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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**

**19 August 2002**

**Venue:** Gallipoli Room, Anzac House  
**Time:** 1130 hrs Fellowship 1230hrs Luncheon  
**Speaker:** Prof Geoffrey Bolton  
**Topic:** Royalty Rebuffs the Republic

**Presidents Report**

**The Birthday Luncheon**

The Birthday Luncheon was indeed again another outstanding event; without doubt this celebration for our "Birthday Boys" has developed into the most important Luncheon on our calendar. The excellent attendance of 121 members and guest gave further credence to the wonderful spirit of our Sub Branch. A vote of thanks must be given to: -

Ian Mulholland for organizing the detailed planning of the event and his CV presenting of each birthday boy.

Phil & Betty Loffman for the preparation of the CV's, name badges and the delicious birthday cake.

Vicki and staff for providing a first class meal.

Sir Charles Court proposed the toast to the Birthday Boys and as usual was superb in his presentation, once again expressing the virtues of Highgate and it's members and acknowledging the accomplishments of the birthday boys for their exceptional Service to their country.

**Honour Avenue Committee Annual Luncheon**

The Chairman of the Kings Park Botanic Gardens and Park Authority Mr **Graham Reynolds** was the Guest of Honour at the Honour Avenue Luncheon at the Victoria League, Shenton Park on Friday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of August last. A special tribute was given to Graham Reynolds (a member of Highgate) for his outstanding support to the Honour Avenue project and was duly presented with a Highgate Certificate of Appreciation.

Since my last report it is with regret that I announce the loss of another two most highly respected members of Highgate **Frank Daddow** and **Peter Firkins**.

Don Blair

**FORTHCOMING MEETINGS**

Committee: 1000 hrs Monday 2

September 2002

Luncheon: 11:30 hrs for 12:30 Hrs

16 September 2002

**Assistant Cashier for August  
Peter Hummerston**

Please bring correct money **\$20.00**

<b>Hospital Visits</b>	<b>Welcome New Members</b>
<p>July was a very good month with only four of our mates in Hollywood:</p> <p>John McLaren, Phil Loffman, John Lang and John Hobbs</p> <p><b>Don Meredith – HVO</b> <b>Telephone: 9386 1171</b></p>	<p>Kevin Cass-Ryall, Executive Director, Hollywood Private Hospital (Honourary); Lew Bedford, transferred from City of Perth; Bruce Taylor, transferred from Geraldton; Colonel W J Davie, Army Chief WA; Bill Munro (rejoined member), and Richard Adams.</p>

### Sub Wardens Duties

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

Thursday 15 Aug	10:45 hrs for 11:00 hrs	VJ Day
Saturday 31 Aug	10:45 hrs for 11:00 hrs	AATTV Reunion
Saturday 31 Aug	12:15 hrs for 12:30 hrs	Nat Malaya & Borneo Vets Assoc
Sunday 1 Sep	06:45 hrs for 10:00 hrs	Thirtyniners Association
Sunday 15 Sep	14:45 hrs for 15:00 hrs	Royal Air Forces Association

### Your Service History

For Highgate the only source of your service history is contained in the **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Booklet Highgate 1947 – 1997** produced by Phil Loffman. The booklet is the only reference for birth dates for the 80/90 year birthday celebrations. The booklet is also used for other points of reference and historical purposes.

There some current members not included in the booklet and we need your Service History to keep the booklet current. Particularly there are none of the current ladies included.

Members if you are not in the booklet please contact Ian Mulhollan, he arrange to forward to you a form to be completed by you. so we can update the booklet, a photograph/taken during your service also needs to be included with the CV.

### On the Horizon

**August 28 – Ladies Luncheon** Green Flyer was included in last month's Newsletter.

**November 8 – Poppy Day** Tom Horton is already taking names.

**From the desk of the Senior Vice President**

What a great luncheon we had on 15 July. The celebration of the eightieth birth year of many of our members was most efficiently organised and MC'd by the JVP Ian Mulholland and responded to by Sir Charles Court. We had a huge turnout of members, 121 in all and every one of us felt proud that we have so many eminent eighty year olds in our Sub Branch. It is very pleasing that we celebrate this occasion on an annual basis and I am sure we all look forward to the same event next year, but with a different cast of characters.

