



THE RETURNED & SERVICES LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA HIGHGATE SUB BRANCH

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Highgate Happenings NOVEMBER 2022



Lest We Forget

HIGHGATE REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE AND LUNCH

Highgate members and guests are invited to the annual Highgate Sub-Branch REMEMBRANCE DAY MEMORIAL LUNCH to be held at FRASER'S RESTAURANT, KINGS PARK on Sunday 13 November 2022. The Luncheon commences at 12.30 p.m. (preceded by a Memorial Service at the Kings Park War Memorial at 11.30 a.m.). \$90 pp pre-paid, two course meal with drinks.

The service and lunch will be conducted in the presence of His Excellency the Honourable Chris Dawson, Governor of Western Australia, and Mrs Dawson.

Please note tables of ten. Members are encouraged to form tables of ten.

Note please include the name of the TABLE CO-COORDINATOR IF YOU ARE SITTING ON A TABLE OF 10 BUT ARE PAYING SEPARATELY.

Please book by Friday 4 November 2022.

Guest speaker is outgoing Warden of the State War Memorial, Major General Barry Nunn AO RFD ED. We will also welcome the incoming Warden Commodore Brett Dowsing JP. Members are no doubt aware that both gentlemen are Highgate members.

Highgate member Ian Petkoff will give a short talk on volunteering in Kings Park over the last 100 years.

Bookings can be made at:

<https://forms.gle/HExNjniJ6kRezo4j9>

You can see who is coming at:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1pOV2fis0o3Tiuz9YR8kJJYMmJau81F_-zNltI9MgfKI/edit?usp=sharing

This is one of the two highlights of the Highgate calendar so make up a table with friends and join us.

Happy Birthday

Celebrating November birthdays are:

Lou Daily, Michael Darby, Kevan Barrett, Bob Bunny, Brian D'Cunha, Doug Farmer, Clare Curtis, Colin Hebbard, Graham Reynolds, Peter Farrell, Allan Downs, John Evert, Jonathon Huston.



KOREAN WAR MEMORIAL UPDATE

On **Friday 2nd December 2022**, the Perth Korean War Memorial Committee (PKWMC), will coordinate the turning of the “first sod”. This important ceremony will herald the “construction stage” to build the above Memorial in the Saw Avenue, Memorial Precinct., with the Dedication Ceremony to be held on 27 July 2023.

The PKWMC consists of Highgate members, Bill Munro, Peter Heeney, Brett Dowsing, Duncan Warren, Fay Duda, Honorary Consul to Korea in WA, and consultant Nigel Earnshaw.

The Korean Ambassador to Australia and his entourage will make the journey West to officiate at the ceremony, along with other invited State and Federal VIP’s.

In celebration of this significant occasion, there will be a Veterans Lunch and a Corporate Fund-raising Dinner for special guests at night.

Highgate RSL has been heavily involved in overseeing this project since 2018 and will continue to do so post the Dedication Ceremony.



Poppy Day 4 November 22

This year marks the 101th Anniversary of the International Poppy Appeal established in the United Kingdom in 1921. The Poppy Appeal started in Australia in 1923, is the RSL’s longest-running fundraiser and is RSLWA’s largest annual fundraising event for the year. This is Highgate’s major fundraiser annually with 50% of funds collected going to the RSLWA to support veteran purposes and the other 50% being retained by Highgate

for welfare purposes.

Highgate Coord, Treasurer Ray Ward, is seeking members to “Rattle a Tin” and advises:

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

VOLUNTEERS (“The more the merrier”) ARE needed. If you missed the October lunch please contact Ray Ward Ph. 0409 426 677 or c42ward@bigpond.net.au

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

The Sub-Branch has a number of SQUARE readers to receive donations electronically.

Welcome new members Brett Dowsing, Jon Huston and Mark Scott-Jeffs.

Certificate of Appreciation

If you're a veteran or a veteran's family member, you may be able to apply for a Certificate of Appreciation. These are issued as a national gesture of thanks for military service.

The certificates are a way of expressing the nation's gratitude to those who served:

- overseas in Australia's Defence Force during the Second World War and in overseas wars, conflicts and peace operations since
- on the home front in the Second World War

They do not confer any eligibility for entitlements under the:

- [Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986](#)
- [Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004](#)
- [Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988](#)

Who can apply

You can apply for a certificate if you are a:

- veteran who served in the wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations for which certificates are available
- family member on behalf of a deceased eligible person

What service qualifies?

