

Message from the President



Welcome to our News Review.

Now that summer is here, Wednesday and Friday activities from Hillarys Marina, followed by coffee, are popular with our members, and provides an opportunity to catch up.

We meet every Wednesday and Friday on the south side of the Marina, under “our gazebo”. Look for our sign.

All are most welcome to join one of our groups – walking, cycling or kayaking – or just join us for the coffee and conversation from about 09:15.

Find out more by calling our Secretary Wayne Koch a call on 0407 478 963.

The focus of this Newsletter is to overview the highlights and our achievements of 2023, as well as to pay our respects to those members who are no longer with us.

We are most fortunate to have a comprehensive Website and active Facebook, so I encourage members to view these and stay up to date with our history, our stories and what’s happening. Our Facebook is continually updated, and advertises events, news, and commemorations with many photos.

The year has had many highlights – winning the Newdegate Cup and the award for the highest amount collected during the annual Poppy Appeal of 2022, a most successful Tour of Duty to Esperance, the annual Bush Bash by our 4 wheel drive travellers, our day tours and on a more sombre note, paying respects to members who passed away during 2023. We have also had excellent articles published throughout the year in The Listening Post, DVA’s Online News, and Perth Now.

On behalf of your Executive Committee I thank all our members for their help in making our Sub-Branch the success that it is.

As our first meeting of 2024 will be held 5:00pm on Monday 12 February, I would like to wish all the very best for the Christmas period and 2024.

John Rolfe



JANUARY

January is a month that our Sub-Branch does not have a General Meeting, however our weekly sessions of walking, kayaking, cycling and coffee continue without a break.

On Saturday 14 January a group our kayakers and members met at Hillarys Yacht Club where our kayaks are stored to affix waterproof identification stickers. Following the hard work, welcome refreshments were enjoyed overlooking the Marina.



FEBRUARY

Organised by our Peer Health Coordinator Eric Atkins, the highlight of our February General Meeting was a presentation by Deb Palacios, a Strokesafe Ambassador, from the Stroke Foundation.



Deb, a former US Army Captain and Stroke Survivor was accompanied by partner ex- RAN Submariner Colin Pryer.

The presentation was comprehensive and provided an overview that gave our members an understanding of Strokes in their various forms.

Coming from a stroke survivor and an ex-military veteran added to the power and professionalism of the presentation.

Members are encouraged to be aware of F.A.S.T. and other stroke relating factors. Visit their website [Home | Stroke Foundation - Australia](#)



Donation of Old Trailer to TS Marmion At Hillarys Marina

Sunday 19 February had a group of our Kayakers down at the Yacht Club taking delivery of our new Kayak Trailer, thanks to the Stronger Communities Grant. This allowed us to donate our old trailer, that no longer met our needs, to TS Marmion to carry the kayaks we donated to them late last year.

It was pleasing to see our members supporting not only our Sub-Branch, but also the Sea Cadets of TS Marmion. **Well Done All**

MARCH

The 2023 Tour of Duty was to Esperance – between 22 March to 27 March. After a short bus ride from Perth (10 hours) the group of 35 arrived all fit and ready to tackle the sights of Esperance.





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The group toured Woody Island, and all enjoyed the boat ride over, and as can be seen from the following photo, all were looking forward to the day.



North Beach and Esperance RSL Sub-Branches



APRIL

On Saturday 22 April at the oval, Charles Riley Memorial Reserve, the North Beach Tigers play Kingsley for the **30th Graham Edwards Football Match**. **Perth Now** was present at our Memorial on Wednesday 29 March to take photos for an article to be published prior to the match.



Ned Halley (North Beach Football Club), Craig Dalton (NBFC), John Rolfe (North Beach RSL President), Graham Edwards, Travis Ingleby, Bill Fielding, Peta Connolly and Mitchell Gill (Captain NBFC)

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Read the Article in Perth Now



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All Paying Their Respects

ANZAC Appeal 2023



Deb, Lez, Jess, and Jim with Bunnings Staff

ANZAC Day Dawn Service

The Dawn Service Tuesday 25th April attracted between 8,000 to 9,000 community members, serving ADF personnel, and veterans.

The Service was followed by a Gunfire Breakfast, and this also well attended.

Well done to all those members attending, and involved in organising and participating in this significant event.



