert Hall and Duxton Hotel. Enter through the revolving door and use only the far right-hand lift to Level 11.

Monthly luncheon bookings

Our monthly luncheon meetings are \$30 per person and held at the Western Australian Club on the third Monday of each month. For catering reasons, your booking must be made no later than 1700 on the Wednesday prior to the luncheon, please. (Note: April luncheon is replaced by ANZAC Day Gunfire Breakfast from 0730 on 25 April; and November luncheon date is advised yearly for the Remembrance Day Luncheon at Fraser's Kings Park)

Booking methods

- **1. Via the Highgate website** at www.highgate-rsl.org.au. Click on *Click here to view our next luncheons details*. Then click on *Luncheon Details* and you'll be transferred to the booking sheet page. Electronic funds transfer details are on the spreadsheet.
- **3. Via Committee Member:** If you do not have internet access, please call Margot Harness on 9349 2847 or any Committee member (see list this page) and they will help you book in.

Important dates & events | please diarise now

- ° 1100 | Tue 20 Feb | Committee Meeting WA Club
- ° 1130 for 1215 | Tue 20 Feb | Monthly Luncheon
- 1100 | Mon 19 Mar | Committee Meeting WA Club
- ° 1130 for 1215 | Mon 19 Mar | Monthly Luncheon

Last Post | Lest We Forget

We remember with deep sadness and affection our departed Member

Brian Cooper OAM JP

and convey sincere condolences and sympathy to his family and friends

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Peter Garside & Jack Suriano



From our President

(continued from page 1)

to pursue to commemorate the Centenary of Armistice. For such an important commemorative year, we intend to undertake something special that will benefit the wider community.

In that regard, I am happy to report that we are now awaiting news on the success, or otherwise, of two Commonwealth Government grant applications. Depending on funding approval, we intend to undertake a Virtual Memorial Project and a Remembrance Walk Project.

The Virtual Memorial Project will provide public access to information about those named on Western Australia's war memorials. Much of the research on those named on the State War Memorial has already been carried out by our member, lan Petkoff, and the project will begin by placing that information onto the Highgate website.

In addition to biographical details, there will be listings of places of association. This will reflect the distribution of population and include details such as aircrew or other sub-unit associations.

The work will progressively expand to include the names on every war memorial in the State.

The Remembrance Walk Project will create a computer application providing information on Australia's wartime heritage that is commemorated by the 29 war memorials in Kings Park. That project will provide access to information for an annual audience of over six million visitors to Kings Park.

Both projects will be significant from both a State and national perspective, with links to the Australian War Memorial and Unit Associations. Both projects are supported by the Botanical Gardens and Parks Authority, the State Minister for Veterans Issues and the Federal Member of Parliament for Perth.

If we are successful with our grant applications, both projects will be launched at our Remembrance Day Luncheon on Sunday 11 November, 100 years after the guns fell silent on the Western Front.

Our membership continues to grow and I had the pleasure of welcoming John Maltas to Highgate in January. I look forward to doing the same for other new members this month.

Sadly, we have also lost some members and relatives since our last edition. As always, we honour them in this newsletter and we will remember them.

On a much less sombre note, it is a great pleasure to congratulate Allan Downs, on behalf of the whole Sub-Branch, for being recognised in the Australia Day Honours List. His award in the Order of Australia is a fitting tribute for his community work.

The Hon Peter Tinley AM MLA, State Minister for Veterans Issues, will be our guest on Tuesday 20 February.

Please note we are meeting on a Tuesday this month (due to our guest's Cabinet commitment on Mondays) so please book early. It will be an interesting speech and I am predicting a sell-out crowd.

With best wishes - Geoff Hourn

Members honoured with Australia Day 2018 Awards

Congratulations to our member, Allan Downs for his award of the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for his significant community service. Allan is a Sub Warden of the State War



Allan Downs OAM

Memorial and a valued member of the Highgate RSL Sub-Branch.

