

Friends of Soldiers Memorial Avenue Inc Newsletter Issue 29: October 2006



Highlights

**Enlistments from New Town
Financial Statements and Report for 2005/2006 Year**

Dates to remember

November 11th Remembrance Day Dedications

President's Report

Since the last newsletter, we have had the Annual General Meeting. Thanks to all those members who attended. I would like to personally thank those committee members who stood down at the meeting, Kirsty Black and Victoria Wood, for their fine efforts over the past few years. Both Kirsty and Victoria helped to establish FOSMA and they have helped to make it a very strong and robust organisation. In particular I would like to thank Kirsty for her hard work as Treasurer and Secretary, as well as putting up with all the FOSMA paraphernalia filling up her house - bbqs and cooking equipment, boxes of pamphlets, correspondence, etc..., not to mention all Adrian's files.

I would like to welcome our new committee members, Andrea Gerrard and Bill Halliwell. The 2006/07 committee is as follows: VP's - Michael Wilkie and Andrea Gerrard; Secretary - Bill Halliwell; Treasurer - Glenn Hardwick; General Committee - John Panton, Owen Hutchinson, Helen Hartley, John Trethewey; RSL Representative - Chris Oakes; HCC Representative - Ald Eva Ruzicka, Deputy Lord Mayor.

A number of Constitutional amendments were also passed to reflect our change of name, as well as to ensure that our organisation structure meets the requirements for Deductible Gift Recipient Status from the Australian Tax Office. We have resubmitted our application and will advise once we know anything.

We are continuing to work closely with the Hobart City Council over the plans for the reinstatement of the Avenue at the Crossroads Oval, which have recently been approved by Council for broader consultation. Council is also undertaking a range of other projects on the Domain and further details are provided in this newsletter.

Finally I hope to see many of you at our next dedication ceremony on Remembrance Day, 11 November 2006. This dedication is a very special one as it will be the first where our major corporate sponsor, the Tassal Group, has provided the funding for the majority of plaques. Staff from Tassal will be present on the day and we are looking for a good turnout to show them just how important this project is. Further details are provided in this newsletter.

John Wadsley

Further Plaque Donors

General donations in memory of those who served

Tas Evans, Claremont RSL Women's Auxiliary, Valda Haley, M Curtain

In memory of individual soldiers

L/Cpl John Errol **Benson** 12th Bn DOW 3/9/1915 Tree#152: Dare Taylor

Lt Lauriston **Brownell** 27th Bn DOW 3/10/1917 Tree#297: Andrea Gerrard

Pte William John Montague **Conway** 12th Bn KIA 25/7/1916 Tree#504: Gae Williams

Tpr John William **Dawson** 3rd Light Horse Regt DOW 9/1/1917 Tree#242: Betty Nicholson

L/Cpl Norman John Alexander **Hall** 52nd Bn KIA 14/8/1916 and Sgt Eric Arthur **Hall** 52nd Bn DOW 18/10/1917 Tree#344: L & A Petterd

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Bmdr Richard Robert **Higgins** 3rd Bde AFA DOW 1/8/1915 Tree#294 and Pte Eric Samuel **Kenshole** 12th Bn KIA 24/7/1916 Tree#451: Jeff Ransley
Pte Walter Alfred **Hurst** 12th Bn KIA 18/9/1918 Tree #147: Bev Williams, Frank Morris
Capt Audubon Eric **Palfreyman** 27th Sqd RFC KIA 23/5/1918 Tree#494: Annabel Anderson
Pte Albert Herculean Augustus **Pearce** 40th Bn KIA 7/1/1917 Tree#503: Elizabeth Bradford and other descendants.
Dvr Harry Augustus **Petterd** 7th Bde AFA DOW 22/10/1918 Tree#508: N Nichols
Pte William **McPherson** 15th Bn DOW 11/5/1915 Tree#232: Paul Lewis
Pte Tasman Henry **Pitman** 40th Bn KIA 29/9/1918 Tree#167 Claire and Melinda Barrett
Pte William **Scull** 40th Bn DOW 14/7/1918 Tree#490: Fay Mason and Rebecca Newell
Pte Gordon Samuel **Woolley** 26th Bn KIA 5/8/1916 Tree #108: Bruce Morley
In memory of men of South Hobart
Pte Michael Eric **Curtis** 40th Bn DOW 24/8/1918 Tree#81
2/Lt Andrew Robert **Dunkley** 51st Bn KIA 3/9/1916 Tree#134
Lt Charles Frederick **Sharland** 40th Bn KIA 12/10/1917 Tree#320
Pte William James Leslie **Turner, Greg** 47th Bn KIA 5/4/1918 Tree#373

