

THE FURPHY

ARMADALE SUB-BRANCH OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

April 2022 Edition



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General Meetings: Second Sunday of the month at 1030hrs

Annual General Meeting: Second Sunday of September

Committee Positions

NAME	POSITIONS HELD	SUB-BRANCH DUTIES	INC. DUTIES
MR KEN HEPBURN	PRESIDENT	PRESIDENT	PRESIDENT
MR HANS VAN DE VELDE	VICE PRESIDENT	VICE PRESIDENT	VICE PRESIDENT
MS CAROL KING	SECRETARY – SUB	SECRETARY	ASSISTANT
MR MIKE FAIRWEATHER	SECRETARY – INC.	ASSISTANT	SECRETARY
MRS CHERYL COWIE	TREASURER – SUB	TREASURER	ASSISTANT
MR BOB GILDARE	TREASURER – INC.	ASSISTANT	TREASURER
MR BOB GILES	WARDEN	WARDEN	WARDEN
MR GRAEME COWIE	WARDEN	WARDEN	WARDEN

NAME	POSITIONS HELD
MR TOM RYNN	MEMBERSHIP OFFICER
MR JOHN HENNAH	COMMITTEE PERSON
MR ROD JONSSON	COMMITTEE PERSON
MR PAUL NEWMAN	COMMITTEE PERSON
MR LAURIE SARGESON	COMMITTEE PERSON
MR BRENT ERRINGTON	ADVOCATE / WELFARE
MR MIKE FAIRWEATHER	BAR MANAGER



Ukrainian Low flying to avoid Russian Radar. Street signs – no problem.
That's brave.

Presidents Report

Hi Folks,

ANZAC DAY 2022

Once again, COVID Restrictions have impacted on ANZAC Day and there will be **NO ANZAC Dawn Service** in Armadale Memorial Park.

I ask all members to pay their respects by doing a **Driveway Service at Dawn**.

There will be a small Service held in the Sub-Branch Club Room, in the morning and it will be restricted to invitation only.

The Bar will open from 9.30 am and anyone wishing to attend the club will need to have proof of **vaccination**.

106th STATE CONGRESS

RSL WA, will be holding their State Congress at ANZAC house on 11 June 2022 and if any member has any Agenda items that they wish brought up at the Congress, please submit to the President by Monday 11 April 2022.

Regards

Ken Hepburn

President

Returned Services League Armadale Sub-Branch

Ph: (08) 9497 1972. M: 0428 001 949

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Website: www.armadalersl.com.au

Secretary's Notes

Hi Everyone,

Again, Covid has impacted on the way we do our business, with several members having to be isolated for 7 days for various reasons, either testing positive, or alternatively having been identified as a close contact external to the club and also being forced to quarantine. This resulted in the bar not being open on Sunday 20th March due to no staff being available and we'd like to thank everyone for their patience and understanding in that regard.

Unfortunately, Covid has had a huge impact on attendance at the Sub-Branch and we can only hope that once the peak in WA has passed, members will return to support the Club.

The Anzac Day arrangements are going to be very different this year and finally, preparations are in progress and the President will address these in his Report. We will again be holding an Anzac Day Appeal scheduled for 21st, 22nd and 23rd April and merchandise has already been ordered. A form for volunteers to write their names up will be placed on the Notice Board in the next few days.

I would again extend my appreciation to all members who continue to support the Executive and Committee in our efforts to keep our RSL sustainable.
Best Regards to all,

Carol King

Secretary

Important dates for your diary

April			
3 th	Sunday	Social Committee Meeting	1100H
5 th	Tuesday	Committee Meeting	1830H
8 th	Friday	MBMMC	1930H
10 th	Sunday	GM	1030H
15 th	Friday	Good Friday	All Day
17 th	Sunday	Easter Sunday	All Day
21 st	Thursday	Collection Day	All Day
22 nd	Friday	Collection Day	All Day
23 rd	Saturday	Collection Day	All Day
25 th	Monday	ANZAC Day	TBA

Editors Notes

Hi All,

So another ANZAC Day screwed for Veterans.

That is if we choose to let it get us down.

“One Day of the Year”. I thought we had dispatched this sentiment from our society years ago, but it lives on in the high and mighty of the “woke” gaggle.

I urge each and every one of you to search your souls and your memories and relate your experiences and those of your relatives and friends to the younger generation. They are sadly not being given the whole picture. We must take a stand and present them with our (Australia's) history.

Today's youth look at the death and devastation being waged on The Ukraine and think little more of it than a Video game. They have become so desensitised to visual images.

