



THE RETURNED AND SERVICES LEAGUE of AUSTRALIA FORESTVILLE RSL sub-Branch

NEWSLETTER for DECEMBER 2016

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The RSL Centenary year is coming to a close, and another busy year it has been. Your committee continues to work hard trying to think of ways to improve the administration of the sub-Branch operation. We are currently completing the annual exercise of putting all the membership cards in envelopes in readiness for this newsletter to be in the mail before the end of November.

Remembrance Day on the 11th was another important event, and fortunately this year the weather was on our side. The numbers were down a little this year, and we are hoping next year they improve with the 11th falling on a Saturday. On the 16th we again hosted a group of War Vets residents for the Annual Christmas Luncheon. Thank you to the Women's Auxiliary who actually organise the event, and to the Club Limited for their ongoing support.

The bus trip organised by Bob Connors in October was another success. I didn't realise that Merry-go-rounds would be such a hit in 2016. The memories of years gone by as if yesterday returned with the outing, which included a satisfying luncheon.

Nominations to fill all positions on State Council have been called for the Congressional Term 2017-2020 with elections in May 2017.

Nominations for sub-Branch Committee at Forestville for the Congressional Term 2017-2020 will open on 1st December 2016 and close on 31st January 2017. We are looking for new Committee Members so don't be shy. Check with Tony Mooney who will provide nomination forms. If you are interested, spend a work day with us to see how we operate.

Our next function is the annual sub Branch Christmas Dinner on Sunday 4th December, at the Club. We hope to see many of you then. If not, on behalf of the Committee I pass on our best wishes to you and your families for a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous and Healthy 2017.

Remember, no January newsletter, with the February edition being the first for 2017. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members of our committee and the volunteers for their continued support during 2016. I will shout you all a drink at the Christmas Dinner.

I wish you all good health for the coming festive season. Check for the upcoming events in this newsletter and the sub-Branch website www.forestvillersl.org.au.



Bill Hardman—President

AUSTRALIAN ARMY INTELLIGENCE (AUSTINT)

Brief History Australian Intelligence Corps 1907-2016



"The Australian Intelligence Corps is an integral part of the Australian Army's capability and a significant element within the Defence Intelligence Community."

The Australian Intelligence Corps (AIC) was formed on the recommendation of the first Chief of Intelligence, Lieutenant Colonel W.T. Bridges, who went on to become Major General Bridges and was later fatally wounded in Gallipoli.

The AIC was officially founded on 6 December 1907 and Corps Headquarters was located at Victoria Barracks in Melbourne, with sections established in each of the six states.

Although the Intelligence Corps was administratively disbanded in September 1914, many former corps members, including Generals William Bridges, John Monash, and James M'Cay, served in the AIF in the First World War, and before the disbanding had taken effect, Captain Reginald Travers of the Intelligence Corps left the country with the Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force. Travers fought with distinction in New Britain and accepted the surrender of several German establishments in the area.

The Australian Intelligence Corps was re-established in October 1939. In the early stage of the Second World War the activities of the corps came to prominence when Lieutenant Matthew Bigge was responsible for the recapture of a high-profile escaped German internee.

After Japan entered the war in December 1941 the Intelligence Corps expanded, its functions proliferated. There were now AIC personnel at force, brigade, division, corps, and army level, and AIC activities included signals intelligence, photographic interpretation, and special operations. Members of the AIC also operated the Security Service, wartime pre-cursor to ASIO.

Although scaled down after the war, the Intelligence Corps contributed to the British Commonwealth Occupation Force in post-war Japan, especially in the areas of field security and linguistics. This association with British Commonwealth forces continued during the Korean War, the Malayan Emergency, and the Indonesian Confrontation. In addition to being attached to various Australian battalions, AIC personnel served in Commonwealth staff positions in all these conflicts. During the Korean War AIC member Sergeant Alfred Harris was awarded the Military Medal after being wounded in action while leading a team of agents into enemy territory.

Throughout Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War the AIC maintained a continuous presence in the country, with corps personnel present at the headquarters of both the Australian Force Vietnam and the 1st Australian Task Force, and within the 1st Australian Logistics Support Group and the Australian Army Training Team Vietnam. Tasks performed by the AIC in Vietnam included interrogation, document analysis, and counter intelligence. From 1967 AIC members serving in Detachment 1st Division Intelligence Unit mounted a series of intelligence-directed 'Acorn Operations', which consisted of selective area searches accompanying infantry cordon and sweep operations.

