



THE RETURNED & SERVICES LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA HIGHGATE SUB BRANCH

www.highgate-rsl.org.au

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Highgate Happenings **OCTOBER 2021**



OBE/OBN LUNCH

A special Happy Birthday celebration for this year's OBEs and OBNs was held at our September meeting. This year we congratulated OBNs Bill Wilson and Neil Anderson, OBEs Barry Eather, Jim Eayrs, Peter and Judy Farrell, Rod Halcombe, Hugh Ritchie, Errol Smith and Robert Pickard. Unfortunately Bill, Barry and Judy were unable to attend.

Incoming President, Geoff Simpson, did a great job as MC, providing brief "resumes" of each attendee in turn.

OBN Neil Anderson and OBE Errol Smith used the "Gimi" Sword to cut the birthday cake. (The sword was presented to Highgate several years ago by late Highgate member BRIG Dosso Gimi's daughter Karmel Plank, following the passing of her father. Dosso was a former Indian Army officer who finished his military career as Deputy Military Secretary before emigrating to Perth, where he worked in the Crown Law Department.)



OCTOBER LUNCH

Highgate's October lunch will be held on **Monday 18 October** at 1200h for 1230h. Our guest speaker is Prof Stephen Smith.

Professor Stephen Smith has been a Professor of Public International Law at the University of Western Australia since 2014. He is currently the Chairman of archTIS, Chairman of Sapien



Cyber, Chair of the Advisory Board of the UWA Public Policy Institute, a member of the Board of the Perth USAsia Centre and a Member of the Board of the LNG Marine Fuel Institute.

Professor Smith was Federal Member for Perth for the Australian Labor Party from March 1993 until September 2013. In a distinguished career spanning 20 years in the Australian Federal Parliament, Professor Smith served as the Minister for Defence, and prior to that, as Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Trade.

Following upon his retirement from the Australian Parliament in 2013, Professor Smith was a member of the EY (Ernst and Young) Oceania Government and Public Sector Advisory Board (2014 - 2017), Chair of the Asia Desk and a member of the Advisory Board of Perth Law firm Lavan (2014 – 2017), and a member of the Board of Hockey Australia (2013 - 2016).

Professor Smith completed his Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws at the University of Western Australia, and has practised as a Barrister and Solicitor in Perth. He completed a Master of Laws in Public International Law at London University, and subsequently lectured and tutored in Law in London.

Cost is \$40 plus \$5 for a raffle ticket. Bookings online or through Margot or the Secretary.



FOR YOUR DIARY

13 December lunch at The Anzac Club. Note this is the **SECOND** Monday of December. Special entertainment. No guest speaker.

17 January 2022 guest speaker will be Dr Andy Robertson, WA’s Chief Health Officer.



This year’s **Poppy Appeal** will be held on **Friday 5 November 2021**.

RSLWA’s largest annual fundraising event for the year is the Poppy Appeal. Created in 1921, this is our longest-running fundraiser as well. The Poppy Appeal runs alongside Remembrance Day, where poppies are given in return for a donation; all of these donations go directly into assisting veterans in need; whether that be with financial matters, mental and physical health issues and/or transitioning into the civilian world.

Highgate Coord, Mike Harness, is seeking members to “Rattle a Tin” and advises:

Collection sites are AS USUAL : Elizabeth Quay Train AND Bus stations AND Perth Busport in Wellington Street.

VOLUNTEERS (“The more the merrier”) ARE needed – and can register at the OCTOBER Luncheon or contact Mike Harness (0419 091 708 or michaelharness1@bigpond.com)

PEAK COLLECTION TIME: 0630h to 0930h or any part thereof. Please help for a while if you can.

DRESS: Smart – tie optional; hat preferred; medals should be worn.

PREFERRED COLLECTION LOCATION AND TIME: Optional, but please specify BOTH.

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HIGHGATE REMEMBRANCE DAY LUNCH

Sunday 7 November at Frasers Restaurant, Kings Park. The lunch will be preceded by a short memorial service at The Flame at 1130am, followed by lunch at 1200 for 1230. Cost \$80 all inclusive. Guest speaker Captain (RAN) Angela Bond, a former Commanding Officer of HMAS

Stirling, and current Warden of the Fremantle War Memorial. Note there will be no lunch at The Anzac Club in November. Booking sheet out late September. Partners and guests welcome.

OUTCOME OF AGM HELD ON 20 SEPTEMBER 2021

Congratulations to our new President and committee

Committee: **President** Geoff Simpson OAM, **Senior Vice President** John Cleary, **Vice President** Bruce Taylor, **Vice President Communications** Roger Buddrige, **Treasurer** Ray Ward, **Secretary** Greg Wilson, **Membership Officer** Barry Cooke, **Honour Avenue Liaison** Mike Harness, **Pensions & Veterans Affairs Officer** David MacLean, **Hospital & Welfare** Howard Montague, **Website Administrator** Ian Petkoff, **Committee Members** Paul Salpietro, Margot Harness, Steve Chamarette. **Wardens** Bill Munro JP and Geoff Hourn AM.

We welcome Barry Cooke and Paul Salpietro to the Committee.

Thank you for your service to those standing down from the Committee, Allan Downs, Greg Smith and Leon Griffiths (who will continue to organise our Remembrance Day lunch).

COMMEMORATIVE ‘COLLECTIBLE’ COINS – Literally straight from “The Mint”

The Royal Australian Mint recently released TWO special 50 cent coins marking the anniversary of the Battles of Long Khanh and Nui Le. Sales have been brisk, so those interested need to act before the coins sell out. The Battle of Long Khanh coin depicts a scene featuring a Centurion tank, manned by an Australian soldier, set in the SVN jungle; and was developed in collaboration with members from the 3rd Battalion RAR.



Members of the 4th Battalion RAR collaborated with the design of the Battle of Long Khanh coin, depicting a scene inspired by the elements of the Battle. It features the iconic Iroquois helicopter, which was used to evacuate wounded Australian soldiers during the battle, which was part of Operation Ivanhoe.

Both coins retail at \$10 each and can be purchased from the Mint’s [eshop](#) or call centre (1300 652 020).

Happy Birthday to members celebrating in October including Leon Newman, Mike Wadsworth, Ken Jones, John Morris, Phillip Skelton, Arthur Hutchison, Peter Rowles, Margot Harness, John Lindsay, Shirly Mooney, Bill Munro, Stanley Stewart, Paul Brabazon, Glen Darlington, Ian Mulholland, Howard Montagu, Roger Buddrige, Michael Sutherland, Chris Atturo, Ian Healy, John Barnes, Jack Suriano.



The Sub-Branch mourns the passing of
Raymond Doust ED,
Freny Gimi, wife of the late Dosso Gimi

100 YEARS OF SERVICE TO VETERANS