**Guest Speaker for August**

Our guest speaker for the luncheon on 19 August is Professor Geoffrey Bolton. Professor Bolton spoke to us at our November luncheon last year of the subject of The Prime Ministers of Australia. You would think that that would be a pretty dry subject. Not so. Professor Bolton has a wry wit and brought the subject alive for us in an educational and entertaining manner. This time his subject is Royalty Rebuffs the Republic: 150 Years of Australian Debate. I understand that the history of this debate commences at the Eureka Stockade (some debate) and of course we know that it has continued right up to the modern era. Should be another very interesting presentation for our luncheon.

Best wishes Jim Eayrs

**Highgate Programme Diary Notes 2002**

<b>August 28</b>	<b>Ladies Luncheon Carine</b>
<b>November 8</b>	<b>Poppy Day</b>
<b>November 29</b>	<b>Ladies Dinner</b>
<b>December 16</b>	<b>Annual General Meeting</b>

**EUROPE 1939-1945 - Dedication Ceremony – Tuesday 3 September 2002**

EUROPE 1939-1945 has been added to the battlefields in the court of contemplation at the State War Memorial, Kings Park.

A memorial service is to be held near the Flame of Remembrance on Tuesday 3 September 2002 at 10:30hrs.

To honour all Australian Military personnel (Navy – Army – Air Force) who were killed in action and who served in the European Theatre in World War 2. Medals may be worn.

For further information contact Highgate member, John McKenzie 9447 4468.

**Luncheon Photographs**

The photographs taken at the Birthday Luncheon in July are available for purchase; the catalogue will be circulated at the August Luncheon.

*No stranger to Highgate, Kevin Cass-Ryall (see new members) and his Community Relations Manager Catherine Archer have been most helpful in assisting to reduce the cost of the Highgate News. From time to time Highgate News will carry stories and items of interest from Hollywood.*

*Thank you Kevin and Catherine for assistance with the Highgate News.*

### **HOLLYWOOD OPENS TWO NEW WARDS**

Two new 30-bed wards have been opened at Hollywood Private Hospital, making Hollywood the largest private hospital in Western Australia, with the capacity to treat 480 patients.

The Minister for Veterans' Affairs, the Honorable Danna Vale, opened the wards on 24 July 2002.

The wards are part of a wing, which has been named after Miss Sylvia Perry, MBE, for her services to the Veteran and general community and her links to Hollywood. Miss Perry was a special guest at the official opening of the new wards.

The standard of accommodation in the new wards is similar to the hospital's Bullwinkel Wing (opened in 1997) and 95 per cent are single-room accommodation.

The extra beds will help patient access to the hospital and relieve the pressure on beds particularly over the winter months.

The ground floor ward, John Carroll Ward, specialises in Oncology, Haematology and General Medicine, with a 10-bed Day Chemotherapy Unit. The first floor ward, Clifford Sadlier Ward, is a General Medicine, Renal Medicine, Rheumatology, Endocrinology and isolation ward.

In conjunction with the opening of the new wards, Hollywood has launched a new comprehensive cancer service made up of a team dedicated to holistic care and best medical practice.

The addition of the Carroll and Sadlier wards is a part of the hospital's \$23 million expansion programme and has allowed the hospital to close one of the older wards.

As a sign of respect for Hollywood's veteran heritage, these wards, as with the other wards/units in the hospital, have been named after West Australian recipients of the Victoria Cross and George Cross medals of valour.

### **DVA Gold Card**

On the subject of the DVA Gold Card, many of you would now be aware of items on this issue appearing in the press. The problem revolves around various economic factors and the cost of increasing medical insurance in Australia. These costs are being passed on to all of us in the community including veterans and /or ex servicemen and women. In addition, there has been a gradual decrease in the number of medical practitioners who bulk bill their patients. The indications are that a number of medical practitioners regard the scheduled amounts paid by DVA on behalf of veterans etc. as being inadequate. Some instances are occurring where veterans and/or ex service men and women are being requested to pay, or make up the difference, white or gold cards notwithstanding.

Past RSL State President Ken Bladen and myself are members of the Veteran's Advisory Committee at RSL State level. This issue has been discussed at that level and the following motion drafted by Ken has been accepted as a Late Notice of Motion to the next National Congress of the RSL.

That the RSL lobby the Federal Government to take immediate steps to:

1. Review DVA medical payments on behalf of entitled veterans etc.
2. Stabilise the spiraling costs of medical treatment and insurance.

Hopefully the National Congress will take up the issue with the Federal Government.

**Best wishes from Jim Eays**

### **Last Post**

**Frank Daddow and Peter Firkins OAM**

**Lest We Forget.**