



Highgate Highlights

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

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From our President

I present to you the Annual President's Report for 2016-17.

The past year was tinged with sadness at the loss of our home in the Gallipoli Room at ANZAC House in December 2016, following RSLWA's decision to demolish and rebuild.

In addition, many good members of our Sub-Branch passed away, and it is fitting that I record their names as all of them were great contributors and we are poorer for their absence. We remember with deep sadness and affection our departed members and convey sincere condolences and sympathy to their families: Ron Adams, Nordon Digby, Ron Rigg, Robert Smyth, Stephen Scriven, Alf Till, Ted Stevenson, David Orr, Jeffrey Stevens and Theo Ricketts. Lest We Forget.

On a more cheerful note, I congratulate members Malcolm Weatherhead, Bill Ritchie and Don King who were recognised for their service in Korea with the Ambassador's Peace Medal presented to them by Ambassador of South Korea, His Excellency Mr Kyoung-ha Woo.

(continued on page 2)

Our next meeting is on Monday 18 September at The Western Australian Club

Important: Please book before COB on Wednesday 13 September as the WA Club needs catering numbers finalised that day

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.

Please use the booking sheet on the website or telephone any Committee member to register. The cost of the monthly luncheon is \$30 per person, payable by no later than the Wednesday prior to the meeting, which takes place on the third Monday of each month (*except April - ANZAC Day Gunfire Breakfast; and November - Fraser's Kings Park*).

To book your monthly lunch, please enter your name electronically on the booking page via the website, (before 12 noon on the Wednesday 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.

Electronic funds transfer details are on the spreadsheet. Cost is \$30 per person.

You will need to book your luncheon each month by noon on the Tuesday prior to the meeting.

If you do not have internet, please call Margot Harness on 9349 2847 or any Committee member to book in.

Important dates & events | please diarise now

- 1100 | Mon **18 Sep** | Committee Meeting - WA Club
- 1130 for 1215 | Mon **18 Sep** | Monthly Luncheon - WA Club
- 1100 | Mon **16 Oct** | Committee Meeting - WA Club
- 1130 for 1215 | Mon **16 Oct** | Monthly Luncheon - WA Club
- Sun **11 Nov** | Remembrance Day Luncheon | SWM & Fraser's Kings Park
- 1100 | Mon **18 Dec** | Committee Meeting - WA Club
- 1130 for 1215 | Mon **18 Dec** | Christmas Luncheon - WA Club

Last Post | Lest We Forget

We remember with deep sadness and affection our departed Members
Theo Ricketts and Peter StJohn Kennedy
and convey sincere condolences and sympathy to their families





From our President

(continued from page 1)

On behalf of the entire community of Western Australia, it is appropriate to thank Geoff Simpson, Norm Manners and all past and present Sub-Wardens and Honour Avenue Group volunteers from Highgate. Your dedication allows all West Australians and visitors to the State War Memorial and Kings Park to commemorate and pay due homage to the sacrifice and service of Australian Servicemen and Servicewomen. Without your time and effort, our community spirit would be greatly diminished. Your actions bring great credit to Highgate RSL.

I also acknowledge and express my thanks to all Committee members for their ongoing support during my tenure as President of Highgate RSL Sub-Branch. Without these hard-working individuals, members would not enjoy our luncheon meetings and functions, and the many other benefits available to them through the Sub-Branch.

Our transition to the Western Australian Club for our meetings has been relatively smooth.

Having visited many alternative locations in this area, Committee considers Highgate has been very fortunate to be able to use this magnificent venue for our luncheon meetings. In particular, I thank Junior Vice President, Roger Buddrige, for conducting all the negotiations, and his continuing administration and liaison with the WA Club.

I also acknowledge and thank on your behalf other Committee members, including our Senior Vice President, Geoff Hourn, who has actively arranged a wide variety of extraordinary guest speakers for our education and enjoyment. During the past year, we have been privileged to have professional presentations from some of WA's finest, and more information on this is provided as a separate story in this newsletter.

