



# Highgate Highlights

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

## ANZAC Day remembered

**ANZAC Day Commemorative Service at Perth Concert Hall  
Address by His Excellency, WA Governor Kim Beazley AC**

**W**e are one of a small number of nations determined to defend ourselves. Most other nations rely on the kindness of neighbours and strangers, with their armed forces mainly kept for internal security and ceremonial duties.

We sought allies firstly with our British founders; then in World War II and afterwards, the United States. We have never presumed on them. We have never thought they were or should be more mindful of our defence than ourselves. And we should not forget our allies and ANZACs, the New Zealanders. World War I deepened our sense that they were our kith and kin.

We have also never thought our defence is an easy task. We have always accepted the possibility of an existential threat. We have always assumed its emergence would place the bulk of the response on our shoulders, with much of that on the shoulders of the men and women whose faithfulness, courage and sacrifice we commemorate today.

*(continued on page 2)*



## Our next Luncheon is on Monday 20 May at the Karrakatta Club in Sherwood Court Perth

The Karrakatta Club is located at the foot of Sherwood Court, on the corner of The Esplanade in the Perth CBD. (*Sherwood Court runs south off St Georges Terrace, directly opposite London Court*)

### Monthly luncheon bookings

Our monthly luncheon meetings are \$40 per person (plus \$5 per raffle ticket if wanted) and held at the Karrakatta 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.

### Three ways to book - Choose the best for you

**1. Via the Highgate RSL website at <http://highgate-rsl.org.au>** Click on *Next Luncheon*. Then click on *Luncheon Booking or Apology* and you'll be transferred to our new booking sheet page. Electronic funds transfer details are also on the page.

**Or...**

**2. Go direct to the luncheon booking sheet by pasting this link into your browser:**  
**<https://forms.gle/ARM5zG52ETfK22367>**

Via the electronic booking sheet, you can add guests, food intolerances, purchase raffle tickets, check friends; and also register a non-attendance apology. If you book your luncheon via our website or direct, you will receive an email a couple of minutes later confirming your booking.

**Or...**

**3. Via Committee Member:** If you do not have internet access, please call Margot Harness on 9349 2847, or any Committee member, and they will help you book in.

## Important dates & events | please diarise now

- 1100 | **Mon 20 May** | Committee Meeting - Karrakatta Club
- 1200 for 1230 | **Mon 20 May** | Luncheon - Karrakatta Club
- 1100 | **Mon 17 Jun** | Committee Meeting - Karrakatta Club
- 1200 for 1230 | **Mon 17 Jun** | Luncheon - Karrakatta Club

## Last Post | Lest We Forget

We remember with deep sadness and affection all our departed Members and convey sincere condolences and sympathy to their families and friends



**Issue 596 | May 2019**

ISSN 2206-7345 (print) ISSN 2206-7353 (online)

## YOUR 2018-19 COMMITTEE

### President

**Geoff Hourn** | 0414 063 707  
[geoff.hourn@highgate-rsl.org.au](mailto:geoff.hourn@highgate-rsl.org.au)

### Senior Vice President

**John Cleary** | 0417 955 864  
[john.cleary@highgate-rsl.org.au](mailto:john.cleary@highgate-rsl.org.au)

### Junior Vice President & Editor

**Roger Buddrige** | 0408 900 126  
[roger.buddrige@highgate-rsl.org.au](mailto:roger.buddrige@highgate-rsl.org.au)

### Treasurer

**Bill Munro** | 0411 750 775  
[bill.munro@highgate-rsl.org.au](mailto:bill.munro@highgate-rsl.org.au)

### Secretary

**Greg Wilson**  
0412 095 201 | 9448 8213  
Box 65 Hillarys 6923  
[greg.wilson@highgate-rsl.org.au](mailto:greg.wilson@highgate-rsl.org.au)

### Warden & Immediate Past President

**Steve Chamarette**  
0409 257 469 | 9242 1865  
[steve.chamarette@highgate-rsl.org.au](mailto:steve.chamarette@highgate-rsl.org.au)

### Pensions & Veterans Affairs

**David MacLean** | 0418 917 982  
[david.maclea@highgate-rsl.org.au](mailto:david.maclea@highgate-rsl.org.au)

### Deputy Warden State War Memorial

**Geoff Simpson**  
0408 925 432 | 6380 1014  
[geoff.simpson@highgate-rsl.org.au](mailto:geoff.simpson@highgate-rsl.org.au)

