



Highgate Highlights

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

Issue 597 | June 2019

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

75th anniversary of D-Day landings



The Queen's speech

When I attended the commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the D-Day Landings, some thought it might be the last such event. But the war-time generation - my generation - is resilient, and I am delighted to be with you in Portsmouth today.

Seventy five years ago, hundreds of thousands of young soldiers, sailors and airmen left these shores in the cause of freedom. In a broadcast to the nation at that time, my Father, King George VI, said: "What is demanded from us all is something more than courage and endurance. We need a revival of spirit,

a new unconquerable resolve."

That is exactly what those brave men brought to the battle, as the fate of the world depended on their success. Many of them would never return, and the heroism, courage and sacrifice of those who lost their lives will never be forgotten. It is with humility and pleasure, on behalf of the entire country – indeed the whole free world – that I say to you all:

Thank You

Our next Luncheon is on **THURSDAY 20 June** 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 this month only at the Karrakatta Club on **THURSDAY** (not Monday). For catering reasons, your booking must be made no later than 1700 on Monday 17 June 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/qDQs4nhJxdSKFdGb8>

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

- 1030 | **Thu 20 Jun** | Committee Meeting - Karrakatta Club
- 1200 for 1230 | **Thu 20 Jun** | Luncheon - Karrakatta Club
- 1100 | **Mon 15 Jul** | Committee Meeting - Karrakatta Club
- 1200 for 1230 | **Mon 15 Jul** | Luncheon - Karrakatta Club

Last Post | Lest We Forget

We remember with deep sadness and affection our departed Member
Max Kay AM CitWA
and convey sincere condolences and sympathy to his family and friends



During the Second World War, it became clear that to defeat Germany in the west, the Allies would need to launch an amphibious operation from Britain to France.

Known as Operation Overlord, it marked the beginning of the end of the German occupation of north-western Europe. The assault on the beaches of northern France by British, American, Canadian and Free French troops on D-Day was the largest amphibious operation ever attempted.

On the morning of 06 June 1944, thousands of British, Canadian, French and United States paratroopers landed behind the Normandy beaches to secure the Allied flanks, destroy enemy artillery and seize and hold vital points until infantry and armour could make their way inland.

About 156,000 troops took part in D-Day, and many more fought in the ensuing Battle of Normandy. Of those, 73,000 were from the U.S., while 83,000 were from Britain and Canada. Troops started landing overnight from the air, then were joined by a massive force by sea on the beaches of Omaha, Utah, Juno, Sword and Gold in Normandy, carried by 7,000 boats.

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Four Highgate members receive Queen's Birthday Honours

We congratulate our members awarded Queen's Birthday Honours, as announced by Governor General, His Excellency General the Hon Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd), on behalf of Her Majesty The Queen.

◦ **Lieutenant Colonel Geoffrey Hourn (Retd) AM** | For significant service to Veterans and their families, and to international relations

◦ **The late Dr Trevor James Arbuckle AM RFD** | For service to the community and to youth

◦ **Robert Baylis Campbell OAM RFD ED** | For service to Veterans and their families

◦ **The Hon Michael William Sutherland OAM** | For service to the Parliament of Western Australia, and to local government



Speeches by world leaders marking 75th Anniversary of D-Day

06 June 2019 | *edited excerpts* | *continued from page 1*

Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison

It is a great honour and privilege to join Her Majesty The Queen and other world leaders for this commemoration. It was a very moving and personal ceremony, and then afterwards to be able to speak to Veterans who were there on ships and planes and landing craft, whose memories of that day are still very vivid in their minds.

It's also important we reflect on understanding the causes of the forces that brought the world to that point to ensure those lessons are never lost. Australia formed part of the Allied force that secured peace and generations of prosperity, and that freedom was hard won, including by the events we commemorate here today.

Australian Minister for Veterans and Defence Personnel Darren Chester MP

Australian sailors, soldiers and airmen were all involved in D-Day, but our main contribution was through the about 2,500 Australians serving in Royal Air Force and Royal Australian Air Force squadrons.

Around 500 Australian sailors served on Royal Navy vessels and about a dozen Australian soldiers were attached to British Army formations to gain experience in preparation for amphibious operations in the Pacific later in the war.