My sincere thanks again go to our Junior Vice President and Editor, Roger Buddrige, who became editor of Highgate Highlights a year ago when our previous editor, Margot Harness, stepped down. There is no doubt the newsletter editor's job is the most demanding and difficult to fill on any committee.

From our President (continued)

Highgate has been very fortunate to have had Bob Arnold and Margot, and now Roger, producing professional newsletters and meeting those monthly deadlines. You may have noticed that Roger does all our graphic design and is also giving us an excellent photo record of our events. Copies of these photos are available to members by sending an email request to Roger.

I thank Peter Farrell for his counsel as Immediate Past President and his work in delivering Highgate Highlights newsletters to members without an email address. Peter is also our Treasurer, making sure the books balance each month, a most crucial task.

Sincere thanks also to Mike Harness for organising the annual Poppy Day collection. Last November, Mike and his team of collectors raised over \$14,500. Great work!

Thank you, as well, to Leon Griffiths for his ongoing work in organising our November Remembrance Day

I encourage you to make our meetings your must-go-to event of the month

luncheons at Frasers in Kings Park, which follow a moving commemorative ceremony at the State War Memorial each year.

And this of course, leads me to thank Geoff Simpson as Deputy Warden of the State War Memorial, and who each year also researches, writes and delivers the biodata descriptions for our Over Bl**dy Eighty (OBEs) birthday party members.

In fact, all of your other Committee members - Greg Wilson, John Cleary, David MacLean, Bruce Taylor, Howard Montagu, Ian Petkoff, Richard Adams and Margot Harness - are also always quietly contributing and working on your behalf to ensure the Sub-Branch functions smoothly. And alongside Committee, we also have volunteers like Jack Suriano, Owen Page and Peter Garside efficiently carrying out the front desk administration duties.

All these members play a critical role in keeping you informed, maintaining records, organising events, and completing the administrative tasks that keep the Sub-Branch active and on track.

From our President (continued)

Lastly, I give special thanks to our Padres Tim Harrison, Sunnly Kim and John Young; our Piper Mick Coyle and our Bugler David Scott (both WA's finest); all our Sub Wardens - and in particular, Bill Wilson, who after 28 years as 'Mr Clicker' has now retired from his duties. All these members add so much to the dignity of our services and meetings and justly deserve your accolades.

There will always be challenges. However, I am confident that with your support, the elected Committee will continue to achieve good outcomes for Highgate RSL.

Our immediate challenge is to encourage more members to attend monthly meetings and functions.

Our current membership is less than 200 financial members, many of whom are ageing. Of these, only about 50 are regular attendees.

I am aware that at our age, members become ill and frail and are therefore not always able to regularly attend our monthly meetings or functions. However, my message to you is when you do feel fit and healthy, please join us, ideally with your wives and friends, to enjoy a drink, a meal and a laugh with your fellow members.

Lunch is currently provided at cost, with raffle money our main source of income to cover all the incidental expenses of our guest speakers, raffle prizes and birthday gifts.

Low attendance therefore directly reduces this income source and jeopardises our ability to deliver worthwhile meetings, so I encourage you to attend and make our meetings your must-go-to event of the month.

Thank you again for the privilege to serve as your President during the past two years, and I wish incoming President Geoff Hourn and our new Committee every success.

Regards - **Steve Chamarette**

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 | 2017

Wreath Laying Services | State War Memorial Kings Park

POC: Geoff Simpson OAM RFD | Deputy Warden State War Memorial



Sat 09 Sep	0930 for 1000	Rhodesian Services Association of WA
Sun 10 Sep	0900 for 0930	Maltese Association
Sat 16 Sep	1030 for 1100	Australian Army Cadets (Surrey Army Cadet Force visit)

Excerpt | **Ministerial statement to National Parliament on Veterans and their Families**

By Hon Dan Tehan MP | Minister for Veterans Affairs | Part 1



In these centenary years of ANZAC, we best honour the Diggers of the First World War by supporting the Servicemen and Servicewomen, the veterans and the families of today.

