

The Listening POST

JULY 2021 ISSUE

ANZAC of the Year Award fits the Bill



**ANZAC House Veteran Central
receives high praise at
State Congress 2021**





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RSL STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The RSL was founded in 1916 to provide comradeship and support to Australia's Veterans and their families.

That core mission has never changed but has continued to evolve to meet the needs of each generation of servicemen and women.

We have a branch network that covers Australia and any Veteran who needs help will get it - every serving ADF member and Veteran will be warmly welcomed at their local RSL Sub-Branch or club.

We advocate for the best possible conditions for our serving men and women and for those who have served the nation in the past.

We foster respect and thanks from the nation for all those who have made sacrifices in Australia's name and we will provide a strong voice on issues of national unity and security.

PREVIOUS EDITIONS

Copies of *The Listening Post* are available on our website:
www.rslwa.org.au

PUBLISHING

Publishing of *The Listening Post*.
Published three times a year with a readership of more than 25,000.

To all Sub-Branch Presidents and Secretaires:
Send photographs (IMB plus) and a short article (in a Word document) on special activities at your Sub-Branch to *The Listening Post*.

Deadline for next edition:

1 October 2021

The preferred method of receiving submissions is by email. Photographs should be attached separately and a minimum of 1 MB. This is our magazine and contributions and letters are welcome.

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ANZAC of the Year Award winner Bill Collidge with State President Peter Aspinall AM.

Photo: Ross Swanborough

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FAMILIES OF KOREAN AND VIETNAM VETS

Colonel Peter Scott DSO (Retd), an Infantry Officer of some 37 years' service is writing yet another book, title being – "COs in Korea and Vietnam".

It is realised that all Commanding Officers of Korea and some from Vietnam are deceased. Peter doesn't think it is possible to publish such a book without the assistance of families to verify what he has written about their father, or in some cases their grandfather, and he sees this book to be an important reference to historians.

He is seeking assistance nationally, in the hope that somebody will know some of the family contact details for those men listed below and is happy for them to contact him directly on (08) 8372 3052 or by email pscott1@internode.on.net

KOREA:

Ian Hutchinson - <https://vwma.org.au/explore/people/805559>
Maurice Austin - <https://vwma.org.au/explore/people/659592>
George Frederick Larkin - <https://vwma.org.au/explore/people/805562>
Ian Bruce Ferguson - <https://vwma.org.au/explore/people/805557>
Sir Francis George Hassett - <https://vwma.org.au/explore/people/804080>
Sir Arthur Leslie MacDonald - <https://vwma.org.au/explore/people/722684>

VIETNAM:

Eric Harold Smith- <https://vwma.org.au/explore/people/806212>
Ronald Alwyn Grey - <https://vwma.org.au/explore/people/806213>
Keith John O'Neill - <https://vwma.org.au/explore/people/806214>
Alan Lindsay (Alby) Morrison - <https://vwma.org.au/explore/people/806215>

With Kind Regards.

Cheryl Cates

State President, RSL SA/NT

You can email your *Letters to the Editor* to publicaffairs@rslwa.org.au

If you prefer more traditional means, please post to:

Letters to the Editor

PO Box Z5424

St George's Tce, PERTH WA 6831

The best of your submissions will be published in the next edition of *The Listening Post*.

P.S.: Nothing makes us happier than receiving all your emailed story and letter submissions. But please ensure all The Listening Post email submissions are provided on a Word document. Also, all photos must be 1MB or higher resolution in jpeg form, sent separately as an attachment.

The first State Congress held in the new ANZAC House Veteran Central was quite a milestone, marking not only the beginning of a better service delivery model for our Veteran Community, but also what has been achieved despite the significant challenges faced in the past 18 months.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

DRAWN FROM HIS FORMAL ADDRESS AT THE 2021 CONGRESS.

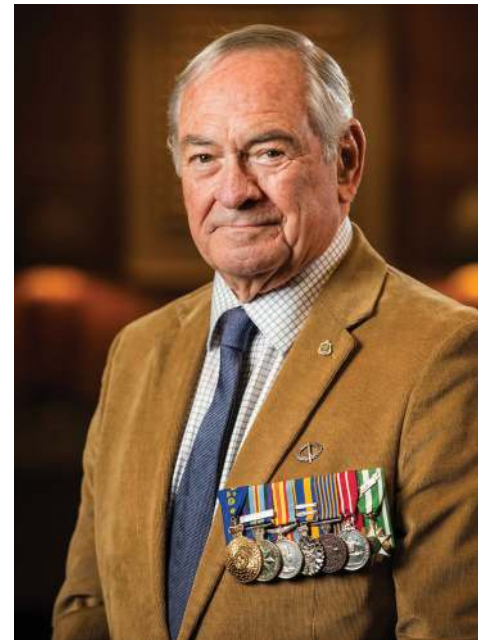
Moving into ANZAC House Veteran Central late last year was a welcome end to a hell of a year. The impact of the coronavirus pandemic, COVID-19, was dramatic, it affected our ability to commemorate, it affected the way we worked, it affected our financial condition and it affected our ANZAC House construction.

Throughout the past year, staffing levels were maintained despite there being constant financial pressures to constrain costs. This situation was considerably eased by application for, and receipt of, the Federal Government's Job keeper support program.

Without doubt, the most exciting event of 2020 was the commissioning of the new ANZAC House. In the past calendar year, the welfare team assisted more than 550 veterans, widows or family members, while the advocacy team assisted 443 veterans achieving a total payout on successful DVA claims of a record \$6.2 million. All this while our State and the rest of Australia was ravaged by COVID-19.

And the stats right now demonstrate that Year 2021 could see the 2020 effort eclipsed. Despite a number of COVID-19 shutdowns in past months, the Veteran Services effort so far this year has seen the welfare team assist 453 veterans or family members with the advocacy team attaining a total of \$5.5m in successful DVA claims. At State Branch, we grew the Veteran Services capability to help address a continued increase in calls and approaches for assistance. Our valued volunteers throughout our 114 Sub-Branched continued to provide tireless and dedicated welfare and advocacy support to members and veterans in general.

RSLWA entered 2021 in a sound position with the capacity to continue and improve the advocacy and welfare services to Veterans and their families.



PETER ASPINALL AM
RSLWA STATE PRESIDENT

The Commonwealth Government's recent move to establish a Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide is strongly supported by RSLWA. Better understanding of the potential impact of pre-service, service, transition, separation and post-service issues can only help us deliver improved services that will support the health and well-being of those who have been prepared to sacrifice everything for their country.

For the second consecutive year Dawn Services, ANZAC Parades and ANZAC Commemorative Services in the Metropolitan and Peel Regions were cancelled to the immense disappointment of Veterans of all ages.

Our regional Sub-Branched worked hard to ensure their services went ahead, some of which are featured in this edition. Light Up The Dawn driveway services were again immensely popular throughout Western Australia, particularly in the lockdown areas. RSLWA will be looking to make this a regular part of our ANZAC Day Commemorations in the future.

This edition of The Listening Post has been given a new look and feel which we hope you will enjoy and we look forward to your feedback about our continued efforts to improve.

State President Peter Aspinall AM presented Bill Collidge with his award and medal at the Returned and Services League of Australia WA Branch State Congress event last month.

Bill has been an RSLWA Board member of nine years and was also Chair of the Youth Development and Cadet Support Committee for the RSLWA since 2011. He plays an important role in coordinating the Annual Cadets of the Year Award, where cadets' skills and knowledge in administering first aid to the injured, general knowledge, verbal presentation, dress and bearing are assessed under a rigorous testing program.

As the President and Secretary of the Riverton RSL Sub-Branch, he has also been instrumental in steering the Sub-Branch in the right direction through hard times and prosperous times. As a long-time Riverton resident, his involvement is not limited to the RSL and is linked to many local community groups who know his passion for the community and his level of contribution to making it a better place.

RSLWA CEO John McCourt said

Bill is a very worthy recipient of the Award which was great recognition of his many years of selfless and extraordinary service.

"A former WA Police officer, Bill's contributions extend from association with the WA Police Force and RSLWA, supporting welfare and employment projects for veterans and their families through to disadvantaged youth, Defence Force Cadets WA and the wider community of Riverton," Mr McCourt said.

"Bill's dedication to disadvantaged youths has been exemplary, as is his leadership and people management skills."

"None of this was paid employment, it's all voluntary."

Bill's voluntary work with youth includes the Banksia Hill Australian Army Cadet Program which he is passionate about.

For these detainees, regular classroom learning has been replaced with theory, practical, physical and skill-based training which is aligned to the Australian Army Cadets.

"While the program still delivers key educational requirements, it also provides new skills that they can take into their lives when they return to the community," Mr Collidge said.

The Australian Army values of courage, initiative, respect and teamwork are instilled in the young recruits as they undergo their journey of personal development and growth.

More than 70 young people have successfully graduated from the course with some going on to join the cadets in the community, and others having the opportunity to become a part of the Army Reserves.

The ANZAC of the Year Awards are made annually to recognise the efforts and achievements of Australians who have given service to their fellow Australians and to the community in a positive, selfless and compassionate manner.

Nominations for the ANZAC Awards are assessed and selected by the National RSL ANZAC Awards Committee whose members include RSL National President, Greg Melick, Official Secretary to the Governor-General of Australia, Paul Singer, Assistant Secretary Department of Prime Minister & Cabinet, Peter Rush, former Senator, Margaret Reid and RSL National CEO, Phil Winter.

ANZAC of the Year Bill Collidge (left) was presented his award by RSL National President Greg Melick AO RFD FANZCN SC (centre) and RSLWA State President Peter Aspinall.

ANZAC OF THE YEAR AWARD FITS THE BILL

As one of only two recipients across Australia announced in April, WA veteran Bill Collidge RFD, received the 2021 ANZAC of the Year Award acknowledging his tireless commitment to RSLWA and development of our future leaders.



The first State Congress to be held in the new ANZAC House attracted about 200 Sub-Branch members and dignitaries for the Awards presentation and AGM on Saturday, 12 June.



Colour Party ushers in the Governor.

STATE CONGRESS 2021

The wreath laying ceremony that has not been held since the old ANZAC House building was closed was reinstated this year. It was attended by a small group of members from Bunbury and other Sub-Branches on the Friday evening ahead of Congress.

State President Peter Aspinall laid the wreath in the courtyard at ANZAC House and recited The Ode before the Last Post was played by David Scott.

Congress got underway on the Saturday morning with the marching of the colours by the Westralian Great War Living History group, the recital of The Ode, playing of the Last Post, one minute silence, 'Lest we Forget' and Rouse.



The Governor of Western Australia, The Honorable Kim Beasley AC, opened Congress with a well-received address during which he applauded RSLWA's visionary initiative in creating the Veteran Central model.

RSLWA's success with Veteran Central was reiterated by the Minister for Veterans Issues, Hon. Paul Papalia CSC MLA who was representing the Premier.

The Hon. Andrew Hastie MP, representing the Hon. Darren Chester MP, concluded the first session with an informative speech which touched on Veteran suicide, the Royal Commission, the need for ongoing support for Veterans and RSLWA's ongoing commitment to ANZAC House Veteran Central.

"Veteran Central is part of the Government's \$40.7 million pledge to develop a network of Veteran Wellbeing Centres across Australia — with two more announced in the recent Budget," he said.

"Veteran Central is already helping to connect WA veterans and their families to a range of core wellbeing services, including support for transition, employment, health and social connection."

RSL National President, Major General Greg Melick AO RFD FANZCN SC, opened the Awards session after morning tea with another strong address which also commended the Veteran Central model, stating that it should be adopted and replicated by other States.

The AGM and Open Forum held after lunch provided positive discussion and valuable feedback from Sub-Branches, including web casting of future Congress events to include those unable to attend, particularly those in regional areas.