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A young primary school granddaughter of a Vietnam veteran wrote this For ANZAC Day

VIETNAM WAR POEM

BY Bree Fielder

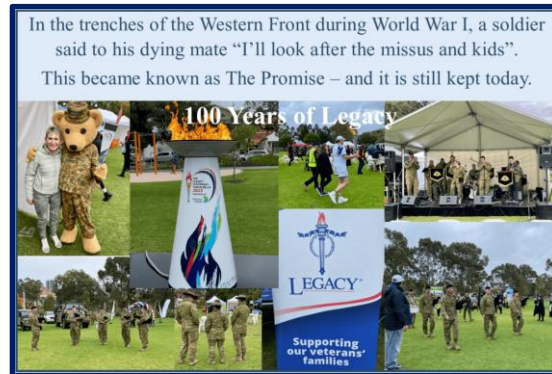
Boom! Crash! went the cannons
Stomp! Stomp! Went the soldiers feet in the mud
Rrrrrr went the helicopter, that whipped through the night sky
Trenches were dug
Rain came and filled the trenches
The trenches were slept in by soldiers
The soldiers got soaked
Their rifles poked them as they slept in those muddy trenches

In Flanders field the poppies grow
The day has come and now there is silence and now I hear them cheer
The war is over
Lives were lost

We celebrate the fallen men and the men that fought
That day is ANZAC Day.



MAY



Legacy Australia is 100

Read all about Legacy and their significant achievement and support they have given over the last 100 years. [Legacy – Supporting our veterans' families since 1923.](#)

JUNE



HMAS STIRLING

Wednesday 21 June a number of our members toured HMAS Stirling on Garden Island and were privileged to be allowed on the base for a guided tour because of high security.

All had a great day and came away with a better understanding of the history of the base, and of our Navy.

It is with thanks to our Sub-Branch organisers of this Tour, to our members for understanding the high security requirements, and of course to the Navy.



JULY

Christmas in July 2023



Christmas in July held Wednesday 26 July at the Hillarys Yacht Club overlooking the Marina.

It was a well attended function with over 100 enjoying good food, good company and great surroundings. Thanks go to Vice President Peter Bowring and Sub-Branch Warden Lez Young for their organising skills.

Korean War Memorial

The Korean War Memorial was unveiled in Kings Park on 27th July and was attended by representatives of our Sub-Branch. **Read More Here.** The Memorial stone was donated by the Government of South Korea, and was from the Kapyong Valley, the site of the battle in April 1951 where 3 RAR gained the Presidential Citation. Kapyong Day is commemorated by 3 RAR each year on 24 April.





AUGUST

Annual General Meeting 14 August 2023

Positions of Secretary and Treasurer became vacant, and Wayne Koch (Secretary) and David Potter (Treasurer) were elected unopposed for a period of 3 years.

Sub-Branch Elected Positions

POSITION	NAME	TERM	PHONE No	EMAIL
PRESIDENT	John Rolfe	08 2024	0439 934 036	northbeach.president@sb.rslwa.org.au
VICE PRESIDENT	Peter Bowring	08 2024	0410 603 061	peter_bowring@yahoo.com.au
SECRETARY	Wayne Koch	08 2026	0407 478 963	northbeach.secretary@sb.rslwa.org.au
TREASURER	David Potter	08 2026	0498 233 263	northbeach.treasurer@sb.rslwa.org.au
MEMBERSHIP OFFICER	David Potter	08 2026	0498 233 263	northbeach.membership@sb.rslwa.org.au
WARDEN	Robin Sweet	08 2024	0417 654 533	robinsweet6@icloud.com
WARDEN	Les Young	08 2025	0407 082 438	lezyoung12@gmail.com



Sandakan Memorial Kings Park

On 15 August each year, Sandakan is commemorated to remember the more than 2,400 Australian and British prisoners of war and the estimated 16 per cent of Sabah’s civilian population who died during Japanese occupation. This is known as Sandakan Memorial Day. Carine Senior High School are the custodians of the Memorial in Kings Park and conducted a memorial service on Sunday 20 August.



Sandakan Memorial



Wayne Koch, John Rolfe, Matt Moran

Vietnam Veterans Day

A commemoration service was held at the Perth War Cemetery, Karrakatta, to mark 50 years since the end of the Vietnam War, followed by the annual paying of respect at the graves of Vietnam Veterans. This was also well attended by our Sub-Branch.





SEPTEMBER

Bush Bash 2023 4 Wheel Drive Adventure



The 4-wheel drive adventurers set off late September for a 14 day excursion to the northern most destination of Mount Augustus. The journey included stops at the Landor Races, Kennedy Ranges, Wooramel Hot Springs, Monkey Mia and Milligans Beach out from Greenhead.

