



Registered  
Publication  
PP60269/0033

Issue 413  
September  
2002

The official newsletter of the Highgate (WA) Sub-Branch of the Returned & Services League of Australia

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**Monthly Luncheon**

**16 September 2002**

**Venue:** Gallipoli Room, Anzac House  
**Time:** 1130 hrs Fellowship 1230hrs Luncheon  
**Speaker:** Station Officer Andrew Wallace (Firee)  
**Topic:** GROUND ZERO NY after 11 September

**Presidents Report**

**Luncheon Meeting**

The attendance at our Luncheons has been excellent this year averaging over one hundred (100) per meeting, this together with a steady increase of new members, all goes well for the year ahead. Our guest speaker Professor Geoffrey Bolton once again afforded us a most interesting, informative and entertaining presentation on the subject "Royalty Rebuffs the Republic".

**Members who sponsor New Members to Highgate**

If you sponsor a new member and you may be absent from a meeting, please ensure that either another member or a greeter is arranged to meet the new member on arrival at our luncheons. The new member should be accompanied for at least the first three meetings.

To welcome unaccompanied new members the following members have accepted the role to greet and introduce new members:

<b>Navy</b>	<b>Bob Elliot</b>	<b>Otto Pelczar</b>
<b>Army</b>	<b>Les Stewart</b>	<b>John Jackson</b>
<b>Air Force</b>	<b>Peter Hummerston</b>	<b>Don Meredith</b>

**FORTHCOMING MEETINGS**

Committee: 1000 hrs Monday 7  
October 2002  
Luncheon: 11:30 hrs for 12:30 Hrs  
21 October 2002

**Assistant Cashier for August  
John McKenzie**

Please bring correct money **\$20.00**

It is with regret that I announce the loss of highly respected members of Highgate Past President, Tom Scully; ExPOW's Graham Chisholm BEM and Ivor Hanger OBE.

**Lest We Forget**

**Don Blair**

**Hospital Visits**

Unfortunately August saw us back to the bad old days with too many of our mates in Hollywood: Roly Cantwell – still there after 4 weeks, Cyril Bassham – still there after 3 weeks, Percy White – left after two weeks, Tim Rutter, Tally Hobbs, John Fitzhardinge, and Bob Jones. Roly Cantwell who is now almost totally blind would appreciate visits by his 2/28<sup>th</sup> mates.

**Don Meredith – HVO**  
**Telephone: 9386 1171**

**Sub Wardens Duties**

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

Sunday 8 Sep	11:45 hrs for Noon	Maltese Association of WA
Sunday 15 Sep	14:45 hrs for 15:00 hrs	Royal Air Forces Association

**Your Service History**

Following on from last month there is still some current members not included in **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Booklet Highgate 1947 – 1997** produced by Phil Loffman. We need your Service History to keep the booklet current. Members if you are not in the booklet please contact Ian Mulholland; he will arrange to forward to you a form to be completed together with a photograph taken during your service.

**Membership Fees**

Members it is an opportune time to remind you that membership dues will be included in the October Newsletter. The committee want to remind you the FEES need to be paid to our treasurer.

A couple of reasons is that we are then able to keep our membership records fully up to date and we also need to collect the \$7.00 for the Newsletter which we don't get if you pay at ANZAC House.

The Newsletter is a major expense to the Sub-Branch and your subscription to the Treasurer assists in a small way to offset those costs.

**On the Horizon**

**November 8 – Poppy Day** - Tom Horton is already taking names, has he got YOURS?

**November 29 – Ladies Dining Night** – WA Club (\$55.00 per head see YELLOW Flyer).

**From the Desk of the Senior Vice President****Last Month**

Our guest speaker in August, which was attended by 111 members and guests, was Professor Geoffrey Bolton, Vice Chancellor of Murdoch University. His subject was "The Monarchy Rebuffs The Republic-150 Years Of Debate". Points made by Professor Bolton during his presentation included:

The issue of a republic is generally preceded historically by bloodshed and revolt. That has not been the case in Australia. At Federation, the present system of government was chosen over a republican model in order to prevent squabbling over issues as was occurring in South American republics.

After Queen Victoria died she was followed by competent heads of state and the reality of the Royal Family was improved by an improvement in the availability of transport and communications. This helped royalty to be taken seriously. However, the close ties with Britain began to sever as Britain withdrew from the British Empire concept and joined the Common Market.