### Membership Officer

**Howard Montagu**  
0417 956 621  
[howard.montagu@highgate-rsl.org.au](mailto:howard.montagu@highgate-rsl.org.au)

### Hospitals & Welfare

**Bruce Taylor**  
0408 955 219  
[bruce.taylor@highgate-rsl.org.au](mailto:bruce.taylor@highgate-rsl.org.au)

### Honour Avenue Representative & Poppy Day Organiser

**Mike Harness**  
0419 091 708  
[michaelharness1@bigpond.com](mailto:michaelharness1@bigpond.com)

### Web Manager

**Ian Petkoff**  
0490 242 676  
[ian.petkoff@highgate-rsl.org.au](mailto:ian.petkoff@highgate-rsl.org.au)

### General Committee

**Richard Adams**  
0411 737 723 | 9325 6387  
[rpads@westnet.com.au](mailto:rpads@westnet.com.au)

### Margot Harness

9349 2847  
[michaelharness1@bigpond.com](mailto:michaelharness1@bigpond.com)

### Leon Griffiths

0439 033 399  
[leon@leongriffiths.com](mailto:leon@leongriffiths.com)

### Allan Downs

0427 932 166  
[allan.downs@highgate-rsl.org.au](mailto:allan.downs@highgate-rsl.org.au)

### Front Desk

**Peter Garside** | 0413 441 855  
[artco@artco.net.au](mailto:artco@artco.net.au)

**Owen Page** | 0431 956 261  
[owenpage@bigpond.com](mailto:owenpage@bigpond.com)



## ANZAC Day remembered WA Governor Kim Beazley AC *continued from page 1*

This commemoration serves a dual purpose. One is an expression of gratitude. The other is a signal to well beyond these shores, a statement to all, that we will defend ourselves.

Within our shores, it is a statement to our people that collectively we will value sacrifice, we will honour those who make it. We will take responsibility for those who may suffer as a result of it. We say, "When you take on this burden you do so because we all think it critical for our survival".

Encouraging this view is an act of defence itself. Nothing is more encouraging when attending a dawn service anywhere in this country, and among communities of Australians globally, than to see young Australians in numbers. They know what the generations have known, the terms and conditions of our survival.

I want to round out briefly the last five years of commemoration of the events from which this ANZAC commemoration emerged.

Last year, we focused this day on the battle at Villers-Bretonneux. It occurred this day as the last of half a dozen defensive battles, as we helped blunt the final German assault. That victory foreshadowed the decisive engagement of Australian soldiers in the battles which broke the Hindenburg Line, leading to the Armistice and the surrender of Germany and her allies. In global strategic terms, we have never had the influence as a nation as we had then, with our outsize impact on those battles.

We were perceived as a nation of character. That character was heavily male – the ANZAC – a man of inventiveness, courage, committed to friends, stoic, aggressive in battle, bronzed, loyal, a good friend. Masculine.

But it was women who carried society in the post-war years.

Next year, we will commemorate the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II. That war saw the legend envelop us all – men, women, indigenous, immigrant.



We were the most mobilised nation of all the belligerents. Single women were civilly conscripted. Married women played their part. As well as serving in the forces themselves, indigenous labour was critical to our northern defence. We had always owned ANZAC Day collectively, and now the reality reflected the perception. That has been sustained through subsequent wars leading to the contemporary era.

As we arrive at the contemporary era, we recognise that the chain of commitment since World War II runs through Korea, Malaya and Vietnam. Indeed, speaking of anniversaries, it is the 50th of the Battle of Binh Ba, a noted event in the history of our engagement with Vietnam.

There is another big anniversary this year. It is the 20th of our commitment to leadership of INTERFET, the International Force East Timor. (*INTERFET was a multinational, non-United Nations peacemaking taskforce, organised and led by Australia in accordance with United Nations resolutions, to address the humanitarian and security crisis that took place in East Timor from 1999–2000 until the arrival of UN peacekeepers - HH Editor.*)

***"It is sobering to be a West Australian in this contemporary era."***

As we speak, West Australians are providing a large percentage of those serving in Iraq, Afghanistan and further afield. At sea, patrols of naval ships in the northern Indian Ocean have for the best part of 30 years been drawn from HMAS Stirling.