Guest speaker
the Hon. Andrew Hastie MP



**PORT KENNEDY SECRETARY
NOEL SHARPLEY RECEIVING THE THE
MARY CORNELL TROPHY AWARDED TO
THE SUB-BRANCH WITH A MEMBERSHIP
OF MORE THAN 60 MEMBERS WHICH
SOLD THE MOST POPPIES FOR THE YEAR.
PINJARRA AND JOONDALUP CAME
SECOND AND THIRD RESPECTIVELY.**





RSL OF AUSTRALIA NATIONAL HONOURS AND AWARDS

LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARDED TO:

Kevin Anderton, *City of Cockburn*
 Robert Arnold DSM OAM, *Highgate*
 Warren Austin, *Sir John Monash*
 Gilbert Bulliard, *City of Cockburn*
 Mark Davies, *Denmark*

Peter Dempsey, *Canning Districts*
 John Gelmi, *Bunbury*
 Robert Gillmore, *City of Rockingham*
 Leon Griffiths, *Highgate*
 Susan O'Donnell, *Pinjarra*

James Redmond, *Canning Districts*
 Terence Reynolds, *Canning Districts*
 Robin Sweet OAM, *North Beach*
 Wayne Tarr RFD ED, *Highgate*

TROPHIES

Mary Cornell Trophy Port Kennedy.
 Pinjarra 2nd and Joondalup 3rd.
 Lt Col Ken Bladen Shield Kalamunda,
 Eastern Regional 2nd and Port Kennedy 3rd.
 Anne Leach Trophy Northampton RSL.
 Serpentine/Jarradale 2nd and Gascoyne 3rd.
 Dennis Connelly Recruiting Cup Brookton.
 Gascoyne 2nd and Cunderdin 3rd.
 The Newdegate Cup City of Joondalup.
 North Beach and Canning Districts equal 2nd.
 Brigadier Arnold Potts Cup Bedford-Morley.
 Colonel Collett Trophy Toodyay, Busselton 2nd.
 Geraldton Sub-Branch Shield Three Springs, Narrogin 2nd.

50 YEAR CERTIFICATES

Peter Evans, *Dawesville*
 Wayne Koch, *North Beach*
 Richard Nield, *Boyup Brook*
 Desmond Pryce, *North Beach*
 Don Ranford, *North Beach*
 James Redmond, *Canning Districts*
 Arthur Warnock, *City of Belmont*
 Lindsay Williams, *North Beach*



SERVICE TO VETERANS

HONOURED WITH ORDER OF AUSTRALIA MEDALS

Five RSLWA members were recognised for outstanding service with the Medal of the Order of Australia in the Queen's Birthday Honours for 2021 announced on 14 June.

Lieutenant Colonel Stephen Chamarette (Retd) from the Highgate Sub-Branch, Allan West from the Port Kennedy Sub-Branch and Greg Young from North Beach Sub-Branch each received the award in recognition for service to veterans.

Alex Lennox, also from North Beach Sub-Branch and Jacqueline Liddiard from the Pinjarra Sub-Branch were also acknowledged for service to veterans and their families.

RSLWA State President Peter Aspinall said it was an honour to have the tireless work of members recognised with such a prestigious award.

"The recognition of them volunteering their time to support other veterans and their families and also working in the broader community is very well deserved," he said.

In his statement announcing the awards, His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd), thanked the recipients for their service and extended congratulations on being recognised by their peers and the nation.

"Collectively, they speak to who we are as a nation. There are countless examples of selflessness, commitment and dedication. There is diversity and there are examples of exceptional achievement in almost every field imaginable," he said.

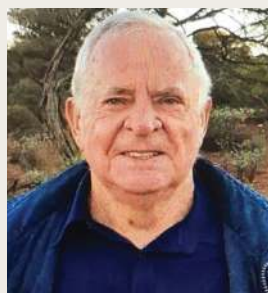
He also noted that this year's list of recipients of the General Division of the Order of Australia included the highest ever percentage of women (44 per cent).



Stephen Chamarette



Allan West



Greg Young



Alex Lennox



Jacqueline Liddiard

ANZAC CLUB SHINES AMONG WA'S BEST

The spotlight shone on the function services provided within ANZAC House last month with RSLWA's ANZAC Club being nominated as a finalist in the 2020/21 Western Australian Club Industry Awards for Excellence.

ANZAC House incorporates the ANZAC Club as well as three premium function spaces, which all boast uninterrupted views of Perth's Swan River.

ANZAC Club manager Paul Thomas said he was very proud of the ANZAC House function services.

"Whether it is in our members' restaurant or on the function floor, our ANZAC club staff always strive to make sure all our customers' needs are met and exceeded," he said.

Since opening in October 2020, the ANZAC Club and function centre has hosted a broad range of events, from breakfasts and lunches for corporate clients and Club members, through to Club member wine dinners with matching wines and presentations by wine makers and other suppliers.

Within the first two weeks of opening, the venue also hosted its first wedding.

"We are extremely proud to be among the best in the State's Club Industry, it's a great achievement by the whole team and testimony to future clients that we can help them deliver high quality, outstanding functions and events."

The ANZAC Club WA is a finalist in the Function Facility of the Year Category (Small/Medium) with the Nedlands Yacht Club. The winners will be announced at the Awards Ceremony in July at the Crown Perth.



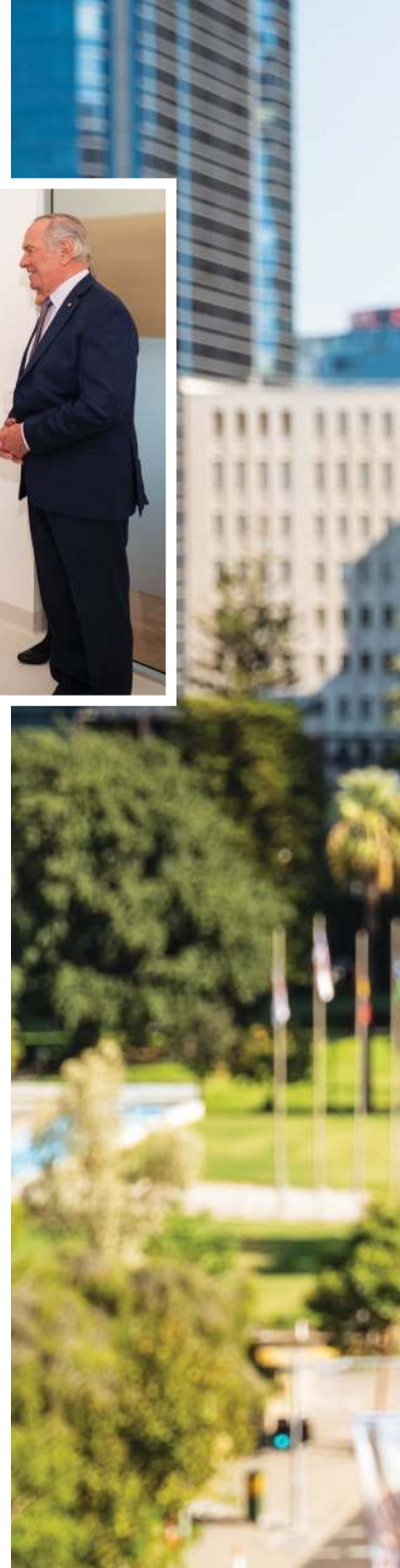
WE ARE EXTREMELY PROUD TO BE AMONG THE BEST IN THE STATE'S CLUB INDUSTRY





Dr Thomas Lee shows the Governor and his wife, Liz, through Veteran Health Solutions.

GOVERNOR GENERAL ADDS ANZAC HOUSE TO WA VISIT



Veteran Central service providers were honoured by a surprise visit to ANZAC House from His Excellency Governor General David Hurley AC DSC (Retd) and his wife Liz in April.

The visit to ANZAC House was an extension of the Governor General's Western Australian visit as part of his program of engagement with Australian communities affected by bushfires and other natural disasters.

Recognising the significant distance to Perth, the program engaged with multiple local government areas, such as Chittering, Mundaring and Swan, that were impacted by the bushfires earlier this year. The Governor General also visited Geraldton, as well as Kalbarri which was devastated by Cyclone Seroja the week before his visit.





The visit to ANZAC House included a tour of Veteran Central to meet service providers and learn more about the Veteran Central model, which is the first of its kind in Australia. The visit concluded with morning tea which showcased the premium function spaces boasting uninterrupted views of Perth's Swan River.

During his WA visit, the Governor General also attended the 2021 Mayoral Dinner hosted by City of Swan and the presentation of the Royal Australian Navy's Gloucester Cup.



Consulting Psychiatrist Dr Richard Magtengaard explains the work done by RESOLUTE for those who serve.

REMEMBERING THE BATTLE OF CORAL AND BALMORAL

When former members from Australia's bloodiest engagement in Vietnam recently came together to commemorate their fallen and wounded comrades, it also marked the first memorial service held in the new Courtyard of Contemplation at ANZAC House.

Participants in the Battle of Coral–Balmoral Memorial gathered on 13 May to remember the 25 Australians killed and nearly 100 wounded during 26 days of fighting in the Area of Operations of Surfers, north-east of Saigon.



As Master of Ceremonies, former 1RAR soldier Bill McLellan led the short memorial service with a speech and a minute's silence in memory of the fallen. The former members of 1RAR and 102 Field Artillery Battery then retired to swap memories over lunch in the ANZAC Club.

Bill from 1RAR (above left) with former 102 Field Battery Sergeant, Kelvin Ferris (centre) and fellow 1RAR soldier Rodney Forster laid the wreaths for the service.

The Battle of Coral–Balmoral lasted from 12 May till 6 June 1968. But for the men (pictured below), lunch in the ANZAC Club was more about camaraderie and having a beer or coffee together than reliving the horrors of the long past battles.



The Australian War Memorial tells the story that during the “Mini-Tet” offensive mounted by Viet Cong and North Vietnamese forces in May 1968, the 1st Australian Task Force deployed two battalions to an area 20 kilometres north of Bien Hoa city in what was then South Vietnam. The aim was to intercept and disrupt enemy forces withdrawing from the capital, Saigon, and the Bien Hoa–Long Binh base complex. Several fire support bases (FSB) were established to provide defended firing points for artillery and mortars, which would cover foot patrols to be sent out by the battalions (1RAR and 3RAR), one of the FSBs, situated seven kilometres north of the town of Tan Uyen, was dubbed “Coral”.

Balmoral was established about 4.5 kilometres further north on 24–25 May by 3RAR supported by tanks. The attacking North Vietnamese Army (NVA) regiment lost at least 42 killed and seven prisoners, but again casualties were thought to have been higher. The Department of Veteran Affairs ANZAC portal recalls the battles as “by far Australia’s largest, longest, bloodiest battle involving more soldiers of both forces, Australian and enemy, and suffering more casualties than any other battle of the Vietnam War.” Subsequently on the 50th Anniversary of the Battle of Coral units involved were issued with a Citation for Gallantry.

CITY OF PERTH SUB-BRANCH

RECONNECTED WITH ANZAC HOUSE

When the City of Perth RSL Sub-Branch gathered in the Victoria Cross Room of ANZAC House Veteran Central for their first general meeting in the new facility it was like a home-coming for the members.

The well-established City of Perth Sub-Branch and its members patronised the old ANZAC House

regularly before it was demolished to make way for the new purpose-built building.

“It’s so wonderful to be back,” said former President Kevin Smith. “It looked like we were going to have to close our Sub-Branch a short while ago,” said 86-year-old Kevin.

“But now we’re seeing some younger people putting their hands up to help out and things are looking bright once again.”

RSLWA President, Peter Aspinall, popped in to welcome back the members of the Sub-Branch and to wish them well for many more years to come.



Crafted to remember

Struck by The Perth Mint to commemorate the 1916-2016 centenary of the Returned & Services League of Australia, these special edition coins celebrate the work of one of Australia’s most honourable organisations.

Limited to a mintage of 5,000 for the 1oz Silver Proof coin (99.9% pure silver) and 1,000 of the 1/4 oz Gold Proof coin (99.99% pure gold), these are now yours to collect – with an exclusive 15% discount to RSLWA members.



www.perthmint.com/rslwa

The emblem and logo of the Returned & Services League of Australia Limited (RSL) are owned by the RSL and may only be used with the written consent of the RSL.