Allan's services to the community include as a Member of the Association of Financial Advisers (1971-2009) and as a Member of the Rotary Club of Melville (1973-1988).



We also congratulate **Philip Orchard**, a current State Trustee and former CEO of RSLWA, who is now a Member of the Order of Australia (AM), for his service to veterans and their families.

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

SUNSET SERVICES AT SWM PRIOR TO ANZAC DAY

RSLWA and our Sub Wardens will again host special Sunset Services at the State War Memorial in Kings Park in the late afternoon of 22, 23 and 24 April in the lead-up to ANZAC Day.

Each service will reflect on one of the three Australian Defence Force Services, commemorating significant conflicts over the past 100 years.

In particular, Navy will focus on the Battle of the Atlantic, Army will commemorate the battles of Villers-Bretonneux, and Air Force will focus on Australia's air campaign during the Vietnam War.

The Sunset Services will allow those unable to attend the ANZAC Day Dawn Service to pay their respects and remember those who served Australia with courage and dignity.

ANZAC DAY SERVICE New venue Ticketed event

This year, the ANZAC Day Commemorative Service will be held in the Perth Concert Hall, providing a moving service in comfort, plus tea and coffee before the event and bar facilities afterwards.

"The Commemorative Service will be a ticketed event with RSLWA members and their families (along with members of other Ex-Service Organisations) having first option to secure tickets," said RSLWA Events Coordinator, Wendy Moss.

More information on ticketing will be available soon, but organisations are encouraged to start considering member requirements. It is expected that a formal call for expressions of interest will occur late in February, and tickets will be issued on a first come/first served basis.

The Commemorative Service will follow the traditional Kings Park Dawn Service, public Gunfire Breakfast in the grounds of Government House, and the formal Perth ANZAC Day March.

Of course, Highgate RSL will also be holding its traditional Gunfire Breakfast from 0730 on ANZAC Day in the Western Australian Club.

Sub Warden Duties 12018

POC: Geoff Simpson OAM RFD Wreath Laying Services | State War Memorial Kings Park | Deputy Warden State War Memorial

Sun 25 Mar Consulate of Greece (to be confirmed) 1145 for 1215



2018 Commemorations

25 Apr	Dawn Service	ANZAC Commemorative Site, Gallipoli, Turkey
25 Apr	Dawn Service—100th Anniversary of Battle of Villers- Bretonneux, Official opening of the Sir John Monash Centre, and Digger Memorial Service	Australian National Memorial, Villers-Bretonneux (am); and Digger Memorial, Bullecort (pm), France
25 Apr	Dawn Service	Isurava memorial, Kokoda Track, Papua New Guinea
01 May	75th Anniversary of Battle of the Atlantic	Royal Australian Navy Memorial, ANZAC Parade, Canberra
13 May	50th Anniversary of Battles at Fire Support Bases Coral and Balmoral, Vietnam	Australian Vietnam Forces National Memorial, ANZAC Parade, Canberra
04 Jul	100th Anniversary of Battle of Le Hamel	Australian Corps Memorial, Le Hamel, France
27 Jul	65th Anniversary of Korean War Armistice	Australian Ex-Prisoners of War Memorial, Ballarat
16 Oct	75th Anniversary of Australian work on Hell Fire Pass and completion of Thai Burma Railway	Australian Ex-Prisoners of War Memorial, Ballarat
11 Nov	100th Anniversary of First World War Armistice (possible joint service with New Zealand)	Australian National Memorial, Villers- Bretonneux, France



Australian Army Museum of WA presents

A Sunset Concert Spectacular

From 1730 on Sunday 25 Feb 18 at the Artillery Barracks | Burt Street | Fremantle

Featuring

- o Australian Army Band Perth
- o Royal Australian Navy Band WA
- o Massed Pipes and Drums of Australian Army Band Perth
- o 51 Army Cadet Unit Swan Regiment Drums and Pipes
- o Presbyterian Ladies' College Pipe Band