As I said earlier, ANZAC Day is a signal to those of us prepared to make a career of the profession of arms. We make today a statement that you are valued and honoured. We know as we make it that we are strengthening our community.

There are 25,000 Veterans in WA. In practical terms their needs and challenges must be met by us all

where we can, for that is our contribution.

We are well aware of the critical role the RSL plays in working for the best approaches to meeting these challenges, and I strongly urge support for their appeal.

Still, my mind drifts back to origins. The most poignant story of the end of the First World War is a female image. The picture of 10,000 widows and mothers dressed in black marching to Sydney's waterfront. They went down to the waterfront and cast flowers into the sea from where their 60,000 men folk had left, including their husbands and sons who would never return.

My grandmother was a war widow, so my image of a war widow is one of an old lady. However, these women were young, and many never married again. They, and women like them, had to handle a society in which over the next decade another 60,000 died of war causes. It was their women folk who sustained society.

There is no better example of the point I made at the outset - that just as we are a nation that defends itself, we have always known that we all play a part in it.

## BIRTHDAYS

**Members celebrating their birthday in May include:**

**Neville Harlow, Abraham Sher, Stephen Lucks, Dean Smith, Christopher Brooks, Les Herbert, Robert Colligan, William Wilson, Thomas James, John Blylevens, Neil Anderson and John Cleary**





## From our President



Geoff Hourn

**A**nother ANZAC Day has come and gone and with it some funny, if not concerning, news reporting. The reporting has come from the media, of course, and therefore may not be entirely accurate. The West Australian newspaper these days has to make every headline into a pun and their stories are generally shallow. The readership target of the West Australian must have changed dramatically in recent times to justify their new approach to news delivery.

At this stage I have to admit a conflict of interest. I am a close friend of the West Australian newspaper. Every morning we meet over coffee. But the West is definitely stretching that friendship.

When President Reagan was shot, I can recall the front page of the West Australian had a story and photo about a fireman rescuing a pet from a tree. The attempted assassination of President Reagan was on page three.

Things have gone downhill from there. The front page of the West Australian now reports when Eddie McGuire visits Perth with the Collingwood Football Club.

The recent reporting before ANZAC Day that I refer to seems to be accurate. It was conveyed by other news media and corroborated by a little personal research.

The first report related to the Director General Strategy and Policy - Air Force publishing a doctrine paper called *Gender In Air Operations*.

It would be hard to make this stuff up, but apparently RAAF pilots have been told to think twice before bombing bridges being used by enemy troops in case it makes women walk further to fetch firewood.

The doctrine's foreword by Air Commodore Stephen Edgeley, the RAAF's Director-General Strategy and Planning, said embracing the *gender perspective* would enhance operational capability. Air Commodore Edgeley's view seems to contradict that of Marshal

of the Royal Air Force, Sir Arthur Harris, who is commonly known as *Bomber Harris*. Thanks to the view of Bomber Harris regarding operational capability, World War II was considerably shortened.

Reading *Gender In Air Operations* gives one the impression that it has been published due to a worry about virtue-signalling political correctness.

Australia has ratified the Rome Statute that established the International Criminal Court (ICC). The ICC sits in The Hague with the primary role of investigating genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes. The Court is able to undertake proceedings if it believes national jurisdictions have not acted sufficiently to investigate and bring accused to account.

Current ADF investigations into alleged wrongdoings by ADF personnel are ongoing. If those investigations find individuals have no case to answer, presumably the ICC could direct independent investigations into the same matters.

What's next? Has doctrine been prepared to calculate the carbon footprint of the RAAF and its effect on climate change? Do commanders now need to factor into their operational planning the effect of carbon emissions from fuels, munitions and battlefield waste?

The second report before ANZAC Day that caught my eye was also from the RAAF. A Group Captain allegedly declared that Australian service personnel must be cautious when using slang while talking with US service personnel, particularly Marines. **See research →**

Fair suck of the sauce bottle! Telling Australians to speak English to Americans must be mission impossible.

If there is a filter in place to prevent nonsensical, indefensible edicts escaping from Canberra's Russell Hill, it's not working. But, no doubt, the Group Captain had his reasons. Po-faced political correctness obviously gets you noticed by senior officers in today's Defence Force.

