



Highgate Highlights

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

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YOUR 2017-18 COMMITTEE

President

Geoff Hourn

0414 063 707 | ghourn@gmail.com

Senior Vice President

John Cleary | 0417 955 864

john.cleary@highgate-rsl.org.au

Junior Vice President & Editor

Roger Buddrige | 0408 900 126

roger.buddrige@gmail.com

Treasurer

Peter Farrell

0458 720 022 | 9246 1367

peter.farrell@highgate-rsl.org.au

Secretary

Greg Wilson

4 Florian Place Duncraig 6023

0412 095 201 | 9448 8213

greg.wilson@highgate-rsl.org.au

Warden & Immediate Past President

Steve Chamarette

0429 801 037 | 9242 1865

steve.chamarette@highgate-rsl.org.au

Pensions & Veterans Affairs

David MacLean

0418 917 982

davidmaclean@iinet.net.au

Deputy Warden State War Memorial

Geoff Simpson

0408 925 432 | 6380 1014

gsimpson001@optusnet.com.au

Membership Officer

Howard Montagu | 0417 956 621

howardmontagu@bigpond.com

Honours & Awards Sub-Committee

Bob Arnold | 0407 329 353

arnold353@bigpond.com

Kevin Graham | 0419 984 007

ktgraham@iinet.net.au

Hospitals & Welfare

Bruce Taylor | 0408 955 219

brucertaylor@yahoo.com.au

Honour Avenue Representative

& Poppy Day Organiser

Mike Harness

0419 091 708

mharness@iinet.net.au

Web Manager

Ian Petkoff | 9275 9295

thepetkoffs@hotmail.com

General Committee

Leon Griffiths

0439 033 399 | 9332 9039

leon@leongriffiths.com

Richard Adams

0411 737 723 | 9325 6387

richard.adams@highgate-rsl.org.au

Margot Harness

9349 2847

mharness@iinet.net.au

Front Desk

Peter Garside & Jack Suriano

From our President

A very happy new year to each of you. We ended 2017 in great style at our Christmas lunch and thank you to the talented entertainers who made it so enjoyable - David Grace, Peter Harries, Margot Harness and Don King. It was very classy and great fun.

2018 is shaping to be an interesting year for Highgate. Our first three guest speakers are sure to draw large attendances and may I therefore suggest you book early.

In January, we begin with the fascinating history of West Australia Hill, which was named to commemorate the strategic defence of that feature in South Africa by about 30 men from the 1st Western Australian Mounted Infantry against 300-400 Boers. Former senior CSIRO scientist and now archeologist, John Adeney, has visited the site and will describe what happened there on 09 February 1900.

In February, our guest speaker will be Hon Peter Tinley AM MLA BA MDefStud, the State Minister for Veterans. Peter will talk about the planning and conduct of Australian SAS operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

(continued on page 2)

Our next meeting is on Monday 22 January at The Western Australian Club

Important: Please book before COB on Wednesday 17 January

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.
2. **Go direct to the luncheon booking spreadsheet** by pasting this link into your internet browser: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1nxscFmBY7oiJtu17Xv9P_WKvR1El2qoSUCwK_7_8dg/edit#gid=0
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 | **Mon 22 Jan** | Committee Meeting - WA Club (*prev notified as 15th*)
- 1130 for 1215 | **Mon 22 Jan** | Monthly Luncheon (*prev notified as 15th*)
- 1100 | **Tue 20 Feb** | Committee Meeting - WA Club (**NOTE: This is a Tue**)
- 1130 for 1215 | **Tue 20 Feb** | Monthly Luncheon (**NOTE: This is a Tue**)

Last Post | Lest We Forget

We remember with deep sadness and affection our departed Members

John Dewar Deykin and Brian Gibson

and convey sincere condolences and sympathy to their families and friends





From our President

(continued from page 1)

And in March our guest speaker will be former Premier Brian Burke.