AIC personnel have served in peacekeeping and humanitarian missions around the world, and the AIC currently supports operations in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Timor-Leste.

Mervyn Whiting...editor

HUMOUR

Due to the current economic crisis, Greece is cancelling the production of all Humus and Taramasalata.
It's a double dip recession.

Sixty-three Pakistanis died in Bradford this morning. It was not a terrorist attack, a bunk bed collapsed.
The police are blaming AL IKEA.

Jamie Oliver has been accused of shoplifting a kitchen utensil from Tesco. Oliver says it was a whisk he was prepared to take.

Police stopped a Pakistani in his transit van on the motorway. Policeman says "Do you know the limit is 70?"
The driver leans into the back and says; "Hear that, 3 of you have got to get out!"

Paddy and Mick stagger out of the zoo with blood pouring from them. "Blow that," said Paddy "That's the last time I go lion dancing."

Paddy says to Mick, "Christmas is on Friday this year."
Mick said, "Let's hope it's not the 13th then."

My mate just hired an Eastern European cleaner, took her 15 hours to Hoover the house. It turns out she was a Slovak.

Since the snow came, all the wife has done is look through the window. If it gets any worse; I'll have to let her in.

I've been charged with murder for killing a man with sandpaper. To be honest, I only intended to rough him up a bit.

Seven wheelchair athletes have been banned from the Paralympics after they tested positive for WD40.

A mummy covered in chocolate and nuts has been discovered in Egypt.
Archaeologists believe it may be Pharaoh Rocher.

Just a reminder to those who stole Electrical Goods in Last Year's Riots.
Your One Year Manufacturer's Warranty Runs Out Soon.

Two Indian junkies accidentally snorted curry powder instead of cocaine.
Both are in hospital; one's in a korma, the other's got a dodgy tikka.

AND THE BEST FOR LAST

The woman applying for a job in a lemon orchard in Country Queensland, seemed to be far too qualified for the job; given her arts and education degrees from Melbourne University and her job as a social worker and a teacher at the local TAFE college.

The foreman frowned and said, "I have to ask if you have any actual experience in picking lemons?" The woman replied, "Well, as a matter of fact, I do. I've been divorced three times, owned an Audi station wagon, a Leyland P76, Mazda Wagon and also supported Collingwood for the last 4 years, voted for Kevin Rudd and bought shares in Dick Smith!"

Mervyn Whiting...editor



COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS 2017



Be advised that nomination forms for Officers and Committee for the **Term 2017-2020**, are available from the Hon. Secretary Tony Mooney.

All applications need to be lodged by the end of January 2017.

If you are interested, please obtain a nomination form from the Hon. Secretary.

Tony Mooney...Hon. Secretary

"FAIRGROUND FOLLIES"

In the past, we have had our final bus tour for the year during October, which may be a little more convenient, given that the function season really starts to heat up in November.

Our Bus trip to Fairground Follies organised by Bob Connors occurred on Tuesday 25th October 2016 with 57 of our members attending and, from all reports was another success. Well done Bob!

We enjoyed some of the "Happiest Music On Earth." We marvelled at the sight and sound of Antique Street Organs, European Dance Hall Organs, the Rockin' Robot Band, the original Luna Park Organ, the 100-year-old Steam Merry-go-round, the self playing violins, the grand Taj Mahal, one of the world's largest, most elaborate self-playing instruments and, not to forget a ride on the 100-year-old steam Merry-go-round. All capably explained by our host.

After the tour of about 2 and 1/2 hours, we enjoyed an excellent lunch at the Newmarket Hotel in Mascot. Our afternoon continued with a tour of the Port Botany Terminals and, the Southern Beaches and, back to Forestville around 4.00pm.

**Two Big Kids on the Merry-go-round!
Ron Palmer and guess who?**



Mervyn Whiting...editor

THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS (In Aussie Land)

'Twas the night before Christmas; there wasn't a sound.
Not a possum was stirring; no-one was around.
We'd left on the table some tucker and beer,
Hoping that Santa Claus soon would be here;

We children were snuggled up safe in our beds.
While dreams of pavlova danced 'round in our heads;
And Mum in her nightie and Dad in his shorts,
Had just settled down to watch TV sports.

