



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 29th June 2016. 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 all on Anzac Day 2017.



Again, another very special Anzac Day this year. Many of our members especially remembered their family member that served on the Western Front. This year is the 100th Anniversary of the dreadful Battles of Fromelles and Pozieres at which our Australian boys figured so very prominently. Our loss as such a young country must never be forgotten and the feeling of pride in our Fathers, Grandfathers, and Great Uncles is quite overwhelming. It is so very important that we march every year in their memory, to keep the sacrifice that they made alive forever. A beautiful warm Autumn day again, we have been so lucky with the weather both last year and this year. It was a very different March this year, with the street diversions in place. Everybody missed not passing by the Cenotaph to give our respect to our Armed Forces. There seemed to be a lot of people along Elizabeth Street to cheer the March but there certainly were not the amount of Australian flags as previous years. The Kings Boys looked wonderful, as usual. We are so very fortunate to have these young boys and their Leader giving their time freely, to carry our banner every year for us. We did not have as many people marching this year as last year, but that is to be expected as last year was the 100th Anniversary of Gallipoli, but we still had well over 100 people marching and we looked very impressive. All very well dressed and the AWWOD ties and scarves certainly give us a very professional appearance. Thank you to everyone for making this effort. It was lovely to again welcome a number of new members and lovely to have some young children join us for the first time. Unfortunately, there were no landrovers available for some of our older members to ride in this year, due to the fact that the Army is selling them. Many people did not collect their name badges again this year. Please don't forget next Anzac Day. They cannot be posted out, as the pins do not travel well in the post. If anyone did not have a badge there for them this year, please email Arline so one can be ready for you next Anzac Day. Badges are only made when both Membership Application and Statutory Declaration have been received by Arline. The ABC Broadcast filmed us this year and it was available on <http://iview.abc.net.au/programs/anzac-day-march-sydney> for 10 days after Anzac Day. The filming was done from overhead and did not show us off very well, we looked cramped up, which we certainly were not. Lunch at Hotel Harry's was good again this year, and a great way to unwind after the March.

A TIMELY REMINDER: Some members have still not filled in and returned their paperwork to Arline. As it is part of our rules that both the Membership Application and Statutory Declaration are returned to AWWOD for membership, could those who have not done so, please comply. Family Membership is where a number of family members take turns on a yearly basis, marching for a common Ancestor. If two or three family members are marching for different Ancestors, then they must join separately. Membership is still: \$10 for working people, \$10 for Family membership and \$5 for pensioners and children.

PLEASE NOTE: The March guidelines that we follow are those set down to us by the RSL March Committee. By our Association following those guidelines, we are eligible to continue marching. This has taken us over sixteen years of dedicated effort, and it is up to each of us to adhere to these rules on Anzac Day. Please be aware that anyone who flouts or bends these guidelines to suit themselves, risks us being put out of the March. The RSL is very specific about ***photos NOT** being carried during the March, so please do not bring them with you. ***Only** one family member can march to represent an Ancestor on Anzac Day and medal sets are not to be broken up between family members. ***MEDALS** must be worn, either the original set or a copy set and worn on the right hand side of the chest.

WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO IN THE LAST TWELVE

MONTHS: Our AGM last July and many thanks to those people who made the effort to attend. It would be nice to see a few more members attending. Your Committee was re-elected and Nigel Hendy was voted on to the committee as a general Committee member. Welcome Nigel. Karen and Arline were made life members of the Association for their hard work and dedication to AWWOD. Greg and Royce both attended the RSL Headquarters pre March Meetings and their wash up Meeting. We again received a good report from the RSL. Keep up the good work with our appearance. Ashfield RSL again invited us to attend their Anzac Commemoration Service on Sunday 24th April. Arline laid a wreath on behalf of AWWOD. As this was the day before Anzac Day, some of our regular attendees did not attend as it was a big effort to attend two Marches on consecutive days. The March was followed by a light luncheon supplied by the club. Some of our members attended a Remembrance Day service arranged by Royce, where a wreath was also laid on behalf of AWWOD. Last year some of our members attended the Fromelles Day Service at the War Memorial in Hyde Park on 19th July and a wreath was also laid on behalf of AWWOD. Karen attended the Kings School and presented the 2016 banner holders with a box of Anzac biscuits and a certificate each as a thank you for their participation on Anzac Day. Karen & Greg also attended the Lone Pine service at Gallipoli on 6th August and laid a wreath on behalf of AWWOD.

UP COMING EVENTS: Our AGM on Wednesday 29th June 2016. To be held at Dooley's Catholic Club, 24-28 John Street, Lidcombe. Starting at 7.30pm. There has been no advice about the Fromelles Service this year, as yet, but the War Memorial is undergoing some big alterations at the moment. A number of the Committee will be overseas at that time attending services at the Western Front, so we may not be represented. This is always a very 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 are attending, are asked to wear their Ancestor's 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 is kinder to your clothing. Battalion badges are also available from some of the medal 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 very modest price.

•Be sure your yearly subscription 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 currently developing 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 our Anzac Day 2016 photos on our website as well. Our Papparazzi has done his best to ensure there are photos of most members posted!