

THE FURPHY

ARMADALE SUB-BRANCH OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

April 2026 Edition



1 Commerce Ave, Armadale, WA 6112
PO Box 697, Armadale, WA 6992

Ph: (08) 9497 1972

email: secretary@armadalersl.com.au

Website: www.armadalersl.com.au

Social media: [Facebook](#)

General Meetings: Second Sunday of the month at 1100hrs

Annual General Meeting: Second Sunday of September

Committee Positions

Armadale Sub-Branch Committee	
President	Mr Mike Fairweather
Vice President	Mr Bob Giles
Secretary	Ms Carol King
Treasurer	Mrs Cheryl Cowie
Warden	Mr Graeme Cowie
Warden	Mr Keith Northcott
Membership Officer	Secretary
Committee	Mr Geoff Scott
Advocate / Welfare Officer	Mr Brent Errington
Bar Manager	Mr Mike Fairweather

ADVOCATE / WELFARE

Brent Errington “Erro” is available as follows:

At the Armadale RSL Sub-Branch:

Monday: by appointment only
Thursday: between 0900 - 1400hrs

Weekday Contact Details:

Mobile: 0407 449 150
e-mail: welfare2@armadalersl.com.au

Diary Dates for April

<i>Day</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Time</i>
Sunday	5 th	Social Committee Meeting	1100
Tuesday	7 th	Management Committee Meeting	1100
Sunday	12 th	General Meeting	1100
Sunday	25 th	Dawn Service	0550



Armadale RSL Sub-Branch



DAWN SERVICE

Saturday, 25th April 2026

Memorial Park, Jull Street, Armadale

The Returned Services League, Armadale Sub-Branch are proud to facilitate a Community Dawn Service again this year.

The service will commence at 6:00am precisely.

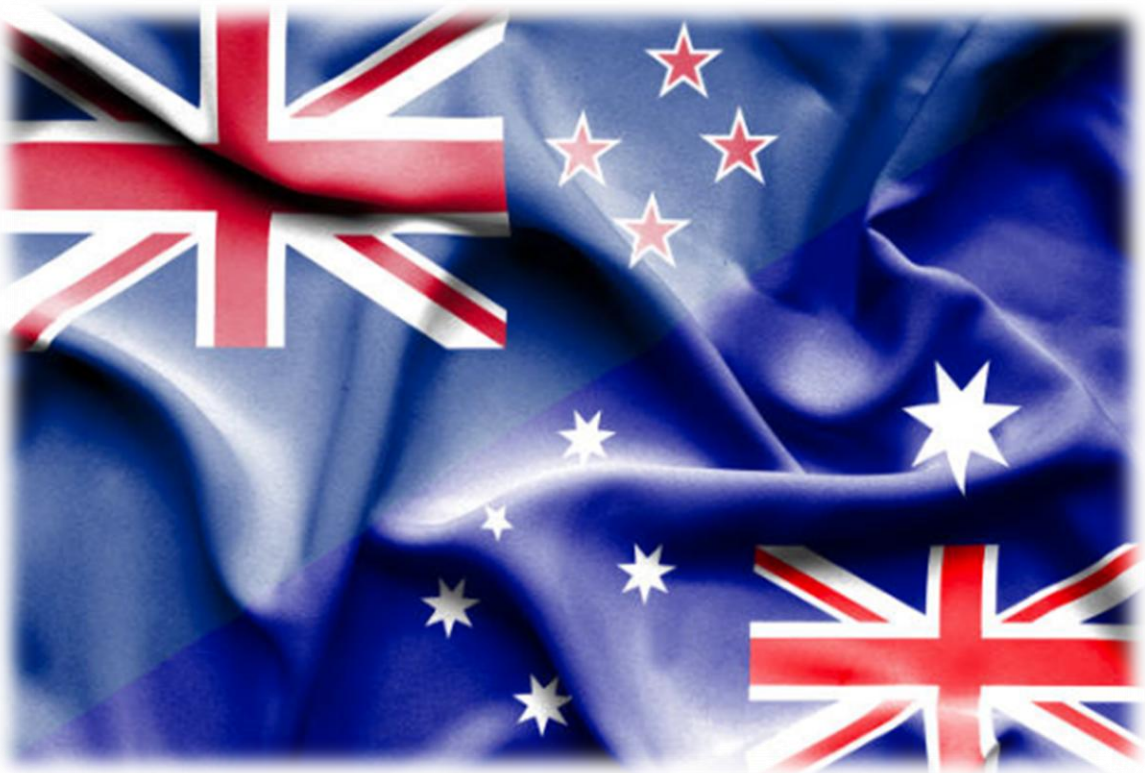
There will be a small March in the park. Veterans will form up at the rear of the Park by 5:45am. Family Members who are wearing Service medals are welcome to join in.