The third report emanated from the RAN. Apparently a decision was made that it was too dangerous for formed bodies of uniformed personnel to march in the pre-dawn of ANZAC Day, lest they trip or

suffer some other calamity. There were no hi-vis vests or life jackets at Gallipoli. Occupational Health and Safety had not been invented then. There was no place for it in that enterprise. Australians gather each ANZAC Day dawn to commemorate those who fell, not to express concern about those who might now merely stumble.

One can only curse, in the strongest Australian vernacular possible, the virtue signalling and political correctness of the contemporary ADF.

Highgate's commemoration of ANZAC Day, as usual, was less controversial. As we have done since I can remember (going back to the 1980s) and possibly as long ago as 1947, we held our traditional Gunfire Breakfast, with Lieutenant Commander Guy Burton RAN, Warden of the State War Memorial, as our guest speaker this year.

It was only on 24 April that we discovered our request to the Ibis Hotel for an extension of their liquor license had not been acted upon. The extension was necessary so we could have a tot of rum with our coffee. Having no license was a potential calamity but I can report that the ANZAC spirit is still alive outside the ADF.

We plan to hold our next Gunfire Breakfast at the Weld Club.

*Best wishes - Geoff Hourn*

**Highgate Highlights' Editor checked the study to see how confusing Aussie slang could be to overseas people:**

### **CARRY ON LIKE A PORK CHOP**

USA: "To talk excessively"

UK: "A fat person trying to finish a task"

**Actual meaning: Overly dramatic manner**

### **SHE'LL BE RIGHT**

UK's guess: "The wife is always correct"

Russia: "She will be back in a minute"

**Actual meaning: Everything will be fine**

### **FLAT OUT LIKE A LIZARD DRINKING**

USA: "Absolutely no idea"

France: "To have a flat tyre"

Germany: "Spilling drinks everywhere"

**Actual meaning: To be very busy**

### **SHE'S A BLOODY RIPPER**

USA: "A big storm"

France: "She just wants your money"

**Actual meaning: Something awesome**

### **GOON BAG**

Sweden: "A crazy person"

Poland: "Not a very smart person"

**Actual meaning: Cheap cask wine**



## ***We will remember them | Significant Battle Anniversaries***

### ***Kapyong: a Korean War battle we should all remember***

All Australians are encouraged to remember the decisive Battle of Kapyong that took place during the Korean War on 24 April 1951. Kapyong was one of the most significant battles of the Korean War, during which Australian, Commonwealth and other United Nations forces helped stop a communist advance on the South Korean capital, Seoul, which had already twice fallen into communist hands during earlier phases of the war.

On 23 April 1951, the Chinese launched their spring offensive through the Kapyong Valley to advance on Seoul, breaking through the forward positions held by South Korean Army units and reaching Australian positions that evening. The 3rd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment were confronted with repeated attacks that continued through the night and into the next day, and were forced to withdraw to defensive positions to the rear.

Two days later, the focus of Chinese attacks shifted to positions held by Canadian troops, but with the assistance of New Zealand artillery, they were able to halt the Chinese advance. The Australian and Canadian battalions were each awarded a United States Presidential Unit Citation for their part in the battle.

In difficult terrain, these courageous troops fought off wave after wave of Chinese infantry. Not only is the Battle of Kapyong remembered as a major victory for UN forces, it was one of Australia's most hard-fought battles of the Korean War.

More than 18,000 Australians served during the Korean War 1950-53, and in the Post-Armistice phase, including about 50 nurses.

Tragically, 340 died, some 1,500 were injured, 30 were taken prisoner and 43 are still listed as missing in action. The Korean War was one of Australia's largest overseas military deployments since WWII, and was the last time the Australian government called for volunteers for overseas combat. An Armistice in 1953 has left North and South Korea formally at war to this day.

### ***Longest military campaign of World War II remembered***

This month, our nation remembers the longest military campaign of the Second World War, the Battle of the Atlantic, which began in September 1939 and ended with the surrender of Germany on 08 May 1945. The Battle of the Atlantic was fought over thousands of kilometers, across the war's most dangerous shipping lanes.

Australians who served during the Battle of the Atlantic defended vital Allied supply routes as Britain relied on shipping for almost everything it needed to survive — war materiel, food, fuel and reinforcements. Germany sought to isolate Britain by severing the Atlantic shipping lanes, waging a campaign that cost the lives of tens of thousands of sailors on both sides.