Certificates are issued for service with Australia's Defence Forces:

- in overseas wars, conflicts or peace operations during the specified dates in the application form
- on the home front during the Second World War

Information about who is eligible for a certificate is in the guidelines at:

<https://www.dva.gov.au/recognition/certificate-appreciation>

What's Happening

Friday 4 November 22 - Poppy Day.

Sunday 13 November 22

Memorial Lunch – Guest Speaker Barry Nunn AO RFD ED, retiring Warden, State War Memorial.

Location: Fraser's Kings Park, cost \$90 per person.

NOTE: No Monday lunch in November.

Monday 12 December 22 (second Monday) - 2UP Bush Band.

Monday 16 January 23 - Allan Downs

Monday 20 February 23- Ian McMillan COO Austal Ships

Monday 20 March 23 - Professor Dr Alexandra Ludewig, Head of School of Humanities UWA (rescheduled from July 22.)

Tuesday 25 April – Anzac Day Gunfire Breakfast, Weld Club.

HISTORY OF THE USE OF A GUN CARRIAGE FOR FUNERALS (DIDCOT RAILWAY CENTRE)

We are pleased to read in the newspapers that the gun carriage carrying the coffin of Queen Elizabeth II at the state funeral procession on Monday 19 September was hauled by Royal Navy sailors. Most news reports correctly state that the tradition dates back to Queen Victoria's funeral on 2 February 1901. However, they fail to mention the Great Western Railway's role in supplying the ropes for the sailors to rig to the gun carriage on the occasion.

On 2 February 1901 the weather was extremely cold and the hawsers for the gun carriage to be used for the procession from Windsor railway station to the Castle had frozen. The horses intended to pull the gun carriage were also affected by the intense cold and had become restive and possibly dangerous during the wait for the delayed funeral train to arrive. It was at this point that the GWR played its essential part in what has become a tradition for subsequent state funerals. The Duke of Portland, who was Master of the Horse at Queen Victoria's funeral, recalled what happened in a letter published in *The Times* on 28 January 1936 at the time of King George V's funeral: "Owing to the lateness of the train which conveyed Her Majesty's coffin from Paddington to Windsor the horses attached to the gun-carriage had become cold. When the word of command 'Walk ...March' was given, the leaders twice reared up, and then fell back on the other horses, which caused all six to fall down. "My recollection is that Admiral Sir Michael Culme-Seymour was in command of the large Naval Guard of Honour drawn up on the spot. As soon as Sir Michael saw what had occurred, he called out to me in his usual resonant voice, 'All right, my boys will soon straighten out this mess.' He at once ordered them to go into the station and the station master procured ropes (from the communication cords of carriages). Sir Michael then ordered them to fall in and draw the gun-carriage from the station to the entrance to the Castle grounds at the end of the Long Walk and up the slope. It was a most touching and effective procession and, in my opinion, much more impressive than would have been the official procedure." Thus with inspired improvisation and the help of the GWR, began the tradition which the Royal Navy has claimed ever since of hauling the coffin at funerals of the monarch. The ropes on the carriages were the external communication cords to alert the guard in an emergency. Our brake 3rd carriage No 416, built in 1891, still carries this system, so remember to take a look at it next time you visit Didcot Railway Centre. (*Navy League Newsletter*)

CHUCKLE CORNER:



Sitting by the window of her convent, Sister Barbara opened a letter from home one evening. Enclosed with it was a \$100 note her parents had sent. She smiled and thought to herself: "What wonderful parents I have!"

As she read the letter by the window, she noticed a shabbily dressed stranger leaning against the lamp post in the street below.

Quickly, she wrote, "Don't despair. - Sister Barbara," on a piece of paper, wrapped the \$100 inside it, got the man's attention and tossed it out the window to him. The stranger picked it up, and with a puzzled expression and a tip of his hat went off down the street.

The next day, Sister Barbara was told that a man was at the convent door, insisting on seeing her. She went down and found the stranger waiting. Without a word, he handed her a huge wad of \$100 bills.

"What's this?" she asked.

"That's the \$8,000 you have coming Sister," he replied. "Don't Despair paid 80-to-1."