Remembrance Day Dedication Ceremony



The next dedication ceremony will be held on Saturday 11 November 2006. Tassal, our major corporate sponsor, has contributed 20 of the plaques, with the remainder funded by private family donations, the South Hobart Progress Association, Hobart City Council, Claremont RSL Women's Auxiliary and the Examiner newspaper.

The main ceremony will start at 9.00 am on the Avenue (near Tree 317) just north of the northern TCA carpark. The Lord Mayor of Hobart, Ald Rob Valentine will deliver the main address. The Wellingtons, an all male a capella chorus group, will also be in attendance to sing a moving tribute in memory of the fallen on this important day. Morning tea will be available for all. Individual dedications for family plaques and other donated sites will take place after the main ceremony, until approximately 10.15 am.

Members of FOSMA are then invited to proceed to the Cenotaph for the main service and wreath laying.

Following is the list of dedications for Remembrance Day.

Tree No.	Name	Unit	Date of Death
81	Pte Michael Eric Curtis	40 th Bn	DOW 24/8/1918
127	Pte Henry Charles Briggs		KIA 30/7/1918
134	2/Lt Andrew Robert Dunkley	51 st Bn	KIA 3/9/1916
174	Spr Joseph John Cannon	8 th Fd Co Eng	DOW 12/12/1916
217	Pte Charles Bertram Foreman	12 th Bn	KIA 6/4/1917
287	Cpl James Campbell Rule	12 th Bn	KIA 7/8/1915
291	Pte John Daly	15 th Bn	DOW 30/8/1915
292	Pte Reginald Percy Aherne	15 th Bn	Accidentally drowned 23/9/1917
295	L/Cpl Alan Marsh	1 st ACCS	DOS 6/9/1915
303	Sgt John Stanley Piesse	40 th Bn	KIA 13/10/1917
307	Pte Arthur Wharmby	26 th Bn	DOS 6/4/1916
308	Pte Wilfred Alfred Williams	40 th Bn	KIA 5/10/1917
312	Pte Arthur George Fowler	40 th Bn	DOW 6/10/1917
313	Pte Thomas Henry Curtis	12 th Bn	KIA 6/10/1917
314	L/Cpl Leslie Lewis	40 th Bn	KIA 5/10/1917
317	Pte Edward Murray Brewer	40 th Bn	KIA 7/6/1917
318	Pte William Barnett	26 th Bn	KIA 6/10/1917
320	Lt Charles Frederick Sharland	40 th Bn	KIA 12/10/1917
321	Pte William Henry Thollar	12 th Bn	KIA 8/10/1917

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324	L/Cpl Walter John Goodey	40 th Bn	KIA 13/10/1917
328	Pte Albert James Taylor MM	47 th Bn	KIA 12/10/1917
332	Pte Thomas Albert Burton	14 th Fd Co Eng	KIA 30/10/1917
336	Pte Arthur Segbert Rometch	40 th Bn	KIA 13/10/1917
340	Pte William Edward Wright	4 th MG Co	KIA 17/10/1917
344	Sgt Eric Hall	52 nd Bn	DOW 18/10/1917
348	Pte Rowland Page	12 th Bn	KIA 1/11/1917
358	Pte Walter Hutton	12 th Bn	KIA 3/11/1917
362	Pte John Raymond Rogers	40 th Bn	KIA 9/12/1917
373	Sgt William James Leslie Turner	47 th Bn	KIA 5/4/1918
391	Pte Charles Watkin Cowen	40 th Bn	KIA 23/7/1917
393	Cpl Archibald Job Stanton	12 th Bn	DOW 18/4/1918
476	Pte Frederick Arthur Hazell	12 th Bn	30/9/1917
490	Pte William Scull	40 th Bn	DOW 14/7/1918
504	Pte William Conway	12 th Bn	KIA 25/7/1916

“In A Field in France” – to be performed by The Wellingtons on Remembrance Day

Words by Garry Paige; Music by John Vallins; Arranged by Fred Brown



Private Russell Bosisto, 27th Battalion,
Killed in action, Pozieres France,
August 4th, 1916
Reinterred Courcellette, Commonwealth
War Graves Cemetery, July 5th 1998

In the First World War, during the Battle of the Somme (and also in many other great battles) many young soldiers simply disappeared. One such was Russell Bosisto from South Australia. The first his family new of his demise was when one of their regular letters was returned endorsed “Killed in action”. His father was said to have “died of a broken heart”.

