

THE FURPHY

ARMADALE SUB-BRANCH OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

October 2023 Edition



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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 1030hrs**
Annual General Meeting: **Second Sunday of September**

Committee Positions

Armadale Sub-Branch Committee	
President	Mr Ken Hepburn
Vice President	Mr Hans van de Velde
Secretary	Ms Carol King
Assistant Secretary	Mr Mike Fairweather
Treasurer	Mrs Cheryl Cowie
Assistant Treasurer	Vacant
Warden	Mr Graeme Cowie
Warden	Mr Mick Quinn
Membership Officer	Mr Tom Rynn
Committee	Mr Bob Giles
Committee	Mr Keith Northcott
Committee	Mr Geoff Scott
Advocate / Welfare Officer	Mr Brent Errington
Bar Manager	Mr Mike Fairweather

ADVOCATE / WELFARE

Brent Errington “Erro” is available as follows:

Operating out of RAAFA on Mondays and Fridays

between 0900 – 1230hrs and also at

Armadale RSL Sub-Branch between 1000-1400hrs on Thursdays

Contact Details: *Mobile: 0407 449 150*

e-mail: welfare2@armadalersl.com.au

Diary Dates for October

<i>Day</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Time</i>
Sunday	1st	Social Committee Meeting	1100
Tuesday	3rd	Management Committee Meeting	1830
Sunday	8th	General Meeting	1030

A Hollywood producer called his friend, another Hollywood producer on the phone.

“Hey, how are you doing?” he asks.

“Well” responds the friend.

“I just sold a screenplay for \$200,000. I also wrote a novel and got a \$50,000 advance from the publisher. I have a new TV series airing next week, and everyone says it’s going to be a hit. I’m doing great! How are you?”

“OK”, says the first producer, “but I’ll call you back when you’re alone”.



03 September 1941 - The auxiliary minesweeper HMAS MARRAWA, was commissioned. MARRAWA was laid down in Holland in 1910. She was requisitioned for the RAN

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hi Folks,

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on Sunday 10th of September 2023. A very small turn out, but all our regular members attended, thank you.

I would like welcome Michael Quinn and Geoff Scott to the Committee and thank all the other committee members from last year, who put their hands up to stay on for another year.

At the Monthly General Meeting to be held on Sunday, 8th October, Miquela Riley, RSL WA State Vice President will attending, and members will have the chance to speak with her.

Remembrance Day 2023 will be held on a Saturday, and I hope this means we will have a good turn out by members to pay their respects. We will be holding a Sausage Sizzle luncheon on the day. More details for the Service and activities in the club room will be in the November Furphy.

Regards,

Ken Hepburn

President

Returned Services League Armadale Sub-Branch
Ph: (08) 9497 1972. M: 0428 001 949

email: president@armadalersl.com.au

Website: www.armadalersl.com.au

Secretary's Notes

Hi Everyone,

Our 2023 Annual General Meeting was held on Sunday 10th September and was reasonably well attended.

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to the outgoing Committee for their diligence and contribution during the past year.

Welcome to those who have taken on positions with the Management Committee, your commitment to the Sub-Branch to fulfill our obligations to both RSLWA and National are sincerely appreciated.

Nominations are now invited for positions on our very important Social Committee and a list is on the board for people to express their interest in joining this enthusiastic band of members. These nominations will be reviewed by the Management Team on Tuesday 3rd October.

We will be conducting our Annual Poppy Appeal on Wednesday 8th and Thursday 9th November.

A Roster has been placed on the Board, we would ask as many members as possible to give us a couple of hours of their time on these days to assist in this critical fundraising initiative.

