

## LOWER SOUTH EAST SUB BRANCH NEWS

Our dinner meeting at the end of November and traditionally our last for the year and our Christmas function was very well attended and was a great event. To set the scene, pre-dinner nibbles and drinks were provided by the committee and our ladies.

During dinner, one of our members, Bob Smith, circulated a Medal which was presented to his father in 1912 and inscribed "Presented to the Captain, Officers and Crew of the RMS Carpathia in recognition of gallant service from the survivors of the SS Titanic". We all agreed that it would be a treasured memento for Bob and his family.



Our after dinner speaker was Sandie Coulson, a retired Naval Commander, now living back in Mount Gambier with her husband Peter, also a retired Commander from the Naval Air Arm. Sandie gave us a fascinating insight into her 25 years of service, rising from a Recruit to a Commander and the highest ranking Naval Officer in South Australia before her retirement.

She explained some of the highlights and difficulties experienced during her several postings over that time, including being 2 IC of HMAS Platypus, the Submarine Arm of the Navy. Sandie kept our rapt attention for nearly an hour and after question time was thanked for what was a most interesting and enjoyable address.



Our next meeting will also follow tradition, being a BBQ at our National Servicemen's Memorial Park on Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> January. This is always a great social event looked forward to by all members.

National Servicemen's Memorial Service will be conducted as usual on February 14<sup>th</sup> at the Vansittart Park War Memorial.

Our A.G.M. will be held in February and the Office Bearers elected at that time, as we commence another Nasho year.

Ted Jordan.

Publicity Officer.