



War Veterans Village [Narrabeen] RSL sub-Branch

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

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PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

Another month has rolled by and we are still not able to advise when we can resume any of our activities. In August we would normally have our Vietnam Veterans Commemoration Service. While we could not have this in the normal format, our chaplains did incorporate the remembrance of VP Day and Vietnam Veterans Day into the regular Sunday worship. This service was streamed live and also sits on the RSL Chapel channel of YouTube. We are also hoping that we can put the appropriate clip of the commemoration service on our website.

The next major commemoration will be Remembrance Day. All I can say is 'watch this space'.

Your committee continues to meet via Zoom. While not the optimum, it does enable us to process matters of importance, including our new membership applications. Thanks to all who returned their 'Circular Resolution' forms regarding how we can process these applications. I am pleased to advise that all those returned were in favour of the Committee processing applications which would then be ratified at the next Monthly Meeting.

Unfortunately, as State Branch staff are working from home, these applications will not be finalised for some time. This will not limit the ability of new members to participate in any and all of our functions – when they occur!

We are thankful that Bev has been in contact with many of you. Both Bev and Jan van Altena have also been delivering food parcels to those who are not able to get out to buy what they need. Please let us know if you need help in any way.

Keep well
Lest We Forget
Bob Durbin

Here's a laugh:

I hired a handy man the other day and gave him a list of jobs. When I got home, only #1, 3 & 5 were done.

Turns out he only does odd jobs!

Address Label

READ YOUR EDITION AND ENJOY



The COVID-19 restrictions continue and it has been necessary to cancel our September Meeting. Advice on whether we will have an October Meeting will be advised in the October 'Dispatches'

Positions Vacant

Our sub-Branch runs, supported by committed Committee members and Volunteers.

Currently we have two positions that we would like to fill as soon as possible, so that there is an overlap from the current position holders to the new position holders.

We would ask that you consider these opportunities so that the sub-Branch can continue going forward.

Treasurer: Duties and responsibilities are listed in RSLNSW Standard Operating Procedure 5. These include overseeing the financial management of the sub-Branch through the keeping of books of account, receiving payments, paying accounts, preparation of financial reports and with the support of the sub-Branch Executive prepare the annual budget.

Our current Treasurer - Arthur Skene, is resigning, effective 31/12/2021 or as soon as a replacement can be made. He is able to train the new position holder in all the duties involved.

Fund Raising Co-ordinator: Duties include preparing a roster of volunteers for the ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day appeals, ordering badge supplies, the preparation of trays for volunteers, collecting and reconciling the sales made, passing the funds received to the Treasurer for banking.

Our current co-ordinators, Horst and Denise Kuessner, will be carrying out the Remembrance Day appeal in November and this will be the opportunity for them to train a new Co-ordinator.

Please give your serious consideration to either of the positions outlined above and if you wish to indicate your interest then contact our President or Secretary.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

There's not a lot happening on the admin front this month. Other sub-Branch responsibilities are coming to the fore and our Visitations Officer and President are doing a wonderful job receiving welfare packages of fruit and vegies and pantry products and then seeking out those who can benefit from receiving some of this great hospitality.

The office is being attended at random hours during the lockdown to collect any phone messages or notices left under the door. It is important at this time to keep in touch with others be it a neighbor, friend or passer-by and to feel comfortable contacting your sub-Branch office if help is needed in other ways. It is a tremendous advantage living in such a village as War Vets Narrabeen where we can walk out our front door and feel safe, go for a walk and see and talk with others.

Your sub-Branch Trustees are presently putting together a budget for 2022 – it's like looking into a crystal ball!!! We will plan again to have a formal meeting at least once a quarter, some breakfast meetings with a guest speaker and hopefully a couple of bus trips. If you have some ideas on locations to visit, please let us know. WOULD ANYONE ENJOY A TRIP AWAY PERHAPS OVERNIGHT OR AWAY FOR TWO NIGHTS? We are all missing the Men's, Women and General Day Out trips and we hope the Village will re-commence these quickly after restrictions are eased. Anyway, your suggestions are always welcome.