Marshals will be in attendance to assist.

A Gunfire Breakfast is available for \$10 between 7:30 and 10:00am.

Refreshments will be available at the RSL following the service.

"The Price of Liberty is Eternal Vigilance"



The Royal Australian Air Force will provide a Hawk Jet flyover at 7:20am following the Dawn Service to honour those original ANZACs and the men and women who have followed in their footsteps since



The Hawk 127 lead-in fighter is operated by and Number 79 Squadron at RAAF Base Pearce near Perth

Secretary's Notes

Hi Everyone,

We're now concentrating on all things ANZAC. It is likely that we may have to knock back some of the schools who have requested us to send a representative to deliver speeches, lay a wreath, recite the Ode or just attend as a guest. The reason for this is that most organisations are scheduling their services for Friday 24th and we don't have enough volunteers to perform these duties so if you are available and willing to help out, please let me know as a matter of urgency.

We will be open from 12 noon on Easter Sunday. BYO snacks and/or nibbles as the kitchen will not be open. There will be a raffle consisting of an Eski full of goodies.

A roster for the ANZAC Appeal Stalls is on the board. This is a significant fundraising initiative so if we can have as many people as possible assist on Tuesday 21st, Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 23rd it would be very much appreciated.

We are now planning to have food available on ANZAC Day from 1200hrs until 1330hrs. This will be prepared and served by our volunteers from the Social Committee.

Best regards as always,

Carol King

Sub-Branch Secretary

e-mail: secretary@armadalersl.com.au



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hi Members,

We have been busy arranging everything ANZAC related and have been extremely fortunate that we have a Busy Bee planned for Saturday 18th April.

This will be co-ordinated by Disaster Relief Australia. They were originally founded by Service Veterans however this has expanded since.

They have kindly approached us to clean up the external areas of the club rooms in preparation for ANZAC Day. We are sincerely grateful to them for offering to do this for us so hopefully volunteers from the membership will not be required.

That's about all from me for now,

Mike Fairweather

President

Returned Services League Armadale Sub-Branch

Ph: (08) 9497 1972. M: 0403 980 290

1 Commerce Avenue Armadale WA 6112 | PO Box 697 Armadale WA 6992

e-mail: president@armadalersl.com.au

**MORE MONEY IS SPENT ON BOOB JOBS AND
VIAGRA THAN ALZHEIMERS RESEARCH,
BY 2040 THE ELDERLY WILL HAVE STIFFIES AND
PERKY TITS, AND NO BLOODY IDEA WHY.**



ANZAC DAY

Lest We Forget - 25th April



"The Australian and New Zealand troops have indeed proved themselves worthy sons of the empire."