Well-known veteran and centarian, Arthur Leggett, was among the guests of honour at the launch of a proposed Battle of Crete Memorial to be established in Kings Park.

102-year-old Arthur fought in the Battle of Crete and became a prisoner of war for four years following the battle.

The proposed memorial will recognise the sacrifices made by ANZACs and Greeks in the 1941 Battle of Crete, which was a significant campaign for Australian, New Zealand and Greek troops for the course of the Second World War in Europe.

Prompted by this years' 80th Anniversary of the battle, the Battle of Crete memorial Committee (BCMC) was formed with the goal of creating a specific memorial where people can pay respects, reflect and learn about the significance of the Battle.

During the launch, retired Major Michael McDonald (from the Jackson McDonald Group) highlighted the courage of the people of Crete by how the local people continued to help the allied soldiers escape and hide from the German military occupiers, despite the threats on their lives and the actual executions of many locals.

Land in Kings Park for the new memorial has been allocated near the Tobruk Memorial and the committee will now proceed to raising funds to make the memorial a reality.

RSLWA Trustee, retired Commander Phil Orchard AM RAN, is a member of the Battle of Crete Memorial Committee along with former WA Governor, Ken Michael AC and a number of other WA dignitaries.

The two Patrons of the Committee are the Greek Archbishop of Australia, His Eminence Archbishop Makarios, and Richard Sandover, the nephew of the late Brigadier, Raymond Sandover. Brigadier Sandover commanded the 2/11th (City of Perth) Battalion not long after the 2nd/11th was sent from Greece to Crete.

For donations or further information contact the BCMC by email at admin@battleofcrete.org.au or visit the website www.battleofcrete.org.au

BATTLE OF CRETE MEMORIAL LAUNCH



Artists impression of the proposed Battle of Crete Memorial.

The 2/11th was the first Western Australian battalion raised for service overseas during the Second World War. Its formation began with the appointment of its first commanding officer on 13 October 1939 and by 7 November it was assembling at the newly-built Northam Camp to begin training. On 30 November it left Northam to join the 18th Brigade of the 6th Australian Division, a journey that would end at another new camp at Greta in New South Wales. The battalion returned to Western Australia in the middle of March and embarked at Fremantle for service overseas on 20 April 1940.

On Crete, the 2nd/11th took up positions around the airfield at Rethymno along with the 2nd/1st Battalion, the 4th and 5th Regiments of the Greek Army and a unit formed from Cretan Police Academy Cadets. Elements of Australian Artillery, Engineers, Machine gunners and support troops were also deployed. Unfortunately, the Australians lacked most of their heavy weapons, ammunition was in short supply. Reference: Australian War Memorial

ANZAC HOUSE HAS ROOM FOR

MATTHEW HOLYDAY

Many older members of RSLWA would be readily able to answer the question “Who is Matthew Holyday?” But for some of the younger brigade the response might not come quite so quickly.

I met this extraordinarily humble man in the middle of 2019 when I was invited to join RSLWA to assist RSLWA Sub-Branches throughout Western Australia and very quickly recognised his immense knowledge of all things RSL.

And there is probably no-one who would be more of an expert on this than Matthew who commenced working as ANZAC House Manager more than 12 years ago. His knowledge of the “old” ANZAC House and ANZAC Club is extensive as he witnessed the demolition and rebirth of this unique organisation into today’s brand new ANZAC House Veteran Central at 28 St Georges Terrace, Perth.

Matthew recalls: “the ‘House’ evolved in a variety of forms commencing with the Soldiers’ Welcome Institute from the Great War era, through to the old ANZAC House and now in its contemporary livery of ANZAC House Veteran Central.”

Despite not having a military career himself, Matthew, as the son of a WWII soldier, says: “I’ve always had a deep-seated concern for the welfare and well-being of the men and women of the ADF as did many of my fellow citizens. This was born from the recognition and realisation that, collectively, we all owe a debt of gratitude to those who would voluntarily place themselves in harm’s way in order to protect the safety and security of the ordinary citizens of Australia, and all that we hold dear – our family, our homes, our way of life and all the freedoms we enjoy.”

BY JOHN MCPHERSON

“Having enjoyed a lifelong career within the hospitality industry I was struck by the fact that, in one form or other, as either Soldiers’ Welcome Institute or the ANZAC Club, there existed a tradition of hospitality and of service and civility that possessed a history going back over 100 years! A significant tradition and achievement for RSLWA,” he wrote.

During his time with the two ANZAC Houses, the responsibilities he has carried in ensuring that a sense of camaraderie and civility were available to all veterans, and their families, on their return to civilian life has been noticed by many across the years.

The extent of the respect with which Matthew is held within the RSL community and particularly the Board of RSLWA, became clearly evident at the unveiling of the new ANZAC House Veteran Central on the 12th November last year when it was announced that the two meeting rooms within the new ANZAC Club would be called the Victoria Cross Room and the Matthew Holyday Room.

For the people who work with Matthew on a daily basis this was a moving moment and a fitting tribute for not only his hard work over many years but also his un-dying resolve to ensuring the respect and esprit de corps of our ANZACs is forever a part of the fabric of RSLWA.



“THE ‘HOUSE’ EVOLVED IN A VARIETY OF FORMS COMMENCING WITH THE SOLDIERS’ WELCOME INSTITUTE FROM THE GREAT WAR ERA, THROUGH TO THE OLD ANZAC HOUSE AND NOW IN ITS CONTEMPORARY LIVELY OF ANZAC HOUSE VETERAN CENTRAL.”

SPECIALISED VETERAN FACILITY



GETS TICK OF APPROVAL



THEIR SPIRIT WAS THE SPIRIT THAT IN A MOMENTOUS CRISIS LED THEM TO LAY ASIDE LESSER AND TRANSITORY THINGS OF LIFE IN THE PRESENCE OF HIGHER AND LASTING ISSUES AND TO MEET A COMMON NEED WITH COMMON EFFORT TO BE FAITHFUL TO THIS EXAMPLE IN WHATEVER CHANGES OR CIRCUMSTANCES TIME MAY BRING TO OUR NATIONAL LIFE IS THE TRUEST HOMAGE WE CAN PAY TO THE MEN OF ANZAC
FROM THE MESSAGE OF THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL SIR ISAAC ISAACS ON ANZAC DAY 1914

Former Minister for Veterans' Affairs, The Honourable Darren Chester MP, and Defence Personnel scheduled a full tour of ANZAC House Veteran Central during his visit to WA in May this year to see for himself the highly talked about facility RSLWA has put in place to support veterans and their families.

'RESOLUTE' Consulting Psychiatrist, Richard Magtengaard, explained to the Minister how his services are able to better interact and assist veterans by having office space in the new building.

Minister Chester was given a complete tour of ANZAC House Veteran Central and saw how this specialised one-stop facility could be used as a role model for other facilities throughout the country.



WA'S VETERAN CENTRAL PROVIDES MEDICAL, DENTAL, COUNSELING AND MENTAL HEALTH PRACTITIONERS, AS WELL AS ADVOCACY, WELFARE, TRANSITION AND EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT. OTHER SERVICES INCLUDE WELLBEING PROGRAMS, AGED-CARE SUPPORT, CONFERENCING FACILITIES AND SPACES TO RELAX AND SOCIALISE.



The Veteran Transition Centre in Jarrahdale will get a healthy boost in operational funding for essential recovery and restoration programs for veterans thanks to the generosity of sponsors which made the annual RSLWA Charity Golf Day a huge success.

Major sponsors Special Air Service Resources Fund were supported by 10 other Gold and Bronze sponsors to ensure the event raised much-needed funds that will enable RSLWA to help deliver more services and better support through the VTC and ANZAC House Veteran Central.

VETERAN WELLNESS THE DRIVER FOR CHARITY GOLF DAY

A field of nearly 100 players turned out in high spirits to support the four ball Ambrose competition held at the Mount Lawley Golf Club.

The chilling autumn breeze that persisted throughout the morning may have contributed to no one being on fire enough to bag the \$10,000 up for grabs in the EBM hole-in-one competition on Hole 15.

However, Klause McClements was firing by the time he reached the 13th and took the \$227 Pot of Gold on the 13th with a cracking nearest the pin shot. He very generously

donated the money back to the RSLWA during the prize presentation lunch.

Max Hunter had a great Nearest the Pin on the 6th to take the novelty prize for the Men, while James McClement took the Men's longest drive on the 9th.

Sally Zambra stepped up for the women with the longest drive on the 11th but, unfortunately, no women managed to get nearest the pin on the 8th.

Overall winners on the day was the Link Engineering team of Chris Bright, Josh Grafton, Lawrie Pettman and Sven de Jonghe.

Close behind them, the Quest team of Wayne and Byron McDonald, Peter Su and Ask Kerfoot took second place with the SAS Resources fund's team of Kelvin Flynn, James McClements, Brad Shallard and Darren Weaver coming in third.

Back at the Club House, warmed up by the post-game lunch and Whiskey Tastings by Whipper Snapper Distillery, the players and guests continued their support by participating in silent auctions and raffles to take home a range of great prizes that were also kindly donated.



6IX Team

RSLWA EXTENDS THANKS TO ALL THE SPONSORS AND PRIZE DONORS FOR THEIR GENEROSITY AND SUPPORT WHICH WILL DIRECTLY CONTRIBUTE TO ONGOING MENTAL HEALTH, WELFARE AND WELLBEING SERVICES TO HELP VETERANS TRANSITION FROM ACTIVE SERVICE TO CIVILIAN LIFE.



RSLWA would like to thank our donors for providing the door prize, raffle and silent auction items.

- Jetts Yokine (total value \$3,180)
- ANZAC Club (value \$1,190)
- Brinkhaus Jewellers (total value \$1,060)
- Fremantle Football Club (value \$899)
- Flight Experience Perth (total value \$885 each)
- Whipper Snapper Distillery (value \$652)
- Rottnest Island (value \$500)
- Duxton Hotel (total value \$335)
- Off Road Rush WA (value \$320)
- Amaroo Retreat (value \$300)
- F45 Mt Lawley (value \$300)
- Peddle Perth Package (value \$280)
- Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre (value \$224)
- David Henry Photography (value \$200)
- Dennis Tan Creative (value \$200)
- Beyond Rest (value \$158)
- Spinifex Brewery (value \$153)
- Bodhi J (value \$100)
- Chatsworth Flowers (value \$100)
- Clementine Flowers (value \$100)
- Perth Mint (value \$96)
- iFly (value \$80)

Thank you to our generous sponsors:



Quest East Perth Team

DARWIN TOUR OF DUTY

After almost two years of planning and cancellations in 2020 due to COVID-19, the much awaited Darwin Tour of Duty was realised in early June this year by 40 members of the RSLWA North Beach Sub-Branch.

The group, ranging in age from 44 to 83, spent eight days touring military related sites dating from World War II to the present day. Sites included RAAF explosive bunkers, WW2 airstrips, Humpty Doo military sites, the Darwin Aviation Museum and the Bombing of Darwin Museum, as well as local tourist sites.

Tour organiser Paul McGuinness said the trip was carefully planned to ensure all members participating could enjoy the tour.

“It is important that when we plan and undertake our ‘Tours of Duty’ we consider the interest and capability of our Members,” he said.

After touring each day, members enjoyed evening meals at different locations around Darwin, which provided ample time for them to reflect on day’s events, plan for the next day and to enjoy others’ company in a relaxed environment.

Paul said this was just one way in which RSLWA North Beach Sub-Branch is retaining the enthusiasm of its Members.

This was the fifth ‘Tour of Duty’ North Beach Sub-Branch has organised in six years, others being Albany, Rottneest, Merredin and Geraldton.



B52 Darwin Aviation Museum



Peta Connolly,
Bernie Egan,
Arthur Greaves,
Rob Sweet at
Adelaide River
Cemetery





Qantas Group



Ken Braidwood,
Geoff Thomas,
Peter Edwards,
Wayne Koch,
Jim Ryle at Bombing
of Darwin Museum



Robertson Barracks

ITINERARY

DAY 1 // 4 JUNE

Fly Perth to Darwin – depart 11:25 (11:25am),
Check-in Palms City Resort.

