



Melbourne West Defence Veterans'

An Affiliated Group of the Hoppers Club.

C/- PO Box 1059, Hoppers Crossing, Vic 3029

'West Side Story'

Edition Thirty

WELCOME TO 2026

In This Issue:

Page 1: Cover page

Page 2: Passing
Parade & Calendar

Page 3: Jokes

Pages 4&5: Jokes

Page 6 - 9: Jokes

Page 10 - 13: More
Jokes

Page 14: Seniors

Page 15: DVA News

Page 16: Lest We
Forget



Welcome to the Thirtieth edition of the new West Side Story, a Newsletter to inform our friends of what's going on with our new Hoppers Club Affiliated Group.

NOTE: Some Jokes in this issue are of an adult nature, but enjoy them anyway..

WE WILL REMEMBER OUR DEFENCE VETERANS

DEFENCE VETERANS OF MELBOURNE WEST

We are now an “Affiliated Group” at the Hoppers Club and while we have no official meetings etc, we gather each Wednesday around 11-11.30 till whenever at the Hoppers Club for some light camaraderie mixed with lunch and a drink or two. All up, a pleasant couple of hours and very informal. It is intended to continue these gatherings while-ever people are happy to do so. It’s a “no pressure to attend” gathering with luncheon if preferred and all our ex-members are very welcome. Cost is whatever you want to eat and drink.

PASSING PARADE

Always nice to see this empty

NOTES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

JANUARY 2026

- 21st Lunch gathering at the Hoppers Club
- 26th Australia Day
- 28th Lunch gathering at the Hoppers Club
- 30th Services Luncheon at Werribee RSL

FEBRUARY 2026

- 3rd Lunch gathering at the Hoppers Club
- 10th Lunch gathering at the Hoppers Club
- 17th Lunch gathering at the Hoppers Club
- 24th Lunch gathering at the Hoppers Club
- 26th Services Luncheon at Werribee RSL

Don't forget to book in at the Club for the Werribee RSL luncheons

Lady Gets on a Bus

A lady gets on a public bus. Without saying a word, she gestures to the bus driver by sticking her thumb on her nose and waving her fingers at the driver.

The driver acknowledges the lady, turns to her and uses both hands in the same type of gesture and waves all his fingers at her.

The woman holds her right arm out at the driver and chops at it a few times with her left hand.

Then the driver puts his left hand on his right bicep and jerks his right arm up in a fist at her.

The woman then cups both of her hands under her breasts and lifts gently. So the driver places both of his hands at his crotch and gently lifts up.

Then the woman frowns, runs a finger up between her derriere, and gets off the bus.

There is another woman sitting in the front row of the bus who witnessed the whole exchange.

She speaks up, "That was the most disgusting thing I have ever seen on a public bus! What the hell were you doing?"

"Listen lady," states the gruff bus driver, "the lady that got on the bus before was a deaf-mute.

She asked me if the bus went to 5th Street. I said no, we go to 10th Street. She asked if we make many stops. I told her that this was the express. She asked if we go by the dairy, and I told her we go by the ballpark. She said "Shit, I'm on the wrong bus!" and got off."

"Mr. Murphy, "I have reviewed this case very carefully" the divorce court judge said, "And I have decided to give your wife £775 a week."

"That's very fair your honor" the husband said, "And every now and then I will try to send her a few quid myself"

A man goes to the doctor, worried about his wife's temper.

**The doctor asks, "What's the problem?"
The man says, "Doctor, I don't know what to do. Every day my wife seems to lose her temper for no reason. It scares me."**

The doctor says, "I have a cure for that. When it seems that your wife is getting angry, just take a glass of water and start swishing it in your mouth. Just swish and swish but don't swallow it until she either leaves the room or calms down."

Two weeks later, the man comes back to the doctor looking fresh and reborn. The man says, "Doctor, that was a brilliant idea! Every time my wife started losing it, I swished with water. I swished and swished, and she calmed right down! How does a glass of water do that?"

The doctor says, "The water itself does nothing. It's keeping your mouth shut that does the trick."