Sadly, 14 Australians are known to have been killed on D-Day, including two sailors and 12 airmen. Many other Australian airmen lost their lives in operations directly related to the invasion of France in the period leading up to 06 June 1944 and in the days that followed.



British Prime Minister Theresa May

It is incredibly moving to be here today, looking out across the Normandy beaches where one of the greatest battles for freedom this world has ever known took place – and it is truly humbling to do so with some of the men who were there that day.

No one would know how the most ambitious amphibious and airborne assault in all of human history, would turn out. If one day can be said to have determined the fate of generations to come – in France, in Britain, in Europe and the world – that day was the sixth of June 1944.

More than 156,000 men landed on D-Day including 83,000 from Britain and the Commonwealth. Over a quarter million more supported operations from air and sea, while the French Resistance carried out extraordinary acts of bravery behind enemy lines.

Many made the ultimate sacrifice that day and in the fierce fighting that followed, as our Allied nations sought to release Europe from the grip of fascism.

These young men belonged to a generation whose unconquerable spirit shaped the post-war world.

They didn't boast. They didn't fuss. They served. And they laid down their lives so we might have a better life and build a better world.

We will always remember their courage, their commitment, their conviction. And to our Veterans, I want to say the only words we can:

Thank You



D-Day Veterans remember at 75th anniversary

"I was terrified. I think everyone was. You never forget your comrades because we were all in it together. It's right that the courage and sacrifice of so many veterans is being honoured 75 years on. We must never forget." - **John Jenkins** (99) who landed at Gold Beach in the Pioneer Corps.

"I'm not a hero. I served with men who were. I'm very lucky. I'm a survivor." - **Les Hammond** (94), who landed at Juno Beach with the Royal Electrical Mechanical Engineers.

"It was dark when I hit the ground in hostile territory and I can't be sure exactly where I was. I landed safely despite catching myself on the exit and a bullet striking my parachute. It was the worst jump I ever had." - **Tom Rice** (97) US Army 101st Airborne Division.

"We know we don't have much time left, so I tell my story so people know it was because of that generation, because of those guys in this cemetery. All these generals with all this brass - that don't mean nothing. These guys in the cemetery - they are the heroes." - **Steve Melnikoff** (99) U.S. 29th Infantry Division.

"The water was full of dead men. The beach had burning landing craft," - **Jim Radford** (90) a British D-Day Veteran, describing Gold Beach where British forces landed. Aged 15, Mr Radford was a galley boy on merchant navy ship *Empire Larch* and remains the youngest-known Veteran. The ship's crew helped build Mulberry Harbour off Gold Beach, allowing the Royal Navy to transport troops, vehicles and supplies for the landing.



British troops on a Normandy beachhead wait for a tank to pass before advancing against the enemy

*Commemorations
continue next page*



Speeches by world leaders marking 75th Anniversary of D-Day

06 June 2019 | *edited excerpts* | *continued from page 2*

French President Emmanuel Macron

Being worthy of the promise of Normandy means never forgetting that free people, when they join forces, can surmount any adversity. We shall never cease to perpetuate the alliance of free peoples. That is what the victorious sides did, when they created the United Nations and the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation. That is what a few years later the leaders of Europe did in bringing about the European Union. The lessons are clear: liberty and democracy are inseparable. On behalf of France, I bow down before their bravery, courage, generosity and strength of spirit that made them press on to help men and women they didn't know. We know what we owe to you Veterans: Our freedom. On behalf of my nation I say:

Thank You



U.S. President Donald Trump

To all our friends and partners, our cherished alliance was forged in the heat of battle, tested in the trials of war and proven in the blessings of peace. Our bond is unbreakable. Our Allied Veterans have left a legacy that will live not only for a thousand years, but for all time. As one of the largest military operations in modern history, the human cost of D-Day is giant - 9,388 Americans are now buried at Normandy. You're the pride of our nation. You are the glory of our Republic. And we thank you from the bottom of our hearts. There were also the fighting Poles, the tough Norwegians, the intrepid Aussies. There were the gallant French commanders. The 156,000 troops who participated in the invasion as the citizens of free and independent nations, were united by their duty to their compatriots and to millions yet unborn. Today, we remember those who fell here, and we honour all who fought here. They won back this ground for civilisation. They battled not for control and domination, but for liberty, democracy and self-rule.



