



THE SUB BRANCH SIGNAL

DOING BUSINESS WITH RSL
8.30 AM — 4.30 PM

ANZAC House & Reception

28 St Georges Terrace, Perth
PO Box 3023
EAST PERTH WA 6892
Website: www.rslwahq.org.au
Email: rslwahq@inet.net.au
Tel: (08) 9287 3799
Fax: (08) 9287 3732
Country Callers : 1800 259 799

Acting CEO / State Secretary

Monday to Friday
Email: rslwahq@inet.net.au
Tel: 9287 3799

Assistant State Secretary

Monday to Friday
Assist to State President & CEO
Email: rslwahq@inet.net.au
Tel: 9287 3702

Membership

Monday to Thursday
Membership Enquiries
Sub Branch Enquiries
Email: membership@rslwahq.org.au
Tel: 9287 3705

Welfare

Monday to Friday
Welfare Applications
Emergency Housing
Food & Lodging Grants
ASS&AR Trust Fund Applications.
Overseas Pensions
Email: welfare@rslwahq.org.au
Tel: 9287 3707

Advocacy

Monday to Friday
S31 Reviews
Veteran Review Board,
Admin Appeals Tribunal
Email: advocate@rslwahq.org.au
Tel: 9287 3708

Finance

Monday to Friday
All Account Enquiries
Sub Branch Credits
Sub Branch Insurance
Information, Claims
Grant Application Assistance
DVA & Lotterywest (ABN, tax)
Email: helenb@rslwahq.org.au
Tel: 9287 3703

Pensions

Monday to Friday
Pension Entitlements
Claims Preparation
Email: pensions1@rslwahq.org.au
pensions2@rslwahq.org.au
Tel: 9287 3710 or 9287 3711

ANZAC Club

Monday to Friday
Facilities Bookings
Catering & Hospitality
Email: anzacclub@rslwahq.org.au
Tel: 9287 3714

Listening Post

Monday to Friday
Editorial Staff
Email: listeningpost@rslwahq.org.au
Tel: 9287 3716

From the Presidents Pen...

End of Triennium

This year's Annual Congress will see the conclusion of a triennium that has seen significant changes to the role and profile of the RSL in Western Australia. The divestment of the Aged Care facility allowed the State Branch to focus on its prime role – that of the care and welfare of its members and the veteran community. With an assured financial security, we will be in a better position to be more effective in its primary role. This direction will, of course, be the challenge for your in-coming State Executive.

With the build up to the Centenary of ANZAC it is now confirmed that Western Australia will be the starting point of the commemorative activities for this historic occasion. Recently announced government funding for the departure of the fleet in 1914 for the battlefields of the Great War will be the beginning of the five year long series of commemorative activities. Your State Executive have been actively involved in the planning phases of the activities to take place, and with the Albany Sub Branch and local community this exciting project will come to fruition. I am certain all west Australians will appropriately honour those original ANZACs that wrote themselves into Australian History. It was from their heroic endeavours that the RSL had its beginning. This, also, will be suitably recognized as we move into the Australia wide commemorative activities.

Your State Executive

Due acknowledgement must be given to those members who have formed the State Executive and Board of Directors over the past three years. We have been fortunate to have such a dedicated group who have relentlessly pursued goals set by members to improve the welfare of veterans. We can claim success in many of our initiatives, however there are stumbling blocks that will be on going. The DFRDB issue, Indexation, *Conditions of Service* for younger veterans and the many issues associated with Mental Health are still outstanding matters that must receive the attention of government. I am confident that with a well based strategy and the united support of the veteran community significant inroads can be made towards achieving justice for those who have served their country.

State Congress 2011

All is in readiness for the forthcoming State Congress. Notice papers have been issued earlier this week and Sub Branches are invited to carefully consider the items listed for resolution. The Congress is your turn to give direction to your elected representatives and also ensure the principles on which the League was founded is upheld. It is expected that there will be healthy debate that will, at all times, support the tenants upon which the League was founded.

