



## SYMBOLISM OF THE RSL AFFILIATE BADGE

### Context

Affiliate membership of the RSL was first introduced in 1969 in South Australia. Today South Australia, Tasmania, Western Australia and Victoria offer Affiliate membership. Affiliate membership was introduced in the belief that the families of veterans would bring a new vitality to the RSL, whilst maintaining the RSL ethos of unselfish service, loyalty, and adherence to the highest ideals of citizenship.

Today the scope of Affiliate membership has been increased to recognize the contribution of those who serve our community through their role in emergency services such as the Police, Fire Brigade, Ambulance Service and the State Emergency Service.

Service, comradeship and loyalty are the cornerstones of Affiliate membership.

### The Badge

The Affiliate Badge includes three colours, red, white and blue and was designed by Mr Eric Smith, the then President of the South Australian Branch of the RSL. The symbolism of the colours is the same as that of the Service Members Badge - red represents the blood tie of war upon which the Returned & Services League was originally founded. White stands for the purity of your notice in joining the League - to render service without thought of personal gain or ambition. Blue indicates your willingness to render that service to a comrade anywhere under the blue sky - wherever that comrade may be. The crown at the top of the badge symbolises the Leagues loyalty to the Queen.