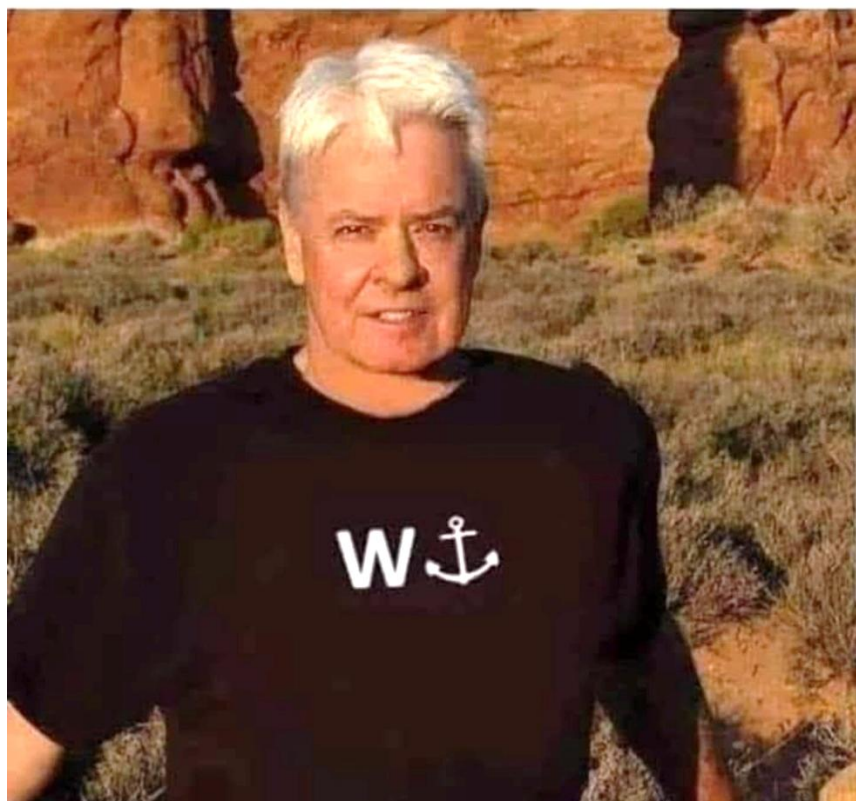
GEORGE R.I.

EASTER TRADING



Good Friday 3rd April – Closed
Easter Sunday 5th April
Open from 12 noon

My ex wife sent me this T shirt for my birthday, it's so nice we parted as friends.....it's something to do with sailing I think.....bless her.



Membership Update

As at 31st March 2026:

Service Members:	145
Affiliate Members:	43
Social Members:	<u>74</u>
Total:	<u>262</u>

We are sorry to hear of the passing of long time Service Member Mr Ted Parry. Our condolences are extended to his family.

The 24 Social Members who did not renew by 31st January have been removed from our records.

Renewals for those Social Members will no longer be accepted. An "Application for Membership" form will need to be filled out to re-join (Pink form on the Notice Board). Loyalty points previously accumulated have been deleted.

If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Carol King

Tel: 9497 1972

e-mail: secretary@armadalersl.com.au

**I saw a piece of toast at
the zoo.**

**The zookeeper said it
was bread in captivity.**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

April Service Members:

Anderson	Mr	Jason	06/04	Avey	Mr	Colin	03/04
Davis	Mrs	Lois	25/04	Giles	Mr	Robert	25/04
Hassell	Mr	Ashley	20/04	Holloway	Mr	Stephen	15/04
Jackson	Mr	Keith	25/04	Leigh	Mr	Norman	13/04
Manning	Mr	Stephen	20/04	McDonnell	Mr	Patrick	17/04
Reilly	Mr	Bruce	06/04	Schluez	Mr	Christian	28/04
Taylor	Mr	William	20/04	Wind	Mr	Egon	09/04

April Affiliate Members:

Bond	Mr	Martin	07/04	Cowie	Mrs	Cheryl	08/04
Jacka	Mrs	Kathleen	08/04				

April Social Members:

Fowler	Mr	Doug	24/04	Hepburn	Mrs	Jan	29/04
Jefferies	Mr	Graeme	17/04	Lancaster	Mr	Ron	14/04

If there are any errors or anyone has been missed off the list, please advise

The Secretary (Membership Officer)

These members may collect a free drink of their choice during the month

We hope you have a very special Birthday

Bar Manager's Report

G'day All,

All the Loyalty Cards for Service and Affiliates who did not renew by 31st January have been de-activated. If you renew by 30th April, you will not lose any accumulated points.