German Chancellor Angela Merkel

D-Day is a unique, unprecedented military operation that eventually brought us in Germany liberation from National Socialism, the Nazi political movement. Some 22,000 German soldiers are among those buried around Normandy. The war's end brought Germany's rebirth as a leading European democracy, and it was D-Day that set in motion the reconciliation and unification of Europe, but also the entire post-war order that has brought us more than 70 years of peace. It is a gift of history to be able to participate in this ceremony.



Vale Max Kay AM CitWA

Our esteemed member, Max Kay AM CitWA, passed away on 04 June, aged 82.

A legendary entertainer including with the troops in Vietnam, he joined Highgate RSL in August 2004.

Max arrived in Perth from Scotland in the late 1960s and soon became one of WA's most sought-after performers. In 1976, he opened the Civic Theatre in Inglewood where he wrote, produced, and performed his own shows with a personally-trained cast of, dancers, singers, and actors, eventually playing to over 1.75 million customers and employing 120 staff in a wide range of roles.

He became a Perth City Councillor, received the Premier's Award for Legend of the Hospitality Industry, and was also awarded WA Citizen of the Year for Arts, Culture and Entertainment. His highest accolade came in 2003 when appointed a Member of the Order of Australia for services to the entertainment industry and for charitable works. That same year he was proud to be one of 1,300 Australians to receive the Prime Minister's Centennial Medal.

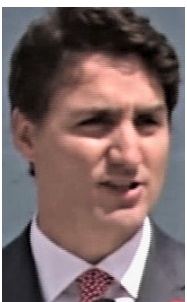
Max was always extremely grateful to have been awarded the Vietnam Logistical Support Medal and a special Citation from the Commander of the American Defence Force, General Abrahams, for his services in entertaining troops during the Vietnam War.



Community involvement

- o President of National Trust WA
- o Board member Prostate Cancer Foundation
- o Radio presenter Curtin FM 100.1
- o Past President Australian-American Association
- o Member Perth Theatre Trust Board
- o Swan Bells Foundation
- o St Bartholomew's Foundation for the Homeless
- o Patron Gilbert and Sullivan Society
- o Theatrical Patron Midnite Theatre
- o Christ Church Grammar School

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau



Fourteen thousand Canadians landed at Normandy on 06 June 1944, taking a gamble the world had never seen before. Thousands never made it home, many killed that very first day of the Allied battle against the

Nazis for Normandy. They sacrificed their lives 75 years ago for future generations, for you and me. It is the responsibility of all Canadians to ensure their story and their sacrifice will never be forgotten. We are eternally grateful.



From our President



Geoff Hourn

On 21 April this year, Her Majesty The Queen graciously turned 93. To celebrate this occasion, Canadians had a holiday on 20 May. Kiwis celebrated the

Queen's birthday on 03 June and the Poms had a holiday on 08 June. In New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania, South Australia and the Territories the Queen's birthday holiday was on 10 June.

Here in WA, we will have a holiday to celebrate Her Majesty's birthday on 30 September. Queenslanders won't get their holiday until 07 October. To avoid tedium, I will skip listing the holiday dates of the 16 Commonwealth realms that celebrate Her Majesty's birthday.

Despite such a dysfunctional anniversary almanac, The Queen still managed to publish the 2019 Queens' Birthday Honours List.

And this year the list has been a particularly good one for Highgate RSL, with four members being recognised in the Order of Australia.

Well known Highgate identity Bob Campbell OAM RFD ED has been recognised for service to Veterans and their families.

Doctor Trevor Arbuckle OAM RFD ED, who we sadly lost on 13 December, was recognised for his service to the community and to youth.

The Honourable Michael Sutherland OAM was recognised for service to the WA Parliament and local government. Michael was Deputy Lord Mayor of Perth for many years and more recently, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

And, I am delighted to write, my own name appeared on the list – for significant service to Veterans and their families and to international relations.

On the deficit side, however, this month we sadly lost esteemed Highgate member, Max Kay AM CitWA. Max was 82.

During the month, a debate about national security and secrecy provisions has been hard to avoid.

The bleatings of the media about 'freedom of the press' has been incessant. The argument put by the media seems to be that freedom of the press is more important than national security.