**😂 A dad walked into his 12-year-old son's bedroom and was shocked to see a 42-inch plasma TV. When he got home from school, he asked,
"Where did you get that TV? Did you steal it?"**

"No, I didn't steal it, I bought it."

"Bought it? With what money - are you dealing drugs?"

"Of course not, I saved up my hiking money."

"Hiking money? What on earth is that, you don't hike?"

**The boy shrugged and said,
"Well, every time you're out, Uncle Jim comes round to see Mom, gives me twenty bucks, and tells me to ... 'Take a hike.'" 😂**

PADDY IS IN THE AIRPORT WITH TWO SACKS, ONE OVER EACH SHOULDER, WHEN ALL OF A SUDDEN HE GETS STOPPED BY CUSTOMS, AND THEY SEARCH EACH SACK. THEY FIND LOADS OF MOBILE PHONES IN THEM. THEY ASK PADDY: "WHY DO YOU HAVE SUCH A LOT OF PHONES PADDY?" PADDY REPLIES "WELL, WHEN I WAS ON ME TRAVELS IN AMERICA I GOT A CALL FROM ME MATE MURPHY IN CORK, AND HE TOLD ME THAT HE WAS STARTING UP A JAZZ BAND AND COULD I BRING BACK TWO SAXAPHONES."

A little 5-year-old girl was usually driven to school by her grandad, but one day he had a cold, so Grandma took her instead. 🤔🤧👵

**That night, she told her parents,
"Driving with Grandma was really different today."
"Oh? How so?" they asked.**

"Well," she said, "with Grandma, we didn't see a single numb-nuts, sh*t for brains, or dick head the whole way!" 😄🚗💨

When four of Santa's elves got sick, the trainee elves did not produce toys as fast as the regular ones, and Santa began to feel the Pre-Christmas pressure.

Then, Mrs. Claus told Santa her Mother was coming to visit, which stressed Santa even more..

He went to harness the reindeer, he found that three of them were about to give birth and two others had jumped the fence and were out, Heaven knows where.

When he began to load the sleigh, one of the floorboards cracked, the toy bag fell to the ground and all the toys were scattered.

Frustrated, Santa went in the house for a glass of cider and a shot of rum.

He went to the cupboard, he discovered the elves had drunk all the cider and hidden the rum.

In his frustration, he accidentally dropped the cider jug, and it broke into hundreds of little glass pieces all over the kitchen floor.

He went to get the broom and found the mice had eaten all the straw off the end of the broom.

Just then the doorbell rang, and an irritated Santa marched to the door, yanked it open, and there stood a little angel with a great big Christmas tree.

The angel said very cheerfully, 'Merry Christmas, Santa. Isn't this a lovely day? I have a beautiful tree for you. Where would you like me to stick it?'

And so began the tradition of the little angel on top of the Christmas tree.

1. If walking is good for your health, the postman would be immortal.

2. A whale swims all day, only eats fish, only drinks water and is fat.

3. A rabbit only eats vegetables, runs and hops all day long and only lives 5 years.

4. A tortoise doesn't run and does nothing energetic, yet it lives for 450 years.

And you tell me to exercise! I don't think so

A little boy hopped onto a public bus and sat right behind the driver. As the bus rolled along, he started chatting away:

**"If my mom were a cow and my dad were a bull, I'd be a little calf.
If my mom were a hen and my dad were a rooster, I'd be a little chick.
If my mom were a deer and my dad was a buck, I'd be a little fawn.
If my mom were a duck and my dad was a goose, I'd be a little duckling..."**

On and on he went - animal after animal - until the driver, getting more irritated by the minute, finally snapped:

"Alright, kid... what if your mom was a drunk and your dad was a bum?"

Without missing a beat, the boy grinned and said:

"Then I'd be a bus driver!" 🤔🚌😂



These are the 4 Cavemen who invented the wheel. They called it .. The Rolling Stone

Two Ladies Talking in Heaven

1st woman: Hi, Wandal

2nd woman: Hi, Sylvia! How'd you die?

1st woman: I froze to death.

2nd woman: How horrible!

1st woman: It wasn't so bad. After I quit shaking from the cold, I began to get warm & sleepy, and finally died a peaceful death. What about you?