There are currently around 58,000 Australians serving in our Defence Forces. No matter who or where they are, all of them will become veterans.

In the Australian community, there are an estimated 320,000 veterans who have been deployed. Many thousands more will not have seen service outside Australia. These men and women have worn their uniform in both peacetime and in conflicts. They have given service from World War Two to the current deployments in Iraq and Afghanistan.

On average, our ADF personnel will serve for around eight and half years. Each year, around 5,200 will leave. Some will leave service and move on to new careers, using the skills and their Defence experience to strengthen our workforce. Some will be business men and women, some will be community leaders, some may enter this Parliament - and some will go on to be Governor-General.

However, some may not have a choice in leaving. Through medical or administrative discharge, their time in Defence will come to an end.

For these veterans, it might be the simple things that are harder. It may be that they haven't considered what the future may hold. It may also be that they carry with them the burden of service – mental health conditions or injuries that will require support.

A key focus of the Government is on how these men and women transition out of the Australian Defence Force. In the last 12 months, over 1,400 members of the Australian Defence Force separated for reasons not of their choosing. Ten years ago, just over 740 members separated involuntarily. How we help these men and women and provide for their transition is integral to ensuring that none fall through the gap between Defence and civilian life. It is at this point that we as a Government, and as Australians, can make a real difference.

This task begins in the Department of Defence and continues with the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA). Currently, DVA supports about 291,000 Australians. Just over half of these people are veterans or currently serving members of the ADF. Around 48% are women. About 82,000 are widows or widowers, and around 2,500 are children of veterans.

Today, more than 203,000 of DVA's clients are 65 years or over, while about 23,000 are under the age of 40. This is the state of our veterans in Australia. They are representative of every aspect of service and from every walk of life.

They are old and young. They are from the country and the city. It is why, in the last 12 months, the Government has held the first Female Veterans Forum and the first Veterans Families Forum.

It is why we have held the first meeting of State and Territory Veterans Ministers on how we can work together across all levels of government on issues such as veteran homelessness. Serving our veterans requires our Government and Australians to acknowledge the various backgrounds and needs of the veteran community in order to put our help where it is most needed.

Australia remains one of the few countries with an independent Department to serve our veterans, and is committed to maintaining a stand-alone Department for our veterans.

This year, DVA will provide over \$11 billion in payments and services. That includes pensions, income support, compensation, healthcare, rehabilitation, counselling services, transport, transition assistance, home care, housing, commemorations, education and grants funding.

Around \$6.2 billion, or 54% of the DVA budget, will be spent on providing veterans and their families with income support and compensation. Around \$5 billion, 44% of the DVA budget, will be spent on meeting the healthcare needs of veterans and their families.

In recent renegotiation of hospital agreements, we have secured priority for private rooms for veterans, wherever possible. DVA also provides medical services to veterans and war widows by paying providers significantly more than Medicare rebates, to ensure the widest possible availability of providers for those we serve.

Around 0.8% of the DVA budget will be spent on commemorations and maintaining memorials and headstones. Over 95% of the budget payments are legislated, fully-funded and uncapped. If there is a need, it will be funded and the Department will provide assistance. For example, in the 2017-18 Budget, DVA is estimated to spend \$11.3 billion but if more veterans present with eligible claims, this figure may be higher. DVA employs around 2,000 staff throughout Australia, with about one third in Canberra and the rest spread across each State and Territory, in capital cities and regional towns.

(continued next page)



DVA Minister on Veterans and Families (cont.)

In a typical 9-5, five-day week, DVA will process about 95 compensation or income support forms every hour, receive two letters or emails every minute, and take a phone call every couple of seconds. DVA administration costs represent less than three cents of every dollar it spends.