For our part ANZAC Day has always been important to the welfare of our RSL Sub-branch and so it is this year. Please help with the stalls and the cleaning and setup of our Sub. With your help it can still be an excellent day to meet and greet old friends and make new friends. To reminisce and tell some tall stories of daring do.

We will miss the usual game of Two-Up, but I'm sure some wag will have one going somewhere.

I wish you all a very warm and friendly day.

Cowboy.

Is Sex Work?

A Navy Captain was about to start the morning briefing to his staff.

While waiting for his coffee to be made he explained that he was a bit tired this morning as his wife had been a bit frisky last night.

He asked what percentage of sex was work or pleasure.

A Commander responded 75 – 25% work.

A Lieutenant said it was 50 – 50.

A Midshipman interrupted with 25 – 75% pleasure.

So, with no positive result the Captain asked the Steward as he passed him his coffee.

Without batting an eye the Steward replied “Well sir, it has to be 100% pleasure.”

“Why's that” the Captain asked.

“Well Sir if work was involved; the Officers would order me to do it for them”

God Bless the Sailor.

Membership Update

MEMBERSHIP as at 28 March 2022

Social Members = 220
Affiliate Members = 61
Social Members = 32
Total = 313

Just when things seemed to be looking brighter along came another setback with the Omicron strain of Covid 19 having an effect on our Bar Staff and volunteer committee members. We were unable to open for one day but hopefully that problem is now behind us.

Membership cards for 2022 are now being sent out from RSLWA after a delivery delay held up distribution. Most members who paid late 2021 and Jan/Feb this year should have received cards by now. If anyone has not received their card and they paid before the end of February then please let me know and I will follow up.

Tom Rynn
Membership Officer
Mob: 0439 934 285
E: tomrynn42@gmail.com or tomrynn@bigpond.com

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Birthday List April

Christian	Surname	DoB
Jason	Anderson	06/04
Colin	Avey	03/04
Michael	Barnes	26/04
Martin	Bond	07/04
Phillip	Burchnell	02/04
Lois	Davis	25/04
Giles	Robert	25/04
Graham	Isha	13/04
Hanson	Anne	02/04
Holloway	Stephen	15/04
Jacka	Kathleen	08/04
Jackson	Keith	25/04

Christian	Surname	DoB
Leigh	Norman	13/04
Manning	Stephen	20/04
Matthews	Shirley	28/04
McDonnell	Patrick	17/04
Papprill	Lenard	02/04
Patching	Michael	22/04
Smith	Gary	16/04
Strohman	Steven	04/04
Taylor	William	20/04
Wind	Egon	09/04
Westerback	Elizabeth	03/04
Westerback	John	24/04

The members above can pick up a free drink of their choice in April.

Have a very special Day

Please get your membership up to date so you can join us at the bar.
And get your loyalty card.

Bar Manager's Report

April, 2022

G'Day to all Members,

Loyalty Cards have been issued and these will be ongoing. The initiative has been well received by Members. Application forms are on the Notice Board, please hand them to the Bar Attendant once completed.

Gift Cards are also available and are being used as raffle prizes by the Social Committee for use over the bar.

We are hoping that more members will frequent the Club once the Covid situation becomes clearer, but it seems that WA may now be over the worst of it.

We still have RSL wines (Cab Sav and Brut Cuvee) on special at \$7 per bottle or \$75 for a case of 12.

Stay safe and we hope to see you all in the Club again soon.

Stormy

What's on at the bar?

Special Deals for you:

Cav Sav.	Out at \$7.00 a Bottle.	\$75.00 a Case of 12.
Brut Cuvee.	Out at \$7.00 a Bottle.	\$75.00 a Case of 12.

Until Sold Out.

Happy Hour

Fridays – Happy Hour – 1300 to 1400

Sundays – Happy Hour – 1300 to 1400



The Military Brotherhood Military Motorcycle Club.

Another month has flown by; we have been fairly quiet this month with many of us limiting our time away from home due to Covid. Hopefully things will start to get back to normal soon.

We had our monthly meeting and elected our new treasurer and road captain. I would like to thank Cowboy (treasurer) and Smurf (Road Captain) for filling these positions. The executive committee look forward to working with you both.

Some of our members attended a very special birthday party also. You might remember I was telling you about Abby last month, a little girl with 2 terminal illnesses. I would like to thank everyone who put in to purchase Abby's presents. I would also like to thank Dazza for organising what we could to help out with to make it a special day, Cupcake for the amazing birthday cake she made and Gibbo for supplying the use of his gaming trailer for the kids and adults. If I have forgotten anyone, I am sorry.