This battle was critical to an Allied victory and had it been lost, the war might have taken a very different course. The Battle of the Atlantic involved submarines, ships and aircraft, code-breakers, intelligence operatives and thousands of civilian seamen and merchant mariners. More than 3,000 British and Allied ships were sunk and some 30,000 Allied and merchant seamen died.

About 5,000 Atlantic Stars were awarded to Australian Service personnel and merchant mariners, providing a sense of how many served in this campaign.

### ***Battle of the Coral Sea remembered***

Sunday 05 May marked the 77<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the largest naval battle to have ever been fought off our shores, the Battle of the Coral Sea, which ended Japanese attempts to launch a seaborne invasion of Port Moresby and has long been regarded as the battle that saved Australia.

During the Second World War, the Japanese planned to cut Australia's supply lines from the United States, despatching a fleet to capture Port Moresby as part of its advance into the South West Pacific.

However, Allied forces had cracked the main Japanese communication codes, and intercepted and deciphered radio messages

regarding the attack. An American carrier force, supported by an Australian cruiser and destroyer, moved into position to stop the Japanese, with the Battle of the Coral Sea taking place south west of the Solomon Islands and east of New Guinea, between 04 and 08 May 1942.

The Australian ships, along with United States vessels, were sent from the main battle area to intercept the Japanese invasion force and did not take part in the major fighting between United States and Japanese air and naval forces.

The battle was fought entirely by aircraft attacking ships, with the opposing ships never firing at each other during the battle. No Australians were killed during the battle, but tragically more than 550 Americans were killed or wounded, and the United States aircraft carrier *USS Lexington* was sunk. The Australian and United States personnel who served in this crucial battle not only ensured Port Moresby would not be subject to an amphibious invasion, but for the first time during the war, they halted the Japanese southward advance in the Pacific.

### ***Reflecting on Victory in Europe***

Wednesday 08 May marked Victory in Europe Day, with Australians encouraged to specifically recognise those who served in Europe and the Mediterranean region.

On 03 September 1939, it was announced that Australia was at war. On 07 May 1945, Germany signed an unconditional surrender on all fronts, with effect from midnight 08–09 May, ending five years/eight months of hostilities.

Victory in Europe Day was declared on 08 May 1945 and Australians held in European prisoner-of-war camps were liberated. Australian sailors and aircrew began returning home soon afterwards.

Almost one million Australians served during the Second World War. In the European theatre, some 10,000 died, almost 10,000 more were wounded and about 8,000 became prisoners of war.

However, Australians were still continuing the fight against the Japanese until 15 August 1945.



## Sub Warden Duties | 2019

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

<b>Sun 19 May</b>	1200 for 1230	78th Anniversary of Battle of Crete & Mainland Greece
<b>Sun 26 May</b>	1030 for 1100	USA Memorial Day
<b>Wed 29 May</b>	0930 for 1000	Indigenous Veterans' Ceremony ( <i>Flame of Remembrance</i> )
<b>Sat 01 June</b>	0830 for 0900	Indian Sikh Community



### ANZAC commemoration at Sacred Heart Primary School

By David MacLean



"Accepting an invitation to lead the ANZAC commemoration at Sacred Heart Primary School, I highlighted the meaning of ANZAC and the difference between a 'celebration' and a commemoration", said David, who also covered the effect of war on the general population at home.



**IN PERFECT STEP** | Led by Judy Welch, and watched by thousands, Highgate's Shirley Mooney, Annette Newell, Margot Harness and Annette Buddrige paraded in the Women's Royal Australian Army Corps Ex-Service Organisation's ANZAC Day March through Perth.

"The Perth Concert Hall RSL Commemorative Service following the ANZAC Day Perth March was extraordinarily good, and the best we've ever been at," said Highgate member, Annette Buddrige, who marched with the WRAAC ladies in memory of her Mother, Doris, who served in WWII as a Signaller. Her Dad fought in Borneo and around New Guinea, and more recently, youngest son, Keith, served with the Australian Army in East Timor, Iraq, Afghanistan and Kuwait.

"Governor Kim Beazley's description and acknowledgment of the Australian women's support of their families following the tragedy of physically or mentally damaged husbands after the war was magnificent, the musicians and choir were fantastic, and there were wonderful prayers by the Air Force Chaplain.

"The Commemorative Service was telecast live on ABC with Geoff Hutchison as compere, so if you can't actually make the venue next year, try and watch it on television," said Annette.