DVA works hard to provide quick and strong support for veterans and their families. But it is not perfect. People make mistakes. As a result, DVA will not always get it right.

Some in the veteran community have found DVA to be adversarial, slow or bureaucratic. In the DVA satisfaction survey, we have seen a distinct decline in overall satisfaction from 93 percent in 2010 to 83 percent in 2016. While this number is still high, it represents where the Department could have served veterans better. For example, at the Veterans' Review Board there were over 2,900 decisions made in 2015-16. Of these, nearly half changed or reversed the DVA decision.

If veterans are not satisfied with a decision of the review board, they may apply to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal. In 2015-16, 223 of the 307 rulings of the AAT were made against DVA. Getting decisions right first time can make an enormous difference to veterans, so we are working to reduce the number of cases that go to administrative review, and this will be good news to our volunteer advocates who assist veterans with their appeals.

Recently, we have implemented a trial of Alternative Dispute Resolution for veterans who choose to appeal a decision with the Veterans' Review Board. As a result, cases that may have taken up to a year to resolve have been resolved in three months. We are now rolling this out nationwide. In 2013-14, wait times for initial liability under the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act and for the Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act were 144 days and 160 days respectively. They have now come down to 107 and 110 days respectively.

However, permanent impairment claims have gone from 129 days and 112 days to 156 and 148 days respectively. This is not good enough and DVA has been tasked to improve it. DVA is therefore working on ways to leverage technology to deliver better services and cut paperwork. For example, some claims that used to take 117 days to process now only take 60 days. These trials are promising and DVA is looking at how we can implement them across the system.

We have made the first serious investment in years – \$166.6 million towards making DVA a 21st century Department with a 21st century service culture. This includes a significant investment in upgrading DVA's computer systems and processes. Claims and wait times will be cut by this investment, something that is long overdue.

(Next month, we will publish Minister Tehan's Ministerial Statement on Veterans mental health and employment initiatives)

Future Highgate Luncheon Speakers

By Geoff Hourn

Many members may not know that President Geoff Hourn has arranged most of our monthly guest speakers. We are grateful to Geoff for the extraordinary quality and variety of our guests, all of whom inform - and sometimes amaze us.

October | Major General Barry Nunn AO RFD ED will enlighten us on the secret Double Sunrise flights from Perth's Matilda Bay to Ceylon in WWII. Barry is also Secretary of Nedlands RSL Sub-Branch

November | Remembrance Day lunch at Fraser's Fellow Member Ian Petkoff will share his research into the lives of some of the names on the State War Memorial.

December | Christmas Party | We hear that Elvis now lives in Subiaco. Anything is possible!

January 2018 | One of our very own - **John Adeney** Respected CSIRO researcher and now an archaeologist

February | WA Minister for Veteran Affairs, 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.

No RSLWA external fundraising arrangements

RSLWA Chief Executive Officer, John McCourt, says RSLWA does not, and will not, enter into any arrangement with any external fundraising entity to raise funds for veterans.

John said fundraising by RSLWA is conducted by members of the RSL and participating uniformed members of the Australian Defence Force. RSLWA conducts key fundraising events every year, namely the Poppy Day Appeal and the ANZAC Day collection.

All funds collected are directed to support our veterans and their families.

A report aired on the Sunday Night program refers to the RSL Art Union. This entity is located in Queensland. There is no link or association with RSL in Western Australia.

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.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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

Richard Bird, Wayne Gardiner, Jock Geldart, Peter Gilkison, Geoff Hourn, Richard Jones, Donald King, Robert Kirk, Barry Long, Eric McDonald, David Messer, David Scott, James Shackleton, Basil Twine and Harry Xydas



Our year of increased knowledge and inspiration

By Steve Chamarette

We again thank all our guest speakers because without their time and effort, our monthly meetings would not be so successful. I am sure members would agree that topics were relevant, informative, controversial and interesting. More importantly, all our speakers spoke with enthusiasm, humour and passion on their chosen topics. We also thank Geoff Houn for his work in selecting great speakers and making our meetings so stimulating. Guest speakers during the past year included:

October || Assistant Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of Perth, the Right Reverend Kate Wilmot



Bishop Kate also presides at the dedication services conducted by the Honour Avenue Group in Kings Park where her presence is greatly appreciated by the families of those servicemen and servicewomen of Western Australia whose bodies were never returned to our shores.