Seating provided

BYO alcohol and food - Plastic glasses only Soft drinks, icecream and coffee available for purchase

Tickets available through www.trybooking.com Adults \$25 | Family (2+2) \$60 | Concession and groups of 10+ \$20 | Under 18 \$15 (booking fees apply)

Ticket includes free museum visit prior to the concert

More information at www.armymuseumwa.com.au or 9430 2535

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Greetings to our Members celebrating their birthday in February, including:

Mick Coyle, Lenore Fairfield, David Grace, William Jamieson, John (Jan) Klein, Bert Lane, Owen Charles Page, Don Rae, Ruth Shean, Errol Smith, Edward White and Kevin Whiting.

Parachute malfunctions

At the Australian Army Parachute Training School in Nowra NSW (whose motto is Knowledge Dispels Fear). the topic was what to do if your parachute malfunctions. It had just got to the part about reserve parachutes when a student raised his hand. "If the main parachute malfunctions," he asked the instructor, "How long do we have to deploy the reserve?" Looking the soldier square in the face, the instructor replied, "The rest of your life."



Our February Guest Speaker I **Peter Tinley AM MLA**———— WA Minister for Veterans Issues ———

We will be welcoming Hon Peter Tinley MLA, WA Minister for Veterans Issues, as guest speaker at our luncheon on Tue 20 Feb (not Monday 19, as Cabinet meets Mon). Reflecting on a stellar career in the SAS, this will be a luncheon talk not to be missed.

Peter Tinley enlisted as a soldier in 1980, and in 1990 graduated first in class and Queens Medallist from the Royal Military College Duntroon. He holds a Bachelor



degree in Professional Studies (Management) from the University of New England and a Master of Arts in Defence Studies from Canberra University.

Peter served 17 of his 25 years in the Army with the Special Air Service Regiment, holding appointments from Trooper to Chief Operations Officer; and commanded at every level from a patrol of six to a SAS Sabre Squadron.

He was the first SAS member ever to advance from Trooper to Squadron Commander of a Sabre Squadron.

During this time, Peter participated and commanded an extensive number of operations globally, culminating in his final appointment as the SAS Chief Operations Officer 2001-04.

This was an unprecedented high intensity period for the SAS, ranging from peace and security operations on Bougainville PNG to high-intensity conventional warfare in Iran

As principal planner, he developed and executed plans for operations worldwide, including East Timor, Christmas Island (Tampa), Afghanistan and Iraq. He was also lead tactical planner for Australia's Special Forces contribution to the Afghanistan and Iraq campaigns. In these later operations, he was appointed Deputy Commander of the Joint Special Forces Task Group.

In executing these plans, Peter Tinley amassed a range of unique experiences in planning and managing dynamic high-risk crosscultural environments to achieve national objectives. His principal skills are in strategy and leadership.

Other operational experiences include secondments to the United Nations Truce Supervision Organisation (UNTSO) in the Middle East, where he saw tours of duty in Southern Lebanon and on the Syrian side of the Golan Heights; and two operations in Bougainville.

In 2003, Peter's service was recognised with his appointment as a Member of the Order of Australia (AM), specifically for: 'exceptional performance of duty, particularly in the development of outstanding mission concepts and operational plans in warlike operations'.

On leaving the SAS, Peter developed a practical leadership and team building consultancy; and also established a small manufacturing business producing WA limestone building products.

Following the sale of these businesses in 2007, Peter set up a mine camp operations business servicing the Pilbara resource sector; and two years later, created an investment management business to acquire and develop tourism and resource sector accommodation and services assets in the North West and Kimberley.

In 2009, Peter Tinley stepped down from his business interests, and became Member for Willagee in Feb 2010. During 2012, he was WA Labor's Shadow Minister for Planning, Housing, and Local Jobs.