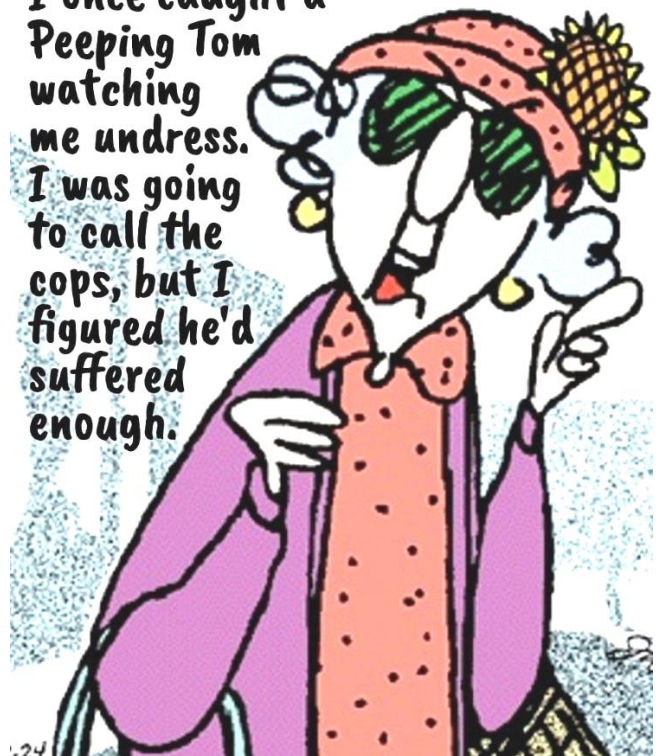
Best regards to all,

Carol King

Sub-Branch

Secretary

I once caught a Peeping Tom watching me undress. I was going to call the cops, but I figured he'd suffered enough.



I STARTED DATING A WEATHER GIRL



**IT'S NICE TO HAVE A WOMAN
THAT'S WRONG MOST OF THE TIME**



HMAS SWAN, (destroyer escort), became the first RAN ship in 32 years to visit a Chinese port. HMAS SHOALHAVEN, (frigate), made the previous voyage in 1949

Husband: Why are the defective condoms lying on the sofa...???

Wife: What...??? Where...???

The wife goes to find them and comes back angrily saying:

“I will kill you if you don’t stop calling our children Defective Condoms”



Thanks so much to Access Timber Flooring and their fabulous tradesperson Billy who did a fabulous job replacing our warped dance floor following the flooding which occurred in early June

We are so happy with the result

An Affair to Forget

A weeping woman bursts into her hypnotist's office. "I've been faithful to my husband for 15 years, but yesterday I had an affair!" she sobbed. "The guilt is killing me. I just want to forget it ever happened!"

The hypnotist shakes his head and sighs. "Not again..."

New Recipe

A girl in a coffee shop I'm working in said to her friend "Imagine a hot veggie smoothie". I'm now wondering how to break it to her that soup actually already exists.



"What if we don't change at all ...
and something magical just happens?"

**MBMMC
Perth South
presents**

Swan Valley

**WINE / BREWERY
TOUR**



Proceeds donated to the cancer
foundation
wineries, breweries, chocolate
factory.
something for everyone

**05
NOV**

BUS \$40 P/P

Tasting included at the Ugly Duckling.

Pick up
0815 Cockburn train station
0900 Armadale train station

For bookings
text 'wine' to 0450269173



This is an over 18 event.
Photo I.D. maybe required

Made with PosterMyWard.com

How to climb a ladder...

Step 1:

Step 2:

Step 3:



Lance-Corporal Bill Baggott sleeping on his motorcycle, Falaise, France, August 1944



Membership Update

as at 30th September, 2023

Service Members: 179

Affiliate Members: 44

Social Members: 67

Total: 290

Just an early reminder that annual membership ceases on 31st December and in-house renewal forms will be on the Notice Board from November.

RSLWA will send out renewal notices to Service Members in mid-November and those members can renew directly on line to RSLWA. Those who wish to pay via the Sub Branch can do so and will be issued a receipt and I will forward payments to Perth.

Any doubts or queries about membership then don't hesitate to contact me at any time via email or phone.

Tom Rynn

Tel: 0439 934 285

E-mail: tomrynn@bigpond.com

Working like a Dog

A salesperson stops by to see one of his business customers. Not a soul is in the office except a Beagle emptying waste paper bins.

"I'll be finished in a few minutes," the beagle says.

"Incredible!" exclaims the salesman. "Does your box know what a prize he has in you? An animal that can talk!"

Alarmed, the beagle drops a bin "No, don't tell him!" he pleads. "If he finds out I can talk, he'll make me answer the phones too!"



Personnel inserting fuse into a 500 lb. demolition bomb in the bomb bay of B-29 Superfortress, China, June 1944

Words of Wisdom

When one door closes and another door opens, you are probably in prison.