I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting which if the present outlook goes to plan, will be on Thursday 14th October – one has to be optimistic!!

SOME GOOD NEWS

One of our members who has given so much of his experience, time, support and camaraderie to better the local RSL movement and our sub-Branch has been awarded the exceptional honour of Life Membership of the RSL. You all know Doug Smyth through his many roles here at the War Vets sub-Branch – he has held almost every committee position of responsibility and been a mentor to many who have taken on roles without the required knowledge. He has certainly been a great help to me as Secretary in my early months. His contacts at Forestville sub-Branch and wider afield helped in setting up our own website.

We are unable to acknowledge Doug's Life Membership at present but will organise an appropriate occasion when times are less restricted.

CONGRATULATIONS Doug.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

All members are currently financial.

Current total Membership = 105

Life Members	2
Life Subscribers	4
Service	47
Affiliate	35
Associate	17

Applications for new membership, are in progress for:

Judy Boon - Affiliate
Hugh Proctor - Service
Ken Clements - Service
Joyce Kempester - Affiliate
Helen Clark – Affiliate
Dee Friend – Affiliate
Barbara Parkinson – Affiliate
Gavin Wilcox – Service
Albert Bullivant – Associate – Collaroy
RSL sub-Branch

It is very rewarding that we have continued interest in new membership in spite of Covid lockdown. We look forward to the resumption of our regular meeting routine when this sad period is finally over. In the meantime, please take care and look after your health.

Best Wishes

Jan Slater

Membership Officer

Closed to Tourists

After having to cancel successive attempted holidays to various States, I decided to rename them.

- NT – No Trespassing
- SA – Stay Away
- Qld – Quietly Locked Down
- VIC – Very Inconveniently Closed
- WA – Withdrawn Association
- NSW – Not So Welcoming
- TAS – Totally Alone State
- ACT – Authorised Coronavirus Tacticians

Guess what! A bit of fun from Facebook

The last Laugh:

It's my wife's birthday soon and she's been leaving jewellery catalogues all over the house... So I've taken the hint... and got her a magazine rack.

WELFARE REPORT

Thank you to all those kind members who have been up for a chat this past month – I have to say I find you inspiring. Perhaps its due to discipline learned in the services where you ‘just got on with it!’ but whatever it is you certainly are an example to others during this pandemic.

One thing that came up in conversation was the unique camaraderie that exists only with servicemen and women and, of course, that is the very thing that we are missing by having to stay in isolation.

I was thinking we could set up a ‘phone bubble’ – by that I mean, if you are in agreement, your phone number would be shared with other members so you can ring each other, just to say hello!

You must give approval first, so please ring me on 0439 169 982 or let John Sowden, Jan Slater, Arthur Skene, Allan Burrows or Bob Durbin know and I’ll compile a list for each of those who want to take part. Your phone number would never be given out without your prior approval. It would be wonderful to see all of you take part either to receive a call or to phone someone else.

Quiz with answers:

1. Name an English word of more than 2 letters that both begins and ends with “he” in that order, there are two possible answers. What are they?

You may be feeling them both just now.

HEADACHE and HEARTACHE

2. What common seven letter English word does not contain the vowels a, e, i, o or u?

RHYTHMS

3. Is ‘aah’ an acceptable scrabble word?

YES, IN THE SCRABBLE DICTIONARY

4. Can you decipher these puzzles?

GROUND

FEET FEET FEET

FEET FEET FEET

6 FEET UNDERGROUND

5. STAND TAKE MINE TAKING

I YOU 2 MY

I understand you undertake to undermine my undertaking

So, how did you go?

Now, see how you go with this month’s challenge.

I’ve included some clues in brackets.

Answers in the October issue of Dispatches.

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Word puzzles JUST FOR FUN!

M1Y1LI1F1E (what’s in between the letters?)

TRAVEL

CCCCC”s (remember the under/over rule)

mce mce mce (what’s missing?)

DAYSALLWORK

Which country borders 14 nations and crosses 8 time zones?

Which Second World War battle was named even before it had started?

Dump, floater and wipe are terms used in which team sport?

The unicorn is the national animal of which country?

Which country invented ice cream?