When outside the house a mad ruckus arose;
Loud squeaking and banging woke us from our doze.
We ran to the screen door, peeked cautiously out,
Snuck onto the deck, and then let out a shout.

Guess what had woken us from our snooze,
But a rusty old Ute pulled by eight mighty kangaroos.
The cheerful man driving was giggling with glee,
And we both new at once who this plump bloke must be.

Now, I'm telling the truth its all dinki-di,
Those eight kangaroos fairly soared through the sky.
Santa leaned out the window to pull at the reins,
And encouraged the kangaroos by calling their names.

'Now, Kylie! Now, Kirsty! Now, Shazza and Shane!
On Kipper! On, Skipper! On, Bazza and Wayne!
Park up on that water tank. Grab a quick drink,
I'll scoot down the gum tree. Be back in a wink!

So up to the tank, those eight kangaroos flew,
With the Ute full of toys, and Santa Claus too.
He slid down the gum tree and jumped to the ground.
Then in through the window, he sprang with bound.

He had bright sunburned cheeks and a milky white beard.
A jolly old joker was how he appeared.
He wore red stubby shorts and old thongs on his feet,
And a hat of deep crimson as shade from the heat.

His eyes bright as opals. Oh! How they twinkled!
And, like a goanna, his skin was quite wrinkled!
His shirt was stretched over a round bulging belly,
Which shook when he moved, like a plate full of jelly.

A flat stack of pressies he flung from his back,
And he looked like a swaggie unfastening his pack,
He spoke not a word, but bent down on one knee,
To position our goodies beneath the yule tree.

Surfboard and footy-ball shapes for us two.
And for Dad, tongs to use on the new barbeque.
A mysterious package he left for our Mum,
Then he turned, and he winked, and held up his thumb;

He strolled out on deck, and his 'roos came on cue;
Flung his sack in the back and prepared to shoot through,
He bellowed out as they swooped past the gates;
MERRY CHRISTMAS to all, and good -onya mates!



Seasons Greetings to ALL from the editor
Mervyn Whiting

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY President's Message



Our thanks to the sub-Branch for organizing the Remembrance Day Service which was well attended, and for those who supported the Women's Auxiliary by purchasing their badges and poppies at the club.

The War Vets Annual Christmas Lunch proudly sponsored by the sub-Branch was held on the 16th November. We had three buses arrive from Narrabeen ready for a lovely lunch. Our thanks to Tim, Kim, and staff and Denis and staff who are always there to help and to the carers who make the residents have a great day.

The sub-Branch **Christmas Dinner is on Sunday 4th December at 6.00pm**, where the Ladies Auxiliary will be selling **Raffle Tickets for Christmas Hampers**. As this is one of our main fund raisers of the year, we look forward to your support.

Our Next Meeting will be on **Monday 5th December starting at 12.00noon**, followed by our **Christmas Lunch at 1.00pm**. After lunch, we will be drawing the **Winners of the Christmas Hampers**, and we will notify them by phone, and the Hampers can be collected at **Reception**.

Wishing all our **Members a Healthy & Happy Christmas**, and thanking you for your support throughout the year. I would personally like to thank the Committee for all the work they have done and to the sub-Branch for all the help and support in making 2016 a successful year, and looking forward to many a laugh in 2017.

Our first **Meeting for 2017 will be on Monday 6th of February at 1.00pm**. It is a General Meeting, so a great chance to have a catch up on all the holiday news, also our Book Table will be back again.

New Members are always welcome, just come along on the first Monday of the Month around 1.00pm.

For those on the sick list, we wish you a speedy recovery and looking forward to seeing you in 2017.

Regards,

Annie
President

The Truth About Bagpipes

There are many theories about the bagpipes, otherwise known as the missing link between music and noise. Some say they were invented by a Scotsman who trod on his cat and liked the noise. Others claim that they are based on the noise made by a dying octopus. The truth is, however, that they were given to a Scot by the Irish as a joke—but the Scots haven't seen the joke yet!

Question: Why do bagpipers walk when they play?

Answer: They're trying to get away from the noise.