To me, "drink responsibly" means don't spill it.

Age 60 might be the new 40, but 9:00 pm is the new midnight.

It's the start of a brand new day, and I'm off like a herd of turtles.

The older I get, the earlier it gets late.

When I say, "The other day," I could be referring to any time between yesterday and 15 years ago.

I remember being able to get up without making sound effects.

I had my patience tested. I'm negative.

Remember, if you lose a sock in the dryer, it comes back as a Tupperware lid that doesn't fit any of your containers.



October Service Members:

Barbet	Mr	John	12/10	Errington	Mr	Brenton	10/10
Fordham	Mr	Richard	06/10	Hughes	Mr	Anthony	19/10
Jackson	Mr	Brian	17/10	Johnston	Mr	Kenneth	03/10
Karsten	Mr	Michael	12/10	Maidorn	Mr	Peter	01/10
McVea	Mr	Kim	09/10	O'Rourke	Mr	Patrick	27/10
Parker	Ms	Lynette	18/10	Playle	Mr	William	05/10
Walker	Mr	Robert	13/10				

October Affiliate Members:

Bishop	Mrs	Ann	11/10	Craige	Ms	Pamela	29/10
Manderson	Mr	Jordan	10/10	Smith	Mr	Martin	30/10
Symonds	Mr	Kim	03/10				

October Social Members:

Alberts	Mr	James	05/10	Floresta	Ms	Sharon	10/10
Gilroy	Miss	Lorraine	08/10	Lukaras	Mr	Don	21/10
Sutton	Mr	Stan	05/10	Watterson	Mr	Neil	16/10

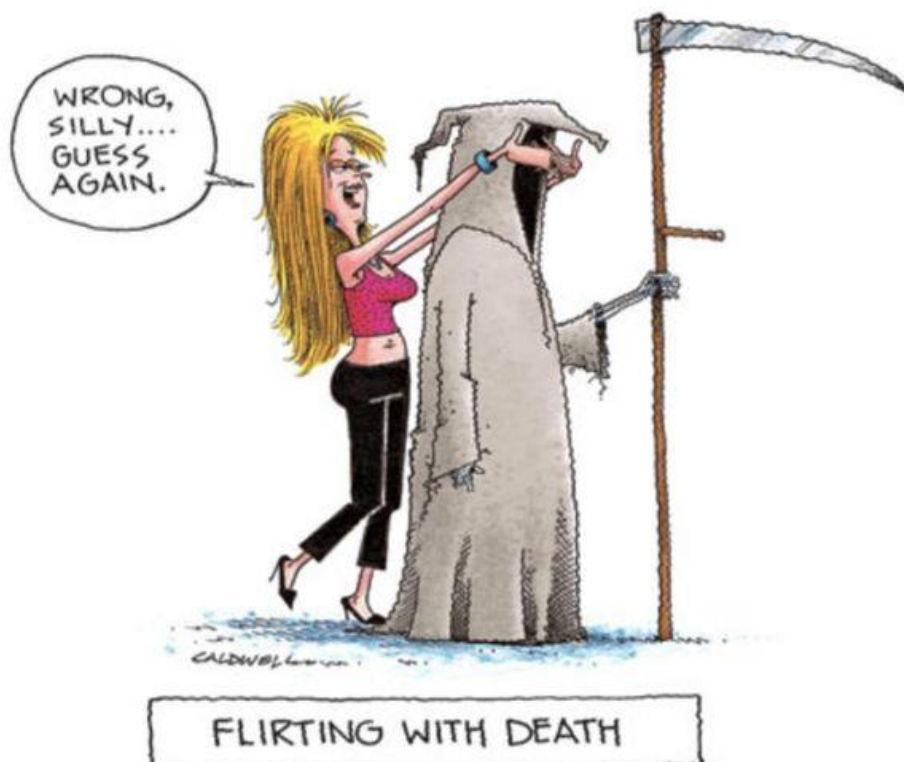
*If anyone has been missed off the list, please advise
Tom Rynn (Membership Officer)*

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

We hope you have a very special Birthday



This tank was displayed at a museum in Holland... It really makes you start thinking



Bar Manager's Report

G'day All,

It's been another successful month for the bar.

