



Thank you to all who express thanks on Anzac Day to members of the Committee, for the voluntary work that 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 24<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at 7.30pm.

If you have any suggestions, would like to offer any feedback or have a special project in mind, please contact us at [arlineronisvalle@bigpond.com](mailto:arlineronisvalle@bigpond.com) or write to The Secretary Box 1/121 Anzac Avenue, Engadine NSW 2233 for consideration by the Committee. Look forward to seeing you all Anzac Day 2020.



**2019**  
**Australian World War One Descendants**  
Honouring Australian World War One Personnel

Yet another successful Anzac Day. A beautiful sunny, warm day with a large enthusiastic crowd, showing their appreciation for our present service people and all those that have given so much in the past. There is always a very warm welcome for our Organisation and without our wonderful Ancestors, there would not be the name ANZAC to honour this very special Day. 1919 saw the repatriation of most of our troops from overseas under the outstanding organising skills of John Monash. Our returning men and women would have seen a very different Country to the one they had left a few years before and many found it very difficult to fit back into the life they had left to go to the War. So many of the returnees came home mentally and physically damaged, so many suffering from gas, so many died within a short time from their injuries and unfortunately, are not remembered as War casualties. These men must never be forgotten.

AWWOD looked very smart again this year. We had almost 100 members marching, a wonderful roll up. A big thank you to all who have purchased our very smart ties and scarves. We certainly look a very professional, well dressed group. The boys from Kings School did a wonderful job again this year carrying our banner, a very big thank you to these boys as they are always very willing to donate their time to us and help on the day. They look very impressive in their grey and red uniforms, which compliment our banner beautifully. Karen visits their school after Anzac Day and presents each one that has marched and their coordinator with a thankyou certificate and a special tin of Anzac biscuits. The March ran quite smoothly this year, not too many holdups were experienced. The ABC again had the March available to watch on <http://iview.abc.net.au/programs/anzac-day-march-sydney> for three months after Anzac day. Lunch at Hotel Harry's was well supported this year. We had over forty members partaking of food and drink and all seemed to enjoy their time together. Have not had any reports of any members winning at the Two up being played down stairs and certainly do not want to hear about any member losing a fortune. A very special thank you to our member Aydan Casey. Aydan is a J.P and is very kind signing new member's Statutory Declarations on the day making the keeping of the paperwork much easier to handle. Also, a new member Charlotte, whose mother Martine, is also a J.P. and she also aided in the signing of new member's Statutory Declarations on the Day. Thank you. Still a lot of name badges not collected, please remember to collect them next Anzac Day as they cannot be posted, Australia post is not kind to the clips on them. Also, badges are not made until all paperwork has been sent in to Arline, that is, both Membership Application and Statutory Declaration. Your Statutory Declaration is very important, as then we have a record of the service person that you are marching for.

**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 are marching for. Membership is still only \$5 for pensioners and children; working people and Family membership is \$10. A number of members have still not paid their yearly subscription since 2017. If this is not paid by the AGM Meeting, they will be removed from the Data Base. Australia Post was a little quicker returning AWWOD mail this year, but some post was still two weeks late in arriving. All members that now pay by Direct Debit, will you please still return your Renewal Form to Arline as the banks do not always advise when a payment has been made and would leave your AWWOD record showing as being in arrears with the possibility of being removed from the Data Base. It is quite acceptable to hand it in on Anzac Day.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The March guidelines that we must follow are those set for us by the RSL March Committee and must be followed to allow us to continue taking part in the March. This has taken 19 years of dedicated effort, and it is up to each one of us to keep up the standard that we adhere to and be allowed to continue Marching on this very special Day. Please keep in mind the three rules laid down by the RSL: 1. **\*Only one** family member can march representing an Ancestor during the March and medal sets are not to be broken up between family members. 2. **\*Medals** are to be worn on the right hand side of the chest. If the originals have been wall mounted or lost, then it allowable to wear a replica set, these are available from a number of medal shops around Sydney. Ladies may prefer to wear a miniature set as these are kinder to dress material. 3. **\*Photos** are not to be carried during the March, so please do not bring them with you.

**WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO IN THE LAST TWELVE MONTHS:** The AWWOD AGM was held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July last year. Many thanks to the members that came along and hopefully we will see you in 2019 and many more members as well. Your Committee was re-elected unopposed in total, with the exception of Richie Newnham, who retired after many years of dedicated service to the Committee. Richie served as Vice President for many years and then as a member of the General Committee, thank you Richie for your service. Our Vice President Royce Lockhart usually attends pre Anzac Day meetings and a post Anzac Day meeting at the RSL Headquarters but so far this year, there has not been any post Anzac Day meeting. Normally AWWOD receives a very good report from the RSL and this year should be no different. Some of the Committee attended Mortdale RSL this year for the pre Anzac Day Sunday service arranged by Vice President Royce and a wreath was laid on behalf of AWWOD by our “Mr Paparazzi” Committee member Bruce Connell. A number of Committee and non Committee members attended the Fromelles Day service at the Sydney War Memorial on Fromelles Day 19<sup>th</sup> July 2018. It was a lovely service and Arline laid a box of flowers, mostly Australian natives on behalf of AWWOD. This service will be held again on 19<sup>th</sup> July. All welcome. Committee meetings are held regularly to attend to any preparation needed for the next Anzac Day.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:** **Our AGM on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2019, commencing at 7.30pm.** To be held at Dooleys’ Catholic Club. 24-28 John Street Lidcombe. The Fromelles Day service on the 19<sup>th</sup> July, at the War Memorial in Hyde Park, starting at 10.45am. This service is held in memory of the five and a half thousand young Australian men who were either killed, wounded or taken prisoner in a period of twenty four hours in this dreadful battle. Any AWWOD members 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 from 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 the 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, don’t forget that miniature sets are available and much lighter to wear on dress material. Battalion colour patches are also available from some of the medal shops around Sydney and these are appropriate to wear with your Ancestor’s 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 on the Day at 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 collected 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](http://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 Anzac Day photos on our website as well. Our “Mr Paparazzi”, Bruce, always does his best to ensure there are photos of as many as possible of our members posted.

