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Monthly Luncheon

17 December 2001

Venue: Gallipoli Room, Anzac House
Time: 1150 hrs Fellowship 1230hrs Luncheon
Speakers: Carine Cadets (see Page 3)
Topic: Lucievin Voyage followed by the
Annual General Meeting

Seasons
Greetings 

Presidents Report

This is the final Presidents Report for 2001 and reflecting on the past year once again I wonder where the time went.

I believe that it was a good year, from the Highgate perspective. We are still attracting good attendances at our monthly lunch meetings and the members once again proved their willingness to support a worthy cause when their efforts produced high sales figure for Poppy Day 2001.

Anzac Day was a little different this year, with Albany playing host to the highly successful Anzac Day 2001. Celebrations and Highgate were very well represented with both Don Meredith and Mike Ruffin playing a major role in the planning and conduct of the event.

Continued on Page 2

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Committee: 1000 hrs Monday 4
February 2002

Luncheon: 1150 hrs for 1230 hrs,
February 2002

Assistant Cashier for December - TBA

Please bring correct money - **\$20.00**

Continued from Page 1

Back here in Perth, Highgate once again held the Gunfire Breakfast at the WA Club. The Mid Year Birthday Party for the Octogenarians once again proved to be a popular annual event, as was the Carine Ladies Luncheon with good attendances at both.

The Ladies Dining Night was once again a very popular feature on our social calendar, with approximately 86 members and guest in attendance. His Excellency the Governor Lt-Gen John Sanderson and Mrs Sanderson headed the official guest list and the Governor presented Life membership Awards to Mr Ken Bladen and Mr Bob Mercer. The dinner was held at the WA Club and I would like to acknowledge the great effort by our Senior Vice President Mr Don Blair who organised the dinner and acted as our MC for the evening. Well done Don and thanks for your support.

I hope the members feel that they are part of a progressive sub-branch that has moved into the 21st century with clear vision of where we are going and what we are trying to achieve. We have talked about the importance of increasing our membership and this is an area that needs to be continually monitored. However, we have taken a positive step the new members (both male and female) in all categories, ordinary member, affiliated members and associate members.

We still require members who are interested in serving on the Committee to declare their intentions, as new blood is good in any organisation and we all appreciate fresh ideas.

As this is my last report as President, I would like to thank the members for their support over the last two years. It was a privilege to have been President of one of the most prestigious sub-branches in Australia and apart from the odd hiccup; I have enjoyed my time in the chair. I now ask you all to get behind your new President and Committee. Let them know they have your loyalty and support.

While we are proud of our sub-branch we must never lose sight of the big picture and that we are part of a team, with the objective being, to promote the Returned and Services League of Australia.

In closing, on behalf of my wife Marlene and myself thank you for the last couple of years and we would like to extend Christmas Greetings to all members and their families.



Merry Christmas
Take care John AR

The 'Green' form is for your Highgate Subscription for 2002.

Please pay your membership to OUR Treasurer his address is on the form.

The reason to pay OUR Treasurer is two fold; it results in our positive cash flow and also goes a part way into the finance of this newsletter.

Hospital Visits	New Members
Highgate members visited in Hollywood during November: Jim Hall, Rod Vincent, Ken Winstanley, Alan King In the Mount Ray Hepworth.	Welcome to new members Dr Max Traub and Alf Richards Enjoy your time at Highgate
Don Meredith – HVO	

Sub Wardens Duties

Wreath laying ceremonies currently scheduled at the State War Memorial, Kings Park:

Sunday 10 Feb	10:45 hrs for 11:00 hrs	WRAAC Association WA
Thursday 14 Feb	09:45 hrs for 10:00 hrs	National Servicemen's Association

FROM THE PENSION OFFICER FOR PERIOD NOVEMBER TO DECEMBER 2001

With the year rapidly coming to a close many of us will be reviewing our activities over the last 12 months and I'm sure a few will be reviewing items of personal administration and this may include our wills. Most of us seem to review these about every four or five years but how many of us review the details of our Department of Veterans Affairs disability pensions or service pensions. The other day one of our members came into my office and he told me that he had not considered his DVA situation for about ten years. In the process of our discussions I noted that he had a disability, which he could claim as being service related but he had not done so. Didn't know he could claim for it. He had been missing out on DVA benefits for all this time.

If you need to review your DVA situation then give me a call, or make an appointment to see me at DVA or RAAF Association Bullcreek or see any other pension officer in the system. But what ever you do. Do it now. You could be missing out on your entitlement.

Best wishes for Christmas from Jim Eayrs

Please support our sponsor:

Kingsize Menswear, City, Inglewood and Cannington

Remember no Newsletter in January, next Newsletter due in your letter box 12 February see you at the luncheon on 18 February 2002

Guest Speakers December - Carine Cadets Cpl Greg Chapman & L/Cpl James Chapman

Highgate sponsored Greg & James in April this year on the Leeuwin Ocean Adventure Voyage. Both will present a (5) five-minute talk, on their experiences. Their Cadet Officer Capt Peter de Mason will accompany them.

Guest Speaker November --Professor Geoffrey Bolton Historian

Professor Bolton's Subject " During the last 100 years Australia has had 25 Prime Ministers, all of whom have lived longer, fathered more children and enjoyed better health than the average Australian male, the Professor examined possible courses. The presentation was humorous, enlightening, and captivating, as one member said, "they should call him Professor Feel Good, as I felt better for having heard his presentation". The statistical comparisons on health, hobbies, habits, sport, family, place of birth and other matters was incredible. The research required in compiling the personal particulars relating to each Prime Minister must have been immense. I trust we will be honoured with another presentation from the Professor, when he completes his new book "A short history of Western Australia".

Highgate Ladies Night Friday 23 Nov

What a fitting night to spoil our charming Ladies there were may highlights first having, the attendance of His Excellence and his lovely wife Mrs Sanderson as our guests, next State President of the RSL. Mr Bill Gaynor presented the RSL. National Vice President Life membership Award, to a very well prepared Ken Bladen (2 pages of written notes).

The President John Jackson presented a brief summary of activities and achievements conducted by Highgate over the past year. He then called upon the Governor to present Mrs Stephanie Bladen with her Affiliate's badge; this was a very wonderful moment. Stephanie expressed to me how much it meant to her to be recognised as a member of the RSL, as so many of her family had served Australia in both World Wars.

The Governor then presented RSL Life Membership Awards to Ken Bladen and (a speechless) Bob Mercer, both worthy and tireless supporters of the RSL in general and Highgate Sub -Branch in particular

Next Ladies Night Friday 27 November 2002

To all of our members who had other commitments on the 23 Nov last, I am sorry you were unable to share a wonderful evening with us, so for early warning, please mark the **Friday 27 November 2002** in your diaries for our next Ladies Dinning Night.

Thank you for the privilege of being you SVP over the last year and on behalf of Jennifer and myself we wish each of you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

In closing

Thank you for the privilege of being your SVP over the last year and on behalf of Jennifer and myself we wish each of you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

Don Blair SVP