This month we also supplied a funeral escort for a Vietnam Veteran. Thank you to Popeye, Cowboy, Issy, Smurf and Boots (Norths Sub-branch) for attending this on our behalf.



Tracey "Frosty" Newman
Assistant Secretary
MBMMC
Perth South

Our motto is
"The Task is Ours"
Military Brotherhood MMC Perth South

April History

Information via AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

<http://www.awm.gov.au/articles/atwar/apr>

Date

1 April 1921.

Title

First AIF disbanded.

Event

During the four years of the First World War the First AIF gained a reputation for military prowess that remains very much in the consciousness of Australians to the present day.

Date

3 April 1885.

Title

Tamai.

Event

Tamai was the largest and most significant engagement in which the 770-man New South Wales contingent to the Sudan were involved. In comparison with the British units involved in the battle, Australian involvement was minimal.

Date

4 April 1951.

Title

First action at Villers-Bretonneux.

Event

Villers-Bretonneux, overlooking the Somme and within artillery range of Amiens, was a principal objective when the German Spring Offensive was in its dying stages in early April. They were repulsed by the 9th Brigade from the 3rd Australian Division and some British units.

Date

5 April 1951.

Title

3rd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment, involved in Operation Rugged, Korea.

Event

Operation Rugged involved United Nations forces crossing the 38th Parallel and occupying strong defensive positions formed by a line of hills codenamed the Kansas Line and including Hills Salmon, Cod and Sardine, 45 kilometres north of Seoul.

Date

6 April 1942.

Title

US 41st Division arrives in Australia.

Event

Between December 1941 and August 1945 some one million Americans were stationed in Australia.

Date

6 April 1952.

Title

1st Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment, arrives in Korea.

Event

The battalion remained in Korea until September 1953.

Date

7 April 1916.

Title

Australians reach the Western Front.

Event

First Australian units of the 2nd Division arrived on Western Front and were introduced to fighting on the Western Front in what was called the 'nursery sector' in the relatively quiet area around Armentieres, France.

Date

8 April 1918.

Title

Repatriation Department established.

Event

Once soldiers were demobilised all tasks aimed at their rehabilitation and return to civilian life became the responsibility of the Repatriation Department.

Date

9 April 1942.

Title

HMAS Vampire sunk.

Event

The destroyer HMAS Vampire and the aircraft carrier HMS Hermes were sunk by Japanese bombers off Colombo in the Bay of Bengal.

Date

9 April 1968.

Title

HMAS Sydney arrived at Vung Tau.

Event

The 1st Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment, disembarked and the 7th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment, embarked. Sydney made 24 voyages to Vietnam during the war.

Date

10 April 1941.

Title

6th Division engage the Germans in Greece.

Event

The Greek campaign, involving forces from Greece, Britain, New Zealand, and Australia, resulted in heavy losses to the 6th Australian Division and ultimately an evacuation of Allied forces from beaches in southern Greece.

Date

10 April 1941.

Title

Siege of Tobruk, Libya, begins.

Event

Tobruk was surrounded on three sides by the German Afrika Korps in April and remained besieged, but able to be re-supplied by sea, until December. Most Australians, however, left Tobruk between August and October.

Date

11 April 1917.

Title

First battle of Bullecourt, Western Front.

Event

The 4th Australian Division and 62nd British Division attempted to penetrate the Hindenburg Line at Bullecourt where they were unsuccessfully supported by tanks. Over 1,000 Australians became prisoners of war, the largest number in a single action in the First World War. 3,000 became casualties.

Date

11 April 1951.

Title

General MacArthur dismissed from command in Korea.

Event

MacArthur was dismissed from his command in Korea for the perception in Washington that he was too intemperate and likely to escalate the war.

Date

11 April 1970.

Title

HMAS Vendetta returns to Sydney.

Event

HMAS Vendetta was the only one of three Australian Daring class destroyers to serve on the gunline in Vietnamese waters. The ship served one tour.

Date

12 April 1918.

Title

Battle of Hazebrouck, Western Front.

Event

Hazebrouck, a crucial rail centre, 30 kilometres west of Armentieres, was threatened by the German offensive on the Lys. The 1st Australian Division repelled several heavy German attacks.

Date

12 April 1941.

Title

ANZAC Corps reformed in Greece by General Blamey.

