

THE FURPHY

ARMADALE SUB-BRANCH OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

February 2022 Edition



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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 – Inc.	Mr Mike Fairweather
Secretary – Sub	Ms Carol King
Treasurer – Inc.	Mr Bob Gildare
Treasurer – Sub	Mrs Cheryl Cowie
Warden	Mr Bob Giles
Warden	Mr Graeme Cowie
Membership Officer	Mr Tom Rynn
Committee	Mr John Hennah
Committee	Mr Rod Jonsson
Committee	Mr Paul Newman
Committee	Mr Laurie Sargeson
Advocate / Welfare	Mr Brent Errington
Bar Manager	Mr Mike Fairweather



**THE RETURNED & SERVICES LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA
ARMADALE SUB-BRANCH
1 COMMERCE AVENUE ARMADALE WA 6112**

COVID REQUIREMENTS

***Proof of Vaccination for all Patrons
aged 16 years and over is required
to enter this venue***

Effective Date: Monday 31st January, 2022

Presidents Report

Hi Folks,

The Sub-Branch will be meeting the Western Australian Government requirements, under COVID Requirements, for entry to the Club.

Which means anybody entering the Club Rooms must show Proof of Vaccination. This starts the 31st of January 2022.

There will be two important items that, Service Members will be required to vote on at the February General Meeting and I ask that we have as many Service Members as possible to attend.

The two items are:

1. Special Notice of Motion – Updating the Constitution of Armadale RSL Club Inc.
2. Voting for the Western Australian State President of the RSL.

The club plans to remain with the current opening hours, which are:

Friday. 1200 – 2100 hours.
and
Sunday. 1200 – 1800 hours.

I will finish off by saying; this is your club, come to the meetings and have your say.

Regards

Ken Hepburn

President

Returned Services League Armadale Sub-Branch

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Honorary Secretary's Notes

Hi Everyone,

Another busy month for us at the RSL. The first private function of the year was held on 29th January and was very successful. Hearty thanks to Stormy and Lois for all their assistance, again a small number of people putting in the biggest effort.

Should anyone require a copy of the updated Club Inc. Constitution to peruse, please let me know and I will arrange that for you. There is a copy on the Notice Board and further copies will be available at the General Meeting scheduled for 13th February.

I would urge as many members as possible to attend the GM as there are two very important issues to be voted on as discussed in the President's Report. The updating of the Constitution has been an ongoing project over approximately 18 months and our sincere gratitude goes to Bob Gildare for his tireless work in this regard.

It is with regret that we have received notification from Irene Craster that she has stepped down as co-ordinator of the Social Committee, however she will continue to contribute as a team member. I take this opportunity on behalf of everyone to applaud Irene for the tireless work she has done for the Club over many years.

We also welcome Lois Davis who has taken on the role as Social Committee co-ordinator from January onwards and thank her for stepping up.

Should any other members wish to become involved with the Social Committee, please contact Lois to express their interest.

Thanks to all members who continue to support the Executive and Committee in their efforts to keep our RSL sustainable.

Best Regards to all,

Carol King

Honorary Secretary

Important dates for your diary

February			
8 th	Tuesday	Committee Meeting	1830
13 th	Sunday	GM	1030

Editors Notes

Hi All

It was brought to my attention Friday by our birthday boy that the 27th January was the liberation of Auschwitz. These are the significant events that need to be covered.

I have included an extract from an Internet article.

The information that I gather from the Australian War Memorial Archives, will be entered into a diary for the next Editor. If you have something you think should be in there please use the Suggestion Box. Your help will be appreciated.

On another note:

During a lengthy conversation with a very knowledgeable unnamed source I was able to deduce that scientifically there is absolutely no information to refute the statement overheard last week. "You cannot get Covid from beer or spirits served at an RSL" and that is absolute probable true. The only overrider was that you had to drink a lot and not drive home.

Thank you to Brent Errington, Welfare and the boys and girls from MBMMC for helping out the veteran in need. Very Well Done.