Each year in September a different route is selected. This year Jon McKenzie and Les Young were the key organisers. As always the Sub-Branch's satellite phone and full medical kit with defibrillator was firmly strapped into the lead vehicle.

Government House Tour



A group were fortunate to have a personal tour of Government House where they learnt its history, and also met the Governor.

This tour was followed by Lunch at the ANZAC Club



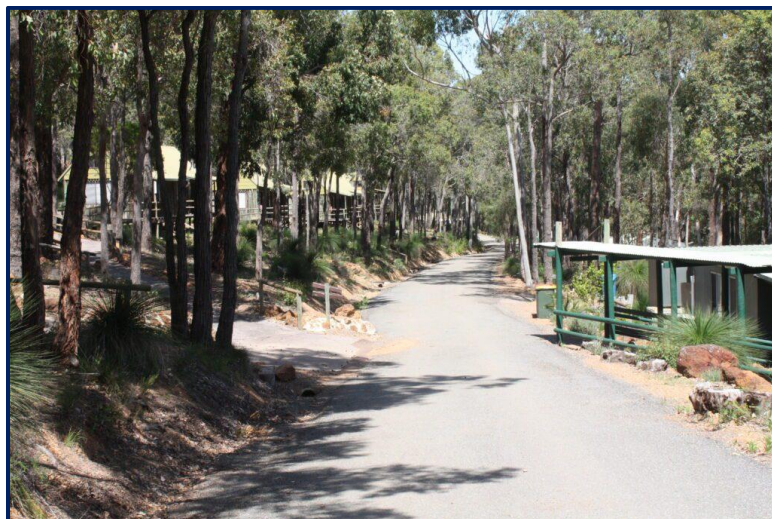
OCTOBER

Veterans' Transition Centre – Jarrahdale

A group of North Beach RSL Sub-Branch Veterans recently visited the Veterans' Transition Centre in Jarrahdale for DVA's Veterans Health Week. John Rolfe, President of the Sub-Branch, said, "it is part of our ongoing programme of events aimed at raising the awareness of facilities and services available to our veterans."

The VTC is a not for profit registered charity that has a property in a natural bush setting nestled in the Darling Ranges on approximately 17 hectares near Jarrahdale in Western Australia. The state forest is on the eastern border and Medulla Brook runs through the property. It is approximately 45 minutes drive from the Perth CBD, is located close to the South Western Highway, and provides:

- Respite short-term accommodation for veterans and their families at Jarrahdale, Western Australia,
- Assistance with transition to civilian employment,
- Provision of confidential counselling services, including mental health, lifestyle, and financial.





Members were greeted by Executive Officer of the VTC, Greg Green, who provided an overview of the Centre and the support and services provided. Greg explained how members may benefit and get involved, and also how that involvement will positively impact the future of the Centre.

Greg guided members around the Centre explaining the facilities available, those under construction, and the plans for the future. Members were all impressed by the Centre and its natural bush setting, and this started conversation amongst the group of how the Sub-Branch may become more involved.

All members agreed that the Veteran’s Transition Centre is a great initiative and that the visit was an education in the services available for those veterans in need of assistance and respite.

North Beach Football Club



Each year in April, the North Beach Football Club plays its Graham Edwards AM ANZAC Match. North Beach RSL Sub-Branch conducts an ANZAC Service prior to the match, and chooses the player that our Sub-Branch considers shows determination, spirit and teamwork.

Egan Brookes was chosen to receive the trophy this year, and it was presented at the North Beach Football Club’s Champions’ Dinner 2023 at Optus Stadium. Well done Egan.

NOVEMBER

The Planting of Poppies

1 November was the planting of Poppies at Kings Park Memorial in preparation of Remembrance Day. The Sub-Branch was represented, and the end result was magnificent.





Maud Turns 100

Sub-Branch Service Member Maud Bown celebrated her 100th Birthday on Monday 6 November 2023

Maud was presented with a bouquet of flowers from our Sub-Branch, and a Certificate from RSL National congratulating her for this achievement, and service to country.

Maud also received her World War 2 Medallion, and the Head of Corps Coin from Brigadier R Novak AM of the Royal Australian Corps of Signals.



Poppy Collection and Remembrance Day

The Sub-Branch once again had a successful Poppy Collection and Remembrance Day, thanks to the community and our members who supported us and participated.