In 1997 a French farmer’s plough unearthed some soldiers remains, complete with kit and dog-tag. The soldier was re-buried in a French war grave with full military honours.

Garry Paige, a song writer resident in Southern Tasmania, was so moved by this event that he composed a song “In a Field in France” as a lament of his family. John Vallins, Sydney based composer wrote a haunting melody to go with the words. In an unlikely turn of events, it transpired that the deceased soldier was the Great Grand Uncle of the lyricist, adding a new and personal layer of meaning to the story.

In the year 2000, Fred Brown, Musical Director of the *Wellingtons*, was approached to prepare an arrangement of the song for a performance at Geilston Bay High School as part of their ANZAC Day commemoration service. Fred added in an echo of the Recessional which brings a fresh layer of emotion to the song. Jimmy Little, well known Australian Country Artist, has released a version of the song on his CD, Resonate.

The *Wellingtons* have taken the song into their repertoire and regularly perform it at ANZAC Day ceremonies. The Australian Association of Men Barbershop Singers recently produced an Australian song book. “In A Field In France” features in the song list. In a memorable ceremony launching the song book in Hobart, Garry Paige’s son, Russell Bosisto’s Great Great Great Nephew, featured singing the solo section of the arrangement.

Great War Enlistments from New Town – research by Andrea Gerrard

Scattered throughout Australian towns and suburbs, in halls, schools, council chambers, public places and even businesses are Rolls of Honour, boards serving as a lasting memorial to those men and women who were prepared to make the supreme sacrifice for king and country during the Great War and subsequent conflicts.

In the suburb of New Town there are at least three such Rolls of Honour to the men of the Great War – St Johns Church of England, former Methodist Church and New Town Primary School, the last one being the largest. In a number of instances the names of some soldiers appear on both a church and the school memorial. This was the case with the Appleby brothers who also attended St. Johns Church Sunday School on a regular basis. The name of Aubrey Appleby in fact appears on at least three memorials – New Town Primary School, St. Johns Church and South Arm (where he was living on enlistment).

The Roll of Honour at New Town Primary School commemorates the lives of 151 men who enlisted and served during the Great War. At the beginning of 1920 James Ross was appointed as the new headmaster. As a returned serviceman, having served with the 40th Battalion, Ross was keen to see that the names of those killed in action or who died during the war were given a lasting memorial. An annual prize was established by December 1921 with a certificate being given which listed the names of 34 men who had died. Ross may have also been instrumental in having a Roll of Honour established and placed in the prominent place in the school. No records exist to confirm this.



*Left:
Sgt Aubrey William
Appleby*



*Right:
Capt Arthur Harold
Appleby
KIA 6 May 1917*

Many of those listed were former students of the school. The names of around 60 soldiers have been found in the earliest remaining admission register dating from 1907, tying these men to the New Town Primary School. These were nearly all men who were around 20 or younger when war was declared, and were still at school in 1907. This was at a time when students usually left school at 14 and high schools weren't a regular part of a person's education.

Not all were 'promising young men' as many would think, but ranged in ages from 15 to 48. Names and ages were rarely checked and proof of identity was not part of the enlistment process. Frederick Cherry's account of enlisting in Sydney was indicative of many others around Australia. '2-11-1914 – Arrived at the barracks at about 10.30. We had to go before a sergeant major, and then fill up a form. The Major said to me 'How old are you lad? And I replied 17 [years and 11 months] Sir. Oh, said he, you had better run away and grow a little bit. I called back later on and again he asked me how old I was, this time I told a lie and said 19 [years and 6 months] and he said you'd do. He said you are not 21, have you your parent's consent and I said yes sir. He said where is it? I said I had a spoken consent but that was no good, I wanted a written one, so I had to go away again. I went home ... Dick said he was my guardian and gave his written consent.' Those caught being underage could be sent home.

