



THE RETURNED & SERVICES LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA HIGHGATE SUB BRANCH

www.highgate-rsl.org.au

President: Geoff Simpson OAM Secretary Greg Wilson
Mobile 0412 095 201 Email greg.wilson@highgate-rsl.org.au
All correspondence to PO Box 66 Duncraig East 6023



Highgate Happenings MARCH 2022

REPRESENTATIVE OF US CONSUL GENERAL TO ADDRESS SUB-BRANCH



With regret we have been advised that the advertised guest speaker, The US Consul-General David J. Gainer is now not available.

His replacement will be Somer Bessire-Briers, a 15-year State Department veteran, currently employed at the US Consulate General as a Special Emphasis Project Officer (Individuals with Disabilities). Her previous postings have included the US Embassy in Armenia as a political officer and the Federated States of Micronesia where she was chargé d'affaires. She is a graduate of Columbia University New York.

If you wish to attend our next lunch at **The Anzac Club on Monday 21 March** at 1200 for 1230h, you can book online at <https://forms.gle/ZQK2nNwD6cRKcnNK8> or by contacting the Secretary or Margot Harness. **\$40 per person**, plus \$5 for an optional raffle ticket. Pay by EFT or at the door. *(Please note that WA Government COVID restrictions apply).*



NEW RSLWA PRESIDENT

The election of the new RSLWA President Duncan Anderson was ratified at an extra-ordinary general meeting conducted at Anzac House on Saturday 26 February.

Duncan runs his sheep farm in the Southwest of WA and currently serves in the Army Reserve after 15 years of full-time service, including tours to Iraq and Afghanistan. Appointed to the Board of RSL(WA) in 2018, Duncan was subsequently elected as State Vice President, before being elected President this month. *Continued page 2*

EDITOR REQUIRED

Rodger Buddrige has retired from the position of VP-Communications due to workload in other areas, particularly the Australian Air Force Cadets. Thank you, Roger, for your efforts producing Highgate Highlights and particularly our 100-year publication. Therefore, we are looking for a newsletter editor to produce our monthly newsletter. If you are interested, please contact Secretary Greg Wilson

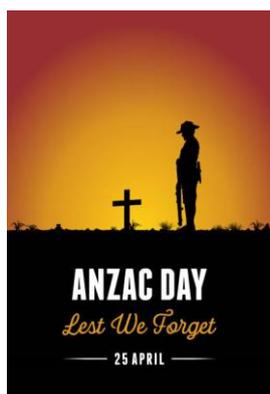
NEW RSLWA PRESIDENT continued

Duncan is an experienced senior public servant having been previously the Managing Director of South Regional TAFE. Duncan has broad experience as a director, having been appointed as the Chair of Regional Development Australia – South West and a member of the board of TAFE Directors Australia.

Duncan is a graduate of both the Australian Institute of Company Directors and the Governance Institute, having also completed the Executive Fellows Program run by the Australian and New Zealand School of Government. Duncan holds a Bachelor of Arts and is currently attending the Australian War College, having been selected to attend Canadian Staff College.

We congratulate Duncan and look forward to having a positive relationship with him.

From President Geoff:



With **ANZAC Day** less than two months away, State Branch is pressing ahead with the planning for the traditional events conducted at Kings Park and the Perth CBD. Proof of vaccination will be required for managed entry points (indoor or fenced events) and not required for events with unmanaged entry points (eg. Parade, Dawn Service)

It is planned to scale down events where possible. The Sunset Service on 24 April is cancelled. The Dawn Service will be by invitation only and only providing for a fenced off VIP section. Public attendance at Kings Park is discouraged, driveway services are fully encouraged. The Dawn Service will be broadcast live to further support this with people able to tune in while taking part in their driveway service. Scouts will still mount their vigil overnight.

The Parade is not a gated event and is outdoors so will not require proof of vaccination. As last year, RSLWA will be encouraging people to only come to the city if they have friends and family in the march and the live broadcast by ABC TV will be promoted. It was considered last year that the parade route would allow spectators to spread out and physically distance. Those participating in the march will also be physically distanced. The 1100h ceremony at the Concert Hall will occur, but again will be ticketed and numbers limited by COVID restrictions. All of this is subject to change.

Highgate's Anzac Day Gunfire Breakfast will take place at the Weld Club. Details below.

Cheers, Geoff

Happy Birthday March Babies:

Geoff Simpson, Tony Wills, Rodney Halcombe, Robert Mitchell, Fred Brown, Bob Arnold, Harry Lodge, Geoff Stooke, Bill Ritchie, Michael Bradford, Richard Adams, Tony McKay, Ian McGuckin, Doug Webb, Shane Edmunds, Barry Nunn, R.E Mees, Norm Coleman, Ronnie Leigh, John Maltas.



Highgate Sub-Branch Anzac Day **Gunfire Breakfast** will be in the Members Dining Room (capacity limited to 80) at the Weld Club, cost \$50 (TBC). Timing 0700 for 0730h, finish 0900h. Guest speaker Nigel Rogers, President WA Chapter Naval Historical Society of Australia. Booking sheet will be available late March.

NOTE: No lunch meeting in April

Highgate's own: "Who's that?" SOoooo.....