After re-election in 2013, Peter became President of the State Labor Caucus and in 2014 was elected President of WA Labor.

The following year, he was appointed Shadow Minister for Asian Engagement, Trade, Science and Lands.

Following Labor's win in the last State Election, Peter Tinley was sworn in as Minister for Housing; Veterans Issues; and Youth on 22 March 2017.

He is married with four children.

Brian Burke MLAOur March Guest Speaker

Born in Perth in 1947, Brian Burke was educated at Brigidine Convent, Wembley and Marist Brothers Subiaco, before studying



law and economics at the University of Western Australia.

Prior to politics, Brian began his career as an assistant proofreader at The West Australian newspaper before undertaking a cadetship and then working as a journalist at Radio 6PM and TVW Channel 7.

He was a member of the Australian Labor Party from 1963 to 2006, and during this period held many senior positions at State and national level.

His father, Tom, was a Federal politician so it was continuing a family tradition when Brian was elected Member of the WA Legislative Assembly for Balcatta (later Balga) on 28 Jul 73.

He served as Leader of the Opposition 1981–1983; and aged 36, became WA's third-youngest Premier from 1983 to 1988

After retiring from politics in 1988, Brian was appointed Australian Ambassador to the Republic of Ireland and the Holy See (Vatican).

Following his ambassadorship, he consulted on projects in Russia, China and Ireland, and for various trade unions. After 1997, he became an active lobbyist and consultant for WA business interests.

Brian has written his autobiography, aptly named *A Tumultuous Life* in which he tells his side of the story.

"My story will open some wounds; hopefully it will heal others," says Brian. "I have written it with honesty and candour, and I will be ever grateful to the people of WA for their support and their trust. That so many believed I breached that trust is a burden I will always carry."



Kevin's great book-sharing idea

Member Kevin Graham has military books he is willing to lend to other members for their enjoyment and interest.

"There's no cost - just take care of them," said Kevin. "If interested, call me on 9389 1406 and I can bring them to our luncheon for you to borrow."

Kevin's books available for loan include:

Monash | The Soldier Who Shaped Australia By Grantlee Kieza | Published 2015

On Radji Beach | By Ian W Shaw | Published 2010 The Banka Island massacre of Australian Nurses

Monash and Chauvel | How Australia's Two Greatest Generals Changed the Course of World History By Roland Perry | Published 2017

Of course, if other members have books they would like to share as well, send titles (as per above) and your contact details to the Highgate Highlights editor at roger.buddrige@gmail.com and we'll be happy to publicise for everyone's benefit.

However, please note that any loan arrangements made are exclusively between lender and borrower.

RSLWA looking for media talent

Prior to ANZAC Day, RSLWA is often approached by media outlets interested in speaking with our members in both metropolitan and regional areas. This opportunity is fully supported, as sharing our stories is important for future generations.

It will be useful for RSLWA to have a list of members available to speak to print, radio or television media. This list will only be used around the ANZAC Day 2018 period. Your details will be kept on file knowing you are happy for them to be shared with representatives of the media as requests come through. If you would like to share your experiences, or you already speak to the media, please email Royston at *socialmedia@rslwa.org.au*

Welcome to NEW MEMBERS

Frank LeFaucheur has transferred to Highgate from North Beach. Frank is a National Service Officer Training Unit Scheyville graduate who recently retired as a surveyor. He was Barry Cooke's guest in January, is a friend of Fred Brown through Survey Corps, and also knows some of our other members.

Tony Howes was organiser and director/compere of Vietnam concerts/parties for Allied troops in Vietnam. His theatre and broadcasting career include His Majesty's Theatre, Capitol Theatre, Playhouse and Octagon Theatre. He worked as an actor in London's West End and became a presenter/producer with Channel 9, before moving to the ABC. Over 30 years ago, he established Midnite Youth Theatre Company, remaining as Artistic Director until 2010, when he became Drama Consultant for St George's Cathedral. Tony has a Theatre Guild (WA) Diploma and is a Knight Commander of the Order of St John of Jerusalem. Of particular interest to members will be that Tony is son of Albert Owen Howes (universally known as *The Major*) who was founding superintendent of the RSL War Veterans' Home in Mount Lawley.