The youngest of the boys to enlist from the New Town Primary School was Raymond Richard Perrin who stated that he was an 18 year old barman when he enlisted on 22nd November 1916. Perrin was in fact only 15 years old. Richard Perrin ran the Maypole Inn at New Town. Harold Edward Enslow of Forster Street also gave his age as 18 when he enlisted in August 1915. In fact he was 10 days away from his 16th birthday. A number of others were just 18 and managed to enlist without parental consent. In a couple of instances the letters or forms giving parental consent are included in the service records.

Several men were in the upper end of the age range when they enlisted. These included Frank Rousell Dixon, aged 42 and a farmer of Swanston Street, David Manton Davis was 48, a school inspector, Arthur Ernest Seager was a 40 year old civil servant whose family had owned property in New Town and was associated with the school through his mother's family – the Smyths.

There is only one instance of father and son joining up, but in a number of instances several members of the one family joined up. The Taffin brothers [Claude and Vernon] are the only ones to have joined up together. Frederick Self, at one time a water-bailiff at Cemetery Point saw 4 of his sons join up. One son, Thomas Albert joined up in Victoria and for a period his wife lived with the Self family who had by now moved to live in Moonah. The other brothers enlisted here at Claremont. Three sons of George and Margaret Rossendell [Rosendell] joined up with Cecil William being decorated with the Croix de Guerre for his gallantry.

As painful as it was for any wife or mother to see their sons join up, it was no less painful for Brightie Williams who for over 10 years had given a home to Wards of the State. The names of 7 children appear on the 1907 register which records Brightie as their guardian. Of these children 4 boys are known to have joined up and these include Arthur Harold Appleby (SMA tree no. 255) who was killed in action on 6 May 1917; his brother Aubrey William Appleby (26th Btn) Leslie Roy Jones who was killed in action on 26th September 1917 and Charles Scholes from the Tasmanian and Western Australian Reinforcements. For many years Brightie placed a memorial notice in the Mercury marking the anniversary of Arthur Harold Appleby's death.

It has been no easy task tracing the full names and details of each soldier listed. This has been complicated by several different factors – that they didn't all enlist in Tasmania; that the initial may be from a second name rather than the first Christian name and not always the right one at that. The Cherry brothers, Lionel Kay, Leonard Fry and Thomas Self are all known to have enlisted on the mainland. Chas Cherry was a hotel keeper and the family appears to have moved frequently. When the names were added to the Roll of Honour that of Frederick Orman Gherkie has been spelt incorrectly became Cherkie. A few other simple errors have also been noted. Keeping up what seems to have been a tradition of using an alias or false name - Norman Enslow enlisted as Norman Hanslow, Leonard Fry is possibly that of Norman Clyde Fry and the younger Edward Enslow is either Malcolm or Eric Enslow joining up and again giving a false Christian name.

While the names of some have been singled out as part of this story, each person on the Roll of Honour was an ordinary person willing to do the extraordinary when asked. They were labourers, gardeners, farmers, civil servants, miners etc – men from many different walks of life who all answered the call of king and country and who experienced first hand 'the hell where youth and laughter go.'

Queens Domain News – from Jill Hickie, HCC Bushland Planner

Crossroads Oval Landscape Plan



The Hobart City Council has just approved the draft Landscape Plan for the reinstatement of the Soldiers Memorial Avenue at the Crossroads Oval on the Domain. The Plan will now be subject to consultation with stakeholders and interest groups before being finalised in 2007. FOSMA has been working closely with Council over the draft plan, and it is hoped that tree plantings can commence in 2008. The HCC is already growing a large number of Lebanese cedars at its nursery in preparation for replanting.

Queens Domain Management Plan Review

The Hobart City Council is now well into a full review of the Queens Domain Management Plan to adequately reflect and guide the Council's strategic management of the Domain for the next decade.

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Stage 1 of the Management Plan has been completed that gauges community views on the future management of the Domain. Consultation was comprehensive with comments received from 517 sources such as interested individuals, user and sporting groups and facility managers. The results have been summarised in a report, which indicates that community attitudes towards the Domain have not changed significantly since the preparation of the Council's 1996 Queens Domain Management Plan.

The Council would like to thank the FOSMA, and other community groups and individuals and that have contributed to Stage 1 of the Management Plan. The results will be used in Stage 2 of the Review to write and update the new Plan which is to will commence in the near future. Consultants are to be appointed to run the project and it is expected to be completed by the middle of next year.