**Newsletter contributions are always very welcome**

Please send your material to the editor at [roger.buddrige@highgate-rsl.org.au](mailto:roger.buddrige@highgate-rsl.org.au)

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

### 103rd RSLWA STATE CONGRESS | ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Astral Room 1  
Crown Perth Towers  
Great Eastern Highway Burswood

#### Official Opening

**Sat 15 Jun 19 at 0900**

Dress: Smart Casual (Medals)

#### Annual General Meeting

**Sat 15 Jun 19 at 1330**

Dress: Smart Casual (No Medals)

#### Help Our Heroes Charity Ball

Crown Towers Perth Ballroom

**Sat 15 Jun 19**

Drinks on arrival 1830 for 1900 Dress:  
Black tie or Mess Dress (Medals)

### RSL members welcome at Celtic Club

By Margot Harness

When the ANZAC Club was demolished, the Celtic Club offered partnership to RSL members in WA. Husband Mike and I, and a couple of Vietnam Veteran friends, took them up on it – were made very welcome - and have spent many a merry Friday lunchtime since in their cosy, convivial surroundings.

It's a lovely old mansion, meals are delicious and reasonably priced, as is the bar; and the Club is easily reached by public transport via the Red Cat to Stop 18 (Outram Street) close to the Club at 48 Ord Street.

Sadly, on our last visit, David the Manager said he's rather surprised we are the only RSL people who've taken them up on their offer.

On our first visit, we had caught the eye of the host on entering, and produced our RSL cards. He good-naturedly told us to "Put 'em away .... I guessed who you are!" And we've never needed them since (although we take them with us in case we are asked).

There's a really friendly vibe about the place, no loud music, and we've been encouraged to spread the word to our RSL colleagues that we are all very welcome. Just ring ahead to book a table – 9322 2299.





## HONOURING OUR OVERSEAS FALLEN

The Honour Avenue Group will conduct a dedication ceremony **this Sat 18 May** at May Circle, Kings Park commencing at 1000. Twelve new plaques will be dedicated, and all members are welcome to attend.



**Earlier this year, 11 new plaques were dedicated, with about 120 people in attendance. The fallen were from both the First and Second World Wars:**

PTE William **Pedley**, Ser.7799, 16 Battalion, Somme, France 08 Aug 1918 aged 36  
Dedicated by grandson Don Morris

SGT Adam **Stewart**, Ser.WX2384, 2/16 Battalion, Kokoda Track New Guinea, 29 Aug 1942 aged 25  
Dedicated by grandson Greg Stewart

LCPL William Eric Rule **Dennis**, Ser.WX 8167, 1 Independent Coy, POW South China Sea, 01 Jul 1942 aged 29 | Dedicated by nephews Peter and Stephen Dennis

PTE Robert James **Cassidy**, Ser.3426, 16 Battalion, Flers France, 05 Feb 1917 aged 24 | Dedicated by great niece Tracey Abbott

Trooper Gordon **McCrae**, Ser.1164, 10 Light Horse, Gallipoli, 07 Aug 1915 aged 21 | Dedicated by nephew Kevin Graham

LCPL James Laidlaw **Peterson**, Ser.WX7016, 2/28 Battalion, POW Mediterranean Sea, 27 Aug 1942 aged 26  
Dedicated by niece Jamelia Gubgub

LCPL David James Lacey **Gaston**, 28 Battalion, Bullecourt France 03 May 1916 aged 33 | Dedicated by great niece Leonie Gaston

Driver George **Cockburn**, Ser.265, 3 Field Company, Somme France, 08 Jul 1917 aged 23 | Dedicated by great nephew Peter White

SGT George **Brown**, Ser.854, 11 Battalion, Mont De Merris France, 19 Jul 1918 aged 25 | Dedicated by great nephew Peter Holdcroft

CPL Edward John **Brown**, Ser.711, 2 Field Squadron, Alexandria Egypt, 28 Oct 1918  
Dedicated by great nephew Peter Holdcroft

The nearly 1,800 memorial plaques along Kings Park's poignant Honour Avenues are dedicated to the servicemen and women who enlisted in WA, died in service overseas and whose remains were not repatriated.

Highgate RSL's Honour Avenues Group, based in Kings Park, processes all requests for plaques and if the RSL's criteria are met, will carry out the work to the high standard required prior to dedication.