DAY 2 // 5 JUNE

Adelaide River Township, War Cemetery,
Railway Station and Museum.

Lunch: Adelaide River Inn.

Livingston, Sattler WWII airstrips, Strauss Airfield
spitfire display, Charles Darwin National Park and
RAAF explosives bunkers.

Dinner: Darwin Sailing Club

DAY 3 // 6 JUNE

Fogg Dam Nature Reserve and Windows
on the Wetlands.

Adelaide River Jumping Crocodile Cruise.

Humpty Doo Transmitting Station/Navy Aerial Farm.
Lunch: Humpty Doo Hotel.

Dinner: Mindil Beach Hotel and Casino leisure time

DAY 4 // 7 JUNE

Litchfield National Park, Coomalie Creek Airfield.

Dinner: The Deck Bar.

DAY 5 // 8 JUNE

Darwin Aviation Museum, Qantas Hangar.

Museum and Art Gallery of the NT and Botanic
Gardens.

Free afternoon

Dinner: Hotel Darwin.

DAY 6 // 9 JUNE

Darwin Explorer tour, WWII Oil Storage Tunnels,
Bombing of Darwin Museum. WWII Frontline cruise
on Darwin Harbour.

East Point Nature Reserve and Military Museum.

Lunch: Sausage sizzle.

Museum and Art Gallery of the NT.

Dinner: Fiddlers Green.

DAY 7 // 10 JUNE

Robertson Barracks tour.

Lunch: Speakers Corner, Parliament House.

Optional tour of Parliament House and NT Library

Dinner: Buffet aboard Charles Darwin,

farewell sunset cruise and drinks.

DAY 8 // 11 JUNE

Hotel checkout

Fly Darwin to Perth – depart 17:15 (5:15pm)

ANZAC YOUTH PARADE LARGEST EVER

The Annual ANZAC Youth Parade attracted record numbers this year with 1,600 students and teachers representing 33 Primary and Secondary schools from Cockburn and Fremantle when they marched on 21 April.

Established by RSL Member Arthur Stanton OAM in 2001, the event has grown immensely from the first parade and service which had about 600 students and teachers representing 12 Primary schools from the area.

This year marked the 20th Anniversary of the ANZAC Youth event conducted each year by the City of Cockburn RSL Sub-Branch.



A record number of students arrive at the Service following the parade.

As we all know, good plans can be hindered with unforeseen issues, and this was no exception. Two days before the event the Sub-Branch received news that Joint Logistic Unit (West) could not provide the Catafalque Party, due to lack of personnel. Sub-Branch Vice President Paul Prickett CSM was equal to the task, and overcame the situation by arranging for four Veterans to form the Honour Guard at the monument for the duration of the service.

This year the student's parade was led by a World War II Jeep and a Vietnam War Land-Rover driven by members of the Military Division of the Veteran Vehicles Club.

Sub-Branch President, Digger Cleak OAM, opened the service, which was led by two Masters of Ceremony, Seton College Head Girl, Sasha Muir, and Head Boy, Lochlain Varian.

The WA Governor was unable to attend but provided a message for the students. The service included a Senior Student ANZAC Address and seven other student readers. The ADF ANZAC Day Address was presented by Major David Bonner, JLU (WEST).

The Sub-Branch acknowledged the ongoing financial and in kind support of the Cockburn City Council, its Events Management Team, as well as the Vice President, Paul Prickett and his team.

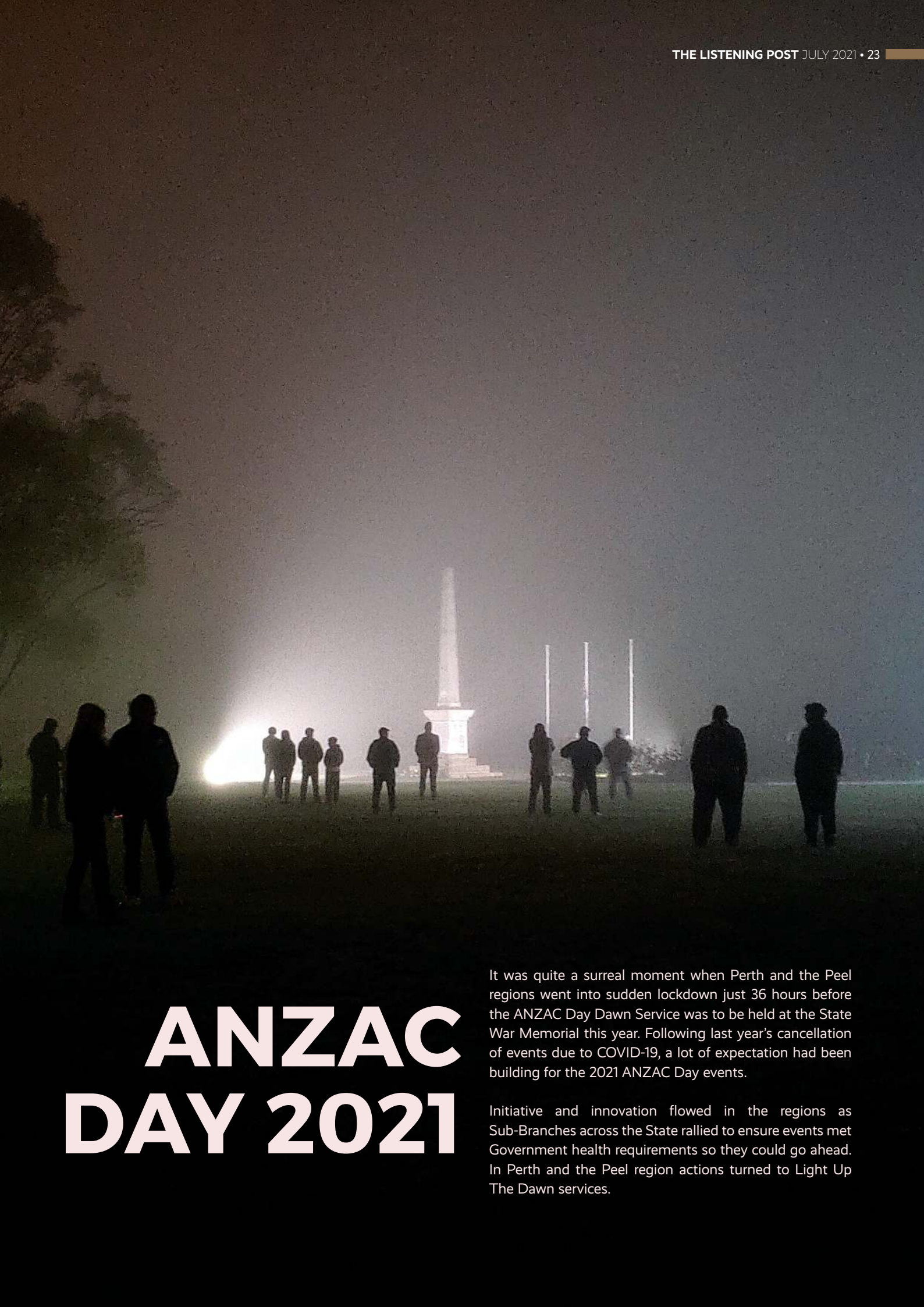
ANZAC House Veteran Central is the first of its kind in Australia - a specialised one-stop facility that puts Defence Veterans and their families first, with needs met under one roof.

Here, you will find medical, mental health and dental practitioners, counselling, advocacy services, welfare assistance, aged-care support, wellbeing programs, housing and transitional assistance, DVA support, conferencing facilities and places to just chill out and socialise, including our new-look ANZAC Club.

This facility was purpose-built to make the lives of Veterans and their families easier. The Veteran Central model puts veterans first to ensure their gift of service is repaid.

For details go to:
<https://www.rslwa.org.au/findsupport/veteran-central>





ANZAC DAY 2021

It was quite a surreal moment when Perth and the Peel regions went into sudden lockdown just 36 hours before the ANZAC Day Dawn Service was to be held at the State War Memorial this year. Following last year's cancellation of events due to COVID-19, a lot of expectation had been building for the 2021 ANZAC Day events.

Initiative and innovation flowed in the regions as Sub-Branches across the State rallied to ensure events met Government health requirements so they could go ahead. In Perth and the Peel region actions turned to Light Up The Dawn services.

GERALDTON



In the mid-west, the City of Geraldton Sub-Branch was unable to host a Commemorative Service at Birdwood House because of social distancing requirements. A proposal by the committee to conduct a veterans' only service as the possible way forward drew considerable criticism. After much discussion, Plan D came into play with the local football club's Wonthella Oval providing space requirements to meet the social distancing restrictions.

With massive assistance from City of Geraldton Council, planning got underway. However, there was the problem of a cenotaph. DIAB Engineering came to the rescue by building a three-quarter scale replica of the Birdwood House cenotaph and delivering it to the oval on the Saturday afternoon ahead of the dawn service. The cenotaph was later moved and set up at the Gallipoli Trench, east of Geraldton.

An enormous effort by local agencies and businesses made the ANZAC Dawn Service in Geraldton very successful.

KALBARRI

In the pitch black of the Anzac Day Dawn Service, it could almost have been the Kalbarri of old. But even before the sun fully rose, the scars left by Cyclone Seroja were obvious with piles of debris, fallen trees, taped-off property, bent signs and the hum of generators.

Two weeks after Cyclone Seroja left the town shattered, Anzac Day was a bright spark for the community, a reason to come together and continue healing and to draw on the Digger spirit of resilience and mateship.

Founder of Kalbarri's RSL Sub-Branch, Alex Hack said the Diggers lost a lot more than we ever did and he thought Kalbarri had a very strong resilient spirit.

"This just reinforced that," he said.

"Anzac Day demonstrates resilience and survival, refusal to give in if you think about ita lot of people are suffering to some degree mentally.

"I get strength from the fact that my dad was on the Kokoda track and I think, he got through that, what have I got to worry about?"



Alex felt the 2021 Dawn Service carried an extra special layer of meaning and he was confident the turnout was the town's biggest ever.

Making the occasion even more poignant was the presence of emergency workers and Army personnel who were in town helping with the cyclone clean-up.

The dawn service MC, Graham Dunn, said there was no doubt the town needed this ... under such circumstances anything that brings the community together was a real bonus.



CANNING DISTRICTS

The Canning Districts RSL Sub-Branch held off until May to remember the ANZACs with two services. On Saturday May 15 the Sub-Branch held a small late morning service followed by lunch and activities. They also worked in conjunction with the City of Canning and the Riverton RSL Sub-Branch to hold a sunset service on May 22, which was attended by about 100 people.

An afternoon tea was held inside the City of Canning building before the sunset service which included the City of Canning Brass Band playing and the Prayer of Remembrance being read by Rev Brett Gibson. The Lament was played by a lone piper during the wreath laying. Members returned to Canning Districts RSL Sub-Branch for a light meal, drinks and mateship.



CLAREMONT

Claremont RSL also got in early with an assembly to commemorate the ANZACs hosted by Freshwater Bay Primary School on Friday morning.

The dignified and respectful event drew quite a crowd including special guests, David Thomas (President of the Claremont RSL, SAS Veteran) and Kevin Bovill (2nd and 3rd Squadron SAS - Vietnam) who addressed the children, staff members and families.

Year 6 students from Tangney 2 shared anecdotes from their classroom research, honouring the women, animals, and soldiers of war, before reciting A Tribute to The ANZACs. The Claremont RSL has formed a productive relationship with the Freshwater Bay Primary School community and proactive in their education of local students.

COCKBURN



As the COVID-19 lockdown was announced, Cockburn President Digger Cleak OAM made the snap decision to get in early and hold a sunset wreath laying ceremony in the Memorial Rose Garden, with wreaths being laid at the base of the Wall of Remembrance.

The impromptu service was followed by a barbecue to empty the kitchen coolroom and refrigerators which were loaded with sausages, bacon, eggs, pies, rolls and bread purchased for the Gunfire Breakfast and post-ANZAC Day parade and service.