Reminder

Sub Branches are reminded that their Annual General Meeting is to be held between 1 July and 31 October in each year. At the AGM the Audited Financial Statement is to be presented to the members and if approved, adopted.

The Annual Audited Financial Statement, together with a list of Office Bearers is then to be forwarded to State Branch no later than 31 October.

Your prompt attention to this requirement would be appreciated.



Military Superannuation

The Senate has passed a set of three Acts that will consolidate the trusteeship of the Commonwealth's main military and civilian superannuation schemes and modernise the governance of administration of these arrangements. The new single trustee, the Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation, is effective from 1 July 2011. The three Acts implement reforms required to maintain strong, contemporary governance arrangements for Commonwealth superannuation schemes, allowing substantial benefits to flow to members, while retaining the individual scheme benefits. *The package protects those features of military superannuation that recognise that military service as different to civilian employment.*

The Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation will be governed by an 11 member board, which will comprise an independent Chair and equal numbers of employer and employee/member trustee directors (that is, five employer trustee directors and five employee/member trustee directors). Employer and employee/member trustee directors must act in the best interests of all members and other beneficiaries of a fund and also in accordance with the standards of care, skill and diligence set out in superannuation laws. These obligations override any obligation to the group who nominated them as trustee directors. *Further, when the board is making decisions concerning matters solely related to the military schemes, at least one director who has been nominated by the Chief of the Defence Force must be present.*

The legislative requirement to establish the Defence Force Case Assessment Panel to perform functions currently performed by the Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits Authority ensure the interests of Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits members are maintained.

This legislation will provide a net benefit to members of the Australian Defence Force who are members of the Military Superannuation and Benefits Scheme, by consolidating funds under management and reducing administrative costs. You would appreciate that the larger the fund, the greater the ability of a trustee to pool funds and thereby lower investment costs and drive higher returns. It will mean an improvement in the superannuation returns to these members.

I appreciate the efforts you have made to ensure that the interests of members of the military superannuation schemes are adequately reflected in the legislation and that the unique nature of military service, embodied in the military superannuation schemes, is recognised in the new arrangements.

I look forward to working with you in the future and ask that you disseminate this information widely with your membership.

WA AGED SAILORS, SOLDIERS & AIRMEN'S RELIEF TRUST FUND

Ready to Assist

**Veterans and Dependents in
need or necessitous
circumstances**

**Apply: Welfare Officer
(08) 9287 3707**

Living History Project

We would like to invite all attendees to State Congress this year to view the beginnings of the online exhibition.

We will have a booth set up in the room where morning tea will be served.

On display will be the exhibition itself and a digital version of some of the back issues of The Listening Post and The Australian.

We would appreciate your feedback on whether the content is interesting and whether it is easy to follow.

There will be no Sub Branch visits until late November:

29 November – Three Springs-Arrino Branch

30 November – Perenjori Sub Branch

Morawa Sub Branch



HOLLYWOOD
PRIVATE HOSPITAL





Reminder - Return Dates



State Congress Dinner Payment - **FRIDAY, 4 NOVEMBER**
 Poppy Day and Remembrance Day - **FRIDAY, 11 NOVEMBER**
 Poppy Day Financial Statements - **MONDAY, 28 NOVEMBER**
 State Congress - **SATURDAY, 26 NOVEMBER**

Korean Memorial

An Australian Monument, honouring the 17,000 Australian sailors, soldiers, airmen and nurses who served to defend Korea, was officially dedicated this month in a special ceremony at the United Nations Memorial Cemetery in Korea, Busan.

The Australian Monument was first built in 1998 and recently restored with an Australian Government grant of \$75,000 under the *Overseas Privately-Constructed Memorials Restoration Program*.

The Australian Government is also in talks with the North and South Korean Governments to locate the missing in action and see them properly honoured in Korea, alongside their mates who died there.