In other news, Highgate RSL is currently applying for two Government grants to undertake major projects to commemorate the Centenary of Armistice. The projects relate to war memorials, in both Kings Park and elsewhere in the State. Both projects will be entirely dependent on the applications being approved, but I look forward to sharing the proposals with you at our January lunch.

In December, I was invited to address the Korean Veterans Association in WA on their first anniversary of forming the Association. As much is happening on the Korean Peninsula at the moment, you may find what I said to be of interest. The speech is reproduced later in this newsletter.

And finally, but most importantly, could all members please be aware that if you are unable to get to our luncheon meetings due to age or disability, we will be very pleased to assist with the cost of your transport needs. So, please don't let disability or the passing of the years prevent you from enjoying fellowship with your comrades and friends. Committee Member, Margot Harness at mharness@iinet.net.au or 9349 2847 is your point of contact, and she will be delighted to assist.

With best wishes - Geoff Hourn

Missing Highgate newsletters The search is on

Thanks to committee member, Ian Petkoff, our Highgate RSL website now contains copies of most of our Highgate newsletters, and are very easy to find.

Just log on to highgate-rsl.org.au, click 'Newsletters', select the year and month of interest, and settle in for a nostalgic read.

But we're missing some issues

Can you help? Ian is missing the following newsletters: Feb 2010, Jun and Jul 2008, Feb, Apr and May 2004, Dec 2003; and all issues before then. If you have any of these, please let Ian know (or bring them to a monthly meeting) and he will then copy and return the issue to you.

The Boer War's West Australia Hill Conflict January Luncheon Speaker John Adeney



On 09 Feb 1900, during the Boer War in South Africa, a kopje now called West Australia Hill, was defended by about 30 West Australians against an estimated 300-400 Boers.

The Australians were from the 1st Western Australian Mounted Infantry and part of General Clements' blocking force, preventing the movement of the Boers southwards to the Cape Colony.

This relatively small conflict was a turning point of the Boer War in that the day-long battle prevented the Boer envelopment of the British forces operating on the border of Orange Free State and the Cape Colony.

The prelude, action and aftermath of this skirmish or battle will be described by our member, John Adeney, at our first 2018 luncheon meeting, on 22 Jan.

Highgate RSL contributed financially to a memorial to this battle, which was placed at the site in 2002.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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

Tom Arnautovic, Ken Ashman, Don Blair, Trevor Boag, Annette Buddrige, Kevin Campbell, Chris Chapple, Brian Cooper, Barry Eather, Barry Gravelle, Leon Griffiths, John Harper-Nelson, Jamie Holloway, Noel Monks, Annette Newell, John Spatcher, John Stephens, Phil Sumner, Frank Taylor and Rod Willox.

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

New Federal Veterans' Affairs Minister appointed

Michael McCormack, Nationals MP and Member for Riverina, has recently been appointed Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Defence Personnel.



He will also assist the Prime Minister in the final year of the ANZAC Centenary. In addition, he is Deputy Leader of the House.

Mr McCormack was Assistant Defence Minister prior to the 2016 Federal election, when he was given the small business portfolio.

His return to the Defence sector also brings with it a departmental responsibility.

Before politics, he was a journalist and editor, and is proud of the significant part he played in helping save Wagga Wagga's RAAF base from closure in 1997 - not only retaining the base but expanding its role.

Former Veterans' Affairs Minister, Dan Tehan, is now Minister for Social Services.

Bust of Sir John Monash bound for France

A bust of Sir John Monash will be permanently displayed in the Sir John Monash Centre, which opens in France in April 2018.

The bust was commissioned by the Honorary Consul to Monaco, Andrew Cannon AM to honour his Grandfather, Robert Henry Cannon, who served in France during the First World War.

General Sir John Monash led the Australian Corps with outstanding success on the Western Front in 1918, including the famous victory at Le Hamel on 04 Jul. Monash was loved and admired by many, and honoured with numerous awards and decorations in recognition of his leadership skills and successes on the battlefield.