2nd woman: I died of a massive heart attack. I suspected that my husband was cheating, so I came home early to catch him in the act. But instead, I found him all by himself in the den watching TV.

1st woman: So, what happened?

2nd woman: I was so sure there was another woman there somewhere that I started running all over the house looking. I ran up into the attic and searched, and down into the basement. Then I went through every closet and checked under all the beds. I kept this up until I had looked everywhere, and finally I became so exhausted that I just keeled over with a heart attack and died.

1st woman: Too bad you didn't look in the freezer—we'd both still be alive.



WE WILL REMEMBER OUR DEFENCE VETERANS

Four old timers were playing their weekly game of golf, one remarked how nice it would be to wake up on Christmas morning, roll out of bed and without an argument go directly to the golf course, meet his buddies and play a round. His buddies all chimed in said, "Let's do it! We'll make it a priority; figure out a way and meet here early, Christmas morning." Months later, that special morning arrives, and there they are on the golf course. The first guy says, "Boy this game cost me a fortune! I bought my wife a diamond ring that she can't take her eyes off of." The second guy says, "I spent a ton too. My wife is at home planning the cruise I gave her. She was up to her eyeballs in brochures." The third guy says "Well my wife is at home admiring her new car, reading the manual." They all turned to the last guy in the group who is staring at them like they have lost their minds. "I can't believe you all went to such expense for this golf game. I slapped my wife on the bum and said, 'Well babe, Merry Christmas! It's a great morning -- intercourse or golf course --' She said, "Don't forget your hat."

A woman was sitting at a bar enjoying an after-work cocktail with her girlfriends when an exceptionally tall, handsome, extremely sexy young man entered. He was so striking that the woman could not take her eyes away from him. The young man noticed her overly attentive stare & walked directly toward her. Before she could offer her apologies for being so rude for staring, the young man said to her, 'I'll do anything, absolutely anything, that you want me to do, no matter how kinky, for \$100, on one condition.' Flabbergasted, the woman asked what the condition was. The young man replied, 'You have to tell me what you want me to do in just three words.'

The woman considered his proposition for a moment, withdrew from her purse and slowly counted out five \$20 bills, which she pressed into the young man's hand along with her address. She looked deeply into his eyes & slowly, meaningfully said, "Clean my house."

Murphy showed up at Mass one Sunday & the priest almost fell down when he saw him.

He'd never been to church in his life.

After Mass, the priest caught up with him & said, "Murphy, I am so glad ya decided to come to Mass. What made ya come?"

Murphy said, "I got to be honest with you Father, a while back, I misplaced me hat & I really, really love that hat. I know that McGlynn had a hat just like mine & I knew he came to church every Sunday. I also knew that he had to take off his hat during Mass & figured he would leave it in the back of church. So, I was going to leave after Communion & steal McGlynn's hat."

Forgotten Ireland

The priest said, "Well, Murphy, I notice that ya didn't steal McGlynn's hat. What changed your mind?"

Murphy replied, "Well, after I heard your sermon on the 10 Commandments I decided that I didn't need to steal McGlynn's hat after all."

With a tear in his eye the priest gave Murphy a big smile & said; "After I talked about 'Thou Shalt Not Steal' ya decided you would rather do without your hat than burn in hell, eh?"

Murphy slowly shook his head. "No, Father, after ya talked about 'Thou Shalt Not Commit Adultery' I remembered where I left me hat."



Punography

I tried to catch some Fog. I mist.

When chemists die, they barium.

Jokes about German sausage are the wurst.

A soldier who survived mustard gas and pepper spray is now a seasoned veteran.

I know a guy who's addicted to brake fluid. He says he can stop anytime.

How does Moses make his tea? Hebrews it.

I stayed up all night to see where the sun went. Than it dawned on me.

This girl said she recognized me from the vegetarian club, but I'd never met herbivore.

I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I can't put it down.

I did a theatrical performance about puns. It was a play on words.

They told me I had type A blood, but it was a Type O.

A dyslexic man walks into a bra.

PMS jokes aren't funny. Period.

Why were the Indians here first? They had reservations.

Class trip to the Coca-Cola factory. I hope there's no pop quiz.