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Remembrance Day



Remembrance Day was well attended and concluded with the unveiling of 8 plaques on our Wall of Remembrance for those members who passed away during the 12 months from Remembrance Day 2022, and their families chose to honour their memory with a memorial plaque. The members honoured were:



Name	Service	Date of Death	Age
Dr Ian TAPLEY	4721201 Trooper, Royal Australian Armoured Corp A and C Squadrons, 1 st Armoured Regiment Vietnam 1970 - 1971	11 Nov 2022	73
Christopher David (Chris) CLARKE	5717536 Private 4 RAR Vietnam 1971	27 Nov 2022	73
Richard Harold (Ric) LOVE	54823 Private 1 RAR Vietnam 1966 20 year veteran - Retiring as WO2	1 Dec 2022	76
William (Bill) HENDERSON	5714316 Private 7 RAR Vietnam 08 Apr 1967 18 Mar 1968 Trooper 3rd & 1 st SAS Squadrons Vietnam Sep 1969 - Feb 1971	19 Feb 2023	77
Anthony George (Tony) SAMIOTIS	5717465 Sapper Royal Australian Engineers Vietnam 17 th Construction Squadron 1971	21 Mar 2023	74
Michael John (Mike) RUFFIN OAM	61309 WO1 RSM SAS Regiment He deployed to Malaya, Borneo and Vietnam between 1961 and 1969 and served as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instructor, Officer Cadet School Portsea 1976-78 • CSM, 6 RAR 1978-79, • Instructor, School Infantry 1980, • RSM, Special Action Forces Directorate 1981, and the SAS Regiment 1982-86 	7 Jun 2023	81
Geoffrey Noel (Geoff) POPE	VX94388 Private 2 nd /13 th Battalion WW2 Served in Australia, Borneo and Moratai and 66 Battalion British Commonwealth Occupation Force Japan 1945 - 1947	24 Jun 2023	97
Kenneth John (Ken) McHARRIE	WX36207 Staff Sergeant 29 th Australian Infantry Brigade served in Australia and Bougainville to June 1946	16 Aug 2023	99

We Also Remember

Stuchbury Mark Adrian	Private 11/44 th Battalion 1954 – 56 and 28 th Battalion 1956 – 59	24 Mar 2023	
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LEST WE FORGET



100 Years Ago – ANZAC Day Legislation

Friday, December 21, 1923.

THE LISTENING POST.

PAGE THREE

“THE LISTENING POST”

Official Organ of the W.A. Branch of the Returned Sailors' and Soldiers' Imperial League of Australia.

Subscription: 3/6 per annum, payable in advance.

Advertisements: Only reliable firms are allowed to advertise in our journal. Rates will be supplied upon application.

All business communications should be addressed to the Manager, "The Listening Post," 70 King-street, Perth.

All other communications should be addressed "To the Editor."

This journal is published monthly on the third Friday, and all advertisements and matter for inclusion must reach our office not later than the second Friday.

Friday, December 21, 1923.

THE ANZAC DAY BILL

League's Desires Flouted.

When the last State Congress of the League was held in October it was known that the Premier intended to introduce an Anzac Day Observance Bill which would have the effect of closing hotels and preventing the race clubs from holding race meetings on Anzac Day. It was also known that the member for York (Mr. Latham) intended to move as an amendment that the day should be observed in all respects as if it were a Sunday. The Congress practically unanimously supported Mr. Latham's amendment, and it was thought that the Government might withdraw their Bill in favour of the amendment, but results proved otherwise. The Government Bill has passed the third reading in both Houses of Parliament. We think that the League was voicing the desires of a large majority of the community in asking that this sacred day be properly observed. A statute of 1919 made Anzac Day a public holiday comparable with Proclamation Day, King's Birthday and others, but this Act did not prove satisfactory. The present Act takes us very little further forward.

The soldiers' wishes have been flouted on a subject that they would expect their views to receive tangible consideration. A red herring drawn across the track of the amendment was responsible for its defeat. It was pointed out that if Anzac Day were to be observed as a Sunday it would put into force statutes of Charles II. and of George II., which make Sunday undesirable and miserable, it being an offence to exercise any labour or to ride in boats or ferries, etc., on that day. According to these statutes, which are the law of the land to-day, it was pointed out that even if a person be robbed in the Sabbath the thief is not answerable, because he committed the theft on the Lord's Day. This is the sort of rot that was responsible for the defeat of the amendment. It is only reasonable

and logical to suppose that if Anzac Day were constituted a Sunday, these old statutes, dating from 1677, would not be put into force any more than they are now.

The State Executive held a special meeting to consider the position, and it was resolved to protest to the Premier, and a special committee was appointed with power to act.