What is the biggest animal in the world?

Have fun

Bev Ash

Visitation Officer

Heteronyms and Homographs

Homographs are words of identical spelling but with more than one meaning. A homograph that is also pronounced differently is a heteronym.* *You think English is easy?? * * I think a retired English teacher was bored...THIS IS GREAT! *

**Read the PS.....This took some work to put together! **

1) The bandage was *wound* around the *wound*.

2) The farm was used to *produce produce*.

3) The dump was so full that it had to *refuse* more *refuse*.

4) We must *polish* the *Polish* furniture.

5) He could *lead* if he would get the *lead* out.

6) The soldier decided to *desert* his dessert in the *desert*.

7) Since there is no time like the *present*, he thought it was time to *present* the *present*.

8) A *bass* was painted on the head of the *bass* drum.

9) When shot at, the *dove dove * into the bushes.

10) I did not *object* to the *object*.

11) The insurance was *invalid* for the *invalid*.

12) There was a *row* among the oarsmen about how to *row*.

13) They were too *close* to the door to *close* it.

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14) The buck *does* funny things when the *does* are present.

15) A seamstress and a *sewer* fell down into a *sewer* line.

16) To help with planting, the farmer taught his *sow* to *sow*.

17) The *wind* was too strong to *wind* up the sail.

18) Upon seeing the *tear* in the painting I shed a *tear*.

19) I had to *subject* the *subject* to a series of tests.

20) How can I *intimate* this to my most *intimate* friend?

P.S.

Let's face it - English is a crazy language. There is no egg in eggplant, nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in a pineapple. English muffins weren't invented in England nor French fries in France. Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat. We take English for granted. But if we explore its paradoxes, we find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig.

And why is it that writers write but fingers don't fing, grocers don't groce and hammers don't ham? If the plural of tooth is teeth, why isn't the plural of booth, beeth? One goose, 2 geese. So, one moose, 2 meese? One index, 2 indices? Doesn't it seem crazy that you can make amends but not one amend? If you have a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one of them, what do you call it?

If teachers taught, why didn't preachers praught? If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat?

Sometimes I think all the English speakers should be committed to an asylum for the verbally insane. In what language do people recite at a play and play at a recital? Ship by truck and send cargo by ship? Have noses that run and feet that smell? How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites? You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which your house can burn up as it burns down, in which you fill in a form by filling it out and in which, an alarm goes off by going on.

English was invented by people, not computers, and it reflects the creativity of the human race, which, of course, is not a race at all. That is why, when the stars are out, they are visible, but when the lights are out, they are invisible.

Editor: Thanks to Arthur Skene for this article.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

At the time of writing, it is bucketing down. Of course, Lesley would say that the gardens need it, and she is right. The problem is that it makes the 'lockdown' harder to cope with. No sitting on the balcony, no going for walks, difficult to dart up to Augusta for some shopping and seeing other people. These are important aspects of living in lockdown. As is remaining connected.

Remaining connected is more than speaking with someone on the phone, as valuable as that is. Remaining connected is also about physical connection. It is pleasing that the Premier is encouraging singles to have a 'bubble buddy'. While phone calls are good, there is nothing better than having a conversation face to face. Please let us know if you don't as yet have a 'bubble buddy'.

Psalm 46 is known to many people as the 'Air Force Hymn' sung to the tune "The Dam Busters". While the music itself is very stirring, so are the words. The psalm is one of praise, celebrating deliverance from some great foe. As we work through this current struggle, we can all take comfort that God is there with us and will get us through.

1 God is our strength and refuge,
our present help in trouble,
and we therefore will not fear,
though the earth should change!
Though mountains shake and tremble,
though swirling floods are raging,
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore!

2 There is a flowing river
within God's holy city;
God is in the midst of her-
she shall not be moved!
God's help is swiftly given,
thrones vanish at his presence-
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore!

3 Come, see the works of our maker,
learn of his deeds all-powerful:
wars will cease across the world
when he shatters the spear!
Be still and know your creator,
uplift him in the nations-
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore!

After Psalm 46, Richard Bewes (born 1934)

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Grace & Peace

Bob