Energizer Bunny arrested: Charged with battery.

I didn't like my beard at first. Then it grew on me.

How do you make holy water? Boil the hell out of it!

What do you call a dinosaur with a extensive vocabulary? A thesaurus.

When you get a bladder infection, urine trouble.

What does a clock do when it's hungry? It goes back four seconds.

I wondered why the baseball was getting bigger. Then it hit me!

Broken pencils are pointless.

A man was sitting on the edge of the bed, watching his wife, who was looking at herself in the mirror. Since her birthday was not far off, he asked what she'd like as a gift. "I'd like to be eight again," she replied, still looking in the mirror.

On the morning of her birthday, he rose early, made her a nice big bowl of Coco Pops, and then took her to Adventure World theme park. What a day! He put her on every ride in the park; the Death Slide, the Wall of Fear, the Screaming Roller Coaster, everything there was.

Five hours later they staggered out of the theme park. Her head was reeling and her stomach felt upside down. He then took her to a McDonald's where he ordered her a Happy Meal with extra fries and a chocolate shake.

Then it was off to a movie, with popcorn, a soda pop, and her favorite candy, M&Ms. What a fabulous adventure! Finally she wobbled home with her husband and collapsed into bed, exhausted.

He leaned over his wife with a big smile and lovingly asked, "Well dear, what was it like being eight again?"

Her eyes slowly opened and her expression suddenly changed.

"I meant my dress size, you idiot!"

MEN in 1983



MEN in 2023



WE WILL REMEMBER OUR DEFENCE VETERANS

The Italian Secret to a Long Marriage

At St. Peter's Catholic Church in Toronto, they have weekly husbands' marriage seminars.

At the session last week, the priest asked Giuseppe, who said he was approaching his 50th wedding anniversary, to take a few minutes and share some insight into how he had managed to stay married to the same woman all these years.

Giuseppe replied to the assembled husbands, "Wella, I'va tried to treat her nicea, spendada money on her, but besta of all is, I tooka her to Italy for the 25th anniversary!"

The priest responded, "Giuseppe, you are an amazing inspiration to all the husbands here! Please tell us what you are planning for your wife for your 50th anniversary??"

Giuseppe proudly replied, "I gonna go picka her up."

An elderly man in Louisiana owned a large farm for several years.

He had a large pond in the back. It was properly shaped for swimming, so he fixed it up nice with picnic tables, horseshoe courts, and some apple and peach trees.

One evening the old farmer decided to go down to the pond, to look it over, as he hadn't been there for a while.

Before he went, he grabbed a five-gallon bucket to bring back some fruit.

As he neared the pond, he heard voices shouting and laughing with glee. As he got closer, he saw it was a bunch of young women skinny-dipping in his pond.

He made the women aware of his presence and they all went to the deep end.

One of the women shouted to him, "We're not coming out until you leave!"

The old man replied, "I didn't come down here to watch you ladies swim naked or make you get out of the pond naked."

Holding the bucket up, he said... "I'm here to feed the alligator!"



Some old men can still think fast.

Two little boys — six and four — are out raking leaves when the big brother gets a mischievous idea.

"You know what?" he says. "I think it's time we learn to cuss."

The four-year-old's eyes light up. "Yeah!" he agrees. "Okay," the six-year-old continues, "at breakfast I'll say something with 'hell' in it, and you say something with 'ass.'"

They high-five and head inside, barely able to keep the giggles down.

Mom stands at the stove and asks the six-year-old what he wants for breakfast. He puts on his bravest face, points at the cereal, and blurts, "Aw, hell, Mom — I'll have Cheerios."

WHACK!

He's out of his chair, launched across the kitchen, and squealing all the way up the stairs as Mom chases him, administering justice with every step. She locks his door and thunders, "You stay there until I say otherwise!" Back in the kitchen she turns to the younger boy, very stern. "And what do you want for breakfast, young man?" she asks.

He swallows, blinks big wet eyes, and says, with total confidence:

"I don't know, but you can bet your a**s it won't be Cheerios."

The Lone Ranger and Tonto went camping in the desert.

After they got their tent all set up, both men fell sound asleep.