Future Highgate Luncheon Speakers

President Geoff Hourn and Vice President John Cleary arrange most of our monthly guest speakers. We are grateful to them for the extraordinary quality and variety of our guests, all of whom inform - and sometimes amaze us.

February | WA Minister for Veterans Issues, Hon Peter Tinley AM MLA on Veterans issues in WA; plus how he planned/implemented the Australian Special Air Service Regiment operations in Iraq and Afghanistan while a member of the SAS. (This meeting will be on the third Tuesday 20 Feb as Cabinet meets on the Monday)

March | Brian Burke, Former Premier of WA Accompanied by wife, Sue, Brian will reflect on his time as Premier and also talk about his recent autobiography, *A Tumultuous Life*. He has agreed to donate 20% of any book sales to Highgate RSL.

Sympathy

We extend our deepest sympathy to Alex and Robyn Kerr on the loss of their Son/Brother, Andrew; and to Norm Manners on the loss of his Wife, Pauline.

About Highgate RSL Sub-Branch

Now in our 71st Year

Formed in 1947, Highgate RSL Sub-Branch has long had responsibility for managing commemorative activities at the State War Memorial, and our members also form the Honour Avenue Group that installs and maintains the commemorative tree plaques in Kings Park that memorialise West Australians who have fallen in service of their nation, but are not buried in WA.

As well as information specific to Highgate Sub-Branch, our newsletter also includes from time to time relevant items relating to State and national RSL administrations; projects and issues from the Department of Veteran Affairs; comment by the Minister for Veterans Affairs; articles on significant historical events and achievements; information from the Australian War Museum in Canberra; and of course, the obligatory humour moments to lighten things up a little.

We have enjoyable luncheons on the third Monday of each month with fascinating guest speakers. Until ANZAC House is rebuilt, we meet in the serene surroundings of the Western Australian Club, high above St Georges Terrace and opposite the Perth Concert Hall. Members of other RSL Sub-Branches are very welcome to join us for luncheon, and booking information is provided on the first page of this newsletter.

Newsletter contributions are always welcome Please send your material to the editor at roger.buddrige@gmail.com

Disclaimer Please note Highgate Highlights source material is edited to remove any 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.



Voyager and Melbourne collision remembered on 54th anniversary By David MacLean

Highgate Sub-Branch members were among those marking the 54th anniversary of the HMAS Voyager/HMAS Melbourne collision, in a moving service in Kings Park on 10 February.

The service was attended by survivors, next of kin of those lost, former ship's company, members of the greater Naval family and Unit and Kindred associations.

Led by Chaplain Colin Tett RAN, the address was given by Commander Tony Ashley RAN (representing Captain Brian Delamont RAN, OC HMAS Stirling), with the Last Post and Rouse rendered by AB (Musn) Josh Watson.

Hon Peter Tinley AM MLA, Minister for Veterans Issues, represented the State Government; while the Department of Veterans' Affairs was represented by Peter King, Deputy Commissioner WA.

An informal gathering followed the Service, and those assembled thanked our guests



Sub Wardens conduct their first 2018 commemoration at State War Memorial



ET SILENT CONTEMPLATION

Our State War Memorial Sub Wardens officiated at their first service for 2018, on behalf of the WRAAC Association of WA. commemorating the 67th anniversary of the formation of the Women's Royal Australian Army Corps.

Oversighted by WA President,

Judy Welch, more than 60 former Army ladies, from WA and interstate, honoured their comrades and service to the nation with prayers, remembrances and wreaths.

The keynote address was provided by SWM Warden, BRIG David Thompson AM. with