"LET'S GET TO KNOW": PETER HEENEY

(by Margot Harness)



Peter Heeneey and I share a friend back in Victoria – a CARO (Central Army Records Office) colleague for me – going back 50+ years; even longer for Peter: as both were “Northcote” boys. Like most Melbourne-born lads, they were keen and handy with an Aussie Rules football – Peter being good enough to play with Fitzroy Reserve grade in the AFL. Quite an achievement in that ‘footy-mad’ State.

So, I had heard a few snippets about “young Peter” Heeneey well before I bumped into him as a member of Highgate, and even before that – at Perth Legacy. Peter has a long association with that wonderful organisation, starting in 1981 and continuing to the present. He served as President of Legacy WA from 2006-2008 and 2018. He is currently a National Director of Legacy Australia, a position held since 2015. He is also currently President of the RARWA Association.

Peter was born in Victoria, an only child. He attended primary and secondary schools in the northern suburbs of Melbourne. Always “sporty” and competitive, he won the Junior Walking Championship of Victoria in 1966 and spent time as a Shipping and Customs clerk before joining the Army in 1968. He served with 2RAR/NZ in SVN 1970-71. Back home whole serving in Queensland Peter earned his Mature Matriculation at Brisbane TAFE. Peter was RSM at CARO through 1987 and was later commissioned as a Captain and posted as the Adjutant at the RAAOC School. In recent years he has been sought out to be “MC” at Vietnam Veterans’ Day ceremonies (each year since 2015) and MC “Koreans Armistice Day” – since 2017. Currently he enjoys his position as Secretary, Korean War Memorial Committee. Peter is long-separated, but has a daughter 42 and son, 41 – as well as three grandchildren. He sounds a bit staid; you might think – wrong! For ten years he was the Tour Manager of comedian: “Kevin Bloody Wilson” ... and there is clearly a carefree side: he has also been a long-time fan of Harley Davidson motor-bikes! No tattoos though. *Vrrrrrooom – Brr-room Pete!*



SICK PARADE

Long-time stalwart Highgate member, **Jeremy Buxton**, is now recovering well from his recent hip replacement surgery. We all send you a hearty “Get Well Soon” wish Jeremy.

Another member who has recently undergone surgery for a joint “renovation” is Treasurer: **Ray Ward**; who was doing so well after his knee replacement surgery that when he saw his train about to depart, forgot his limitations and started to run to catch it! (He did, but his knee wasn’t pleased!)

Arthur Hutchison has had a jump start in life with the insertion of a pacemaker. Restricted to light duties at the moment but feeling well.



Due to members stepping down from various positions in the Sub-Branch, we urgently need replacements for Mike Harness as Poppy Day Co-ordinator, Birthday co-ordinator, a new meetings front desk officer to replace Bob Campbell and a Listening Post Radio speaker research officer to replace Allan Downs. Please speak to the Secretary



CHUCKLE CORNER:

The rain was pouring down outside O'Connor's Irish Pub near Dublin. There standing in front of a big puddle outside the pub was an old Irishman, drenched, holding a stick, with a piece of string dangling in the water. A passer-by stopped and asked him, "What are you doing?"

"Oi'm fishing", replied the old man.

Feeling sorry for the old fellow, the gent kindly says, "Come in out of the rain and have a drink with me. What'll you have?"

In the warm ambiance of the pub, as they sip their whiskies, the gentleman, being a bit of a superior smartie pants, cannot resist asking: "So how many have you caught today?"

"You're the 8th", replied the old man.

Australian Army Museum of WA presents

ARMY MUSEUM FAMILY DAY

Saturday 9 April 2022
Artillery Barracks,
Burt St, Fremantle
10.30am - 9pm

Join us as we open the museum for an extended day/night event to allow our visitors access to our fabulous exhibition spaces for longer, you will also see....

**VOLUNTEERS IN PERIOD UNIFORM | MILITARY VEHICLES PAST AND PRESENT
WW2 MOVIE TONE NEWSREELS | KELMSCOTT LIGHT HORSE MEMORIAL TROOP
FLAG LOWERING CEREMONY | REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE**

**FEATURING THE AUSTRALIAN ARMY BAND PERTH
BRING ALONG YOUR MILITARY ARTEFACTS FOR ASSESSMENT
BY JOHN BURRIDGE MG BETWEEN 11AM & 6PM**

Tickets available through <https://www.trybooking.com/BXGCI>
Adults \$15 | Family (2 + 3) \$35 | Concession \$10 | Children 6 - 17 \$10
Booking fees apply | Proof of vaccination required | Masks mandatory
Refunds will not be issued if proof of vaccination is not supplied,
however in the event of cancellation by the organisers, refunds will be offered.

For more info www.armymuseumwa.com.au or call 9430 2535

A nighttime photograph of the Australian Army Museum of Western Australia building. The building is a two-story brick structure with white window frames. A sign on the building reads "AUSTRALIAN ARMY HISTORY ONLY" and "ARMY MUSEUM OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA". In the foreground, there is a large circular sign on a pole that says "ARMY MUSEUM OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA" and "EST 1977". A vintage-style cannon is displayed on a wooden platform in front of the building. The scene is lit by streetlights and building lights, creating a warm glow against the dark sky.

I used to be addicted to the hokey pokey, but then I turned myself around.