Event

Australian and New Zealand troops fought alongside soldiers from Greece and Britain in the ill-fated Greek campaign. Blamey, however, conducted a skillful evacuation of the ANZAC Corps from southern Greece at the end of the campaign.

Date

13 April 1916.

Title

Jifjaffa.

Event

A squadron of the 9th Light Horse Regiment captured this Turkish outpost in the Sinai, about 60 kilometres from the Suez. The encounter, the first engagement for the Light Horse in the Sinai, demonstrated their potential for fighting in the Middle East.

Date

13 April 1983.

Title

Dedication of the Rats of Tobruk memorial.

Event

The memorial, on Anzac Parade, was dedicated by the Governor-General of Australia, the Right Hon Sir Ninian Stephen. The memorial commemorates the Australian and Allied servicemen who died during the siege of Tobruk in 1941.

Date

14 April 1941.

Title

Second attack against Tobruk by Afrika Korps fails.

Event

The besieged town of Tobruk held out against German attacks until December 1941 when the siege was lifted.

Date

17 April 1917.

Title

Second battle of Gaza.

Event

A second attack on the Turkish coastal stronghold at Gaza. Reinforced and prepared for an attack, the Turks repulsed General Sir Archibald Murray's assault, inflicting over 6,000 casualties on the attackers.

Date

18 April 1941.

Title

Tempe (or Pinios) Gorge, Greece.

Event

The 2/2nd and 2/3rd Battalions, AIF, and New Zealand's 21st Battalion stemmed a German advance in a rearguard action that enabled the main Allied force in Greece to establish a new defensive line across the Thermopylae peninsula.

Date

18 April 1942.

Event

General Thomas Blamey appointed to command Allied land forces in the South-West Pacific Area.

Date

18 April 1943.

Title

Admiral Yamamoto, Imperial Japanese Navy, killed.

Event

American Intelligence decoded signals that provided the timetable for Yamamoto's flight. His aircraft was intercepted and shot down near Bougainville by American Lightnings from Guadalcanal. Yamamoto, Commander of the Japanese Combined Fleet, was the architect of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Date

19 April 1968.

Title

Dedication of the Desert Mounted Corps memorial.

Event

The memorial, on Anzac Parade, was dedicated by Prime Minister John Gorton. The memorial is based on the original unveiled at Port Said, Egypt, by former Prime Minister William Morris Hughes in 1932. It was destroyed during the Suez Crisis of 1956.

Date

20 April 1915.

Title

First half-flight, Australian Flying Corps, sailed for the Baghdad expedition.

Event

This was the first use of Australian aircraft and aircrew in war.

Date

20 April 1941.

Title

ANZAC Corps withdraw to Thermopylae Line, Greece.

Event

The Greek campaign ended in disaster for the Allies. Unable to hold out against numerically stronger and better organised German forces, the Allies were forced to evacuate their troops from Greece in late April 1941.

Date

21 April 1917.

Title

Foundation of the Imperial War Graves Commission.

Event

The Imperial War Graves Commission was later renamed the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. It is responsible for erecting and maintaining war memorials and cemeteries.

Date

22 April 1941.

Title

Evacuation of Greece begins.

Event

The evacuation marked the end of the ill-conceived Greek campaign which lasted only three weeks.

Date

23 April 1918.

Title

Ostend and Zeebrugge, Belgium, raided.

Event

Eleven volunteers from HMAS Australia took part in a raid that aimed to prevent the Germans using these Belgian ports as a bases for their submarines.

Date

23 April 1951.

Title

Battle of Kapyong, Korea.

Event

The most well-known Australian action of the Korean War, Kapyong involved the 3rd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (3RAR). The fighting at Kapyong blunted the Chinese advance on Seoul during the 1951 Spring Offensive and prevented a Communist breakthrough on the United Nations central front. 3RAR was awarded a United States Presidential citation for their part in the battle.

Date

24 -25 April 1918.

Title

Second battle of Villers-Bretonneux, Western Front.

Event

When the Germans captured the town that had been the centre of fighting just three weeks previously, Australian and British troops drove them out in a daring night attack at a cost of 1,469 casualties.

Date

25 April 1901.

Title

Naval contingent return to Sydney from China.

Event

Sailors from New South Wales, South Australia and Victoria were sent to China to assist in quelling an anti-western rebellion by Chinese secret societies. Although it arrived too late to see any significant fighting, the Australian colonial force suffered six fatalities, none from combat.

Date

25 April 1915.

Title

Landings at Gallipoli.

Event

British, French, Australian and New Zealand troops were involved in a series of coordinated landings. Although the Gallipoli campaign was a military failure, the anniversary of the landing has become a national day of commemoration in Australia.

