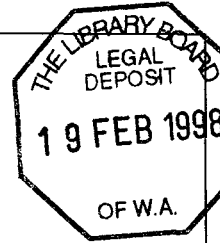




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(The official newsletter of the Highgate (WA) Sub-branch of the Returned & Services League of Australia)
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MONTHLY LUNCHEON.

MONDAY 16 February, 1998

VENUE: GALLIPOLI ROOM, ANZAC HOUSE, ST GEORGES TCE., PERTH.
TIME: 1200 HOURS FELLOWSHIP - 1230 LUNCHEON.
SPEAKER: MALCOLM HYDE
SUBJECT: THE LOSS OF THE TITANIC

Malcolm Hyde emigrated to Western Australia from the North of England in 1954. In 1986 he retired from the BP Oil Refinery at Kwinana after almost 31 years service, the last nine as Administrative Services Officer.

As well as Steam Railways Malcolm's interest is Freemasonry. He serves on two committees of the Grand Lodge of Western Australia and is a District Inspector of workings.

(Alan Saville)

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

COMMITTEE: 1215 hours, 9 March, 1998 Anzac House
LUNCHEON: 1150 hours for 1230 hours 16 March, 1998 Anzac House

ASSISTANT CASHIER FOR FEBRUARY MEETING: Geoff Hourn
If unable to attend please advise Brian King - Tel. 9318 - 8557 in time for him
to get a replacement.

DEADLINE FOR MARCH, 1998 NEWS - 20 FEBRUARY, 1998

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Our December, 1997 meeting was well attended by members and guests.

The formalities of the AGM and the election of office bearers were promptly despatched. 1998 Office Bearers are listed on the front page of this Newsletter. The Committee is the same as last year.

The Christmas luncheon was excellent. Our most Senior Member, Max Grace, was invited to cut the Christmas Cake. This Max performed with great dignity wielding the Ceremonial Sword with obvious practised precision. Well done Max!

Our Immediate Past President Don Meredith handed over the Highgate Sub-branch in a prosperous, progressive and happy position., the reflection of a year's work well done. My aim will be to carry on the great tradition set by the efforts of many excellent Past Presidents.

May 1998 bring to each Member and his family, Health, Happiness and Good Cheer. With the continued support of its Members Highgate will continue to prosper.

(Tom Horton)

PENSION/WELFARE OFFICER'S REPORT:

LIMITED COMPENSATION FOR SMOKING-RELATED ILLNESS AFTER JANUARY, 1998.

INITIATIVE: If a disease (or death) is claimed to have been caused by smoking started or increased after 1 January, 1998 compensation will not be paid to the claimant in respect of the death or disease. This initiative does not affect claims based on smoking started or increased during eligible service prior to 1 January, 1998.

BACKGROUND: It has now been firmly established that smoking is very dangerous. There is wide community awareness of this fact; there are prominent health warnings on tobacco products and smoking is forbidden in Commonwealth buildings and in many other places. Current service personnel are discouraged from smoking and are encouraged to maintain healthy life styles. Consequently, if an individual commences or increases smoking, in the light of this recognition of the danger, it is not reasonable to expect the Commonwealth to provide compensation for any resulting diseases.

Disease and death from smoking adds \$80 million each year to the expense of compensating veterans. It accounts for the greatest part of the expenditure under veterans' compensation legislation.

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: 1 JANUARY, 1998

(Bob Smith)

STATEMENT TO AGM BY DON MEREDITH, PRESIDENT:

At our October luncheon I advised that the committee had, in accordance with the Articles of Association of the League, commenced investigation of the conduct of a member and that you would be advised of the outcome in due course.

I must now advise that, in accordance with the said Articles and at a properly constituted Special meeting of the Committee of which the said member had been given due notice the matter was heard at 11 am on 1st December, 1997. The member was not present having given written notice that he would not be attending. The Special Committee, by a unanimous decision, found the said member guilty of "conduct unbecoming a member". His membership of Highgate Sub-branch was suspended for a period of three months being the maximum penalty available to the Committee in accordance with the Articles of Association.

I should also advise that the original charge arose through allegations that the said member had represented himself as an Officer in his original application for membership of the League when he was not entitled to such rank. Despite substantial evidence being produced it was not considered definite enough to substantiate charges and in the interim, whilst the matter was being further investigated, the member made a verbal agreement at a meeting on 13th August, 1997 with the President and Vice-President that he would absent himself from contact with the Sub-branch until the matter was cleared up. By letters on two subsequent occasions he repudiated this agreement, which led to the charge of "conduct unbecoming a member".

On 17th November, 1997, we received definite proof that the original allegations were correct. This proof has been forwarded to the State President for his attention as to action by the State Branch and with the request that the person concerned should be transferred out of Highgate Sub-branch. I have since been informed that he has been transferred out.