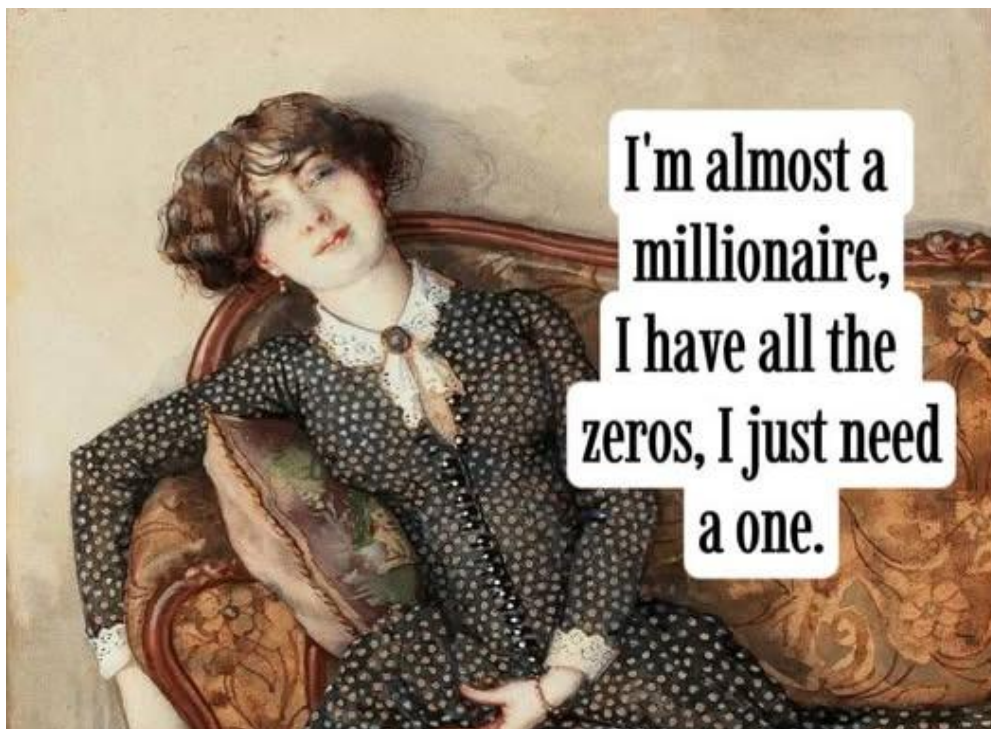
On ANZAC Day all pints will be reduced to \$7.00 each.

The Bar will open on ANZAC Day at 0630 hours.

As the Breweries have increased their prices yet again we will need to increase our prices in early May.

Cheers for now,

Stormy



*Service Member **Adam Livesey** will be attending an ANZAC service at Hellfire Pass this year and has kindly offered to lay a wreath on behalf of the Armadale RSL Sub-Branch on that day.*

Hellfire Pass (Konyu Cutting) in Kanchanaburi, Thailand, is a poignant World War II historic site and memorial dedicated to Allied POWs and Asian labourers who died building the Burma-Thailand "Death Railway".

Known for its brutal construction conditions (1943), it features a 500-metre long, 26-metre deep rock cutting, now a museum, walking trail, and annual Anzac Day service location.





Leisure and entertainment at the Front: A game of cricket being played at Shell Green - the only game of cricket played on the Gallipoli peninsula. Major George Macarthur Onslow of the Light Horse, batting, is being caught out. Shells were passing overhead all the time the game was in progress. This game was an attempt to distract the Turks from the imminent departure of Allied troops. With the exception of letter writing and sea bathing, the troops at Gallipoli had virtually no opportunity for recreation.



Surrendered German U-boats at Lisahally, Northern Ireland, May 1945

ANZAC DAY LUNCH

Bacon/Lettuce/Tomato Rolls

Only \$6 each



Available from 12 noon until 1:30pm

2-Up from 2:00pm





P-38 Lightning in German markings, flown to Milan (Italy) and handed over intact by USAAF Martin James Monti.