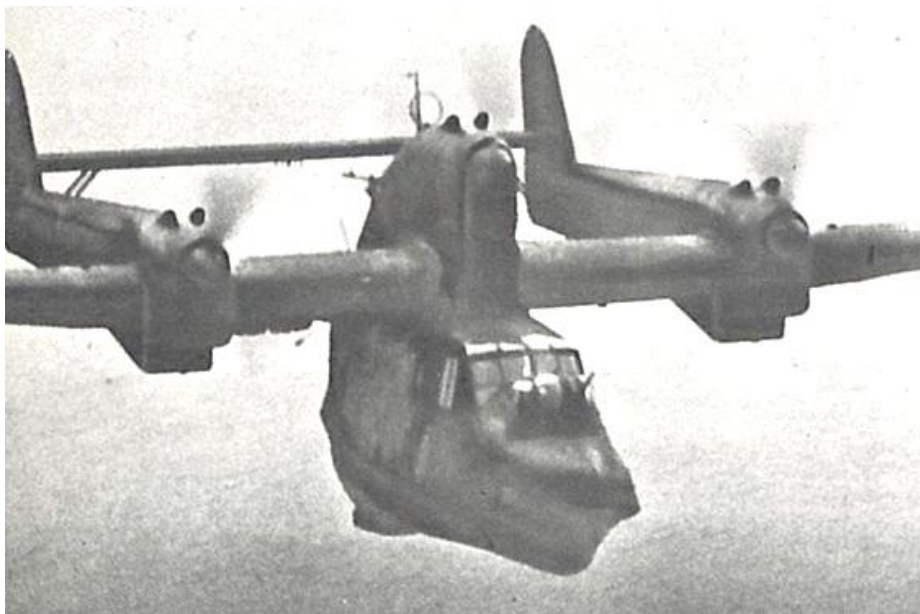
Members come and go in spasms but I'd like to see more Members come in on a regular basis.

Jules is doing a fantastic job everywhere. She is having a day off in late October and I will be working behind the bar on that Sunday so if you feel like it, you may stay home on that day !!!

Carlton Mid has been replaced with Peroni and the sales of that are going really well.

That's about it from me for now,

Stormy



THE FLYING CLOG! The BV 138 was an unusual and unique design concept, with a twin-boom tail unit, and three engines mounted above the wing. The unusual curved hull, which was employed because of hydrodynamic requirements led to the BV 138 being nicknamed 'Der Fliegende Holzschuh' (the flying clog)

Byford Rail Extension - Update



Armadale Line Shutdown bus timetables have now been released

Timetables for the new and enhanced bus services have been released which will help passengers familiarise themselves with public transport options ahead of the Armadale Line Shutdown.

To support regular passengers along the Armadale and Thornlie lines, six months of free travel will be offered to eligible users, commencing from the start of the closure which is scheduled to commence on 20th November, 2023.

As part of the Byford Rail Extension project, works will soon begin to lay the foundations for the elevated rail bridge.

Works will occur: From late September 2023 to March 2024 to complete piling works for the elevated rail structure at Armadale; and