More information on the Sir John Monash Centre at www.sjmc.gov.au

Sub Warden Duties | 2018**Wreath Laying Services | State War Memorial Kings Park**POC: Geoff Simpson OAM RFD
Deputy Warden State War Memorial**Sun 11 Feb** 1030 for 1100 Women's Australia Army Corps Association (WA)

No Sub Warden Duties are scheduled for January

2018 Commemorations

10 Jan	25th Anniversary of arrival of 1RAR Task Group in Somalia	Australian War Memorial Canberra
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, Bullecourt (pm), France
25 Apr	Dawn Service	Isurava memorial, Kokoda Track, Papua New Guinea
01 May	75h 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 Koren 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 (<i>possible joint service with New Zealand</i>)	Australian National Memorial, Villers-Bretonneux, France

Speech to Korean Veterans Association | Highgate RSL President Geoff Hourn | 20 Dec

It is a privilege to be with you here today on the first anniversary of the foundation of the Korean Veterans Association in WA.

Just one year ago, my predecessor,

Steve Chamarette, who was then the President of Highgate RSL Sub-Branch, stood before you for the foundation ceremony that began your Association.

Much has changed in the world since then, and particularly on the Korean Peninsula. Australians and citizens of the Republic of Korea have much common-interest in what happens on the Peninsula. To Koreans, it is the homeland; and to Australians, it is the home of friends.

But there is also another reason for Australia's interest, and that is because Australia is a signatory to the Korean Armistice Agreement, signed on 27 Jul 1953. The Armistice Agreement was designed to, and I quote, *'insure a complete cessation of hostilities and of all acts of armed force in Korea until a final peaceful settlement is achieved'*.

North Korea announced at least six times (1994, 1996, 2003, 2006, 2009, and 2013) that it will no longer abide by the Armistice. Given this fact, it is quite an achievement that the Armistice Agreement has lasted for 65 years.

What is interesting is that it was not

a peace agreement – only an armistice. If that armistice is ever broken and hostilities resume, Australia is committed to take whatever action is required, in conjunction with the Republic of Korea and our allies, to restore peace. In other words, if there is war on the Korean Peninsula, Australia is already committed alongside the Republic of Korea to restoring peace.

Our opponent, of course, would be North Korea – a nation that has the largest paramilitary organisation on earth. About 25% of the population of North Korea makes up that country's military - a total of about 5,889,000 personnel.

Continued next page





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

We are pleased that Hon Peter Tinley MLA, WA Minister for Veterans Issues, will be our guest speaker at our luncheon on Tue 20 Feb (not Monday 19, as Cabinet meets Mon). With 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 Iraq.

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 cross-cultural 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.



Korean Veterans Association speech **By Geoff Hourn (continued)**

The Republic of Korea, on the other hand, has about 3,725,000 personnel in its armed forces; made up of an active military of 625,000 and about 3.1 million reservists.

Given those numbers, as well as the continued compulsory conscription for all males in the Republic, the membership of the Korean Veterans Association in WA will no doubt increase in the coming years.

Although our armed forces began 50 years apart, yours in 1948 and Australia's in 1900, we have much in common. We share a history where both countries bitterly fought against Japan and where Japan is now allied with both countries. Both our countries are also inextricably allied with the United States.

The military forces of Australia and the Republic of Korea have fought together, side by side, during the Korean War and during the war in Vietnam. We continue to have military exercises together, particularly with the RIMPAC exercises, and we operate much common equipment and have similar war-fighting doctrine.

Both our militaries have responsibility for maintaining sovereignty and territorial integrity, and both engage in national and international humanitarian and disaster relief efforts when required. Both militaries are among the world's most professional and most capable.

Both our countries have progressive economies, with the Republic of Korea being the 11th economic power in the world, in terms of GDP.

What we have most in common, however, is our freedom - and maintaining that freedom is always our greatest priority.

I congratulate the Korean Veterans Association in WA on its first birthday, and I thank our mutual colleague, Sunnynl Kim, for interpreting for us today.