This committee has been busy, having interviewed the Premier, the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, and a number of members of Parliament. It was thought that a further amendment may have been allowed this session, but the Speaker ruled that such an action was not possible, as it was unconstitutional.

It is, however, the League's intention to push on with this matter and to, if possible, have it brought up early in the life of the new Parliament.

Members generally can assist by bringing the matter forcibly before candidates at the forthcoming elections.

In order to overcome the remarkable difficulties presented by the result of the digging up of the old Acts of the Puritan days, the League has secured the following draft of the proposed Bill, which should meet with general approval:—

"In every factory and shop within the meaning of those words in the Factories and Shops Act, 1920, and for the purpose of every industrial agreement or industrial award under the Industrial Arbitration Act, 1912, or the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1904-1920, Anzac Day (the 25th day of April) shall be observed throughout the State as if it were a Sunday.

Penalty, one hundred pounds.

Provided that nothing herein contained shall affect the right of any boy or woman under the Factories and Shops Act, 1920, or any other worker or employee under the provisions of any industrial agreement or industrial award, to a holiday on full pay on Anzac Day."

GOVERNOR TO VISIT MOUNT LAWLEY

Big Annual Re-Union.

The annual reunion smoke social of the Mount Lawley-North Perth sub-branch has been fixed for Monday, January 14th, and it is expected that this year's function will eclipse all previous efforts. His Excellency the Governor, Sir Francis Newdegate, who always evinces a keen interest in the activities of our ex-service men, has promised that, providing he is in town, he will be present. All Diggers in the Mt. Lawley North Perth district, whether members of the R.S.L. or not, are heartily invited to attend, and are advised to make a note of the date (January 14). A capital musical programme is being arranged by Mr. Alfred Fisher, and the catering will be in the usual Mt. Lawley-North Perth standard. Be there.



THE OLYMPIA "SUNSHINERS."

Headed by that Prince of entertainers, Walter George, the "Sunshiners" continue to draw the crowds to their open-air theatre in Hay-street, Perth. Clean quaint humour, catchy songs and choruses, bright ballets and sparkling music combine to make a show worth seeing. The company is seen at its best in revues, which are cleverly written and excellently staged and delivered. We can conscientiously recommend this show and advise visitors from the country for the festive season not to return without spending at least one delightful evening with the fun-makers at the Olympia.

R.S.L. OLD METALS DEPOT.

This useful business (formerly the R.S.L. Old Metals Branch) is now owned and controlled by S. P. James (late 44th Battalion), who undertakes all classes of sheet metal work, tinsmithing, and repairing of enamelware, aluminium, E.P. and silverware, brass, copper, tin, cast-iron, primus stoves, lamps, etc. He specialises in metal repair work of any kind. Housewives, boarding-house, hotel, and cafe proprietors would do well to inspect his stock of kitchenware at the workshop in Murray Street, next to Boans (down the right-away.)



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Who's Who 2023 – 2024

PRESIDENT	John Rolfe 0439 934 036	WELFARE	Greg Gough Wellbeing Support Officer 0417 911 173
VICE PRESIDENT	Peter Bowring 0410 603 061	ADVOCATE	Ted Leunig 0408 177 193
SECRETARY	Wayne Koch 0407 478 963	PARADE MARSHALL	Rip Couston 0467 960 552
TREASURER	David Potter 0498 233 263	COMMEMORATIVE	Peter Bowring and Executive Committee 0410 603 061
WARDEN	Rob Sweet 0417 654 533 Les Young 0407 082 438	POPPY COORDINATOR	Peter Hodgson 0458 583 869
MEMORIAL WARDEN	John Rolfe 0439 934 036	REVENUE STEWARD	Jim Muscat, Bill Kynaston Jess Welfare Deb Thatcher
PEER HEALTH	Wayne Koch 0407 478 963 Eric Aitkins 0419 954 972	STEWARDS	Stuart Young, Peter Dales, Stewart Davies, Trevor Beegan
SOCIAL ACTIVITIES	Paul McGuinness 0417 181 025	WEBSITE ADMINISTRATOR	Helen Burgess (Contact Brian Jennings for website issues)
ANNUAL LUNCH	Peter Bowring 0410 603 061 Les Young 0407 082 438	WEBSITE AND NEWS EDITOR	Brian Jennings 0413 605 612



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North Beach Review

*North Beach Sub-Branch welcomes contributions and articles that may be used on its website and in the **North Beach Review**.*

To discuss how you may contribute, contact:

Brian Jennings on 0413 605 612 or email on jamjenb@gmail.com

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