Members were able to purchase a BBQ meal and food packs were sold off to members. Where possible the remaining food was stored in freezers for later use.

The event was also used to celebrate the 98th birthday of World War II Veteran Billie Cork.



NORTH BEACH

Despite the Dawn Service at North Beach not going ahead, Sub-Branch figured there must have been some ghosts waiting for the Dawn Service when the North Beach Memorial was 'dressed up' well before Dawn with Flags at Half-Mast. A small group of Police Officers stopped to pay their respects, along with the morning walkers. The Sub-Branch put the 2021 ANZAC Day experience down to 'practice for better things next year'.

MOORA

When the residents of Moora put out a call for a military nurse to come to Moora, some 170km inland from Perth, there was an immediate response from Major Jo Wilson and Captain Kelly Brosnan. Both thought it was a terrific idea and were prepared to make the trip to unveil the statue.

Unfortunately the COVID-19 lockdown prevented them from making the journey for the big event. Instead, Major Jo, who had already prepared a speech for the unveiling, forwarded it to Moora to be read at the ceremony.

“This nurse has been in the pipe-line for about four years but we just never got around to getting it done,” said Moora RSL Sub-Branch Treasurer Ailsa Stonehouse.

Shire President Tracy Lefroy unveiled the statue and local RSL member, Jan Welburn, read Major Wilson’s moving and emotional speech.

About 300 or so people attended the wreath laying and unveiling on what was a highly memorable ANZAC Day for the entire Moora community.



Unveiling of the Military Nurse statue in Moora.

TOODYAY

Due to COVID-19 border restrictions, Toodyay missed their fly past along with many who had planned to join the local community in commemoration.

Representing RAAF Base Pearce as part of the RAAF 100th Anniversary, Corporal Mark Evans traveled to Toodyay with his family, only to find out they were unable to participate and had to go into lock down.

The Evans family joined in the spirit of ANZAC Day as they held a vigil on the property where they were staying.



Corporal Mark Evans, representing RAAF Base Pearce, laying wreath at the Toodyay property where he and family were staying.



President Peter Brennan laying the wreath, with past Sandakan Student Scholarship winners reading the Roll of Honour.

YORK

In York the day started early with a Dawn Service on Mt Brown. A large crowd of about 250 gathered to remember the Landing and hear Roger Croucher speak on mateship in the Services. Guests and members of the Sub-Branch then attended the Gunfire breakfast, prepared by men from the York Men’s Shed.

At mid-morning, led by flag-bearing students from the York District High School, the Sub-Branch members, Service Clubs, Emergency Services and local cadet unit marched along Avon Terrace.

John Bullock drove Korean War veteran Charlie Strawbridge and former Royal Navy veteran Keith Moore in his jeep. More than two hundred and fifty people attended the Service at the WW1 York War Memorial, which the Kalamunda Pipes and Drums were unable to join due to COVID-19 restrictions.



ALBANY

Albany had COVID-19 planning in place ahead of the lockdowns with Dawn Service participants being drawn by ballot, so a well-planned and moving Dawn Service was able to proceed. The regional centre also held a large street parade and service later in the morning.



MANJIMUP

It was close to a normal ANZAC Day in Manjimup this year, despite numbers being down by about one third. Mist rolling in during the Ode, Last Post and one minute silence, added to the sombreness of the occasion for the 500 or so who braved the cold to attend the Dawn Service.



COLLIE-CARDIFF

Collie-Cardiff RSL Sub-Branch worked closely with the local shire and the community radio station to find a way to hold ANZAC Dawn and Day services within the requirements of COVID-19. After a few meetings, the shire took on coordination of the COVID-19 register and the radio station broadcast the requirements to allow the commemorative events to proceed.



BRIDGETOWN

Bridgetown RSL held a mid-morning Anzac Day March and Commemorative Service on what was a beautiful day weather wise, attracting a crowd of an estimated 300 people. The March was led by the Light Horse Troop, local bagpipers and drummer and included marches from many local groups including the RSL, St John Ambulance, DFES, Girl Guides and Cadets.

Led by Bridgetown RSL President, Terry Linz, the service included traditional wreath laying and bugle playing *The Last Post*, as well as a speech by two students from Bridgetown High School commemorating 100 years of RAAF. Special mention was made of Vern Daulby, Bridgetown's last known surviving WW2 veteran.



KOJONUP

Services were able to go ahead in Kojonup and Muradup with the Kojonup march led by Mr Frank Pritchard with Mr Jim McGregor in the lead playing the bagpipes heading up the parade of returned soldiers descendants of soldiers representing family members. Jo Goodall and her horse Lady brought up the rear of the group representing the 10th Light Horse.

A Commemorative Service at the Muradup Memorial attracted about 120 people from local districts.



GREENBUSHES

The pre-dawn air was chilly but it didn't dampen the spirits of those attending the Greenbushes ANZAC Day Dawn Service.

The event featured a parade from the RSL Hall to the Cenotaph led by the local Light Horse Brigade and the Campbell family pipers. Local vocalist Susan Bottomley gave a stirring rendition of a reworked version of the Leonard Cohen classic *Hallelujah* to set the tone of the event. The Jubilee Singers added their own special element with vocals throughout the service.

REFLECTION SERVICE

INSPIRES PASSIONATE RECITAL FROM FORMER POW



WORLD War II Lancaster Bomber pilot John Arthur Richards was front and centre at the ANZAC Reflection Service at Central Park in Joondalup, reciting The Ode as part of the service.

Arthur (as he prefers to be known) was on his 13th mission over Germany when his plane was shot down.

On August 26, 1944 he was sent to bomb Königsberg (the old capital of Prussia) because the Germans were using the rail network to bring up reserves.

However, they were unsuccessful and had to do it again three days later. By that time, the Germans were more prepared.

His plane was shot by an upward-firing canon and when they couldn't put the fire out, Arthur told the crew to jump. While five got out, it was never known what happened to the other two.

Arthur and the plane's navigator then spent three days and nights trying to get to the Baltic Sea to steal a boat and get to neutral Sweden.

But on the fourth night they were found and captured by a German squad.

Arthur told ABC Radio last year he wasn't frightened about flying over Germany because he was 22 years old and thought he was bulletproof.

"But that night, when they said halt and I heard the bullet chambers, I knew I had to be careful," he said.

He said while it would have been easy for the squad to shoot them and throw them in a ditch, "they did the right thing and took us to a prison" where they met up with the other three survivors from the plane.

They were kept there for a couple of days before being sent to Frankfurt for interrogation for 3-4 days, then to the Stalag Luft 1 prisoner-of-war camp.

He spent the remainder of war as a POW before he was freed by the Russians in 1945.

On his return Arthur was later awarded the French Legion of Honour.

When he returned to Australia, Arthur resumed his teaching career with one of his Principal appointments being at Albany Senior High School. He was also Mayor of Albany for a short time.

The City of Joondalup and the Joondalup City RSL Sub-Branch held the ANZAC Day Reflection Service on Saturday 22, May.

The Sub-Branch President (Rick Green) was MC and Mrs Fleur Massey was the guest speaker. The service received significant media coverage and was very successful.



Squadron Leader Paul Falconer-West (Left) and SQNLDR Simeon Prucha (Right) with Arthur before the service.

Honouring those
who were only 19

Veterans Remembered

Men's Ring



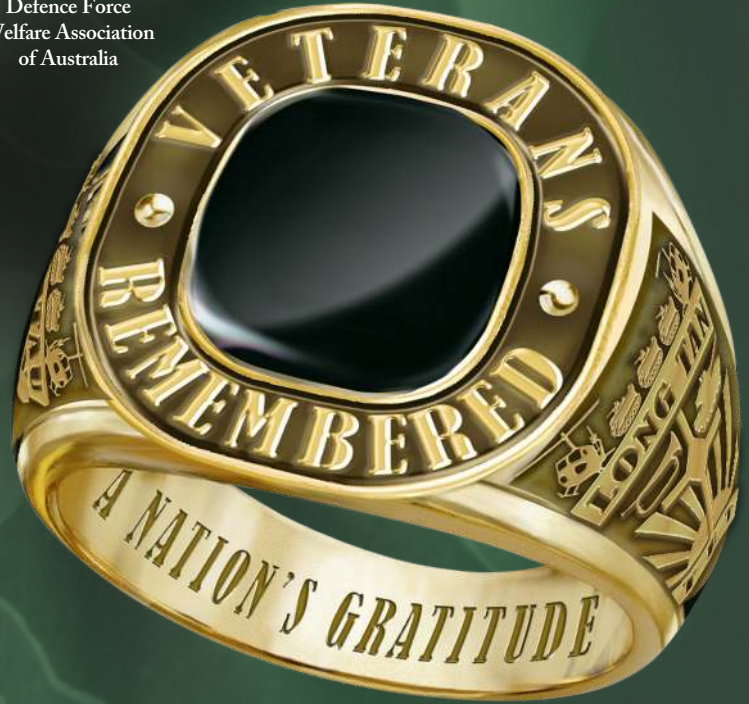
- Sides feature tribute to pivotal Vietnam battles in which Aussie diggers fought courageously



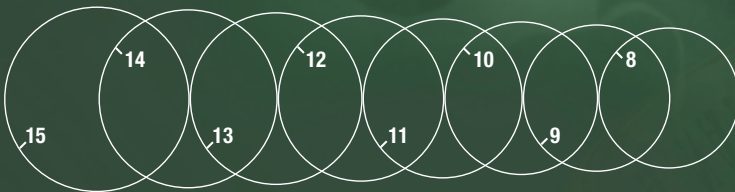
- Poignantly engraved
- Plated in gleaming 18K gold
- Genuine black onyx inlay
- Arrives in a gift box, along with a Certificate of Authenticity



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They were the forgotten diggers. A generation of young men who fought for Australia like their fathers before them. But they returned as outcasts, casualties of a war nobody understood. Yet time heals the injustices of the past. Now, you can honour our Vietnam diggers with the "Veterans Remembered Gold Ring", available only from The Bradford Exchange.

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MILITARY VETERANS' STORIES PRESERVED



The search is on to capture the stories of WA veterans, particularly those who served in WWII, through short video documentaries with This Story Australia.

Founded in 2019 by Jeff Hughes, This Story Australia has preserved the stories of more than 35 veterans of WWII through to contemporary conflicts.

Having captured the personal accounts of veterans from Queensland, NSW and the Northern Territory, Jeff is now planning to travel to WA in late July or August this year to record for posterity the stories of WA men and women who have served in conflicts.

Jeff said the short documentary interviews will be gifted to the State Library with free copies made available to the family of the veteran.

“Not only are these stories vital part of Australia’s history, they capture the true spirit of Australian veterans and enable us all to get to know the person behind the uniform,” he said.

“The interviews are conducted in familiar surroundings that offer a safe place to speak and share their stories.

“Sharing stories fosters positive mental health outcomes for the veterans while also enabling family to fully appreciate how active service affected their transition back into the community.”

Jeff is keen to hear from veterans or families who believe they have a story to be told.

If you or a relative has a story to tell and would like to be considered by This Story Australia, email jeff@thisstory.com.au with a short bio or photograph.

This Story Australia is a registered charity through the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission and relies on grants and public donations to continue.

While the planned WA project is mostly funded, Jeff said they are still seeking support help to finalise the trip.

“We are still waiting to hear back from a couple potential sponsors, but would be very happy to hear from any other philanthropists or sponsors interested in supporting this project,” he said.

For more information about This Story Australia or to donate visit the website at www.thisstory.com.au



LONG SEARCH DELIVERS MEDALLION TO WWII WRAAF VETERAN

After an extensive search for long-time member of the Osborne Park RSL Sub-Branch, Mrs Nancy Evill, she was eventually located living in Bunbury.

Sub-Branch Welfare Officer, Dr Elaine Blake, had the privilege of travelling to Bunbury in April this year to reacquaint 99-year-old Nancy with the Sub-Branch and acknowledge her service.