Some hours later, Tonto wakes the Lone Ranger and says,

'Kemo Sabe, look towards sky, what you see?'

'The Lone Ranger replies, 'I see millions of stars.'

'What that tell you?' asked Tonto.

The Lone Ranger ponders for a minute then says, 'Astronomically speaking, it tells me there are millions of galaxies and potentially billions of planets. Astrologically, it tells me that Saturn is in Leo. Time wise, it appears to be approximately a quarter past three in the morning. Theologically, the Lord is all-powerful and we are small and insignificant. Meteorologically, it seems we will have a beautiful day tomorrow.

What's it tell you, Tonto?'

'You dumber than buffalo. It means someone stole the tent'

SENIORS NEWS Jan 2026

How to handle the heatwaves of summer

As [severe summer heatwaves](#) hit multiple states across Australia, a few simple tips can mean the difference between life and death, particularly for older Australians.

January heatwaves [are gripping NSW, South Australia, Victoria, the Northern Territory and northern parts of Tasmania](#), with more hot days and nights to come mid-month, according to the Bureau of Meteorology.

As the mercury rises so does the risk of heat-related illnesses over the coming days, but the older you are the more care you need to take, particularly if they have underlying illnesses or are taking multiple medications, GP Kate Wylie told The Senior.

The executive director of Doctors for the Environment Australia, a group of doctors advocating for action on climate change, said there are a few key tips to staying safe during a heatwave.

Don't drink alcohol

While it might sound tempting to "cool off" with a cocktail or a beer, [drinking alcohol](#) will make you more dehydrated, raise your temperature and leave you worse off during a heatwave, Dr Wylie said.

"Don't get drunk in the sun on a hot day. It's a bad idea," Dr Wylie said.

Making sure you stay hydrated is key to staying cool, Dr Wylie explained, adding that sweating is the body's way of keeping us cool.

Take it seriously

"The first thing that people can do is to take it seriously," Dr Wylie said. "To recognise that they are at risk from heat, and not to be cavalier about the heat."

Plan ahead

"I sent three patients to hospital in heat waves last year with acute renal failure from dehydration," said Kim Loo, GP and board member of Doctors for the Environment Australia.

"Have an esky ready in case there is a power outage. Have ingredients that you can put together for a meal and not have to cook.

"Talk to your doctor about your medications. If you have a fluid restriction for heart failure, talk to your doctor."

When heatwaves stretch across multiple days, Dr Wylie also recommends people make plans to keep cool and stay out of the heat.

This can mean having an idea of where you can go to stay cool, preparing an area of your home to air-condition, and planning to water gardens in the morning or in the late afternoon when the temperature falls, avoiding the extremes of the heat.

"If you do need to go outside, wear a hat, wear light-coloured, loose clothing, and try and stay in the shade," she said.

VETERANS'



CORNER

Dental changes leave veterans smiling

2 January 2026

The annual monetary limit for high cost, clinically needed restorative items, such as crowns or bridges, has been doubled and the time you have to use your capped amount has been extended from one to two years.

This means: From 1 January 2026 to 31 December 2027 your total limit is \$5,980.30. From 1 January 2028 to 31 December 2029 your limit is \$5,980.30 (subject to annual indexation).

This will be your new biennial monetary limit for Schedule C items. You don't need to do anything to activate the new biennial monetary limit.

Importantly, you will not be able to roll over the amount into the next two-year period because the monetary limit resets.

The capped amounts apply even if you hold a Veteran Gold Card or have dental related conditions accepted on your Veteran White Card.

In addition, dental therapists hygienists and oral health therapists have also been added to the approved list of dental service providers. This means it is now easier to access a dental practitioner suited to your needs.

To learn more about DVA's Dental Program, visit the [DVA website](#).



In remembrance of every Australian Defence Service person who has paid the supreme sacrifice in serving their country.

LEST WE FORGET

That's all for now folks.....!

The next issue will be Edition 31, so please, if you have anything of interest to our membership, or even an internet address for me to look up some items, please let me know by email to

glensmith43@hotmail.com

NOTE: comments and political jokes in this Newsletter are those of the editor and are not necessarily those of the people who are in the Group.

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