The ABC's affected and overblown rage at having to account to the law has been breathtaking. It is apparent that many of the talking heads on television and radio do not support national security legislation, including secrecy provisions. They want a special right to publish unlawfully obtained material. In effect, their stance is that journalists should decide what is of national security importance.

Everyone has their own view on this but nobody is above the law. Responsible elected governments, not journalists or WikiLeaks, determine the law. And there can be no more important laws than those protecting national security.

The national broadcaster seems to believe that because of its exalted position, it should be allowed to choose what laws it will respect and which it will flout.

In an apparent belief that they should not be accountable to the law, some journalists have called members of the Australian Federal Police 'goons'. This is unfair and symptomatic of a self-righteous arrogance.

The AFP upholds Federal laws and impartially investigates allegations of illegal acts. To successfully do so, they must use all of the powers granted to them by Parliament.

One of the leaks of classified information being investigated is about allegations of ADF personnel carrying out war crimes. Lamentably, the investigative process to resolve the allegations has taken an inordinate amount of time to complete. It has been ongoing since 2017.

The fact that the investigation into these allegations was widely reported led to speculation about possible guilt, and adversely affected individuals, families and ADF units, and journalists should be held responsible. Just as Governments and ADF personnel are accountable, journalists who undermine due process should also be held to account.

The speculation also threatened the due process of that investigation. Incredibly, the ADF later advertised publicly for 'rumours' of war crimes to be reported.

On a lighter note, our Editor challenged me to write about a new 237-page Army gender guide that is now being quoted to recruits. The guide likens female recruits to the fictional television character, *Xena the Princess Warrior*.

"Army should be home to Xena personalities" the document states. It suggests that soldiers describe themselves as The Cactus (who dislikes workplace touching), The Sophisticate (who greets with airbrush cheek kisses), The Sports Buddy (who prefers back slaps), The Bear (who likes to give all-body extended hugs) or a Cuddly Bear (who is physically affectionate).

What could I possibly write? The Navy and Air Force versions should be awe-inspiring.

Regards – *Geoff Hourn*

Editor's note on Xena:

According to *The Sunday Times*, soldiers are being lectured on gender awareness and sexual chemistry guidelines, with female recruits likened to the fictional television character, *Xena the Princess Warrior*.



Quoting the Defence Force's 237-page gender guide, TST reports: '*Army should aim to be the home of Xena personalities. Don't be scared of Xena, enable her and get out of the way.*'

'Greater understanding on women's strengths and unique approaches will only come from more attention to Herstory as well as History in military history, ethics and leadership curricula.'

'Charismatic female personalities are not sexual objects, nor threats, but just leaders and therefore, calm down and treat her as such' and 'the reverse applies to female soldiers at risk of 'falling in love' with charismatic males.'

Sub Warden Duties | 2019

Wreath Laying Services | State War Memorial Kings Park

POC: Geoff Simpson OAM RFD
Deputy Warden State War Memorial



Sun 14 Jul	0830 for 0900	Movement of Serbian Chetniks Ravne Gore
Sun 14 Jul	1130 for 1200	Greek Cypriot Community of WA
Fri 26 Jul	0930 for 1000	Royal Australian Regiment Association - End of Korean War
Wed 31 Jul	0930 for 1020	Australian Army Training Team Vietnam Association

Short Report on 2019 RSLWA State Congress

By Geoff Hourn | President Highgate Sub-Branch

Three delegates, two observers and our two RSLWA Trustees represented Highgate at the 103rd State Congress, on Sat 15 June at Crown Towers.

It was a very successful event, thanks to the hard work of the RSLWA team. We offer our appreciation to them for producing a very well-run Congress.

Among the awards made were certificates to 13 Sub-Branchees recognising 100 years of service.

Notable among these were Toodyay, established in May 1917, and Northhampton, established on 02 February 1918. The other Sub-Branchees were chartered later, in 1918 or 1919.

A Charter was issued at Congress for a new Sub-Branch at Kalbarri.

Kevin Bevan OAM was named the 2019 ANZAC of the Year.

In other awards, it was pleasing to see the Ken Bladen Shield for best recruiting by a Sub-Branch with over 50 members, is still being awarded annually. Port Kennedy won the Shield this year.

Among the important speakers was George Jones AM, who was guest at our May lunch. George is handing over chairmanship of the RSLWA Finance Investment Committee to Bob Hunter.