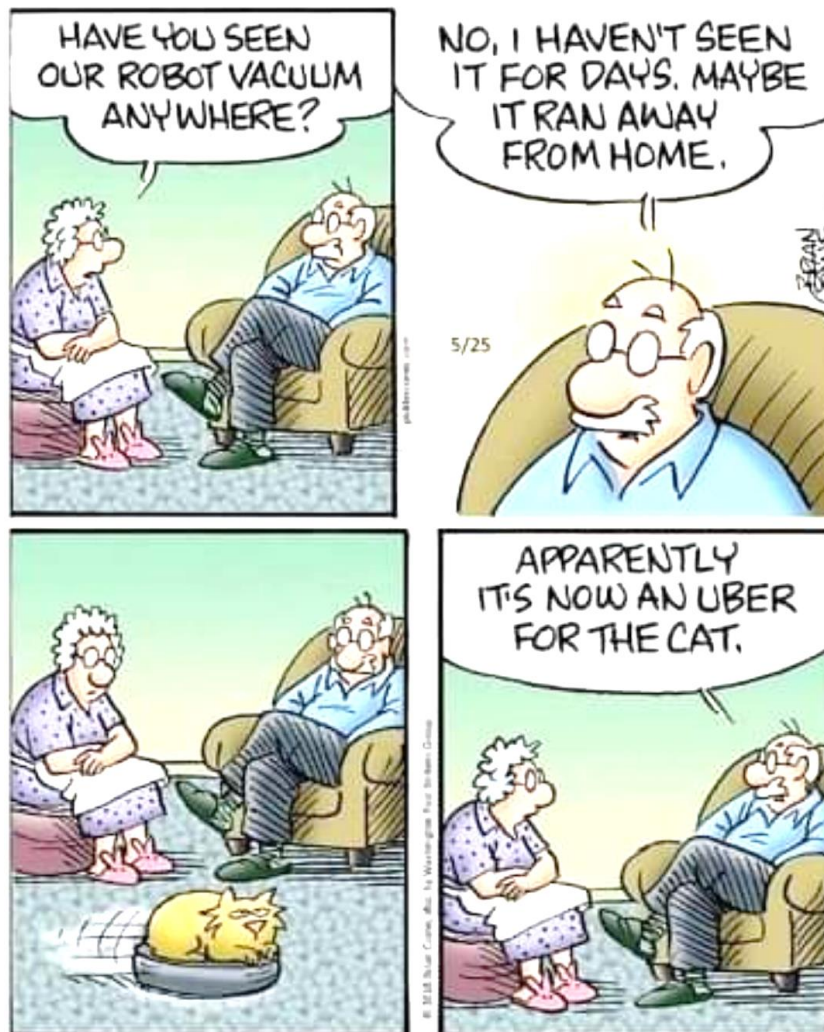
From 2 October to mid-November 2023 to establish a pile pad to facilitate piling works.

"The chopper would shift a little when it was full on, but yeah...she cuts trees."





Panther amongst the ruins of a house near the Sillaro in Italy, 16 April 1945



TICKETS NORMALLY: \$79.95 - \$67.45

For RSL Members \$59.95 - PROMO CODE: LLOYD

Tickets: www.akannaentertainment.com.au

Date: Saturday, 21st October 2023 - 7.30pm.

Venue: State Theatre Centre of WA - Heath Ledger Theatre

COMPOSERS' CONCERT SERIES

.PRESENTS.

The Music of the Night with **LLOYD WEBBER**

Join our very own

- Phantom, Christine, Carlotta -

- 20 Piece Orchestra -

- 50 Person Chorus -

- 1 Incredible Boy Soprano -

and take a journey through the life and
music of Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber.

**STATE THEATRE CENTRE OF WA
HEATH LEDGER THEATRE
ARTS AND CULTURE TRUST**

Tickets: akannaentertainment.com.au

**SATURDAY
21st Oct. 23**

**AKANNA
ENTERTAINMENT**

Significant October Event

El Alamein Battle - 23rd October, 1942

Three major battles occurred around El Alamein between July and November 1942, and were the turning point of the war in North Africa. The Australian 9th Division, led by Lieutenant General Leslie Morshead, played a key role in two of these battles, enhancing its reputation earned defending Tobruk during 1941.

The struggle for North Africa saw the pendulum swing sharply in favour of the Axis from January 1942. The Axis forces comprised German and Italian troops and were known as Panzerarmee Afrika, led by Field Marshal Erwin Rommel, "The Desert Fox". Opposing him was the British Eighth Army commanded by General Claude Auchinleck. This army was mostly comprised of British, Australian, New Zealand, South African, and Indian troops. By the end of June, Rommel had forced the Allies back deep into Egypt, and the capture of Cairo and the Suez Canal seemed a very real possibility.

The Allies pinned all their hopes on their new defensive position near the tiny railway stop of El Alamein. Here, the battlefield narrowed between the coast and the impassable Qattara Depression. Rommel, wanting to maintain the pressure made another thrust on 1 July, hoping to dislodge Eighth Army from the Alamein position and open the way to Cairo and Suez. The Allies however had regrouped sufficiently to repulse the attack and make some counterattacks of their own. In these first days of July, the fate of the whole campaign hung in the balance. Both sides by now critically weakened and disorganised, missed opportunities for decisive victories. Both now took time over the next few days to reorganise and lick their wounds.