Cowboy

Membership Update

Another year has commenced and it may yet turn out to be worse than 2021 for many organisations and their memberships. Luckily, we are not as those in the other States where illness has not only affected members but also employees of hospitality and service organisations.

The now current rules relating to Coronavirus will impact us even more and most certainly reduce membership of our Social sector. The great majority of our membership are in the most vulnerable age groups being in the 60's 70's and 80's.

Our trading hours will continue to be affected, at least in the foreseeable future so give thought to the volunteers who strive to guide us through the many rules and regulations that we are required to abide by. Your Executive really put in the hours to keep us going and they are backed by your Committee. Without the likes of them and the extras put in by Cowboy and Stormy we would be struggling.

Our current Service Membership has remained fairly constant at a figure of 219. Quite a number of them have yet to renew but the RSL Constitution gives them a short leeway.

Affiliate Membership has dropped dramatically since 2018 and is now less than half of what it was back then. Now it stands at a figure of 65.

Social Membership always fluctuates and it was expected to fall as social activities became a victim of the covid times. We now have only 19 social members for 2022.

The only way is up and we need to remain positive with all the problems we face because we will most definitely rise up again in strength.

Tom Rynn
Membership Officer

[No Submission this month.](#)

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

Birthday List

First Name	Last Name
STUART	DUNHAM
JUDITH	FRENCH
BIANCA	GREEN
Ingo	Hayemann
Kenneth	HEPBURN
DALE	HIGHAM
Chris	Hunt
NICOLAS	JARRETT
ROBERT	JONES
John	Kostin

First Name	Last Name
Wendy	Mahoney
Victor	Mcgough
LES	PHILLIPS
Sylvia	Strohman
MICHAEL	TAYLOR
Gary	Weekes
Neil	Wellburn
Roderick	Wickham
DEREK	WOOD
Jeffrey	Wynne

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

Have a very special Day

Please get your membership up to date so you can join us at the bar. The president said you can do it on the day as long as you get the Bar manager to sign it.

**PLEASE LEAVE YOUR DETAILS AND PAYMENT IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND PLACE IN THE MEMBERSHIP BOX UNDER THE MAIN NOTICE BOARD.
 IN MOST CASES YOUR RECEIPT WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION THE SAME WEEK FROM THE BAR STAFF.**

AFFILIATE & SOCIAL MEMBERS PLEASE MAKE ANY CHEQUES PAYABLE TO ARMADALE RSL

SERVICE MEMBERS PAY DIRECT TO STATE RSL UNLESS AGREED BY THE MEMBERSHIP OFFICER TO SEND IN BULK VIA THE SUB BRANCH.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM 2022

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

_____ P/C _____

Contact No: Home _____ **Mobile** _____ **Email:** _____

<u>SERVICE</u>	<u>AFFILIATE</u>	<u>SOCIAL</u>
\$40	\$40	\$20
Service No.	Badge No.	

ANY CHANGE OF ADDRESS AND/OR CONTACT DETAILS SINCE LAST RENEWAL

Service or Badge N° (If known).....

NAME:

NEW DETAILS:

.....**PostCode:.....**

Telephone:.....

Mobile:.....

E-Mail:.....

Bar Manager's Report

G'Day to all Members,

Bar takings this month were a bit dismal.

Some of you members should make a bigger effort to patronise the Club more often, and in some cases consider returning.

We can't keep the bar open if no-one turns up.

We still have RSL wines on special at \$7 per bottle or \$75 for a case of 12.

Hope to see you all in the Club again soon.

Kindest regards,

Stormy

What's on at the bar? For all of February

Fridays – Happy Hour – 1300 to 1400

Sundays – Happy Hour – 1300 to 1400

Opening Hours
Friday – 1200 – 2100 Hours
Sunday – 1200 – 1800 Hours

Special Deals for you:

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

Until Sold Out.



The Military Brotherhood Military Motorcycle Club.

Another month has been and gone, the time is flying by. The past few weeks have been busy once again.

To assist with keeping the junior members and any other children who visit the RSL entertained, the Brotherhood has donated a table and chairs and a car track mat to go with the gaming station. We are sure the kids will get loads of fun out of this.