November || Borneo Exhibition Group

Ryan Rowland, David Stokes and Thomas Paparo enthusiastically related how the stories of the hardships faced by Borneo POWs in World War Two are communicated to the current generation of high school students.



December || Christmas Entertainment

Peter Harries and his troupe of entertainers - Margot Harness, David Grace, Roger Buddrige and Michael Munjaks - combined to ensure our last Christmas function in the Gallipoli Room would be enjoyed and remembered. Thanks to all who participated and demonstrated that age does not diminish true talent.



February || Emeritus Professor Alex Kerr AM



Alex gave us a gripping and insightful talk on changing military power in the world. Alex has had a remarkable history of academic and work achievements throughout his life that included three escapes from German POW camps (the last one being successful). Alex, at 96 years of age, delivered a spellbinding, succinct but thorough interpretation of the history and strategic importance of trade and

military strength in the South China Sea and how it relates to Australia and the world.

March || Dr Robyn Yeo provided a personal understanding of the ADF's peace keeping activities during the Rwanda genocide when in just 100 days in 1994, an estimated 800,000 Tutsi people were slaughtered by Hutu extremists.

April || ANZAC Day After 35 years of holding Highgate's ANZAC Day Gunfire Breakfast in the Gallipoli Room, our 64th Breakfast was held at the WA Club which appropriately, has an unrestricted view of the State War Memorial. And fittingly, our Guest Speaker was new Warden of the State War Memorial. Wing Commander Christine Pittman,



who detailed the importance and contributing role that families can play in ensuring history and traditions of the ANZAC Spirit are maintained and strengthened for future generations. *Last ANZAC Day breakfast, we were privileged to have East Timor's Xanana Gusmao as our guest speaker.*

May || John McCourt JP, CEO and State Secretary of the RSLWA briefed us on current RSL initiatives and projects being implemented, including an update on designs for the new ANZAC House. Demolition work had commenced in April and the scheduled date to occupy the new ANZAC House is expected to be in late 2019.



June || Geoffrey Stooke OAM CitWA stepped in at very short notice and gave a personal account of his contribution to sport as a participant and administrator. Geoff's engaging talk included anecdotes and reminiscences about several Australian sporting icons. Our scheduled speaker, **former Deputy Prime Minister, Hon Tim Fischer AC**, was unable to come to WA for our meeting due to illness, but has promised to keep his commitment in 2018.



July || Hon Kim Beazley AC, former Ambassador to the USA and former Deputy Prime Minister

totally enthralled more than 100 members and guests with his in-depth involvement and understanding of the Australia/USA Defence relationship. A forthright and highly competent politician, Kim demonstrated his impressive knowledge and understanding of world affairs. His excellent and discerning address, which also covered the current issue with North Korea, was sprinkled with humour and greatly appreciated by all.





Cyber security our next hot lunch topic



Guest speaker at our September luncheon is Dr Mike Johnstone, Associate Professor at the School of Science, at Edith Cowan University where he

teaches secure programming.

As a member of the Security Research Institute at ECU, his work on Resilient Systems includes secure development methodologies and security of IoT devices.

He provides consultancy services in cyber security for private wireless sensor networks and industry, government and research organisations

Dr Johnstone will speak to us about the issues surrounding cyber security and how it affects us all.

This will be an extraordinary, highly relevant and interesting presentation and we are delighted to welcome Dr Mike Johnstone to Highgate RSL Sub-Branch as our luncheon speaker on 18 September.