Bob was an SAS Squadron Commander and a Cadet while I was instructing at the Royal Military College. Since leaving the Army, he has had a successful business career.

Helping Bob on the Finance Committee will be James McMahon DSO DSC.

James commanded the SAS Regiment and has just been made WA Citizen of the Year.

George is passing on his wonderful skill at fund raising to the new Finance Committee. Their target is to raise an additional \$17.1 million for the new ANZAC House.

This funding is needed in addition to \$9.6 million in grants from LotteryWest and the Federal Government.

I imagine Bob Hunter, James McMahon and the others on the Finance Committee will view this as just another challenge to be overcome. Nevertheless, it is a formidable challenge and we convey our best wishes in the work they are undertaking on behalf of all Veterans.

A 3D presentation of the new ANZAC House was presented to Congress by the Project Director. The total cost will be \$26.7 million and it will be a magnificent building. It should be open by June next year.

Of the six notices of motions debated, the following were passed:

- o The current method for issuing doctors' referrals for specialist medical treatment be retained by DVA.
- o All buildings and land currently owned by RSLWA be retained. Any future sale or lease of RSLWA buildings or land will require Sub-Branch approval.
- o A Gold Card be issued by DVA to all surviving WWII Veterans.
- o RSLWA urges National RSL to advocate the Federal Government resolve the commutation issue in relation to the Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits superannuation scheme.

BIRTHDAYS

Highgate Members celebrating their birthday in June include:

Barry Campbell, Bruce Taylor, Bob Mummery, John Hollingshead, Robert Mercer, Jeff Astfalck, Ray Doust, Max Walters, Jeremy Sher, Gerry Postmus, Tim Harrison, Noel Sivewright, Helen Birch, Lou Halvorson, David MacLean, Kevin Cass-Ryall, Sunny Kim, Bryan Taylor, Robyn Kerr, Murray Lampard, Ken Chapman and Peter Mack.

OUR JUNE LUNCHEON SPEAKER

Mark Webb | Director General

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions & CEO Kings Park

Mark Webb PSM BSc Agric (Hons) became Director General for the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions on 01 July 2017.

Mark now has combined CEO responsibilities for Perth Zoo, Rottnest Island and the Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority (BGPA) and the former Department of Parks and Wildlife.

Appointment as Chief Executive Officer of BGPA (Kings Park) in November 2004 followed his joining the organisation in October 1998 as Director, Living Collections, with extensive experience in horticultural research, public and private sector management and business.

Kings Park is one of the world's largest and most beautiful inner city parks, catering for interests ranging from places of solemn remembrance to passive and active recreation, festivals, Aboriginal culture, and cutting-edge science and horticulture.

The park welcomed nearly 5.7 million visitors last financial year, and visitor surveys report satisfaction levels at or above 99 per cent, echoed on popular online review sites with more than 10,000 positive comments.

IMPORTANT

In order to accommodate our guest speaker, the Highgate June Luncheon will be on **Thursday 20 June** at the Karrakatta Club, 1200 for 1230.

Cost is \$40, plus \$5 for a raffle ticket if desired. Committee will meet at 1030. *(There will be no lunch on Monday 17 June. Back to 3rd Monday for July)*

June only luncheon bookings can be made via: <https://forms.gle/qDQs4nhJxdSKFdGb8> or through Margot Harness or another Committee member.



Major General Greg Melick AO RFD now national RSL president

Former Australian Army commando, Major General Greg Melick AO RFD FANZCN SC, is the new National RSL President, elected from a field of three candidates to the position, which had been vacant for some months.

John King, President of the ACT RSL, is now Deputy National President.

"I am honoured to be elected to lead the RSL at this critical time in the organisation's history," said Greg.

"The RSL has stood the test of time and I intend to bring the skills I have learned from both Army and the private sector to make sure we keep going forward.

I am a team player, but also know what is needed to lead an organisation, and am delighted John King has been elected as Deputy President.

My first task is to listen to our membership and prioritise what they believe are the tasks we must undertake in the short term."

General Melick is a Hobart-based Senior Counsel who has been a member of the ADF Reserves since 1966. He has commanded at all levels from section to brigade before becoming Australia's most senior Reserve officer in 2007, and later becoming the ADF's Head of the Centenary of Anzac Planning Team in 2011.