This month we also conducted an overnight ride to Busselton and Bunbury to visit the annual kids Legacy Camp. The money we raise from our Legacy ride in September assists with this camp going on each year. It was great to see all the kids enjoying themselves at the camp, including some of our junior members. We are going to be making this a yearly trip to visit the camp.

During the second half of this month, we received a call out regarding a veteran in need. We all sprung into action to do what we could. Within a week we had pretty much furnished new accommodation for this lovely Veteran. We hope that things will run much smoother for her.

Some of the best news we had this month was that Jonno, our president, has been told he is now cancer FREE after his battle with the dreaded C.

Well that's all for this month, please stay safe everyone.

Table, chairs and mat for the kids to use.



Kids legacy Camp, Busselton



Helping a Veteran in their time of need.



Tracey "Frosty" Newman
Assistant Secretary
MBMMC
Perth South

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

February History

February was another significant month for our ADF.

*Information via AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
[February | Australian War Memorial \(awm.gov.au\)](http://www.awm.gov.au)*

Date

1 February 1943.

Title

Last Australian forces sail for home from the Middle East.

Event

Japan's entry into the war forced the Australian Government to decline British requests to concentrate on the war in North Africa and Europe. Australia began to 'look to America' for support and concentrated the bulk of her forces against the Japanese.

Date

2 February 1942.

Title

First Japanese air attack on Port Moresby.

Event

The Japanese had hoped to occupy Port Moresby as a base from which to cut off shipping to Eastern Australia. Their defeat in the Battle of the Coral Sea thwarted the planned naval attack and invasion against Port Moresby.

Date

2 February 1968.

Title

Baria recaptured.

Event

The 3rd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment, recaptured Baria after the Tet offensive. The effects of the Tet Offensive were felt most acutely by the Australians when the Viet Cong attacked targets around Phuoc Tuy's provincial capital, Baria. The attacks were repulsed with few Australian casualties, though the Communists suffered heavy losses.

Date

3 February 1915.

Title

Turkish forces attack the Suez canal.

Event

Turkish attempts to capture the Suez canal, vital to Allied shipping, were repulsed largely by Indian troops. Australians of the 7th and 8th Infantry Battalions temporarily garrisoned the trenches after the fight.

Date

3 February 1943.

Title

Australians counter attack at Wau.

Event

Having failed to take Wau the Japanese were forced into retreat. At the end of the fighting some 1,200 Japanese had been killed as had some 300 Australians.

Date

4 February 1945.

Title

Yalta Conference.

Event

Conference between President Roosevelt, Marshal Stalin and Prime Minister Churchill, to determine the shape of post-war Europe.

Date

6 February 1941.

Title

6th Division enter Benghazi, Libya.

Event

Benghazi changed hands five times as fighting, first against the Italians and later the German Afrika Korps, ebbed and flowed across Libya's Mediterranean coast.

Date

8 February 1942.

Title

Japanese invade Singapore.

Event

Singapore was believed to be an impregnable fortress but the Japanese advance from the Malayan Peninsula proved the falsity of this belief.

Date

9 February 1943.

Title

Japanese defeat on Guadalcanal.

Event

After the ill-fated Philippines campaign, Guadalcanal was the first test of land strength between Japan and the United States in the Second World War. Japanese reverses at Guadalcanal contributed to their having to withdraw from the Kokoda Trail in 1942 when they were almost within sight of Port Moresby.

Date

10 February 1944.

Title

End of Japanese resistance on the Houn Peninsula.

Event

Fighting in the Huon Peninsula lasted from August 1943 until mid-February 1944 and involved heavy fighting at such places as Lae, Finschhafen, Sattelberg, Shaggy Ridge and the Ramu Valley.

Date

11 February 1951.

Title

Chinese offensive, Korea.

Event

Chinese launch their fourth phase offensive in Korea.

Date

12 February 1900.

Title

Pink Hill, Cape Colony, South Africa.

Event

Pink Hill, held by Victorian, South Australian and British troops was attacked by a superior Boer force resulting in the deaths of seven Australians and the wounding of 22 others.