During the debates of 1999 the idea of a republic was found to be hard to sell because it didn't have bipartisan support (it was Paul Keating's idea) and no good model was put forward as an alternative to the current system of government.

Recently, Professor Bolton discussed the issues with the Prime Minister Mr John Howard, who said he won't be raising it again and that States issues are more important.

The presentation was very well delivered, as you would expect and well received by the audience.

**This Month**

The guest speaker for this month's luncheon is Station Officer Andrew Wallace from the Joondalup Fire Station. He was at the cleanup at Ground Zero at the New York Trade Center site last year and will talk to us of his experiences there.

Best wishes

Jim Eayrs

**Highgate Programme Diary Notes 2002**

<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>

**Luncheon Photographs**

The photographs taken at the Birthday Luncheon in July are to be circulated one again for orders at lunch in September.

**Some Facts About HOLLYWOOD**

- Gold Cardholders are entitled to be admitted to any public hospital in the State as private patients, without prior approval from the Department of Veterans' Affairs. As Gold Card holders are private patients, they have a choice of doctors within the public hospital. All public hospitals are Tier One providers.

- Gold Cardholders are also entitled to be admitted (without prior approval by the Department of Veterans' Affairs) to Hollywood Private Hospital in Nedlands, Perth, and St John of God hospitals in both Bunbury and Geraldton. These hospitals are also Tier One hospitals.

- The Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) is currently in discussion with Peel Health Service, in Mandurah, regarding Peel treating Gold Card holders in its private wing, without prior approval from DVA. This would mean that the private Peel wing would become a Tier One hospital. Gold Cardholders can already access Peel's public wing of Peel Health Service as a private patient.

- A major contribution to Hollywood's success is the large volume of veterans and war widow/ers who use Hollywood's services. This means Hollywood can provide a comprehensive range of services. In all other States, except Queensland, there is no hospital dedicated to the needs of the veteran community and veterans' services in these states are scattered. Hollywood is a true veterans' hospital.

- Veterans and war widow/ers account for 70 per cent of Hollywood's business. Hollywood's veteran and war widow/er workload has increased significantly since 1994. Veteran and war widow/er patient days have increased by 28 per cent over the last eight years and veteran and war widow/er operations have increased by 56 per cent.

- The number of specialist medical consultants accredited to admit patients to Hollywood has increased from approximately 100 at the time of privatisation to in excess of 500 currently. This means veterans and war widow/ers have a much greater choice of doctor, easier access to medical services and less waiting time for operations/procedures.

- A number of changes have been implemented since 1994 an investment more than \$100 million, an increase in the number of private rooms.

Redevelopment has meant the closure of many older wards and the opening of new, modern wards.

- Hollywood makes a significant contribution to the veteran community:

- part sponsorship of the Flame of Remembrance at King's Park,
- two Hollywood nurses accompanying the Quiet Lion Tour for ex-POWs to the River Kwai on five occasions,
- part sponsorship of the Rats of Tobruk Memorial,
- involvement and sponsorship of Veterans' Health Week, including the annual Hollywood Tea Dance,
- sponsorship of the RSL cadets trip to the Canberra War Memorial,
- a veterans bowls day each year and many other important events and projects.

**Pensions Officers Report**

This information from The Standard, a newspaper for seniors may be of interest. The item is titled "Diabetes Trial" and mentions a trial-taking place in over 40 countries worldwide with over 7500 people taking part. The aim of the trial is to try to prevent diabetes type 2 and cardiovascular disease in people who are at risk from these ailments. It is being carried out at QE11 Medical Centre Nedlands. Volunteers for the study should contact 9346 2008. Participants in the study need to be over 50 years of age and have any of the following: Impaired Glucose Intolerance (IGT) or pre diabetes, a relative with diabetes, high blood pressure or cholesterol, heart or blood vessel disease, or be a smoker.

**Defence Minister Speaks**

**"The Strategic Environment post 11 September"**

Leeuwin Barracks 7:30pm 3 October 2002. \$5.00 includes supper.

Contact Otto Pelczar 9311 2429

**Last Post**

**Tom Scully, Graham Chisholm BEM and Ivor Hanger OBE**

**Lest We Forget.**