A German King Tiger tank of the 507th Heavy Tank Battalion, knocked out by Allied forces near Osterode



At Gouda station in 1944, a woman in a plain apron pushed her broom across the platform, seemingly invisible to the soldiers around her. To most, she was just a cleaner, part of the scenery. But each sweep of her broom carried meaning: two strokes to the left signalled "guards distracted," three to the right meant "move now." Her quiet code spoke louder than whispers in a place where silence was survival. Watching closely, members of the underground acted on her signals, guiding children away from the deportation line and into waiting arms beyond the station's edge. No words were exchanged, no papers passed—just the rhythm of a broom on stone, turning a tool of labour into an instrument of rescue. In the shadows of occupation, her silent language saved lives, one sweep at a time.



Close up of a Spitfire V over North Africa



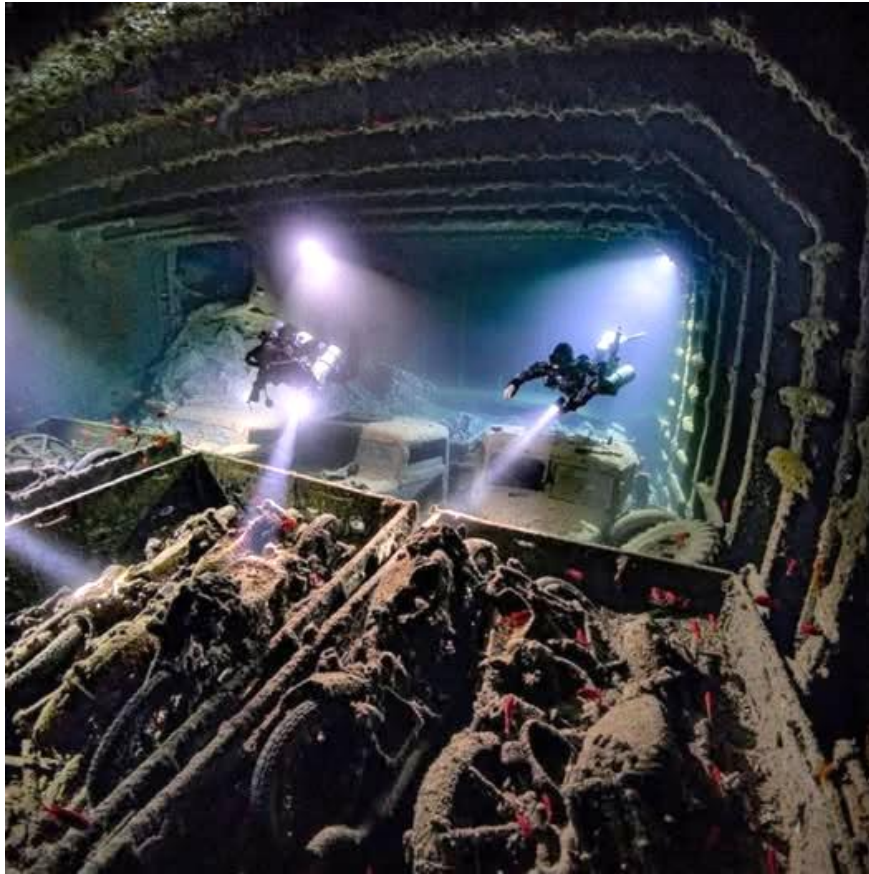


On September 26, 1917, the Battle of Polygon Wood took place during the Battle of Passchendaele. Seven Divisions took part; five British and two Australian. Like the Battle of Menin Road, this battle was fought using “bite and hold” tactics with the infantry advancing behind a screen of protective shelling from the artillery.

While considered a victory for the Allies, losses were significant with more than 20,000 casualties, while the German army suffered an estimated 13,500 casualties.