Date

12 February 1940.

Title

First convoy of Second AIF reaches the Middle East.

Event

Australia's first land campaign of the Second World War took place in North Africa against the Italians.

Date

13 February 1946.

Title

Main Australian contingent of BCOF sailed for Japan from Morotai.

Event

Australian personnel played a prominent role in the British Commonwealth Occupation Force in Japan at the conclusion of the Second World War in the Pacific. They were allotted the devastated Hiroshima Prefecture on the island of Honshu.

Date

13 February 1965.

Title

First Australian SAS Squadron advance party departs for Borneo.

Event

The SAS served in Borneo during Confrontation to gather intelligence, conduct reconnaissance patrols and collect information on topography.

Date

14 February 1900.

Title

Relief of Kimberley.

Event

The relief of Kimberley, Orange Free State, South Africa, was a major operation undertaken to break the Boer siege of the town. 500 Australians of the Queensland Mounted Infantry, New South Wales Mounted Rifles and New South Wales Lancers were involved in the breaking of the siege as part of the cavalry division commanded by Lieutenant-General John French.

Date

14 February 1942.

Title

SS Vyner Brooke sunk.

Event

The Vyner Brooke, carrying 65 Australian nurses and other refugees from Singapore, was sunk by Japanese aircraft one day after leaving the island. The survivors made their way to Banka Island where one group of nurses were massacred by their Japanese captors. Only Sister Vivian Bullwinkel survived the massacre.

Date

15 February 1942.

Title

Fall of Singapore.

Event

Over 15,000 Australians taken prisoner by the Japanese on Singapore. For both Britain and Australia this was a terrible military defeat.

Date

16 February 1942.

Title

Banka Island massacre.

Event

22 members of the Australian Army Nursing Service and other survivors of the sinking of the SS Vyner Brooke massacred on Banka Island. The only survivor from this party of Australian nurses was Sister Vivian Bullwinkel.

Date

17 February 1900.

Title

Paardeburg, Orange Free State, South Africa

Event

A major action of the Boer War in which men of the New South Wales Mounted Rifles were involved that resulted in the surrender of 4,000 Boers under General Piet Cronje.

Date

18 February 1941.

Title

Australian troops arrive in Singapore.

Event

Australia recognised that Singapore was vital to its own defence, without the island the British fleet had no suitable base for operations in the South East Asia. The 8th Division was sent to bolster the island's defence in the event of Japan's entering the war.

Date

18 February 1943.

Title

9th Division arrives in Fremantle.

Event

Having served in North Africa the 9th Division was ordered back to help defend Australia against the Japanese.

Date

19 February 1915.

Title

Allied warships shell Dardanelles.

Event

This was the first allied attempt to force a passage through the Dardanelles and attack the heart of the Ottoman Empire. Its failure ultimately led to the ill-fated Gallipoli campaign.

Date

19 February 1942.

Title

First Japanese air raid on Darwin.

Event

The city was bombed 64 times between February 1942 and November 1943.

Date

19 February 1943.

Title

Defence Bill approved.

Event

Parliament approves Defence (Citizen Military Forces) Bill introducing conscription for service in the south west Pacific war zone.

Date

20 February 1942.

Title

Japanese land in Portuguese Timor.

Event

The Japanese landing in Portuguese Timor heralded the beginning of a long and gruelling guerilla campaign waged by elements of the Australian 2/2nd Independent Company with the support of friendly Timorese.

Date

21 February 1916.

Title

Verdun, Western Front.

Event

A bitter battle between the French and the Germans lasting nine months and costing over a million men killed and wounded. French losses at Verdun meant that for the remainder of the war British forces had to bear much of the burden of the fighting on the Western Front.

Date

21 February 1956.

Title

Australian and British aircraft bomb Kluang, Malaya.

Event

The raid was staged against the jungle base of the 7th Independent Platoon, Malayan Races Liberation Army in Central Johore and was carried out by Lincolns of No. 1 Squadron RAAF and Canberras of No. 12 Squadron RAF. It wiped out the camp and was regarded as the most successful of the 4,000 sorties flown by the Australians in Malaya.