The Washington Post's Mensa Invitational invited readers to take any word from the dictionary, alter it by adding, subtracting, or changing one letter, and supply a new definition. Here are the winners:

Inoculatte: To take coffee intravenously when you are running late.

Osteopornosis: A degenerate disease.

Decafalon (n.): The gruelling event of getting through the day consuming only things that are good for you.

Glibido: All talk and no action.

Dopeler Effect: The tendency of stupid ideas to seem smarter when they come at you rapidly.

Arachnoleptic Fit (n.): The frantic dance performed just after you've accidentally walked through a spider web.

Beelzebug (n.): Satan, in the form of a mosquito that gets into your bedroom at three in the morning and cannot be cast out.

Caterpallor (n.): The color you turn after finding half a worm in the fruit you're eating.

Highgate Highlights now goes to all Sub-Branches

Highgate Highlights is now being distributed by email to all RSL Sub-Branches in Western Australia and we welcome all RSL fellow members State-wide in the expectation that you will find a reasonable amount of information in our monthly newsletter of interest to you.

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, we also include 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 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. RSL members of other Sub-Branches are very welcome to join us for luncheon, and booking information is provided on the first page of every newsletter.

**RSLWA
Membership
At 31 July 2017**
Service 7,393
Affiliate 2,071
TOTAL 9,464



Can you help identify this soldier?

Jean Van Campenhout, a young researcher in Belgium, has an AIF group portrait with a cross indicating his Australian great-grandfather, but sadly no name was inscribed.

This soldier returned home in March 1919 before the young Belgian woman he had been courting was aware she was pregnant. He was ignorant of the fact his son was born December 1919 and named Robert.

At a loss as to where to start to find a name for his Aussie greatgrandfather, Jean contacted Claire Dujardin, a Belgian researcher.

Because the soldier was billeted at Marchienne-au-Pont during the winter of 1918-19, Claire suspected from battalion unit diaries and other archival records that he might have been in the 26th battalion.

Jean would dearly love to know his greatgrandfather's name and be able to find Australian descendants.

Do you recognise the individual who is second from the right, back row in the group photograph?

Does your family have this 26th Battalion group portrait in an album with names inscribed, or any details as to date and exact location the portrait was taken?

Does your family have any 26th Battalion portraits with names?

If so, please contact Claire Dujardin | Historian (University of Brussels) email: diable.detasmanie@skynet.be

Mandurah War Memorial hosts Governor-General

Governor-General, His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd) recently visited Mandurah's War Memorial.

The Governor-General laid a Wreath of Remembrance before inspecting the memorial's interactive audio console with Dawesville RSL Sub-Branch President, Stan Davies; City of Mandurah RSL Sub-Branch President, Brian Dillon and City of Mandurah Mayor, Marina Vergone.

In a Facebook post, the Governor-General remarked on his weekend: "Mandurah is a community where people, in that great Aussie way, freely give their time and experience to help each other, and it was great to meet many of them who are making a difference," said His Excellency.

A bench located at the Mandurah War Memorial contains an inbuilt push-button audio unit.

Visitors to the Memorial can select a range of stories which enriches the experience of the site. Topics include the ANZAC story, the Mandurah ANZAC story, and the home front.