Representing Mr Vince Connelly MP, Elaine presented Nancy with a medallion and certificate of commemoration that recognised her status as a WWII veteran and acknowledged the significance of the 75th anniversary since the end of WWII.

Nancy's daughter, Gay Zajer, a veteran in her own right, attended the presentation and the Bunbury RSL Sub-Branch was made aware of the occasion.

As a mark of respect, Nancy was asked to cut the cake to mark the 98th Anniversary of an RSL Sub-Branch at Osborne Park.



"Nancy, who is the loveliest, most gentle and humble person I know, will celebrate her 100th birthday on August 1 this year," Elaine said.

"It has been an honour to know this lady, hear her stories and call her my friend. Thank you for your service Nancy."

Nancy Gay Evill (nee Jackson) served Australia in the Woman's Royal Australian Air Force (WRAAF). During her service she met and married Stanley John Evill and they married at St George's Cathedral in 1944 and remained married for 67 years before Stan died in 2014.

After serving in the WRAAF during the Second World War years, Nancy lived in Yokine for more than 60 years with her husband Stan.

Both were active members of the Osborne Park RSL Sub-Branch.

Earlier this year Nancy moved to Bunbury to be closer to family, her son Don Evill and daughter Gay Zajer.



The medallion was produced by the Department of Veterans' Affairs, details are available at their website. www.dva.gov.au/recognition/commemorating-all-who-served/



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THOUGHTS FROM THE PAST STORED IN MEMORABILIA

After the death of her dad in 1918, Kathleen (Kath) Shier found among his memorabilia a lengthy report and a poem he had scribed at the age of 21 while in a melancholy mood at Elatiqa Ridge in Damour, Syria.

Kath's dad, Corporal Reginald Dorrien Newman, enlisted in the Australian Imperial Forces (AIF) in 1940 and was assigned to the 2nd/16th Battalion.

"Dad was born in the United Kingdom and, at the age of 11, came to Western Australia on his own as a child migrant in 1931, after which he lost all contact with his family for the following years of his life," Kath said.

In the report Reginald commented: "Australian troops were involved in many battles in many different countries throughout the course of the Second World War.

The AIF had approximately four divisions which served in many different theatres such as North Africa, Greece, Lebanon, Syria, Borneo and the Air Force in Britain. In fact, some AIF soldiers served on home soil protecting Darwin against the Japanese, as well as the theatre commonly known to Australians as the Kokoda Trail, New Guinea."

As part of the 2nd/16th Battalion, Reginald served in battles at a number of these theatres of war, but said his battalion's most significant battles were the Syrian Campaign and the Kokoda Campaign.

Among the dangerous incidents Reginald experienced during World War 11 was on the Kokoda Trail at Gona. One night when he was investigating sounds of movement, a Japanese bullet clipped his left ear lobe. "How lucky can one be" he reported. Just millimetres away from death, some might say it was a miracle. Not surprisingly, the incident affected his hearing over future years.

At the end of the War in 1945, Reginald was selected to represent the 2nd/16th at the Japanese surrender ceremony which took place on the HMAS Frigate Burdekin off the East Coast of Borneo. Reginald reported: "This occasion was a great experience being in the company of so many senior officers and a very proud moment to represent his Battalion at such an historic event."

At the age of 85, Reginald was again privileged to represent the 2nd/16th at a major ceremony when he was invited to attend the 60th Anniversary of the end of the South Pacific War at the Anzac Day Ceremony in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea in April 2005.

Kath adds a footnote to Reginald's life with the story of his reunion with his brother, John, after 80 years apart.

"In 2013 at the age of 93 dad was asked to speak on the radio regarding the Kokoda Track campaign, which was aired in the United Kingdom," she said.

"Remarkably it was heard by his long lost brother who launched a search for Reginald immediately and John eventually located him here in Perth where dad had lived for most of his life."

Kath then arranged to take Reginald on an epic journey to the UK to reunite him with his brother.

"He was also able to meet other family members, so it was a very emotional and happy time for him," Kath said.

Reginald Newman died at the age of 98 in 2018 and leaves a legacy of which his four children, nine grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren are immensely proud.

Kath is a member of the Ex-Servicewomen's RSL Sub-Branch and volunteers monthly with the ladies group fondly referred to as the Poppy Ladies.

A SOLDIERS' THOUGHTS

As I enjoy this hour of rest
Neath ancient olive on the crest
It's stragglng leafy boughs outspread casting
A shade o'er my sleepy head I think of days – of
Days gone by
And of days yet to come
But of these present days, I sigh;
Then my thoughts wandering far away bring me
To that distant day
When on this lovely earth
Peace will reign with joy and mirth
There lingers too on my mind
Memories of home and those so kind that warm
Land made by God above
The golden West I've learned to love these
Vacant thoughts so like a dream
Drift-drift along as does a stream.

By CPL. R.D. Newman 2/16th AIF.
In a melancholy mood at Elatiqa Ridge Damour Syria,
July 1941. Aged 21.

Perth based Ear Science Institute Australia is committing to reducing the devastating impact on our community of dementia. Dementia can happen to anyone and, if untreated hearing loss increases the risk of dementia by 8%. So in 2017 the Ear Science Institute Australia self-funded its first research team in this area, resulting in Dr Dona Jayakody leading the Australian Cognition and Hearing Loss team.

CHANGING THE WAY PEOPLE AGE

The team have published significant contributions including showing that the severity of hearing loss is associated with severe cognitive decline, identified central auditory processing assessments to help identify those at risk of dementia and showed that Cochlear Implants could delay cognitive decline.

Results from the Australian Cognition and Hearing Loss project suggested that hearing loss is a potentially modifiable risk factor for cognitive impairment. In other words, if we treat hearing loss we can lower the risk of dementia in some adults. The team are currently undertaking the HearCog clinical trial. This study is investigating the impact of hearing rehabilitation using hearing aids on older adults at risk of dementia.

THE HEALTH AND SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY AGREE THAT UNADDRESSED HEARING LOSS IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MORE DEMENTIA AMONG OLDER ADULTS THAN ANY RISK FACTORS INCLUDING ALCOHOL OVERCONSUMPTION, TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY, OBESITY AND HYPERTENSION COMBINED!

HEAR WELL
LIVE WELL



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18 locations including Level 2 at ANZAC House
lionshearing.org.au



HEAR WELL. LIVE WELL.

Age-related hearing loss is associated with reduced brain volume and changes in brain pathways and metabolic activity of the brain. Studies at Ear Science Institute Australia are currently underway to investigate whether a correction of hearing loss through the use of hearing aids will affect these changes in brain volume and metabolic activities of the brain. The HearCog clinical trial will explore the cost-effectiveness of hearing loss rehabilitation and the impact of hearing aids on anxiety, depression, physical health and quality of life.

GLOBAL AND NATIONAL IMPORTANCE

The Lancet Commission on Dementia in 2017 and again in 2020 reported that hearing loss is the greatest risk factor for dementia. The World Health Organization's World Hearing Report in 2021 highlighted the importance of cognition for the 466 million people globally with hearing loss. The Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety (2018 to 2021) raised the important role of hearing health for the overall health and wellbeing of older adults in aged-care settings.

DEMENTIA FACTS

- 1 in 10 Australian's will get age-related dementia.
- Hearing loss in mid-life, if treated, will reduce the risk of age-related dementia.
- Dementia patients rely heavily on the health and ageing systems.
- 52% of aged-care residents suffer from dementia
- Without a breakthrough the number of people with dementia will continue to rise from 472,000 in 2021 to 1,076,000 in 2058.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Get your hearing checked at Lions Hearing Clinic, 100% West Australian and owned by Ear Science Institute Australia.

If you think you have hearing loss, don't delay in getting the help you need.

Research has shown that hearing technology will not only improve hearing, it will also help preserve independence and mental, emotional and physical health.

Dr Dona Jayakody, Lead Investigator: Australian Cognition and Hearing Loss project at Ear Science Institute Australia



WE KNOW THAT HEARING LOSS IS ASSOCIATED WITH COGNITIVE DECLINE AND DEMENTIA. WE ARE LOOKING TO CHANGE THE WAY PEOPLE AGE.

EARLY IDENTIFICATION AND TREATMENT OF A POTENTIAL HEARING LOSS HELPS MINIMISE RISKS LATER IN LIFE



References available upon request.

THE SEED

The line from the popular song 'I Am Australian' – *We are one and we are many* – is amplified in Shane Gray's story about his Uncle, Tony Brajkovich, and a poem he wrote.



Shane Gray's grandfather Hedley, and his brother Noel.

Tony's grandfather was killed in World War II, but later in life Tony wrote a poem that resonates the Anzac spirit which many members of our multicultural community hold.

"Although I had known much about the artistic talents of my Uncle Tony, I was taken aback when I was told that he also wrote poetry," Shane said.

"My Uncle asked if I could put some music to an unnamed poem he had written, the idea being that it may be of interest to the Returned & Services League of Australia in celebrating and observing the remembrance of those who have served our country."

Shane thought his Uncle had written something quite significant, which captured his sheer admiration and respect for our armed service men and women and the bonds of mateship that our country had instilled in him, the son of a migrant worker.

"Although Uncle Tony had never served in the armed forces himself, he grew up with many people who had lost their father fighting to protect the freedoms of our country, my father being one of them," Shane said.

"The result is something we both hoped was worthy of assisting in the commemoration of our armed forces."

Ante (Tony) Criko Brajkovich was born to non-English speaking immigrants in a chook pen in Boulder. The Kalgoorlie/Boulder race riots of the 1930s had resulted in the family home being burnt to the ground and his parents had to make do with a converted chicken enclosure.

After realising that better opportunities existed in the growing Swan Valley, the family moved and established a vineyard in the area, which consequently become a large poultry farm, run by the family.

Tony was born the third child of 12 and as a young man was heavily involved in physical pursuits including weight training, cricket and hockey.

His impressive physique and sporting prowess belied the creative instinct that had grown inside him. Over time Tony turned his hand to many artistic talents including playing guitar and mouth organ in a band at the Midland Trades Hall, prodigious oil paintings of Australian bush and working scenes and, later in his life, mastering the art of stained glass. All this while plying a trade as a hard-working poultry farmer.

Tony now lives in care in the Swan Valley.

THE SEED

Words by Anthony Brajkovich – Music by Shane Gray

C F C F
In a field in far off Flanders, grow the poppies strait and tall.
C G/B Am Dm G
Lies an Australian soldier dying; gathered round are his mates and all.
C F C F
Well he'd fought in many a battle; he'd fought with many a foe.
C G/B Am F G C
With his comrades gone before him, now it's his turn to go.

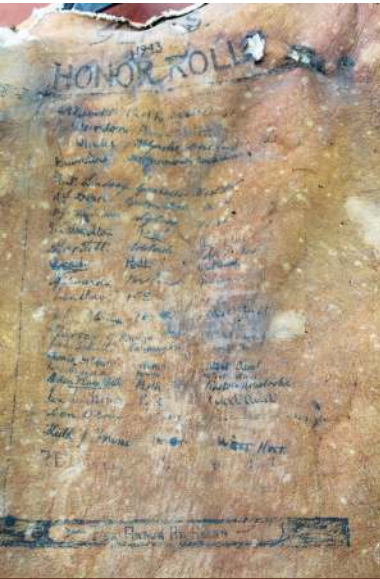
C G/B Am Dm
So take these seeds mates from my tunic, and plant it in the
G
ground with me.
C G/B Am G F G C
It's a piece of my Australia, of my home country.

C G/B Am Dm G
It's a seed of the Wattle, with its branches glowing gold;
C G/B Am G F G C
and it will comfort me forever, in this foreign ground so cold.

So in a field in far off Flanders, grows a Wattle majestically.
Beneath its branches lie, a soldier of Gallipoli.
He'd fought in many a battle; he'd fought with many a foe.
With his comrades who'd gone before him, now it's his turn to go.

So take these seeds mates from my tunic, and plant it in the
ground with me.
It's a piece of my Australia, of my home country.
It's a seed of the Wattle, with its branches glowing gold;
and it will comfort me forever, in this foreign ground so cold.