Date

22 February 1942.

Title

General Douglas MacArthur ordered to leave the Philippines.

Event

MacArthur made his way to Australia from where he directed much of the war against Japan. His famous promise that 'I shall return' was kept when United States forces returned to the Philippines in 1944.

Date

23 February 1942.

Title

Main Australian force on Timor surrenders to the Japanese.

Event

Those Australians who remained waged a guerilla war against the Japanese on the island.

Date

23 February 1956.

Title

1 Squadron RAAF bomb Communist camps near Kuala Lumpur during the Malayan Emergency

Event

1 Squadron flew Lincoln bombers during the Malayan Emergency.

Date

25 February 1951.

Title

Hill 614, Korea.

Event

12 Platoon, D Company, 3rd battalion, Royal Australian Regiment, captured this important piece of high ground at the second attempt, enabling the United Nations' forces northward advance to the Albany Line to continue.

Date

26 February 1943.

Title

End of fighting at Wau

Event

The Japanese recognised that Allied possession of Wau posed a significant threat to important Japanese bases at Lae and nearby Salamaua and sought to take the town. They were defeated after weeks of heavy fighting.

Date

27 February 1942.

Title

Battle of Java Sea.

Event

In two separate actions off the coast of Surabaya involving heavy losses in Allied shipping. HMAS Perth was involved in the battle and was one of the few allied ships to survive. The action delayed Japanese landings in Java by only one day.

Date

28 February 1942.

Title

Japanese invade Java.

Event

The Japanese invasion of Java signalled the defeat of the Netherlands East Indies and was another in the series of victories won by the Japanese in the opening six months of the Pacific war.

Date

28 February 1991.

Title

Gulf War ends.

Event

With Iraqi forces having been driven from Kuwait and defeated in the field the coalition forces called a halt to the fighting.

Date

29 February 1972.

Title

HMAS Sydney arrives at Vung Tau.

Event

On this voyage Sydney embarked 457 soldiers. HMAS Sydney made 21 voyages to Vietnam during the war.

THE LIBERATION OF AUSCHWITZ

January 2020 marks 75 years since the liberation of Auschwitz, the largest camp established by the Germans. A complex of camps, Auschwitz included a concentration camp, killing centre, and forced-labour camps. It was located 37 miles west of Krakow (Cracow), near the pre-war German-Polish border.

In mid-January 1945, as Soviet forces approached the Auschwitz camp complex, the SS began evacuating Auschwitz and its satellite camps. Nearly 60,000 prisoners were forced to march west from the Auschwitz camp system. Thousands had been killed in the camps in the days before these death marches began. Tens of thousands of prisoners, mostly Jews, were forced to march to the city of Wodzislaw in the western part of Upper Silesia. SS guards shot anyone who fell behind or could not continue. Prisoners also suffered from the cold weather, starvation, and exposure on these marches. More than 15,000 died during the death marches from Auschwitz. On January 27, 1945, the Soviet army entered Auschwitz and liberated more than 7,000 remaining prisoners, who were mostly ill and dying. It is estimated that at minimum 1.3 million people were deported to Auschwitz between 1940 and 1945; of these, at least 1.1 million were murdered.

VOICES FROM AUSCHWITZ

—BART STERN

So I was hiding out in the heap of dead bodies because in the last week when the crematoria didn't function at all, the bodies were just building up higher and higher. So there I was at nighttime, in the daytime I was roaming around in the camp, and this is where I actually survived, January 27, I was one of the very first, Birkenau was one of the very first camps being liberated. This was my, my survival chance.

—FRITZIE WEISS FRITZSHALL

The train arrived in the middle of the night, so we were greeted by very bright lights shining down on us. We were greeted by soldiers, SS men, as well as women. We were greeted by dogs and whips, by shouting and screaming, orders to try to empty the train, by confusion... There is no way to describe your first coming to Auschwitz.

—LILLY APPELBAUM LUBLIN MALNIK



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

Your RSL.