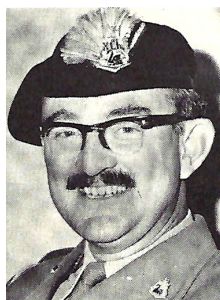


Vale | 10 Light Horse Members

Highgate RSL conveys condolences to members of 10th Light Horse who recently lost two former leaders within a week of each other, both of whom were also Highgate RSL members

Lieutenant Colonel John Deykin RFD ED

After National Service training in 1953, John Deykin was posted to HQ Squadron of 10th Western Australian Mounted Infantry in the Royal Australian Armoured Corps, CMF (redesignated as 10th Light Horse in 1956), initially as a transport driver, and later becoming Intelligence Sergeant.



Commissioned in 10th Light Horse in 1958, he was later promoted Captain, then Major with commands of B and C Squadrons. While in London 1966-68, he obtained secondment to the Royal Armoured Corps, (Kent and County of London Yeomanry), becoming OC of their HQ Squadron. In 1966, he exercised with 10th Royal Hussars (Prince of Wales's Own) in Germany, a regiment allied with 10th Light Horse. He returned as 2IC to 10th Light Horse in 1970, and in 1971 went to Vietnam as part of a CMF Officer Observer group. Promoted Lieutenant Colonel in 1973, he became Commanding Officer of the regiment until 1975, when appointed Colonel Commandant of the Australian Cadet Corps in WA for two years. John Deykin also served with the Army Museum as Secretary from 1978 into the 1990s; and was appointed Chairman of the new Army Museum Board of Foundation at its first meeting in 1998 remaining until 2004, during which time he also helped secure its home at Artillery Barracks. He was awarded life membership in 2007, and was also a life member of the Royal Australian Armoured Corps Association, President of the 10th Light Horse Association and a Highgate RSL Member. He passed away on 28 Dec 2017, aged 84.

Major Brian Gibson RFD ED



A former Officer Commanding of A Squadron 10th Light Horse, Brian enlisted in the Citizen Military Forces via the National Service Scheme in 1955. He served in 10th Light Horse Regiment as soldier and NCO, and was commissioned Lieutenant in B Squadron in 1961 before promotion to Captain in 1967 and Major in 1974. Brian went on to command the

Unit in 1981-82. He retired from the Army Reserve in 1984, was a long term Highgate RSL Member, and passed away on 01 Jan 2018, aged 81.

NEW MEMBER | John Maltas

We welcome new member Dr John Maltas. John served for 23 years in the Territorial Army of Rhodesia, including with the Royal Rhodesia Regiment, Rhodesian Armoured Car Regiment, Selous Scouts, and Rhodesian African Rifles, retiring in 1980 as Major.

His military decorations include RhodGSM; RhodNSM; TFLSM; RhodIM; ZimIM; RhodANZACM; SPFM; CWSM; QEDJM; with academic achievements including PhD (Corp Law); MCom(Bus Law); PGradDip(Dist)(Bus).

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.

January 2018 | Captain John Adeney RFD

Respected CSIRO researcher and now an archaeologist, speaking on the WA soldiers' Boer War battle at West Australia Hill in South Africa

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 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.

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, 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

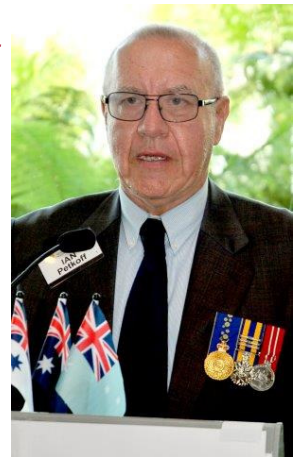
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roger.buddrige@gmail.com

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Completing our State War Memorial

Ian Petkoff, Highgate Sub-Branch member and former Base Commander at RAAF Pearce, has conducted considerable research into quantifying the lives of Australian service members whose names are recorded in remembrance on the walls of our State War Memorial. Here is the second and final part of Ian's talk at Highgate Sub-Branch's 2017 Annual Remembrance Day Memorial Luncheon.