The Seed video can be viewed at <https://youtu.be/IMmdwVptyR8>



GREENBUSHES HERO REMEMBERED DURING RAAF CENTENARY

A preserved sheep skin bomber jacket in a glass frame housed in the Greenbushes RSL Hall is a permanent reminder of one of the town's local heroes, Norman Lindsay, and the centenary of the Royal Australian Airforce in 2021 is a perfect time to reflect.

The tanned exterior of the wool jacket, tattooed in blue/black ink with the names of the participants in the Empire Training Scheme in Canada, was bequeathed to the Greenbushes RSL Sub-Branch by the owner of the Jacket, Norman, who passed away in January 2009.

A long-term member of the Sub-Branch, Norman was a descendant of one of the pioneer mining and business families of the Greenbushes district and an active member of the Greenbushes community until he passed away.

He served his country in World War II and served the Greenbushes community in many ways through his involvement in sporting and community groups. He received recognition for this service by being named as the Bridgetown-Greenbushes Citizen of the Year in 2005.



Born at Greenbushes on 20 November 1922, Norm was raised by his father and grandmother after his mother died when he was still quite young. The Lindsay family had mining operations, a farm, orchard and businesses in Greenbushes.

He went to school at Greenbushes Primary School and then went on to Bunbury High School and was a regular sight riding his pushbike home on long weekends. It would take most of Saturday to ride home and all of Monday to ride back again.

Norm joined the 10th Light Horse Brigade and served with the Royal Australian Air Force. He was trained in Canada as part of the Empire Training Scheme and, on his return home after the war, was an active member of the Greenbushes RSL Sub-Branch, serving as President for many years. When he returned to his home at Greenbushes after the war, Norm worked at the tin mine while establishing his orchard in the 1950s which was well known for its apples and golden queen peaches.

He quickly gained a reputation for his sporting talents and played football, cricket, golf, basketball and was also a keen athlete.

During his time as an athletics coach in the district from 1957 to 1961 Norm was coach to athlete Keith Wheeler, who went on to represent Australia at the Commonwealth Games. Through his involvement with athletics Norm was asked to be an official starter for the Commonwealth Games in Perth in 1962.

**THE NORM LINDSAY RESERVE
ON SPRING GULLY ROAD
(GREENBUSHES POOL)
IS NAMED IN HIS HONOUR.**

HISTORIC ANZAC COTTAGE NOW IN TRUSTED HANDS

The 105 year-old ANZAC Cottage that was built in a day in 1916 has been transferred to the National Trust of Western Australia from the City of Vincent.

City of Vincent Mayor Emma Cole said the Mount Hawthorn cottage was a national treasure and the transfer to the National Trust was an important step in its lasting legacy.



“It is with emotion, but with a strong sense of celebration and conviction, that the City of Vincent has handed the Cottage onto the National Trust of Western Australia,” she said.

“It was so important to me that we did this with the blessing of Marjorie Williams, daughter of original owner Private John Porter, who was born at the Cottage.

“Marjorie is now 100 years old and this transfer of ownership is particularly special for her.”

ANZAC Cottage was built by the community of Mount Hawthorn in a single day, 12 February 1916, as a home for returned soldier Private Porter and his family, and as a memorial for those who lost their lives in the tragic Gallipoli landing.

The cottage was State Heritage listed in 2000 and is also recognised on the Register of the National Estate and classified by the National Trust.

President of the National Trust of WA, The Hon Dr Ken Michael AC, acknowledged that the transfer of ANZAC Cottage was a significant addition to its collection of places.

“Several of these places contribute to telling the story of the ANZAC spirit – although none quite as directly as ANZAC Cottage,” he said.

The National Trust has promised to keep ANZAC Cottage open to local residents and schools and encourage community involvement with the memorial.

The National Trust has also committed to working with the Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia WA (VVAWA) and Friends of ANZAC Cottage to ensure both groups can continue to access the memorial.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR MENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH

Curtin University is seeking volunteers to participate in a Delphi study of mental health research priorities for Western Australia. The program is seeking participants who have at least two years' experience with mental health challenges, either as a consumer, carer or peer support worker.

The study will involve completing three surveys and reviewing the reports as part of an online 'expert panel'. The views collected through the study will be used to create a set of recommended research principles and priorities for mental health that will be included in the Co-designed Roadmap for a Mental Health Research Strategy in WA (Co-ROAMERS WA). Research funds for mental health are scarce and it is therefore critical to identify the research questions and areas of research that would be most beneficial to the community.

Participation is voluntary and if participants begin but then find segments difficult, they can also stop at any time. Criteria for inclusion includes being able to read and write English, 18-years-old or over, live or work in WA and having at least two years' personal lived experience with mental health.

For more information or to participate contact the research team at co-roamers@curtin.edu.au or by phone (08) 9266 5123.

An introductory video is available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5ZtiVklOt8>



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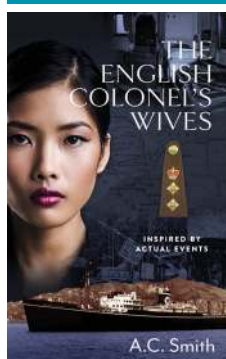
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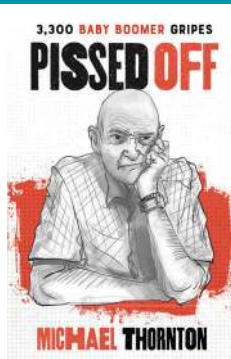


ISBN: 978-1-925707-48-9

Nothing is as it seems among passengers on the New Zealand Star. Colonel Newton's impotency resides in another when portraying to enigmatic widow, Nancyng Jenkins, his role as emissary to a dying woman, while she masks a torrid life of unspeakable horror and devious subterfuge. High Commissioner Sir Gerald Templer recalls Newton to the cauldron of post-war Malaya, the quarry being its most-wanted communist terrorist, The Huntsman. With the past casting long shadows, does Mrs Jenkins hold the key to Newton's redemption?

"An enjoyable, high quality historical fiction novel. An entertaining mystery involving several well drawn, multi-dimensional characters."

— Michael Pert, author of *The Kissing House*

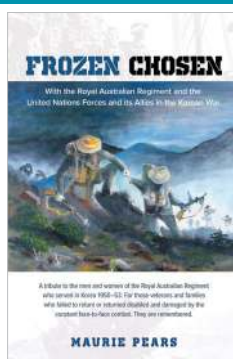


ISBN: 978-1-925707-49-6

Australia has five million baby boomers. Seventy-one-year-old Michael Thornton is one of them. He is so pissed off about the state of things, he's listed 3,300 gripes.

"Michael Thornton is not as pissed off as he says. Switched on might be a better way of putting it. This book claims to be full of gripes and Thornton is surely entitled to a few of those. But is also replete with astute observations and devastating insights. It loves life and is peeved by the narrow-minded and ungenerous who spoil the fun. Thornton is great fireside company as you shelter from the storm."

— Michael McGirr, author of *Books that Saved My Life*.



ISBN: 978-1-925707-55-7

With the Royal Australian Regiment and the United Nations Forces and its Allies in the Korean War.

This is a personal story of the experiences of a Subaltern and his 7 Platoon C Company, 3rd Royal Australian Regiment (3RAR Old Faithful) including observations from serving members of the British Commonwealth Forces who faced the enemy in the front line where the war is won or lost. Other observers and historians have made a priceless contribution to this volume and its tribute to the Australians with the UN Forces in Korea 1950-53.

The Diggers thank them and their families, who held the fort at home.

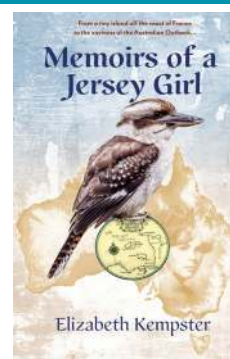


ISBN: 978-1-925707-51-9

National serviceman, Tom Duncan, was a changed man when he returned from the Vietnam conflict.

His pompous father, a successful New England fine wool producer, stating that he'd not have the family's good name tarnished any more, banishes his second son to the god-forsaken country west of the Bogan River in northwest NSW after he'd fallen foul of the law one too many times.

Far from being the intended punishment, Tom flourishes in the isolated scrublands, more so after school teacher, Samantha Neilson, joins him. When tragedy strikes, Tom acts compulsively, reverting back to a time in his past he had been convinced he'd left behind. When you tread on a snake you can expect to be bitten.

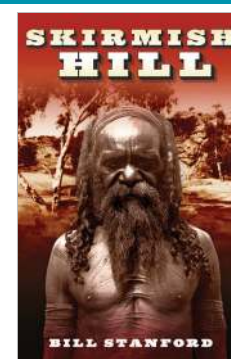


ISBN: 978-1-925707-50-2

From growing up in the Channel Islands post World War II, to running sheep and cattle stations in Australia, *Memoirs of a Jersey Girl* is the story of a life filled with adventure, achievement, and at times, tragedy.

A near-death accident driving a speeding Porsche in Portugal is the catalyst for Elizabeth's marriage to Ian, which would be the beginning of their journey in a very foreign land. As a young Ten Pound Pom dealing with the hardships of the Australian outback, including drought, isolation and deadly snakes, Elizabeth builds the mental strength and character required to deal with adversity.

This is the engaging story of an incredibly strong woman, whose life is an inspiration to her family and friends.



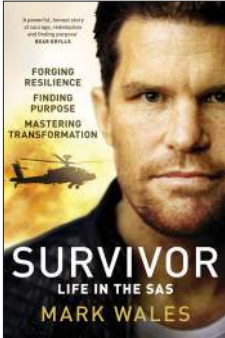
ISBN: 978-1-925707-52-6

Skirmish Hill exists in remote and off-limits Aboriginal land in the Great Victoria Desert of Western Australia. The narrative's central figure, William Whitfield Mills, made his mark in colonial Australia as an outback surveyor, explorer and gold prospector and was thus selected for his participating role. He crossed paths with men and women of interest, Europeans and Indigenous alike. Together they engendered the Australian way of life and achievement.

Having by now learned that Mills died and was buried in an unmarked grave on an island in the midst of a salt lake in the vast Western Australian goldfields, the author and his wife undertake a wonderful journey of contemporary exploration to hopefully find his final resting place.



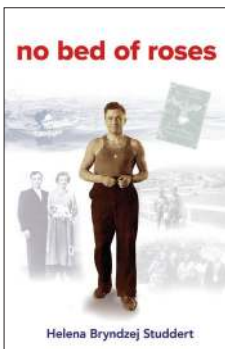
ON THE BOOKSHELF



Survivor: Life in the SAS. *By Mark Wales*

Mark Wales thought his life would end in a cornfield in Afghanistan. Troop commander Mark emerged from that scorched battlefield twelve hours later, his mentor gunned down, his dream career now a nightmare. Over four deployments of intense warfighting, Mark had watched the line between right and wrong become blurred. When he left the SAS he was adrift, crippled by guilt. On a mission to rebuild himself, Mark turned his life around. Fighting his way into the gates of a prestigious Ivy League business school and into the boardrooms of top-tier international corporations, he spent years navigating failure in a quest to achieve new meaning in life. At every setback, Mark counterattacked by honing the self-development tools and tactics he required to become more resilient and, ultimately, find happiness and purpose.

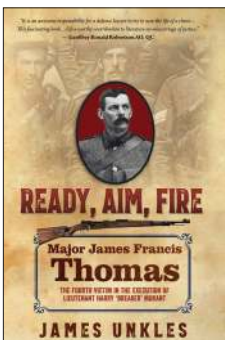
Told with gripping suspense, humour and touching warmth, *Survivor* is the story of Mark's extraordinary life in and out of the SAS, and is an inspiring testament to the virtue of transformation. *Mark Wales – former SAS Troop Commander, student at The Wharton School, and contestant on "Australian Survivor"*.