Today, there are several World War One memorials and cemeteries in the area, including Buttes New British Cemetery with the New Zealand Memorial, the Memorial to the 5th Australian Division and Polygon Wood Cemetery.

Anzac Day Dawn Services take place here on April 25th each year. German prisoners, captured at Tower Hamlet Spur during the Battle of Polygon Wood, seen being marched through Ypres on their way to captivity, 27th September 1917. Polygon Wood was part of the Battle of Passchendaele.



The S.S. Thistlegorm. Sunk in 1941 by a German Heinkel HE 111 and rediscovered in the early 1950's by Jacques Cousteau



9 December 1944. An American self-propelled howitzer M7 "Priest" (105 mm HMC M7) in position overlooking vineyards in Ribeauville, Alsace, France



Deep in the jungles of Phuoc Tuy, the Australian SASR played a deadly game of cat and mouse against an enemy who thrived in the shadows. There were no grand battles, just five-man patrols ghosting through tangled undergrowth, searching for the hidden lifeblood of the Viet Cong: caches of ammunition, grenades, and mortar shells, stashed in hollow trees and spider holes, invisible to all but the most patient hunter.

But finding the enemy's supply was only the beginning. To destroy it with explosives was to betray their own presence, a single blast would bring every hostile rifle within miles crashing down on their position. So, the SASR learned to think like saboteurs, not soldiers. They didn't just want to blow up bullets; they wanted to poison trust itself.

With nerves of steel and the hands of bomb technicians, they slipped doctored cartridges (indistinguishable from the real thing) into enemy magazines. One round in a thousand, waiting to turn an AK-47 into a grenade in the heat of battle. One grenade fuse, altered to explode the instant the pin was pulled. One mortar shell, rigged to detonate in the tube, wiping out entire crews in a flash.

The SASR left no trace. The jungle returned to silence. But the trap was set, a phantom threat lurking in every crate, every magazine, every moment before the trigger is pulled. Just one example of the SASR's psychological warfare by turning a NVA AK-47 Into a Hand Grenade.



In 1943, a group of Australian soldiers worked deep in the jungle, loading a mortar under heat, exhaustion, and constant threat.

There was no drama, no speeches, just discipline, teamwork, and quiet determination in conditions that tested the limits of the human body.

They had already survived earlier battles. Here, the enemy was not only gunfire, but disease, rain, and terrain that punished every step.

Each round they prepared, each order they followed, could decide whether their mates lived or died.

The photograph that captured this moment shows ordinary men doing extraordinary work, knowing the cost, yet never stepping back.

Some would return home and live long lives.

Others would carry scars no one could see.



Honouring the 2/43rd Australian Infantry Battalion: Landing at Lae New Guinea "Cairns, Queensland. 07-08-1943. Troops of 2/43rd Australian Infantry Battalion on the Wharf prior to Embarkation. Reorganised for Jungle Operations, the 2/43rd participated in the 9th Division amphibious landing at Red Beach, north-west of Lae New Guinea. The 2/43rd came ashore during the night of 5 September. The 2/43rd reached the Butibum River on the outskirts of Lae on 16 September."





*In Memory Of Lance Corporal Victor James Starr, 54th Battalion, of
Alexandria, NSW.*

*Lance Corporal Starr enlisted on the 20th of February 1915 and was killed in
action, at Fromelles on the 19th of July 1916. He was 22 years old.*

*Cemetery or memorial details: Anzac Cemetery, Sailly-sur-la-Lys, Nord Pas de
Calais, France.*

*His brother, Trooper Walter Starr, 7th Australian Light Horse, died of wounds
on the 14th of August 1916 and is buried at Port Said, Egypt. The photograph
is one of a number displayed on a photo montage Honour Board made for the
department store Anthony Hordern and Sons Ltd, Sydney, by the returned
soldier and sailor employees of the company. It commemorated 46 of the
company's 48 employees who died as a result of their service in WW1.*