Arising out of this affair we have become aware that while the Articles of Association allow for the transfer in of members to Highgate, or any other sub-branch, without prior reference to the sub-branch concerned, a sub-branch has no power to have members transferred out. As your committee considers this to be unfair and undemocratic, a select committee has been appointed to review the Articles and report back to the February committee meeting with recommendations for State Congress for amendments considered necessary.

(Don Meredith)

SUB-WARDENS' DUTIES

Saturday	14 February	1025 hours for 1030 hours	National Services Association
Sunday	15 February	0945 hours for 1000 hours	WRACC
Sunday	22 February	1115 hours for 1130 hours	RAR

THE TRAGIC DEATH OF ANNIE STONE.

The whole of the Sub-branch was shocked and saddened by the accidental death of Annie, wife of our highly esteemed Past President Ron Stone, just before Christmas. The Funeral, which was conducted by Rabbi Coleman was held on 23rd December. Highgate was represented by the President, the Immediate Past Warden, a Past President, the Chairman of the Honour Committee and others. The President has written to Ron expressing our deep condolences on the loss of this popular lady.

(Don Meredith)

LAST POST

CECIL (GRANT) PALMER 1914 - 1997.

2/16th Australian Infantry Battalion

Karrakatta Norfolk Crematorium Chapel 24 December, 1997.

2/16 Guard of Honour with Banner - 18 members (Medals). Highgate RSL Represented by Senior Vice-President 2 Past Presidents and many members.

DICK SLATTERY 1916 - 1997.

RAN Reserve

Highgate Sub-branch was represented by the President and 6 other Highgate members.

(A note written to the Secretary thanked the members of the Sub-branch for their attendance at the ceremony and said that Dick was so happy with the company and companionship of your organisation and told me several times that he wished he'd joined your branch years ago")

LEST WE FORGET

H V O REPORT.

At the time of "going to press" I have to report that I know of only one member who is currently in Hollywood, namely Eric Nelson who is Ward 8 (Palliative Care). Anyone who is in the region is asked to pop in and say "g'day".

This year is going to be one of those years when I will be flat out with personal business which will preclude me from carrying out the duties of HVO, so I am making a genuine request for anyone who feels that he can help out during that period to either let me or our Secretary know at the next meeting.

(Les Stewart).

COMING EVENTS.

The 82nd Annual State Congress 1998 will be held in Perth on 12 - 14 June. All agenda items for submission(resolutions) by the Sub-branch need to be supplied to State Office by 3 April.

As your Committee needs to consider any issues to be presented, members are asked to submit the details of matters which they wish to have included in the hands of the Secretary no later than 0900 on 9 March. So please get in early!!

(Otto Pelczar)

HIGHGATE RSL SUB-BRANCH - BANK RECONCILIATION TO 31/12/97.**COMMONWEALTH BANK FORREST PLACE**

ACCOUNT NO. [06 6001] 00925571

Balance as at 31/12/96	4891-55
Receipts for year ended 31/12/97	<u>31624-23</u>
Sub total	36515-78
Less payments for year ended 31/12/97	<u>31412-73</u>
Cash book balance as at 31/12/97	5103-05
Less deposits made but not on statement	<u>242-00</u>
Sub total	4861-05
Plus outstanding cheque No. 396	<u>100-00</u>
Balance as per statement 19/12/97	<u>\$4961-05</u>

(Brian King)

THE ROYAL VISIT 1954

Whilst perusing Honour Avenue archival material this interesting snippet of information was found regarding transport arrangements for Sub-wardens attending the State War Memorial on the occasion of the Royal visit in 1954.

“Car owner/ driver :- Mr A M Brice

Passengers :- Messrs C M Davies J J Ravenscroft
 C E Newman I McFadyen
 S Haywood J E Zampatti
 C Larsen.

Other nominated vehicles carried only two or three members”

Ponder this, were these eight Sub-wardens ex sub mariners or just good friends; did Max's vehicle have running boards to carry external passengers; or were the post ceremonial refreshments in the boo-?

(Chris Brooks)

NEW MEMBER:

We welcome John Quinn (a member of Mt Lawley Sub-branch) as our new associate member and hope that he will participate in our luncheons and other functions so that we can have the chance to make him even more welcome!!

THIS PUBLICATION IS PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY:-

RON STONE OF WALLACE'S JEWELLERS
 NOW A CONSULTANT TO SMALES JEWELLERS, PICCADILLY ARCADE. 'PHONE 9321 - 4421
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DON BLAIR OF KINGSIZE MENSWEAR
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 891 HAY ST PERTH. 'PHONE 9401 - 0463; AND
 1341 ALBANY HIGHWAY CANNINGTON. 'PHONE 9458 - 2833.

Chinese Proverb: “He who asks is a fool for five minutes, but he who does not ask remains a fool forever”.