Units in which he served included 2nd Battalion, Royal New South Wales Regiment and One Commando Company, and units/formations he commanded included 12th/40th Battalion, Royal Tasmania Regiment and 8 Brigade. He is also Colonel Commandant of 1st Commando Regiment. General Melick retired from Army last December after 52 years of service.

Greg Melick has been a Principal Crown Counsel in the Tasmanian Crown Law Office, a Statutory Member of the National Crime Authority and the NSW Casino Control Authority.

He was appointed a part time Deputy President of the Administrative Appeals Tribunal in September 2014 and the part-time Chief Commissioner of the



Tasmanian Integrity Commission in 2015. He has conducted several investigations including the one into the Beaconsfield mine collapse, and is Cricket Australia's anti-corruption special investigator.

He is a member and former chairman of the board of St John Ambulance (Tasmania) and was appointed to the Council of the Australian War Memorial in March 2015. He is also Patron of Defence Cricket, the Army Museum of Tasmania and Friends of the Second Battalion.

In the business sector, Greg Melick is well-known in the Tasmanian wine industry as a producer and grower. He is married with three adult children.

Minister for Veterans and Defence Personnel Darren Chester congratulated Major General Melick on his appointment and looks forward to continuing the important relationship with the RSL to provide support for Veterans and their families.

"The RSL has played a vital role in supporting the Veteran community since it was established more than 100 years ago, by offering care, financial assistance, advocacy and commemorative services.

"I look forward to working with Greg to continue this great work, and under his leadership, see a stronger and united RSL for our Veteran community. The Government is committed to putting Veterans and their families first, and working with the RSL and other Ex-Service Organisations is an important part of this commitment," said Minister Chester.

Soldier On services are holistic and integrated and can be tailored to meet the needs of individuals and their families. Developed in line with world's best practice, services are evidence-based and designed in consultation with service personnel and their families. For more information about Soldier On, link to soldieron.org.au, or visit the Jason Brown Centre (inside WA RSL) Level 3 - 66 St Georges Terrace, Perth WA

Pensions report

By David MacLean
Highgate RSL Pensions Officer

The election dogs may have barked, but the pensions portfolio moves on, battling to interpret some decisions coming from DVA. Some Veterans have sought assistance simply with translating the archaic language used by the Department.

DVA has announced the Advocacy Training and Development Program's troublesome Operational Management System (OMS) is being reengineered to handle the much larger than expected workload.

Designed to handle NSW TIP records, OMS was thrust into service to cope with ATDP's national record keeping duties. Tears were shed and hot words exchanged prior to the rejig.

ATDP seems to be making gains and in parallel with the Veteran-centric renewal within DVA, will soon be in a position to deliver compensation and pension services to Veterans in a much more timely and efficient manner.

SOLDIER ON

soldieron.org.au
#SideBySide

Since 1990, over 290,000 brave men and women have served our country in the Australian Defence Force. From wars in Iraq and Afghanistan to peacekeeping missions in East Timor, Bougainville, Cambodia, the Solomon Islands, Somalia and Rwanda, our Veterans have undertaken extraordinary tasks in defence of our nation.

At Soldier On, we recognise that throughout these operations, the ADF and greater national security community have worked side by side. This is why we now also offer support to Australian Federal Police, Australian Border Force, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and other security agencies.

Our aim is to help build resilient individuals capable of developing and expanding meaningful connection with family, community and employers.



Our July Luncheon Speaker Professor Peter Klinken AC WA Chief Scientist

Highgate RSL is delighted to announce our July luncheon speaker will be Professor Klinken AC, Chief Scientist for Western Australia.

Professor Klinken is a leading West Australian medical research scientist highly regarded for his work in advancing understanding of the genes involved in leukemia, cancer and anaemia. His many research achievements include discovery of a gene that suppresses the growth of tumours.

After obtaining his doctorate from The University of Western Australia, he undertook research at the US National Institutes of Health in Washington and the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute in Melbourne. Previous roles include Professor in Clinical Biochemistry at UWA, Director of Research at RPH, and Director of the Harry Perkins Institute of Medical Research (previously the Western Australian Institute for Medical Research).