I bring to your attention two noteworthy members. The first is Lieutenant Alaric Pinder Boor. He was born in Perth on 18 Oct 1892 and was the 1913 WA Rhodes Scholar. He enlisted in the Royal Flying Corps and posted to 113 Squadron Royal Flying Corps in Egypt. At 0830 hours on 31 Oct, Lieutenant Boor as pilot took off, along with Lieutenant John Herman Muller RFC as observer, in an RE8 aircraft on a reconnaissance mission over the Beersheba area. Their task was to report on the defensive and offensive capacities of the Germans and Turks. The reports made by Muller were written on note-paper, wrapped around a stone and dropped over the British HQ.

Unlike the Western Front, there were very few aircraft employed by both sides and Boor's aircraft was at best, just one of a handful over the battlefield that day. With over 4,000 small arms-equipped enemy soldiers firing at them as they flew overhead at between two and 5,000 feet, the inevitable happened. The aircraft was reported to have 'fallen out of control' and then crashed, killing Lieutenant Muller and fatally injuring Lieutenant Boor, who died later that day. Lieutenant Boor is recorded on the Australian War Memorial Commemorative Roll but is not listed on our State Memorial. However, Old Aquinians would recognise Pinder Boor House.

The second Member I bring to your attention is Captain Gavin Alexander Porter, the first Australian killed in air combat. He was the son of Alexander and Hannah Porter of Kalgoorlie, and joined the British Army, serving with 13 Squadron, Royal Flying Corps.

While escorting a photographic reconnaissance aircraft on 05 Dec 1914 in B.E.2c aircraft 4092, he and Air Mechanic First Class Harry Josiah Kirkbride RFC as gunner, were shot down near Bapaume, France. He was 24 years old and is recorded on the State Memorial under Other Corps and on the Old

Guildfordians Memorial at Guildford Grammar School.

This Memorial also lists the 1915 WA Rhodes Scholar, 21 year-old Second Lieutenant Harold Ernest Whiteman, who was killed in an aircraft accident in 1916, while under training in England.

I propose that consideration be given to completing the State War Memorial with the addition of the casualties from the War in South Africa.

Originally constructed for Great War remembrance, the Second World War and subsequent conflicts have been added, so I contend it is not unreasonable to also add the South African War casualties to complete the listings on our State War Memorial.

I propose that consideration be given to completing the State War Memorial with the addition of the casualties from the War in South Africa.

There are 40 casualties from that conflict who could easily be added to any of several relatively empty panels in the undercroft. The list of names is readily available and has been so since 1911 when the newly formed Department of Defence published a comprehensive 607-page report of the war to include nominal rolls and casualty lists.

The State War Memorial serves a vital function by reminding our community of the cost of war and the price of freedom. The addition of names - which has occurred only here and in South Australia - adds personal meaning for the families of those affected, as in many instances, the State Memorial is likely to be the only reasonably accessible location where their loved ones' names are recorded. This would have been particularly pertinent in earlier times, as the Australian

War Memorial in Canberra was not completed until 1940, coupled with the knowledge

that the vast majority of those listed are buried overseas or have no known graves, and those with no known graves are generally also listed on overseas memorials.

The Western Australian State War Memorial was dedicated in 1929 and contains the names of Great War casualties (fatalities) engraved on marble tablets in the undercroft, and was purposed to include all who enlisted from the State. World War II casualties were added in 1955

with the fixing of brass plaques to the eastern wall of the undercroft. Subsequently, casualties from post World War II conflicts have been added to

those marble tablets.

Both the marble tablets and the brass plaques show only the names and initials of the casualties. The more recent public availability of information through the websites of the Australian War Memorial, the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, the National Archives of Australia, the Department of Veterans' Affairs' World War II Nominal Roll, and the Western Australian Attorney-General's Department Register of Births, Deaths and Marriages, enables members on the State Memorial to be identified with more detail.





WA Club extends attendance privileges to RSL Service members

Members may be aware there is now a reciprocal arrangement between the Western Australian Club and RSLWA whereby WAC members are able to use beverage and dining facilities at RSL Sub-Branche throughout the State; and RSLWA Service members (not Affiliates or Associates) can dine and socialise at the WA Club.