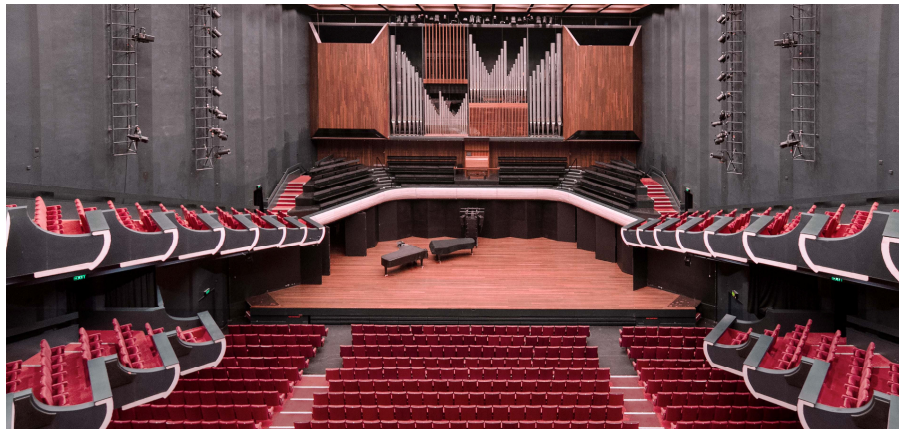
ANZAC House update

Work continues on demolishing ANZAC House in St Georges Terrace, Perth, with two bulldozers slowly pulling down debris from the old RSLWA Headquarters.

The bulldozers are nibbling away at the concrete structure, instead of using a wrecking-ball approach. This keeps noise to a minimum and allows the debris to be loaded up and sent off for recycling.

A surrounding safety wall allows pedestrian access to continue along the front of the building.

Perth Concert Hall to be new venue for ANZAC Day Commemorative Service



For many years, Langley Park by the Swan River has hosted the RSLWA Commemorative Service held at the conclusion of the ANZAC Day March through the streets of the Perth.

However, next year, marchers and guests will be invited into the 1,700-seat Perth Concert Hall in a move which lets marchers and other attendees sit in comfort for the Commemorative Service.

"Year after year, we have quite literally been at the mercy of the weather," said John McCourt, RSLWA Chief Executive Officer.

"Some years, it has been stiflingly hot, while others have been a washout. While the Kings Park Dawn Service and ANZAC Day March will remain in the open, we can at least have a facility for the Commemorative Service that will deliver a more controlled and comfortable environment and also provide for catering and socialising."

Perth Concert Hall has the finest acoustics in the Southern Hemisphere.

Anzac Portal brings Australia's war history to life

After a recent renovation, the Anzac Portal website at <http://www.anzacportal.dva.gov.au/> is promoting increased understanding of Australia's wartime history, with information and educational resources spanning campaigns from the First World War to contemporary military and peacekeeping operations.

Importantly, the portal is aligned with the Australian curriculum for teachers and students, and constantly being updated with personal interviews with veterans, complemented by images from the Australia War Memorial's collection and personal collections.

The Anzac Portal also contains resources for anyone planning events during the Anzac Centenary, including posters and wartime snapshots, veterans' stories and publications relevant to various commemorations, music downloads and sample commemorative speeches.

The portal is compatible with multiple devices and browsers.

You do not need a parachute to skydive. You only need a parachute to skydive twice.

To be sure of hitting the target, shoot first and call whatever you hit the target.

If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.

Since light travels faster than sound, some people appear bright until you hear them speak.

Where there's a will, I want to be in it.

We never really grow up, we only learn how to act in public.

War does not determine who is right - only who is left.

Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.

I thought I wanted a career. Turns out I just wanted to be paid.

They begin the evening news with 'Good Evening,' then proceed to tell you why it isn't.

To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism. To steal from many is research.

Buses stop in bus stations. Trains stop in train stations. On my desk is a work station.

I didn't say it was your fault, I said I was blaming you.

You're never too old to learn something stupid.

Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in a garage makes you a car.

Nostalgia isn't what it used to be.

I used to be indecisive. Now I'm not so sure.

Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine.



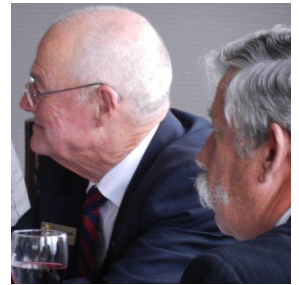
Outgoing President
Steve Chamarette



Rev Tim Harrison uses a Naval
sword to cut the OBE birthday cake



New President Geoff Hourn



Geoff Simpson - Deputy
Warden State War Memorial



Highgate RSL's AGM and OBE Birthday Party