Date

25 April 1916.

Title

First commemoration of Anzac Day.

Event

The first anniversary of the Gallipoli landings was widely observed in Australia. Large crowds attended church services and public ceremonies. The day was also commemorated by Australian and New Zealand servicemen in Egypt and London.

Date

25 April 1916.

Title

First commemoration of Anzac Day.

Event

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Date

26 April 1944.

Title

Alexishafen occupied.

Event

Alexishafen, New Guinea, was occupied by Australian troops.

Date

26 April 1953.

Title

Ceasefire talks resume in Panmunjong.

Event

Warring sides try to bring an end to the fighting in Korea.

Date

28 April 1952.

Title

Australia ratifies peace treaty with Japan and official ending of the British Commonwealth Occupation Force (BCOF).

Event

From the end of 1948 Australia had taken on the largest role in BCOF. When the state of occupation ended the Commonwealth organisation in Japan was redesignated British Commonwealth Forces Korea and continued supplying and administering Commonwealth forces then fighting in Korea.

Date

29 April 1915.

Title

HMA Submarine AE2 sunk in the Sea of Marmara.

Event

AE2 was the first submarine to penetrate the Dardanelles. For five days the AE2 carried out orders to disrupt Turkish shipping. When her torpedoes were exhausted and she was attacked by Turkish gunboats the submarine was scuttled and her crew captured.

Date

29 April 1965.

Title

Prime Minister Menzies announces the commitment of an infantry battalion to Vietnam.

Event

Australia's involvement in Vietnam was a gradual process. By April 1965 there were 100 members of the Australian Army Training Team Vietnam in Vietnam. The commitment of a battalion represented a major step in Australia's involvement and precipitated further increases in the number of Australians serving in Vietnam until reductions began in 1970.

Date

30 April 1941.

Title

Last evacuation ship leaves Greece.

Event

Australian and New Zealand troops fought alongside soldiers from Greece and Britain in the ill-fated Greek campaign. General Blamey conducted a skillful evacuation of the ANZAC Corps from southern Greece at the end of the campaign.

Did You Know?

That famous quote "Do you think I might be excused?"

Conceals a true Hero.



PRIVATE GODFREY, FINALLY EXCUSED FROM DUTY

On this day, 12 March 1984, actor Arnold Ridley passed away. He was best known for playing Private Godfrey in Dad's Army (1968-1977).

What perhaps many people don't know is that he was also a soldier in real life sustaining several bad wounds during WW1 as a Private with the Somerset Light Infantry Regiment.

His left hand was incapacitated by a bayonet on the Somme, and his legs were riddled with shrapnel. Hand to hand combat with a German soldier resulted in a blow to his head from a rifle butt that left him prone to blackouts, and another bayonet wound in his groin.

During WW2 he was in the Intelligence Corps, and when he was discharged on medical grounds he joined the Home Guard and the Entertainments National Service Organisation, which toured the camps entertaining the troops.

His body was cremated at the Golders Green Crematorium and an urn holding his ashes was buried in his parents' grave at Bath Abbey Cemetery. He was born on 7 January 1896 in Bath, Somerset.

Some research reveals some other interesting facts.

Awards	
AWARD	TYPE
British War Medal	First World War Campaign/Service Medal
Order of the British Empire (OBE)	British Award/Decoration (For Acting)
Silver War Badge	Honourable Discharge
Victory Medal	First World War Campaign/Service Medal

There has been some confusion over the years as to whether Arnold Ridley won the Military Medal or not. In an episode of Dad's Army, a picture of Charles Godfrey wearing the MM is seen, but the actor himself never received one.

He was, according to conversations between Arnold and his son Nicolas, recommended for the Distinguished Conduct Medal.

"A horrible irony is that my father was not the sort of man who was out for official recognition, yet all he had ever wanted was the Military Medal. He told me that when he came back from No Man's Land after an attack on the Somme, he was standing around with four or five other boys when an officer spoke to them. He said he was going to put them all up for the MM except for my father who, because he had a lance corporal stripe on, he would put up for the Distinguished Conduct Medal. All the other men got their MMs but he didn't get the DCM, and that did embitter him a little bit. It is exactly the sort of thing he would not have normally cared about, but I think he felt it was a badge of comradeship. When he was awarded an OBE for playing a small comedy part in a television series, I felt it was a poor reward for someone who had served in two world wars."



**RETURNED SERVICES LEAGUE
ARMADALE SUB-BRANCH.**

Your RSL.