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SURFACE MAIL

AUSTRALIA

BOARD

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(The official Newsletter of the Highgate (WA) Sub-branch of the Returned and Services League) IF UNDELIVERED RETURN TO :-

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# MONTHLY LUNCHEON.

MONDAY 19 AUGUST, 1996.

GALLIPOLI ROOM, ANZAC HOUSE, ST GEORGES TOE, PERTH VENUE:

FELLOWSHIP 1150 HOURS: LUNCHEON 1230 HOURS. TIME:

SPEAKER: COMMODORE ROBERT N. TROTTER, ADC. RAN.

SUBJECT: THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY TODAY

Already known to some of us, Robert is a Bunbury born chap who entered the Royal Australian Naval College as a seventeen year old Cadet Midshipman in 1964. In 1965/6 he undertook sea training as a Midshipman serving in HMAS Anzac. Vampire and Melbourne during which time he saw active service in Vampire off Indonesia

1966/9 involved engineering studies at the RN Engineering College at Plymouth UK from which he emerged with a BSc in engineering. In 1970 he joined HMAS Sydney where he gained his operational engineering qualifications during the ship's role as transporter of of equipment to and from Vietnam and USA, before returning to UK to commence submarine training. Having served as Marine Engineering Officer in HMS Porpoise (RN) and HMAS Onslow he was promoted to the rank of Commander in 1981. In 1985 he completed the Joint Services Staff Course before returning to the Submarine Arm as Squadron Engineering Officer. In 1981he was appointed as an Honorary Aide-de-Campe to the Govenor-General and, having been promoted to Captain in1986 he held several senior posts including Director Naval Engineering Requirements -

Submarine Systems and Director General Equipment products.

Commodore Trotter received his current rank on being appointed Director General Naval Logistics Policy in March 1992. In October 1993 he became Director General Naval Manpower. He assumed command of HMAS Stirling in July, 1995 which coincided with his being appointed a Fellow of the Institute of Engineers Australia.

#### LAST MONTH'S SPEAKER:

At our July meeting Roger Snell, Executive Director- of Hollywood Private Hospital gave us an informative and entertaining address. Judging by the numerous questions his talk was a great success- thank you Roger.

#### **COMMITTEE MEETING**

MONDAY 1st SEPTEMBER, 1996

TIME: 1215 HOURS VENUE: ANZAC HOUSE

### FROM THE PRESIDENT'S CHAIR:

This month is "thank you" month and my sincere thanks are extended to all those members who by their prayers, good wishes, visits, cards and 'phone calls helped me on my way to a speedy recovery during my recent health problems. My especial thanks to our Senior Vice-President, Don Meredith who "filled the gap" for me at the committee meetingsand luncheons. I am still convinced that Highgate is by far the best Sub-branch in the League.

# WELFARE OFFICER'S REPORT:

PENSIONER CONCESSION CARD:

I would like to deal with this subject through the Highgate RSI... News in four parts:

Part 1: Transport Concessions;

Part 2: Household Concessions:

Part 3: Health Concesions; and

Part 4: Miscellaneous.

For the August report I will deal with part 1, namely,

Transport Concessions.

A number of transport concessions are available to Pension ConcessionCard holders, including concessions on most State Government transport services as well as many privately operated transport services.

AIR TRAVEL: Card holders 60 years and older are entitled to a discount on the full economy fare in most situations. The rate of discount varies and is set by the airlines. Proof of age is required. Fares are subject to availability and some conditions apply.

For further information contact: Ansett Airlines 131300

Qantas Airways 131313

Skywest Airlines 334 - 2288.

ANNUAL FREE TRIP: Attached to your Pensioner Concession Card is a "free trip" voucher. It may be used to redeem your entitlement to two (2) free single journeys between the same locations in the same year, or one return journey per year on Westrail services. If you cannot find your voucher you should contact Westrail (on (09) 326 - 2244 and advise that the card has been lost, mislaid or stolen. Westrail will send (cont. p 3)

### SUB-WARDENS' DUTIES.

Thursday 15 August 1045 hours for 1100 hours AV & DSC

Saturday 31 August 1145 hours for 1200 hours 2 Btn Malaya Merdeka Vets
Thursday 5 September 1430 hours for 1450 hours 39ers Assoc.

Thursday 5 September 1430 hours for 1450 hours 39ers Assoc.

Sunday 8 September 1145 hours for 1200 hours Maltese Assoc of WA (inc.)

VALE: It is with deep regret that we advise of the death of our esteemed members:

HARRY NOONAN

**HUGH NORMAN** 

**DAN CONWAY** 

**EDDY SALEEBA** 

Our sincere sympathy is extended to their loved ones at this time of great loss. Where possible the Sub-branch was represented by members who attended the ceremonies.

### WE WELCOME A NEW MEMBER:

**ROY V. STACEY** 

and look forward to enjoying his company at our luncheons and other functions.

(from p. 2)

you an application form for a replacement voucher. An eight dollar (\$8-00) administration fee may apply for reissue of the voucher.

Restrictions over the use of the voucher will apply during the following

periods:- 5 July, - 22 July; 1996

27 September - 14 October 1996; and

18 December - 1 January, 1997.

Contact Westrail on (09) 326 - 2244

### **ANNUAL FREE TRIP FROM THE NORTH WEST:**

If you hold a Pensioner Concession Card and have been living North of the 26th parallel for a continuous period of at least two years you are entitled to one free trip per calendar year to Perth (or anywhere in the South-West that can be reached for an equivalent fare). The trip must be taken on regular air or bus service from the town nearest your residence and the return section of the journey completed within three months

Further enquires to: Department of Transport (09) 389 - 0611.

ATTENDANT'S SCHEME: A 50% subsidy is available to c arers who accompany people with severe disabilities when travelling on Wesatrail or privately operated intertown bus services.

Contact Department of Transport (09) 389 - 0611)

(to be continued)

## THE DUNLOP 100.

Keith Flanagan got a quick response to his appeal for help in getting young people to Thailand next year for the opening of a Weary Dunlop memorial and garden - from our guest speaker. Hollywood Private Hospital CEO, Roger Snell, volunteered to send a catetrer and a nurse with the 100 young people it is hoped will be there. Roger sent two nurses on the *Weary Donlop Tour 1994* and they were great favourites with the 51 on the tour that year.

Next year's "Dunlop 100" will hear firsthand from some who were in the "Dunlop Thousand", the mostly Middle Easrt veterans who went to work on the Burma-Thailand railway.

It is a story that unfolds day- by- day as the party journeys from Kanchanaburi and the "Bridge on the RiverKwai" to the Three Pagodas Pass on the Burmese border. It is also a story of a river that has seen, not only armies, but civilisations come and go. One point of call will be a museum at Ban Cao, where a Dutch POW, who was an archaeologist, recognised a stone in the rubble as a neolithic axe. He came back after the war to help dig up a Stone Age settlement.

One of the objects of previous Kwai tours has been to pass on an inspiring legend of a great leader to young people. But cost has been an inhibitibg factor. This time Keith has arranged with a munificent Thai benefactor for a camping site overlooking the Kwai atno cost. There is still a matter of airfares, bus hire and food supplies to be negotiated.

Keith needs the help of members who could interest Rotarians, Lions, CWA, shire councils etc. in part sponsoring young people wanting to go on the tour. Please give Keith a call on 299 - 6351 if you can help in any way!!

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