Under Professor Klinken's stewardship, the Perkins Institute attracted world-class national and international researchers to the State and made numerous acclaimed medical discoveries. He also spearheaded development of two new high-tech medical research facilities, Perkins North in Nedlands (QEII Medical Centre) and Perkins South in Murdoch (Fiona Stanley Hospital).

Professor Klinken brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the role of Chief Scientist, and his input will support the Government in growing the State's science industries to achieve future prosperity for Western Australia.

Professor Klinken was appointed a Companion of the Order of Australia (AC) in the June 2017 Queen's Birthday Honours.



New research provides deeper look at serving and ex-serving community

Three major reports from the Transition and Wellbeing Research Program were released recently, providing the Departments of Defence and Veterans' Affairs (DVA), and the broader health community, with a better understanding of the health concerns of current and former Australian Defence Force personnel.

The Centre for Traumatic Stress Studies at the University of Adelaide investigated the impact of military service on the mental, physical and social health of serving and ex-serving ADF members and their families.

The reports, *Technology Use and Wellbeing*, *Mental Health Changes Over Time: a Longitudinal Perspective* and *Impact of Combat*, each explored important aspects of serving and ex-serving members lives. Overall, the reports confirmed most ADF members and their families are healthy and manage transition from the military to civilian life well, but some find transition challenging.

Eighty four per cent of transitioned ADF personnel are engaged in some purposeful activity, with 62.8 per cent in civilian employment — which includes 5.5 per cent who have retired. Only 5.2 per cent of the almost 25,000 individuals who left the ADF between 2010 and 2014 are unemployed.

Since this data was collected, the Government has funded transformation and improvement of DVA, and increased support for mental health, transition and employment for current and former ADF members, Veterans and their families.

Seven of the eight reports have now been released and are available on the DVA and Defence websites, along with more information on the Transition and Wellbeing Research Program.

The Australian Government will spend \$11.5 billion this year to deliver the essential services and support on which former ADF members rely.

KARRAKATTA CLUB PROGRAM

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

reception@karrakattaclub.com.au or 9325 8111

1130 Morning tea | 1200 Presentation

1300 À la carte lunch

Lyceum: Members/guests \$6.50

Non-members \$15 |

Art as a Way of Life

By Tony Smibert AM | Tue 18 Jun

Tony Smibert AM is an acclaimed and widely collected artist with three distinct painting styles: traditional watercolour, Zen minimalism and abstract expressionism. He has held over 60 exhibitions worldwide, is an internationally recognised authority on the techniques of JMW Turner and draws inspiration from a lifetime study of Japanese martial art. He is author of best-selling art books and currently a Visiting Artist Researcher at Britain's world famous Tate Gallery. In WA, the St John Ambulance Smibert Collection is one of the largest corporate collections of any watercolourist in Australia.

Have you wheely been to sea?

Travel with Fran Taylor | Tue 25 Jun

SV *Tenacious* is an English Tall Ship, designed and built to cater for people with disabilities. Disabled crew are paired with a 'buddy' to assist them. Usually sailing in northern hemisphere waters, the ship has been visiting Australia and experienced sailor and author Fran took part in a voyage from Melbourne to Hobart. On board were visually impaired and wheel chair bound sailors who took part in virtually everything, even going aloft. Fran has returned from another adventure in *Tenacious*, sailing from Auckland to Cape Town via Cape Horn, the Falkland Islands and South Georgia. Join Fran as she shares tales and photos of her voyages.

Slice Girls

With Dr Joan Arakkal | Fri 28 Jun
Club Dinner

1800 Welcome drink

1830 Two-course dinner

Members/guests - \$60 Non-members - \$75

Dress code: Smart casual. RSVP 26 June

Slice Girls is a book about Dr Arakkal's experience as a female surgeon. With 96% of orthopaedic surgeons in Australia being men, she powerfully poses the question - while women are ready for surgery, is surgery ready for women? *Slice Girls* puts the entrenched culture in orthopaedics on notice and describes solutions to improve the quality, accessibility and efficiency of care for the Australian public.



May Luncheon
George Jones AM
(left) is interviewed
by Tony Howes

**Newsletter contributions are
always very welcome**
Please send your material to the Editor
roger.buddrige@highgate-rsl.org.au

**This newsletter is printed as a
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