Queens Domain Fire Management Plan Review

The Queens Domain Fire Management Plan is currently being reviewed and updated. First developed in 1995, the plan was partially reviewed in 2001. Preliminary findings show the management of threatened species, as well as the integrated control of weed species and fire risk has all been very successful. The current review will update the plan for the next 5 to 15 years. The Soldier's Memorial Avenue, identified in the current plan as Vegetation Management Unit QD26, is a no-burn area. Several of the adjoining bush patches will be burned from time to time in line with the Plan's burn schedule, and FOSMA will be notified as part of the pre-burn planning.

New walking track to link Athletic Centre

A new walking track is to be constructed on the Domain between the TCA carpark and the Domain Athletic Centre entrance. The new track will provide a safer route for users than walking along the road edge. It will be approximately 500 m in length and follow the existing informal foot pad. Construction will begin in late October and, subject to weather conditions, will take approximately three weeks to complete.

Annual General Meeting – Committee Report and Financial Statement for 2005/2006

The 2006 AGM was held at the Lindisfarne RSL on 6 September 2006 at 7:30pm. The normal business of the AGM was conducted with the tabling of the year's Financial Statements and the Committee's Report. The new committee was elected, and a number of constitutional amendments were passed with only minor alteration. Copies of the financial statements and Committee report are attached for members review.

Subs Due Now

Reminder to all that subs are now due. The Annual subscription is \$10. Thanks to those who have already paid. If you have not paid your subs by November 30 you name will be removed from all mailing lists.

Many thanks to Duncan Kerr MHR for photocopying.

Friends of Soldiers Memorial Avenue Inc 11 Franklin Street, West Hobart TAS 7000

Phone : (03) 6234 4396 E-mail: info@soldierswalk.org.au

Patron: His Excellency William Cox AC RFD ED Governor of Tasmania;

President: J Wadsley

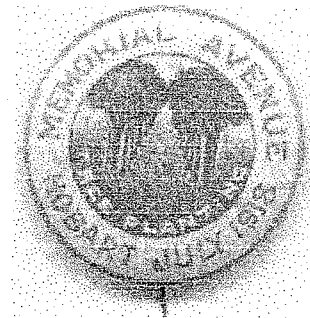
Secretary: B Halliwell

Tasmanian Meat Wholesalers Pty. Ltd.



Friends of Soldiers Walk Inc.

President's Report on behalf of the Committee for the year ended 30 June 2006



This past year has seen a number of significant achievements for our group. Not only have we seen the Avenue change dramatically in its physical appearance, but we have also received a growing level of awareness and interest from the general community. Increasing recognition from all levels of government has also helped us to achieve some substantial grants. Our growing band of supporters is a major factor, particularly with corporate bodies becoming more involved.

The Avenue

Our partners – Hobart City Council, Project Hahn, Work for the Dole, Boral Concrete and AMS Hire - have continued to provide financial support, labour, equipment and significant time and effort to bring the Avenue back to the stunning picture we have today. The clearance of blue gums, wattles and other vegetation along the Avenue is now complete. Many people have noticed the major change this has made to the landscape of the Domain, opening up the views along the Avenue and making the rows of memorial trees much more noticeable.

An added bonus was that FOSW received over \$3,700 from the sale of firewood organised through Project Hahn and WFTD. The work of FOSW members at working bees is also appreciated and we will continue to involve members in maintaining the Avenue.

The dedication of plaques has certainly moved ahead this year. We now have some 220 plaques installed on the Avenue, which is nearly half of the original number. Visitors and locals alike are appreciating the information that is presented on the plaques, some of which is provided by families, but with significant research being undertaken by Adrian Howard. The most pleasing aspect is that over half of the new plaques have been paid for by descendants, which shows we are achieving a key aim of the group – to reinvigorate local connections with families.

Plans are now well underway for the re-establishment of the Avenue around the Crossroads Oval. FOSW is working closely with the Council to develop a landscape plan that will see some 110 trees replanted to connect the Avenue back to its furthest point at the Crossroads. I must pay tribute to Rob Mather and other Council staff for the enthusiasm with which they have put into this project.

