



Thank you to all who express thanks on Anzac Day to members of the Committee, for the voluntary work we do to keep AWWOD functioning. We appreciate your support for our efforts and hope you enjoy reading our Newsletter.

We look forward to seeing you at our AGM on Wednesday 18th July 2018. If you have any suggestions, would like to offer any feedback or have a special project in mind, please contact us at arlineronsisvalle@bigpond.com or write to the Secretary AWWOD Box 1/121 Anzac Avenue, Engadine NSW 2233 for consideration by the Committee. Look forward to seeing you Anzac Day 2019.



2018
Australian
World War One
Descendants

Honouring Australian
World War One Personnel

Again, we have had another successful Anzac Day. This year, being the last of the four year period of the centenary of the “War to end all Wars” has been a very special event to all AWWOD members. We can never imagine what our Fathers, Grandfathers, Great Grandfathers, Great Uncles and all other Ancestors went through in that dreadful time. Whether they were on Gallipoli, in Egypt or on the Western Front, they were indeed, very special men and we must never allow them to be forgotten. The losses to Australia were unimaginable for such a young country, from a population of fewer than five million, 416,809 enlisted. There were more than 60,000 killed and 156,000 wounded, gassed or taken prisoner. We will never know the impact on the men who returned or their families. So many of them did not live long lives, succumbing to wounds, physical or mental within a short time after their return home. We must never forget our nurses, many young women followed our men to care for them and many paid the ultimate price for their bravery. The weather was kind to us again this year and the March ran very smoothly considering the problems that the RSL had with organisation this year. The Kings boys were wonderful again this year carrying our banner as they have done for a number of years and we were extremely fortunate to have their band leading us during the March. The boys look very impressive in their beautiful grey and red uniforms and they certainly emphasise our Organisation. We had approximately eighty members marching again this year and AWWOD looked very impressive, everyone was extremely well dressed and our ties and scarves certainly give us a professional appearance. Again, there were a number of name badges that were not collected, please don't forget next Anzac Day. They cannot be posted out, as the pins do not travel well in the post. Please ask Arline on the Day for your badge. Badges are not made until all paperwork, i.e, Membership Application and Statutory Declaration have been received by Arline. The ABC Broadcast was much better filmed this year and was available on <http://iview.abc.net.au/programs/anzac-day-march-sydney> for ten days after Anzac Day. Lunch at Hotel Harry's was good again this year. They were very helpful organising another table for us as some non members had taken a table that Harry's had put aside for us, even though it had a reserved sign on it. A good way to get together after the March and see people that you have not seen for twelve months. We had over forty members meeting together for lunch.

A TIMELY REMINDER: Family membership is where a number of family members take turns on a yearly basis, to march for a common Ancestor. If two or three family members are marching for different Ancestors, then they must join separately nominating the person that they intend marching for. Membership is still \$5 for pensioners and children and \$10 for working people. Family membership is \$10. A number of members have still not paid their yearly subscription since 2017. If this is not paid by 2019 they will be removed from the Data Base. Australia Post was very slow with AWWOD return mail this year and some members paperwork and subscriptions were not received until nearly four weeks after Anzac Day. All members that now pay by Direct Debit, will you please still return your Renewal page to Arline, even if you hand it in on Anzac Day.

PLEASE NOTE: The March guidelines that we follow are those that are set for us by the RSL March Committee. By AWWOD following those guidelines, we are eligible to continue marching. This has taken over eighteen years of dedicated effort, and it is up to each of us to keep up the standard that we adhere to and be allowed to continue marching on this very special Day. The RSL are very specific about ***photos** not being carried during the March, so please do not bring them with you. ***Only one** family member can march representing an Ancestor during the March and medal sets are not to be broken up between family members. ***Medals** must be worn and worn on the right hand side of the chest. If the originals have been wall mounted or lost then it is allowable to wear a replica set, these are available from a number of medal shops around Sydney.

WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO IN THE LAST TWELVE MONTHS?: The AWWOD AGM was held on the twenty sixth of July last year. Many thanks to those members that attended and hope that we will see you again this year and hopefully many other members as well. Your committee was re-elected in total. So far this year, there has not been a wash up meeting at RSL Headquarters. Usually there is one shortly after Anzac Day. Our Vice President, Royce, usually attends this meeting. Normally AWWOD receives a very good report from the RSL at this meeting and this year should be no different. Some of the Committee attended Mortdale RSL on Anzac Sunday for their Memorial Service, organised by Vice President Royce and a wreath was laid on behalf of AWWOD.

Publicity Officer, Karen, attended Kings School recently and presented the boys who carried our banner on Anzac Day with a thank you certificate and a Memorial Tin of Anzac biscuits. The Fromelles service was also attended last July at the War Memorial in Hyde Park. We also have regular committee meetings to enable us to stay on top of tasks that need to be attended to.

UP COMING EVENTS: Our AGM on Wednesday 18th July 2018. To be held at Dooleys' Catholic Club. 24-28 John Street Lidcombe. Starting at 7.30pm. The Fromelles Day service will be held again this year on the 19th July. Many of our Committee will be attending and a wreath will be laid on behalf AWWOD. This is a lovely service in memory of the five and a half thousand young Australian men that were either killed, wounded or taken prisoner in a period of twenty four hours. Any AWWOD members that attend the service at the War Memorial in Hyde Park at 10.45am, are asked to wear their Ancestors medals.

HOW CAN YOU HELP AWWOD:

*Truthfully acknowledge your Ancestor's service. Research information and records are available through the National Archives, Canberra. As part of our Aims and Objectives, we can assist you with this, just contact us through our website or contact Arline, our Secretary, who will endeavour to pass your query to the relevant person to help you.

*Be proud of your Ancestor and show respect for their memory and sacrifice by having their medals restored with new ribbons and the appropriate means to apply them to your clothing. Ladies may find a miniature copy set of medals kinder to your clothing. These are available from medal shops. Battalion colour badges are also available from some of these shops and these are appropriate to wear with your Ancestors medals.

*Acknowledge the dignity and reverence of the day by dressing appropriately in a dark business suit. Don't forget AWWOD scarves and ties are available for a modest price.

*Be sure your yearly membership is paid up to date before Anzac Day. Please keep in mind the security of your Committee members if they are forced to carry money around with them that they have had to collect on Anzac Day.



HONOUR PAGE: We are continuing to develop an Honour Page on our website. If you would like to include your Ancestor on this page, please contact our webmaster on www.awwod.org.au and send through a photo if you have one and a brief outline about him and his service. Also, be sure to check our Anzac Day 2018 photos on our website as well. Our Mr Paparazzi, Bruce, always does his best to ensure there are photos of most of our members posted.