Question: Why do pipers like to march as they play the bagpipes?

Answer: A moving target is harder to hit.

MacTavish visited London for his annual holiday and stayed at a large hotel. However, he didnae feel that the natives were friendly. "At 4 o'clock every morning," he told a friend, "they hammered on my bedroom door, on the walls, even on the floor and ceiling. Och, sometimes they hammered so loud I could hardly hear myself playing the bagpipes."

Mervyn Whiting...editor

MEMBERSHIP

Sadly, we report the passing of our dear member during the last month; **HOGAN Raymond Daniel, ARMY.**

Our sincere condolences are passed onto family and friends.

We have the pleasure in welcoming one new member to our sub-Branch; **Gordon Spencer Thomas SCOTT, ARMY** and reinstatement of **Paul GAINSFORD, ARMY.**

Current membership totals **464.**

Introductions from our members, family and mates for new membership are always welcome.

CHANGES TO YOUR MEMBERSHIP DETAILS.

THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT!!!

To ensure that our records are maintained up to date we would appreciate your advices of any **change** as soon as possible including new address, phone number, e-Mail address, **next of kin and any other personal information.**

Failure to advise current details may affect the bereavement payment privilege.

Also please call us if you wish to check any of your information

NB. sub-Branch MEMBERSHIP e-Mail address;

membership@forestvillersl.org.au.

Geoff Brown, Membership Officer.

OUR CENOTAPH and MEMORIAL WALKWAY

Jim Murphy regrettably has advised he will not be continuing as a volunteer after the end of year. He will indeed be truly missed.

One of our lady members advised she will be able to assist, but due to other commitments not on a regular basis.

MEMORIAL PAVERS;

The paver order for September has been received and laid in October.

Cost of pavers for sub-Branch Members is \$35.

Geoff Brown, Cenotaph and Memorial Walkway Coordinator.



SPECIAL REQUEST TO MEMBERS

For those of us who are interested in receiving this Newsletter each month, we are able to send it to you electronically (via e-Mail)!

If you would like to provide your e-Mail address we can send the newsletter to you via e-Mail. This would save us the rising cost of postage and time spent with the preparation of envelopes and use of other resources.

To provide your details please contact;
membership@forestvillersl.org.au

Mervyn Whiting...editor

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Bob Connors..... (02) 9451 9494

(All non-urgent enquiries should be directed to the Office during normal office hours.)

OFFICE HOURS

Monday.....0900 to 1200 and 1245 to 1400

Friday.....0900 to 1200

(Except for public holidays and special occasions, or by special appointment.)

Tony Mooney, Hon. Secretary.

SPECIAL NOTICE

The sub-Branch Office will be closed from COB Monday 19th December 2016 and re-open on Monday 9th January 2017.

DATES TO REMEMBER IN 2016/17



Sunday, 4 December 2016 1800 sub-Branch Christmas Dinner
Wednesday, 7 December 2016 1930 sub-Branch General Meeting
Wednesday, 1 February 2017 1930 sub-Branch General Meeting
Wednesday, 1 March 1930 sub-Branch Annual General Meeting
Wednesday, 5 April 1930 sub-Branch General Meeting
Sunday, 23 April 1440 ANZAC Sunday Service and Street March
Tuesday, 25 April 0530 ANZAC DAWN SERVICE
Wednesday, 3 May 1930 sub-Branch General Meeting
Wednesday, 7 June 1930 sub-Branch General Meeting
Wednesday, 5 July 1930 sub-Branch General Meeting
Wednesday, 2 August 1930 sub-Branch General Meeting
Sunday, 13 August VP DAY Luncheon (12 noon)
Wednesday, 6 September 1930 sub-Branch General Meeting
Wednesday, 4 October sub-Branch General Meeting
Monday, 16 October RSL sub-Branch Widow's Luncheon (12 noon)
Wednesday, 1 November sub-Branch General Meeting
Saturday, 11 November REMEMBRANCE DAY 10.40 am
Wednesday, 15 November Narrabeen War Veterans Luncheon (12 noon)
Sunday, 3 December sub-Branch Christmas Dinner (6pm for 6-30pm)
Wednesday, 6 December sub-Branch General Meeting



'And the world is a little poorer, for a soldier died today.'

LEST WE FORGET