Government and Corporate Support

We were privileged to be the recipients of a Tasmanian Community Fund grant of \$88,000 in 2005/2006. This grant has enabled us to install some 80 plaques on the Avenue and commence "The Avenues Project" with the preparation of a community self help kit currently being trialled with other community groups across Tasmania.

A Reference group comprising representatives of local Councils, the Local Government Association of Tasmania, the University of Tasmania, the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens and the RSL is assisting this project and overseeing the work of Adrian Howard, the project officer.

By Christmas 2006 we hope that the trials will have been completed and we can assess the opportunities for the coming years.

A major success this year was the Tassal Group coming on board as our major corporate sponsor. Tassal is very interested in our work, in particular identifying connections with their own staff and in the areas where they currently work, such as the Huon and Channel district, Bruny Island, the Tasman Peninsula and other locations. We owe a debt of gratitude to Nick Burrows, Tassal's Corporate Secretary, who has helped to gain us this support.

We have also received support from a growing number of organisations around Tasmania, some financial and some in terms of resources and effort. To all these groups many thanks and we hope that they will continue to show interest in our work.

Committee

I must also thank the committee for their amazing efforts this year. All members have provided many, many hours engaged in helping to achieve the objects of our group.

Dedication ceremonies, working bees, quiz nights, displays, committee meetings, meetings with Council, the newsletter and mailouts, liaison with the RSL and other groups, presentations to schools and community groups, are just some of the many activities the members of the committee must perform during the year to keep things moving.

Financially the group is well placed with our growing support base, but also through the hardwork of the committee and particularly Glen Hardwick who has proved to be a most able Treasurer.

So much of the committee's work is unpaid and done without fanfare, I am very grateful for the ongoing efforts of Mike Wilkie, John Trethewey, Kirsty Black, Glenn Hardwick, John Panton, Victoria Wood, Owen Hutchinson and Helen Hartley. I must also thank Chris Oakes and Ald Eva Ruzicka for their time spent with the committee and the good advice they have given. Finally, I must thank Adrian for his continuing passion for this cause, one that would not be alive if it was not for him.

I know that some members are not seeking re-election for next year and I trust they will stay involved with our journey, as I hope all our members will be.

I look forward to the challenges and the achievements that are to come in the next year.

JOHN WADSLEY

President

Friends Of Soldiers Walk Inc
Income and Expenditure Statement
1 July 2005 - 30 June 2006

Income	2005/2006	(04/05)
Subscriptions	1,540.00	700.00
Events	3,816.35	5,082.25
General and Plaque Donations	20,752.60	2,284.00
Grants		9,000.00
Tassal Sponsorship	10,000.00	
Community Fund Grant	88,500.00	
Orientation Sessions		1,150.00
Interest - Operating A/c	69.09	
Interest - Gift A/c	28.88	
Interest - Investment A/c	303.86	18.11
Miscellaneous	261.25	427.00
Total Income	125,272.03	18,661.36

Expenses		
Project Management		2,500.00
Consultant Fees	47,000.00	
Consultant Expenses	1,110.41	
Advertising	3,223.70	52.30
Audit Fees	198.00	143.00
Bank Charges	4.75	15.90
BBQ/Supplies		350.69
Corporate Affairs	46.80	45.60
Design Work		340.00
Exhibition Materials		1,056.00
Orientation Sessions		1,001.50
Postage	1,452.43	896.55
Software		149.00
Stationery	361.80	398.99
Venue Hire and Function Costs	1,850.00	610.00
Website Design and Hosting	960.00	480.00
Wreaths	130.00	126.00
Concrete	742.26	
hardware Supplies	893.68	
Plaques	41,013.50	
Plaques (Gift Account)	7,964.00	
Brochures	7,119.45	
Asset Purchase	437.90	
Miscellaneous	89.90	
Total Expenses	114,598.58	8,165.53

Surplus for the Year	10,673.45	10,495.83
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Friends Of Soldiers Walk

Statement Of Financial Position

As At 30 June 2006

Members Funds

Brought forward from previous year	19,926.18
Surplus for year	10,673.45
Plus non receipted banking Oct 2005	25.00
Plus over banked amount April 2006	4.75
	<u>30,629.38</u>

Represented By:

Operating Account Bank Balance 30/6/06	3,482.25
Gift Account Bank Balance 30/6/06	503.27
Investment Account Balance 30/6/06	26,303.86
Unbanked Receipts	340.00
	<u>30,629.38</u>