RSL WA Service Members are now able to also attend Club events of their choosing, such as specialist speakers on a wide range of topics, professional luncheons and sundowners, and other general events in the WA Club premises.

The WA Club's preliminary calendar is provided below, and for more information, please contact the Club on 9481 7000 or events@wclub.com.au

JANUARY

26 | 1800-2100+ **Australia Day** | \$90 including canapes, drinks, quiz, Skyshow fireworks
29 | **Monday Lunch @ The Club** | Samuel Coote: Overview of the Shipping Industry

FEBRUARY

02 | **Authorship** | Publish your book for profit or legacy. Step-by-step write and publish workshop
06 | **Special Women in Leadership Lunch @ The Club** | Karyn Lisignoli
09 | **Exceptional Presenter** | Signature Presentation Skills Master Class
12 | **Monday Lunch @ The Club** | HumanResources Lawyer Brendan Taylor
22 | **Special Women in Leadership Lunch @ The Club** | Cindy Kennedy
23 | **Chinese New Year Dinner @ The Club**
26 | **Monday Lunch @ The Club** | Sharron Attwood (Brand Etiquette)

MARCH

12 | **Monday Lunch @ The Club** | Fatherhood and resilience with Darrell Brown
15 | **A Trip Through The Great Southern** | A Special Masterclass with Joanne Bradbury
16 | **St Patrick's Day Drinks**
19 | **Monday Lunch @ The Club** | Daryl Bruce

APRIL

09 | **Monday Lunch @ The Club** | Cultural Intelligence with Tanya Finnie
19 | **Thompson Estate Wine Masterclass**
23 | **Monday Lunch @ The Club** | ANZAC Day Special with RSLWA CEO John McCourt
25 | **ANZAC Day Gunfire Breakfast** | 0730 | Hosted by Highgate RSL Sub-Branch

MAY

07 | **Monday Lunch @ The Club** | Wildfire Social Marketing with Jo Saunders
10 | **Gibson Wines Masterclass**
28 | **Monday Lunch @ The Club** | 'Please don't write compelling copy' with Sherene Strahan

Return to Coral and Balmoral 50th Anniversary 12 Day Tour | 09-20 Aug 18

The Battle of Coral-Balmoral (12 May-06 Jun 68) was a series of actions fought during the Vietnam War between the 1st Australian Task Force (1ATF) and the North Vietnamese 7th Division and Viet Cong Main Force units, 40 kilometres north east of Saigon.

Following the defeat of the communist Tet Offensive in Jan and Feb, in late Apr 1st and 3rd Australian infantry battalions of the Royal Australian Regiment, with supporting arms, were again deployed from their base at Nui Dat in Phuoc Tuy Province to positions astride infiltration routes leading to Saigon, to interdict renewed movement against the capital.

The ensuing battle was the first time the Australians had clashed with regular North Vietnamese Army units operating in regimental strength in conventional warfare.

During 26 days of fighting, the communists sustained heavy losses and were forced to postpone a further attack on Saigon, while 1ATF also suffered significant casualties. The largest unit-level action of the war for the Australians, the battle is now considered one of the most famous actions fought by the Australian Army during the Vietnam War.

A visit commemorating the 50th anniversary year of Coral and Balmoral is being planned for Aug this year.

Activities include paying of respects at the battle sites, viewing scenic vistas in Vietnam, visiting the Cambodian border where the U.S. ended its involvement and the North Vietnamese directed the campaign to take Saigon, a visit to Rung Sat, the former base of 10th Sapper Regiment, plus a sojourn in Phuoc Tuy, including a gathering at the Long Tan Cross on 18 Aug.

If interested, email Highgate Sub-Branch Secretary, Greg Wilson at greg.wilson@highgate-rsl.org.au and he will send you more information on the event, which is being organised by a professional tour company led by Walter Pearson.



D Company, 1 RAR
entering FSB Coral
after a patrol



3 RAR machine-gun
position at FSB
Balmoral



Christmas Celebration 2017