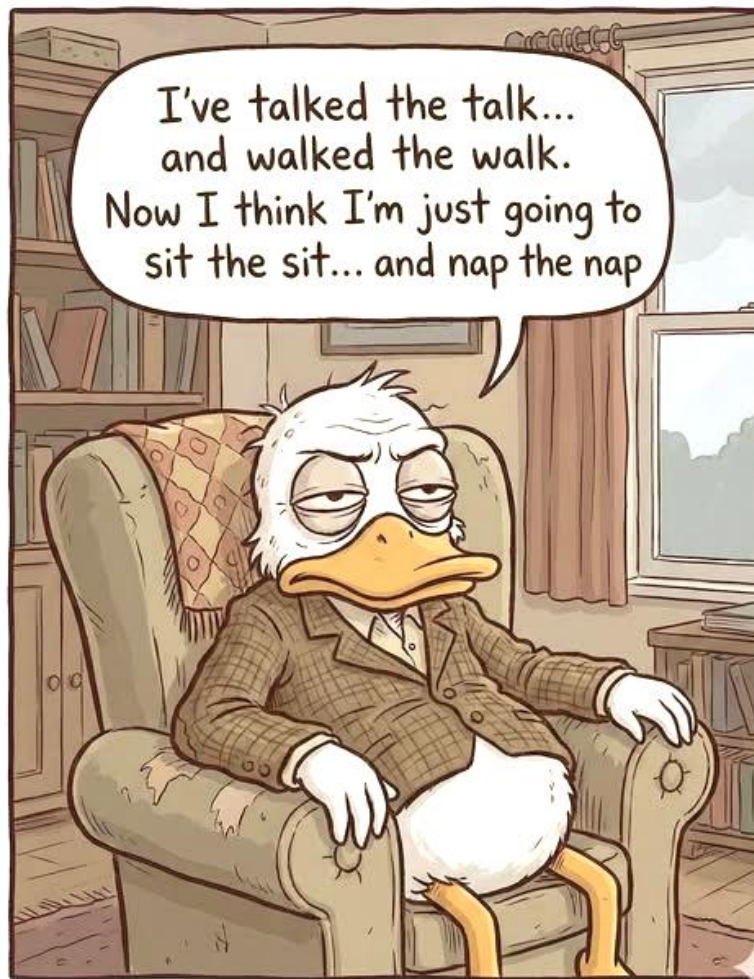
Lest We Forget



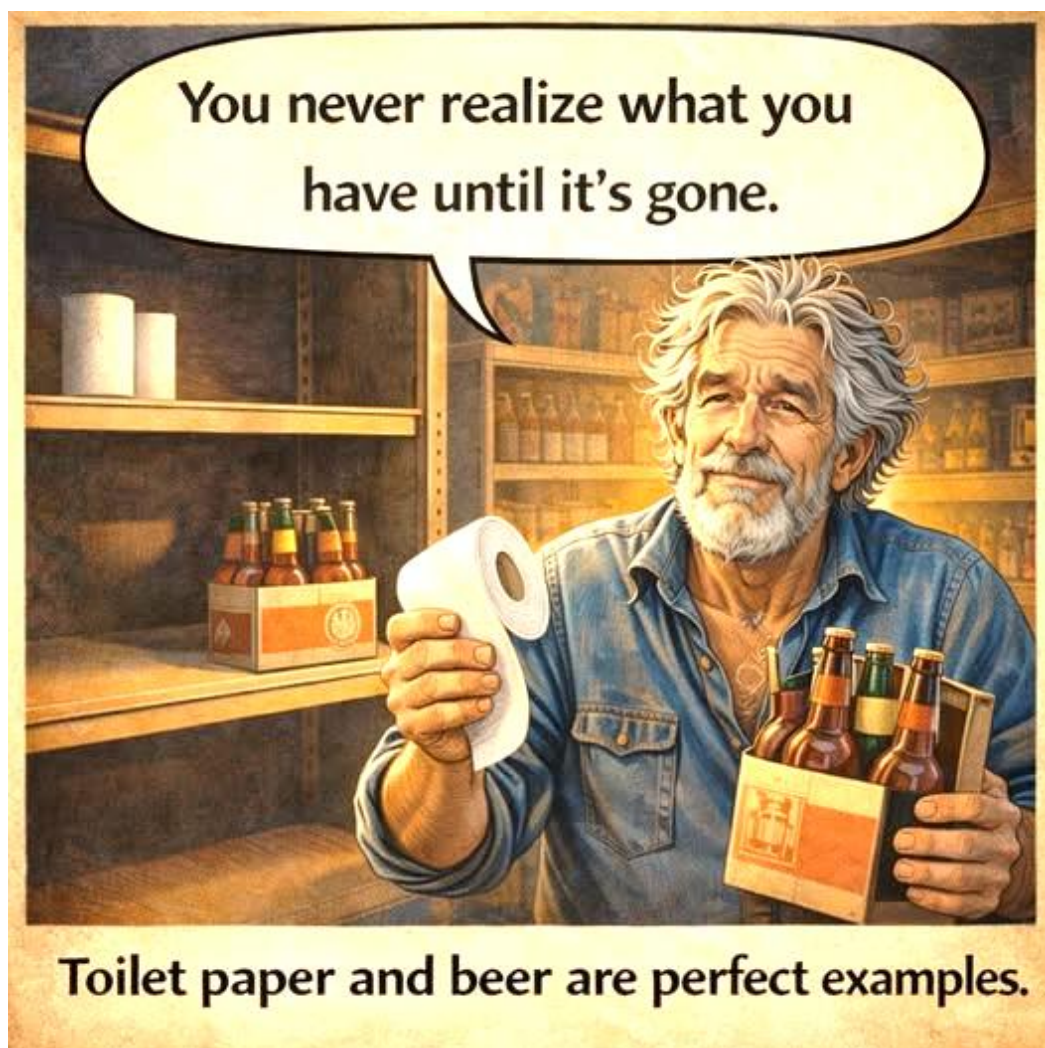
The flak ship Vp1605 MOSEL, escorting the Norwegian freighter INGER JOHANNE off Lillesand, engulfed in a torrent of fire from Beaufighters of No. 404 Squadron, one of which can be seen passing overhead at mast height on October 15, 1944. The ships were attacked by 21 Beaufighters and 17 Mosquitos of the Banff and Dallachy Wings. The MOSEL eventually blew up and sank.



The "Turnip Termite" crash landed in France on June 7, 1944



**Remember when
plastic surgery was a
taboo subject?
Now you mention
Botox
and nobody raises
an eyebrow.**



**I just want to be
held tightly like a
fart on a first date.**



**I NEARLY DIDN'T POST THIS IN CASE
PEOPLE THOUGHT IT WAS A FENCE SIEVE**



COME JOIN TABLE TENNIS!

FUN • FRIENDLY • SOCIAL

STAY ACTIVE, HAVE FUN, AND MEET NEW
PEOPLE — JOIN OUR TABLE TENNIS GROUP!

- FRIENDLY SMALL GROUP
- EQUIPMENT SUPPLIED
- BEGINNERS WELCOME
- GREAT FUN AND SOCIAL
ATMOSPHERE

LOCATION: GREENDALE CENTRE,
COOMBE AVE, ARMADALE

WHEN: FRIDAY MORNINGS

TIME: 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

FOR MORE
INFORMATION:

KATH – 9399 1374

GREENDALE CENTRE – 9399 5393





Wife: We're going to have a baby!

Friend: Wow congrats! Are you going to find out what it is?

Me: I already googled and it's a very tiny human



Wife: "You hate my
relatives!"

Husband: "No, I don't!, in
fact, I like your
mother-in-law more than I
like mine."

**YOU'RE NOT DRUNK... IF
YOU CAN LIE ON THE FLOOR
WITHOUT HOLDING ON !!**

THE ONLY WOMAN WHO KNOWS

WHAT SHE'LL WEAR TOMORROW.



RETURNED SERVICES LEAGUE ARMADALE SUB-BRANCH

Your RSL