More than 17,000 Australian sailors, soldiers, airmen and nurses served in the Korean War (1950-1953) and in the post-Armistice period up until 1957. Of those, 340 lost their lives during the war and another 18 died in the post-Armistice period, more than 1,200 were wounded, 30 became prisoners of war and 43 were listed as missing in action.

The Korean War was a significant event in Australia's military history – marking the first collective United Nations action and reinforcing Australia's position as a valuable ally.

Membership Statistics as at 25 October 2011

Service	8,377
Affiliate	1,576
Total	9,953

Remembrance Day

Remembrance Day is fast approaching and the Department of Veterans' Affairs has a range of tools freely available to assist in the conduct of your Service, including The National Anthem, the Last Post, and a step-by-step guide on how to conduct a Service.

All of these resources are available at:

www.dva.gov.au/remembranceday.htm



New facility to request permission to use the Service emblem for Second World War veterans

The Office of Australia War Graves has recently implemented a simple 'self-service' way for NOK of World War II veterans who are not entitled to official commemoration (i.e., death was not related to their service) to gain approval to use the Service Badge for use at the grave site or crematorium niche.

An on-line facility has been developed to assist in obtaining the necessary letter of permission to use the Service Badge on the commemoration/memorial of a deceased veteran. Veterans may wish to print a letter of permission for placement with their personal papers.

Families, cemeteries and crematoria are also able to print permission letters without delays when a veteran passes. The facility to print a letter of permission is available for each veteran listed on the Nominal Roll.

http://www.dva.gov.au/commems_oawg/OAWG/news/Pages/index.aspx

There is more general information on the OAWG webpage at: http://www.dva.gov.au/commems_oawg/OAWG/post_war_commemorations/Pages/permission%20service%20badge.aspx

Proposed MOU

The National Executive of the Returned & Services League of Australia has decided not to proceed with the proposal to establish a Memorandum of Understanding with the Veterans Association of Vietnam.

Included in this Sub Branch Signal is:

Audited State Branch Financial Report
 Amended Pages 37 & 38 of the Congress Agenda

Earlier this week you should have received a Congress Package including:

Congress Agenda
 Attachments 1, 2, and 3 of profiles
 Green proposed Constitution amendments
 Minutes from 2010 Congress
 Annual Report



95th Annual State Congress Dinner

ANZAC House, 28 St Georges Terrace, Perth
6.30 pm, Saturday, 26 November 2011
Tickets \$70.00 per head

For more information, see the Congress Circular
attached with this Sub Branch Signal



Remembrance Day Luncheon

Friday 11 November 2011
12.30 pm

Gallipoli Room, ANZAC House, 28 St Georges Terrace, Perth

Menu

Chicken Breast filled with Avocado & Mushroom,
served on Puree Potato
with a Creamy Mushroom Sauce & Seasonal Vegetables
and a crusty Bread Roll & Butter

Individual Berry Fruit Trifle
served on Raspberry Coulis

Tea & coffee

Includes a bottle each of red and white wine, various beer & soft drink on the table

Cost - \$45.00

RSVP: *Essential* by Friday 21 October 2011

Only 120 places available – tickets issued on a first come basis



Frederick Bell VC Memorial Lecture

The Frederick Bell VC Memorial Lecture
Cottesloe Civic Centre War Memorial Hall
Thursday, 10 November 2011
6.30 pm

Presentation on

General Sir John Monash WWI General

by
Rabbi Dr Shalom Coleman

Admission: Gold Coin

Light Supper Provided

MEMBERSHIP PRO-RATAS

Please note:

New Members will pay \$40 for the
remainder of 2011, and their membership will
be current until
31 December 2012

Bankwest "Tea in the Tower"

Bankwest will again be hosting free Tea in the Tower
on the 46th Floor of the Bankwest Tower daily from
Monday, 7 November to Friday, 11 November from
10 am - 3 pm.

No RSVP required