Before dawn on 10 July the 9th Division launched an attack on the northern flank and succeeded in taking the important high ground around Tel el Eisa. This caught Rommel off guard as he had concentrated his forces for his own offensive in the south. The Australians spent the next few days fighting off heavy counterattacks as Rommel redirected much of his forces against them. The 9th Division infantry owed much to Australian, British and South African artillery, as well as the Desert Air Force (DAF), in repelling these counterattacks.



Men of the 2/3rd Australian Pioneer Battalion behind the railway embankment near the Blockhouse. In such flat, open terrain, taking cover usually meant scraping shallow holes out of the sometimes hard and rocky ground

Australians were also present in the DAF, flying with of Nos. 3 and 450 Squadrons, RAAF. Allied infantrymen had varying opinions regarding armoured support, feeling that sometimes the tanks provided welcome support and protection, but also that sometimes they failed them completely.

Fighting then spread to other parts of the front and continued for most of July. By the end of the month, both sides had fought each other to a standstill. On the 27th, one Australian Battalion, the 2/28th, was virtually wiped out when they were surrounded by German tanks and help failed to arrive in time.

When the fighting died down at the end of July, Eighth Army, despite its severe losses, could take some comfort knowing that it had stopped Rommel's drive into Egypt and now held the important high ground near the coast. This provided good observation of the enemy and an excellent position from which to launch further offensives.

From August until the end of October, the Allied army grew steadily in strength with the arrival of more troops and equipment. The Axis forces, on the other hand, were weakening, with their supply lines strangled by Allied air and naval attacks.



Gunners of 2/8th Australian Field Regiment firing a 25-pounder during the July battle. Artillery was used at El Alamein on a massive scale, supporting the infantry when they went forward, and protecting them when they were counterattacked

A change in command of the Eighth Army occurred in mid-August when Auchinleck was replaced by Lieutenant General Bernard Montgomery. “Monty” – as he was universally known – set about making positive changes in the Eighth Army, training and preparing it for the battles to come.

On the last day of August Rommel launched another offensive. In this last and desperate attempt to oust the Allies from the Alamein line, German and Italian armoured forces massed in the southern sector and made a sweeping hook that drove the Allies back to the Alam el Halfa Ridge. The Allied strength, however, soon proved itself as they pushed the Axis forces back over the next few days. In addition, they faced incessant Allied bombing from the DAF, an acute shortage of petrol for their tanks, and a diversionary raid by Australians in the north. After this battle, Rommel went on the defensive, and prepared for the Allied offensive he knew would soon come.

On the night of 23 October 1942, a massive artillery barrage heralded the great Allied offensive. The infantry successfully captured most of their objectives; however, the tanks were unable to follow through and continue the thrust. With the Axis forces stubbornly holding their lines intact, Montgomery worried that his offensive was becoming bogged down. Changing tactics from the drive westwards, he ordered the Australians of 9th Division to switch their attack northward. What followed was a week of extremely fierce fighting, with the Australians grinding their way forward over well-defended enemy positions. As had happened in July, their gains so worried Rommel that he again diverted his strongest units to stop them. Places such as Thompson's Post, the Fig Orchard, the Blockhouse and the Saucer became an inferno of fire and steel as the Australians weathered the storm of bombs, shells and bullets.

With Rommel's attention firmly on the Australians in the north, naturally this left his line weakened further south, and on 2 November the British tanks struck a decisive blow there.



A Crusader tank of the Australian 9th Division Cavalry Regiment. Most Allied armoured formations in North Africa were British, and they were the ones who usually bore the brunt of Rommel's panzer attacks

The Panzerarmee had suffered crippling losses and Rommel was forced to order a general withdrawal, or face total annihilation. His army now began a headlong retreat that would soon see them ejected from Africa altogether.

Between July and November 1942, the Australian 9th Division suffered almost 5,500 casualties. Although the price was fearfully high, they had without doubt played a crucial role in ensuring an Allied victory in North Africa.



Lt Gen Montgomery (wearing slouch hat) shortly after taking command of the Eighth Army in August 1942. Lt Gen Morshead, 9th Division Commander, is standing to his right, facing the camera



**RETURNED SERVICES LEAGUE
ARMADALE SUB-BRANCH**

Your RSL