No Bed of Roses. *By Helena Bryndzej Studdert*

"And then came a very, very sad day for me... 17 April 1942".... Teo speaks his story of being taken from his Polish village and forced into labour in Germany during World War II. He recalls the hardship, longing for home and perplexity of having his life turned upside down. At fifteen, he struggles to cope with work, hunger and cold. He fails in an attempt to go home, sees the Allied Forces advance and at the end of the war, decides he cannot return to Poland, so he emigrates to Australia. Often the history of everyday ordinary people is lost. This engaging oral narrative is part of Australia's shared history. Told with an endearing innocence and subjective humour, Teo's account will resonate for all Australians and for the many displaced persons and refugees who have made Australia their home.

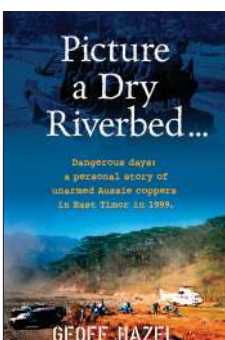
Helena Bryndzej Studdert served for over 20 years with the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, including service as Ambassador to Serbia, Republic of Northern Macedonia, Montenegro and Romania and three years as Australian Consul-General in Bali, Indonesia. She resigned from the Australian Army as a Captain in 1986, returning to university where she gained a First Class Honours and PhD in History. She lives in Western Australia with her husband Martin.



Ready, Aim, Fire. *By James Unkles*

In memory of Major James Francis Thomas: The Fourth Victim in the Execution of Harry 'Breaker' Morant. In 1902, three Australian volunteers who served with the British Army during the Anglo Boer War were tried and sentenced for executing Boer combatants. Lieutenants Harry 'Breaker' Morant and Peter Handcock were executed and George Witton sentenced to life imprisonment. The manner in which these men were treated remains controversial, shrouded in protest that they were scapegoated for the war crimes of their British superiors. The book is dedicated to the memory of Major James Francis Thomas who was relegated to history without an understanding of who he was and the part he played in the dynamic development of the town of Tenterfield in New South Wales, Australia, as a property owner, solicitor, newspaper proprietor, historian, poet, proponent for Australian nationalism, volunteer soldier. This book also tells how he came to serve in the Boer War, yet was destined to die alone from malnutrition, destitute having suffered from the stress of what he experienced in representing Morant, Handcock and Witton as their trial lawyer. This book acknowledges the sacrifice Thomas made in acting for his clients, a task that took a terrible toll on his mental and physical health and his life in Tenterfield.

James Unkles is a military and civilian lawyer who began researching the "Breaker" case in 2009 and had serious misgivings about the legality of the trials of Morant, Handcock and Witton. James has conducted significant research into the Morant case. His work has included petitioning the British and Australian Governments. In 2018, he succeeded in securing a motion in the Australian House of Representatives that provided an apology to the descendants of these men and an expression of sincere regret that they were not tried according to the law of 1902 and suffered a fatal injustice. His work continues to secure posthumous pardons for the descendants of Morant, Handcock and Witton.



Picture a Dry Riverbed... *By Geoff Hazel*

Dangerous Days: A Personal Story of Unarmed Aussie Coppers in East Timor in 1999. The location: The mountainous district of Ermera, East Timor. The Participants: Locals from the various Timorese factions; Indonesian Police and Military; International Electoral Observers; United Nations personnel, paid staff, international volunteers, locally employed staff, three Military Liaison Officers and twenty five Police Officers from 8 nations. The task: To organise and conduct a vote, known as the Popular Consultation, on East Timor remaining as part of Indonesia or becoming an independent nation. The story – how the determination, dedication and courage, often to the point of valour, of the UN personnel overcame all obstacles and faced down all threats which enabled the East Timorese to exercise their right to decide.

Geoff Hazel was born in 1948 and grew up in and around Army camps in Victoria and New South Wales. His final schooling was at Granville Boys High School where he was a member of the schools debating and basketball teams. He was also the Senior Under Officer in the schools Army Cadet unit.

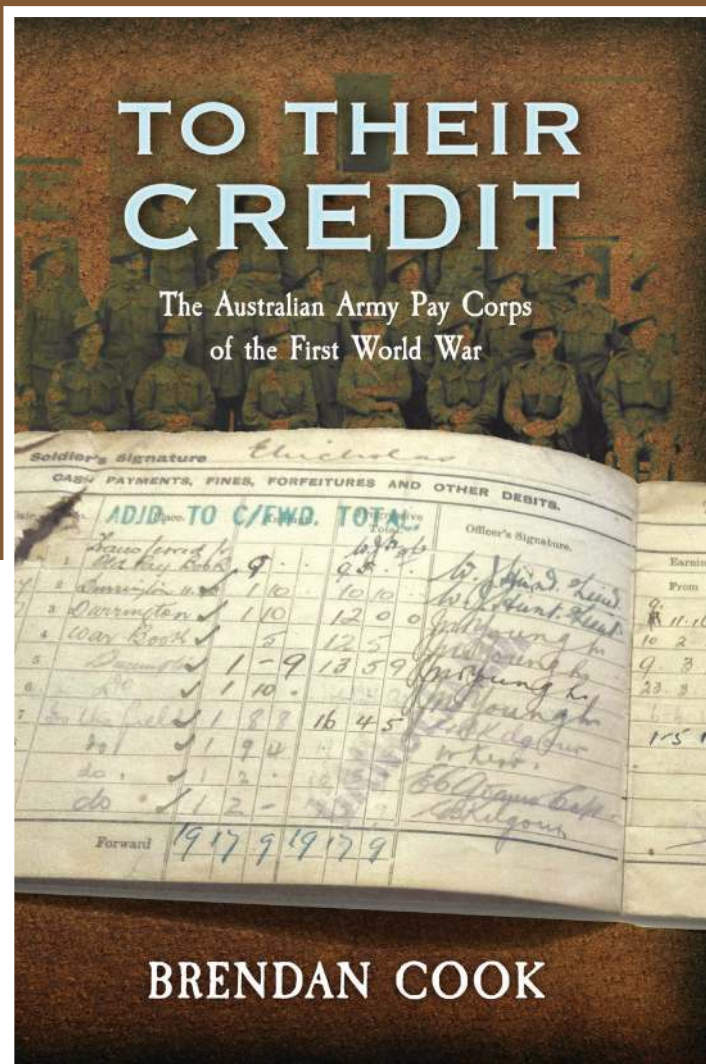


TO THEIR CREDIT

For most people joining the Australian military it doesn't take long to realise there are three important people to know about outside of their direct line of command. These are the quartermaster, the head cook (before they were out-sourced) and the paymaster (or pay clerk).

For the Treasurer of the Claremont RSL Sub-Branch, Brendan Cook, a lifetime love of history and, in particular, military history has seen him write a book about the Australian Army Pay Corps of the First World War.

Early in WWI the Australian Government approved the raising of the Pay Corps to implement and manage the largest and most complex system of financial and pay administration ever seen at that time in Australia. Overwhelmed and under-resourced from its start on 21 September 1914, this highly essential service for soldiers and their dependents came into being.



BRENDAN COOK'S BOOK EXAMINES ALL THE INTRICACIES INVOLVED IN THE ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF THE CORPS AND IF THE OLD ADAGE OF "AN ARMY MARCHES ON ITS STOMACH" IS TRUE THEN IT'S EQUALLY TRUE THAT IT NEEDS TO BE EFFICIENTLY PAID.

"Not only does this book contain 17 chapters of statistical tables, but it also includes an Appendix containing a comprehensive nominal roll of all those that I have identified who served in the AAPC during the War," said Brendan. "I've also sourced various photos from the Australian War Memorial, and a private collection, for inclusion in the book."

THE LAST P ST

FEBRUARY - MAY 2021

NAVY

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Wanneroo

Hill, George R52766
Bedford-Morley

Hogg, Alan H206026
Bunbury

Maloney, John F3928
Scarborough

McGregor, Bob R96227
Dawesville

Robinson, Bill F6226
City of Mandurah

Vernon, Len A101425
North Beach

Walker, Lyle 3367
Collie-Cardiff

Wilde, Howard R123739
Kwinana

Williams, Roger 46574
Bicton-Palmyra

ARMY

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Albany

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North Beach

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Eaton, Norm WX764
Bunbury

Edgar, Joyce WF57140
Bunbury

Godsell, Michael 23325117
Busselton

Gregory, David 553038
Canning District

Hitchin, Brynmor 526243
Central

Holgate, Jock WX28159
Busselton

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City of Perth

Ivey, Kevin 5/40024
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Knezevich, M 501
Kelmscott-Roleystone

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Moore, Glen 5714954
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Schilders, Wilhelmus 510088
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Stewart, Donald 5/712982
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Mt Lawley-Inglewood

Thomas, Sue WFX32960
Rtd Ex-Svc Women

Wheatley, Harry WX10287
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Ballajura

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Riverton

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Eastern Regional

James, William 85747
Scarborough

Jordan, Alan 4264151
City of Mandurah

O'Farrell, Bill A314165
Mundaring

O'Shaughnessy, Jim 415950
City of Perth

Properjohn, Edward 415179
City of Rockingham

Prunster, Peter A55678
North Beach

UNIT AND KINDRED FINANCIAL MEMBERS

102 Coral Field Battery
 161 (Indep) Recce Flight
 2/11th Battalion Group
 2/16th Battalion AIF Association Inc
 2/2nd Commando Association Australia Pty Ltd
 2/4th Machine Gun Battalion (AIF) Ex Members Association
 3 Telecommunication Unit Association (RAAF)
 Airborne Forces Associations WA Inc
 Allied Merchant Seamen Association of WA Inc
 American Returned Military Services
 Australian Army Training Team Vietnam WA Branch
 Australian Intelligence Corps Group WA
 Australian Peacekeeper & Peacemaker Veterans Association Inc
 Combined Defence Support Association of WA Inc
 Defence Reserves Association WA Branch
 Defensively Equipped Merchant Ships Association
 Far East Strategic Reserve Navy Association (Australia) WA Division
 Fleet Air Arm Association of Australian WA Division
 Girl Guides WA
 HMAS Bataan /Tribal Class Destroyers WA
 HMAS Hobart Association (WA Division)
 HMAS Perth National Association WA Branch
 HMS Ganges Association WA Division
 Legacy WA
 Malayan Volunteers Group Australia
 National Servicemen's Association of Australia (Mandurah-Murray Sub-Branch)
 National Servicemen's Association of Australia (WA Branch Inc.)
 Naval Association of Australia WA Section
 North American Veterans Unit
 RAAF Police Association
 Remembering HMAS Armidale Association Inc.
 Rhodesian Services Association of WA Inc
 Royal Australian Air Force Association WA
 Royal Australian Army Ordnance Corps Association WA Inc
 Royal Australian Artillery Association WA Inc
 Royal Australian Electrical & Mechanical Engineers Association
 Royal Australian Engineers Association of WA Inc
 Royal Australian Navy Communications Branch Association WA
 Royal Military Police Association (WA Branch)
 Royal Western Australia Regiment Association
 Soldiers & Sirens
 South African Military Veterans Organisation of Australasia
 Submariners Association of UK Australia Branch
 Submarines Association Australia WA Branch Inc
 The British Ex-Services Association Inc.
 Tingira Australia Association
 WA Branch of the Partners of Veterans' Association of Australia Inc
 War Widow's Guild of Australia WA Inc
 WRAAC Association WA Inc
 WRAAF Branch of RAAF Association WA Div.
 WRANS-RAN Women's Association WA

GIVE A GIFT OF GRATITUDE

Help RSLWA improve the lives of serving and ex-serving personnel and their families. You can help provide careers guidance, welfare advice, and a wide range of therapies aimed at helping veterans, military personnel and their families.

There are many ways to do it.

- A gift in Celebration - donations in lieu of gifts
- A gift in Memory - donations instead of flowers
- A Gift in Will - leave a legacy that will provide support and care for the living

Legacies come in all shapes and sizes and your gift can help the men and women who has given so much in the service of their country.

For further information, visit RSLWA website at www.rslwa.org.au/become-involved/bequest or ring 92873799.





**They fought for our freedom.
They taught us respect.**

Serving our Veterans for more than 70 years.

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It's what we share.



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