



War Veterans Village [Narrabeen] RSL sub-Branch

Through an active membership we keep the ANZAC spirit alive and growing

Editor: Doug Smyth – email: publicityofficer@warvetrsrl.org.au or deliver mail to RLO Reception, Gallipoli.
Doug's Mob 0429 988 880. Office sub-Branch Hours Monday, Tuesday, Friday 9.30am – 12pm Phone: 8978 4266

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

"See you for breakfast in March!" These were the words with which I concluded my March report and what a great joy it was to see so many people attend. We were also pleased to have James Dallas as our guest speaker.

Future meetings will have equally informative and exciting speakers so don't forget to watch the diary.

At the last meeting we placed a 'Notice of Motion' regarding the nomination for the award of Life Membership for our VP Doug. I am pleased to advise that this will not be necessary as the State Branch Nominations Committee, with great input from our DC President Bill Hardman OAM, have progressed the nomination to the next stage. We look forward to receiving the outcome of the final deliberations.

By now everyone should have received information regarding the village ANZAC Day services. I encourage you to act quickly. Sub-Branch members will have priority followed by other ex-serving members of the Defence Force. It is my understanding from Kerry Morris (who is doing a fantastic job), that the format will be similar to previous years.

The move to the second office in the Keith Hoyer Centre has commenced and we hope to have it fully operational soon.

I will be proceeding on sick leave on Tuesday 6th April and will therefore not be joining you for either our next meeting or our ANZAC Day activities. VP Doug will be the acting President in my absence, ably supported by Secretary John.

I wish each of you the ANZAC Day we were not able to have last year.

Lest We Forget
Bob Durbin
President

WELFARE REPORT

We are fortunate here at Narrabeen, to have our own Veteran community so the ethos of ANZAC is never far from our hearts.

Although restrictions may still be applied this year, we are blessed to be able to get together and remember friends both present and departed.

Bev Ash
Visitation Officer

Address Label

READ YOUR EDITION AND ENJOY



Our next General Meeting will be held in the Montgomery Forecourt at 9.30am on Thursday 8th April.

Morning Tea to follow in the Montgomery Theatre

NOTE YOUR DIARY NOW

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

All members are currently financial.

Current total Membership = 99

Life Members	2
Life Subscribers	4
Service	43
Affiliate	32
Associate	18

We mourn the sad loss of Service Members, John Morgan who passed away on the 8th March 2021 and John Nihill on the 12th March 2021.

Their presence will be sorely missed.

New member Joyce Pickard (Affiliate) was welcomed and inducted at the General Meeting of the 11th March and is included in the numbers above.

Applications for new membership are in progress for:

Ray Green -Service
Janet Green-Affiliate
Jill Chetwynd -Affiliate
Brian French -Service

We are actively seeking further prospective members and are optimistic that our numbers will grow as the year progresses.

Jan Slater, Membership Officer

NOTE YOUR DIARY FOR MAY NOW

A General meeting and breakfast will be held in the Lone Pine Lounge - Gallipoli Building on Thursday 13 May 2021 commencing at 9am

Guest Speaker: Nicki Young, RSL LifeCare, General Manager Veterans Services.

"What's happening in the Veterans Area of RSL LifeCare"

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The year has begun with some easing of restrictions under which we were having to operate in 2020. However, the "old" normal will not be returning any time soon!!

Our general meetings in February and March have been very well attended. The March 9am breakfast was enjoyed by 50 attendees and our guest speaker was James Dallas from RSL Defence Care (now a division of RSL LifeCare). His power point presentation was interesting and relevant to our veteran community with suggestions for those unhappy with their previous representations to DVA but warning of significant delays in submissions as a result of a large increase in the volume of applications for help.

Nicki Young, General Manager Veteran Services for RSL LifeCare gave her apologies for being unable to attend due to a last-minute request from the government to attend a discussion in Canberra that day about veteran suicide. She has committed to coming as our guest speaker at the May general meeting and breakfast on Thursday May 13. This meeting will be in the Lone Pine Lounge in the Gallipoli building. PLEASE make a note in your diary as Nicki will be outlining the wide-ranging and exciting things that are happening in the veteran's area of RSL LifeCare, especially after now having Defence Care under the RSL LifeCare umbrella.

We are all looking forward to being able to commemorate ANZAC Day this year. Rules governing numbers at meetings and events are continually under review and changing but let's hope our Village ANZAC Day Service on Wednesday 21st April allows us all to get together once again as this is a special day in our village. We will be selling ANZAC Day badges this year and we hope everyone in the village will support this important fundraising activity for our sub-Branch.

I hope to see you at the general meeting on Thursday 8th April in the Montgomery Forecourt with the now anticipated enjoyable morning tea to follow.

John Sowden, Secretary



Mavis Wheeler celebrates her 100th birthday

CHAPLAINS CORNER

Blessings and greetings to you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. This was the traditional greeting given by Christians, particularly when writing letters. As we near the commemoration of Easter and ANZAC Day this greeting is more important than ever.

The Gospel of John has two very key passages for us at this time of year.

John 3:16, perhaps the most known piece of all scripture

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (NIV)

And from John 15:13 (NIV)

¹³ Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.

For us at this time of year, both of these verses have very significant and important significance and value. At Easter we commemorate the greatest sacrifice as God not only sent His Son into the world to save it, but also gave Him up on the cross of salvation that we may have eternal life.

In some ways we see this same intent in the sacrifices made by our service men and women. Our country was founded on very solid values, ethical, moral, and yes, Christian. These values are as important today as they were then, in some ways even more so. The sacrifices made in the Defence of the freedoms and way of life we enjoy today should never be taken lightly or for granted.

As we journey through the next few weeks, may each of us remember with both sadness and pride everything that has been done for us, and by us, that we might be able to say that we live in the best country in the world – this, the Great southland of the Holy Spirit.

Grace and Peace

Chaplain Bob

ANZAC APPEAL

This is a call to all our wonderful Volunteers who would like to help towards our Anzac Fundraising Appeal.

The Anzac Fundraising appeal is also an occasion to raise funds to support our Veteran Community.

The dates of the Appeal are from 12 April 2021 through to 21 April 2021. It is anticipated there will be an information session with morning tea provided on Friday 9 April 2021 in the DugOut in the Gallipoli Building.

To support our Fundraising Appeal we would like you, our Volunteers, to submit your name and the day/s you wish to Volunteer, to:

Horst Kuessner on mobile 0419 699 920 or
Denise Kuessner on mobile 0419 699 982
by Thursday 7 April 2021