The dedication service involves an Army Padre, bugler, the Executive Director of the Botanical Gardens and Park Authority, and an honour guard from the Honour Avenues Group. About 10 plaques are dedicated at each service, where the Service person's civilian and military biodata is read out to the assembled relatives and gathering.



All plaques in the Honour Avenues are cared for by members of the Honour

Avenues Group, whose average age is mid-70s. This includes placement of new posts and plaques, straightening posts knocked by parking vehicles, refurbishing, or replacing older plaques. Additional services include the placement of an Australian flag on all plaques for ANZAC and Remembrance Days (many of which are placed by school children), school tours for local and overseas students, and speaking at service and community clubs and organisations.

During weekly inspections of all Honour Avenues, members are always pleased to see flowers at the foot of a plaque, for this means the family has not forgotten a birthday or date of death of a loved one.

Members say they regard the plaques as crosses, a spiritual grave at home, and although feeling great sadness at their sacrifice, they have a great pride in serving their fellow Service men and women, wherever they may lie.

## Honour Avenue Group Participants

### February dedications

VIP Guest - Alan Barrett Executive Director, Botanical Gardens and Parks Authority  
MC – Helen Birch | Welcome and closing address – Robin Slater, Honour Avenue Group Chair | Poem – Rod Halcombe  
Prayers – Chaplain Reverend Jeff Astfalck  
Plaque presenters – Robin Slater and Alan Barrett | Photographer – David Nicolson  
Citations – Mike Harness, Rod Halcombe, Helen Birch | Ode to the Fallen – Barry Campbell | Bugler – Irwin Palmer OAM, Salvation Army | Flag Attendants – Doug Farmer and Peter Mahony



## New Highgate RSL members this year

Another warm welcome to our new members at Highgate RSL this past year, including: Greg Smith, John Fisher, Damien Quirk, John Reidy-Crofts,

Bernie Clarke, John Barnes, Leo Hermans, Steve Sinclair, Dean Smith, Sarah Freeman, Deanne Raphael, Tony Howes, Neville Harlow, Ian Healy, John Maltas, Frank LeFaucheur, Shirly Mooney, Darren Akerman and Peter Henney



**RSL Members are welcome to dine and enjoy the Celtic Club in West Perth**  
*See Margot's story on previous page*





## Our May guest speaker is George Jones

Our guest speaker this May is George Jones AM, who will be interviewed about his life by broadcaster and Highgate RSL member, Tony Howes.



George has more than 40 years of experience in the mining, banking and finance industries. He has been chair of private and public companies and is involved in several charities, including Parkerville Children and Youth Centre Incorporated and the Ear Science Institute Australia.

He holds a Bachelor of Business Degree from Curtin University, has been a Fellow of the Corporate Governance Institute of Australia and is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. He is a Member of the Order of Australia; the WA Citizen of the Year for 2011; the West Australian Senior Australian of the Year for 2012; holder of the 2011 Gold Medal for the Australian Institute of Company Directors, and is also an Honorary Doctor of Letters, awarded by Curtin University.

For some years, George has been assisting RSLWA in its financial and fundraising endeavours and is currently Chair of the RSLWA Investment Advisory Group and a member of the RSLWA Fundraising Committee.

And George also knows what we are all about, as he is a Vietnam Veteran.

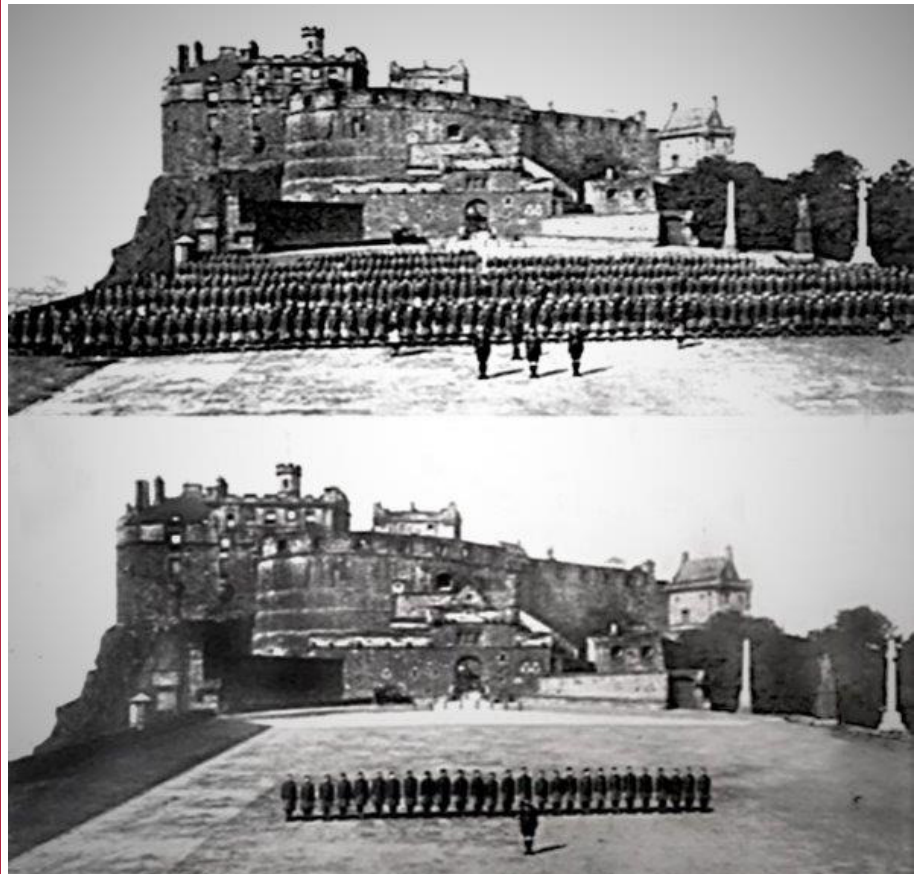
### La Trobe University Study seeks participants

A team at La Trobe University in Bendigo is looking for people to complete a 10-minute survey, to assist development of activity-based health and wellbeing strategies for former Service members. Their requirements are that you have completed service with the Australian Defence Force as a permanent member or reservist on full-time continuous service and discharged on or after 01 Jan 2004. To complete the survey:

[https://latrobe.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_a61GTOPR1Bsth2d](https://latrobe.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_a61GTOPR1Bsth2d)

## Great War devastates Scots regiments

A sobering double photograph circulating on social media serves as a stark reminder of how devastating the Great War was for Scots regiments sent to fight in France and Belgium. The composite picture shows the Queens Own Cameron Highlanders in August 1914, standing in front of Edinburgh Castle, as well as a second image of them in 1918 when they returned from the war. The first features six full rows of men, with hundreds of soldiers standing to attention; while the second shows just under 30 remaining. Although the bottom picture hasn't been authenticated, with some questioning if it is real, the photograph still acts as a grim reminder of how high the toll of life was during the First World War. The original picture is from the Kildonan Museum on South Uist, and part of an exhibit which states: *The 1st Camerons sustained heavy losses in the early months of the war with the result that by Christmas 1914, all but one officer and 27 men were killed or wounded, of the 27 officers and 1,000 men whose tartan had swung down the Lawnmarket from Edinburgh Castle on 12 August.*



## KARRAKATTA CLUB PROGRAM

Highgate Highlights readers are welcome to attend other special events at our luncheon venue, the Karrakatta Club

### Rock Pails and Rock Candy

Presented by Dr Nien Schwarz  
Tue 21 May 2019

1130 Morning tea | 1200 Presentation  
1300 À la carte lunch

Lyceum: Members/guests \$6.50

Non-members \$15 | RSVP essential  
[reception@karrakattaclub.com.au](mailto:reception@karrakattaclub.com.au) or 9325 8111

Local artist, Dr Nien Schwarz, will present an autobiographical account of her geology, bush cooking and contemporary art. She is a writer, artist and Senior Lecturer at Edith Cowan University, specialising in environmental art, sculpture and world art history.

ooOoo

*Celebrate The Karrakatta Club's 125th Year*

### A Trip Down Memory Lane Historic Films of Perth

Sat 25 May 2019

1430 Welcome Drink

1500 Short Historical Films

1530 Afternoon Tea

1600 Short Historical Film

1630 Raffle draw and prizes

Members & guests \$35 Non-members \$40

RSVP essential by 22 May

[reception@karrakattaclub.com.au](mailto:reception@karrakattaclub.com.au) or 9325 8111





## Highgate RSL ANZAC Day 2019 Gunfire Breakfast

Guest speaker:  
Lieutenant Commander  
Guy Burton RAN  
Warden of the State War Memorial

