

# The Returned & Services League of Australia

## Forestville



## sub-Branch

Serving veterans and their families in the Forest Area

### NEWSLETTER

May 2017

Contact editor via email: [newsletter@forestvillersl.org.au](mailto:newsletter@forestvillersl.org.au) or via post: 22 Melwood Ave, Forestville, NSW 2087

### President's Report

Hi everyone.

April, as always, has been a very busy month for your Committee members. **Australia My Country** competition entries have been collected, recorded and sorted ready for marking. As you read this message, judging has been completed.

We attended **ANZAC commemoration services** at schools, other sub-Branches and community organisations, including our local Rugby Club. We also attended an **Inaugural Resilience Luncheon for the Veterans Centre Sydney Northern Beaches** at Dee Why RSL Club.

Our **Secretary** has been extremely busy attending to the very detailed organisation of our **ANZAC Sunday March on 23<sup>rd</sup> April** and, of course, the **Dawn Service on ANZAC Day, Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April**. These events require time and effort beyond normal every-day duties.

**Volunteers** helped to cover all manner of duties, from judging AMC entries, to organising and placing chairs, marshal duties, and many more important "behind the scenes" jobs. This they do willingly, very well, and without complaint. Well done, guys and gals – greatly appreciated!

Thanks to all who attended the ANZAC Sunday and ANZAC Day services. It was great to see such good attendance. Once again, well done to all those involved in organising and supporting these activities.

Forthcoming events for this year are noted in this newsletter. Please note them in your smart phones/ipads/other gadgets. Or (heaven forbid), even write them in your diaries! Take care, rug up for the coming cooler weather, and call us if you need help. Best wishes to all.

**John Scifleet**  
President

### Whats On

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Monthly General  
Meeting

Wednesday 3rd May,  
7.30pm

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Australia My Country  
Presentation

Saturday 13th May, 1100

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## Membership Update

We welcome one new Affiliate Member to our sub-Branch:

**PENFOLD, Keith Lavis**

Current membership totals 457.

Introductions from our members, family and mates for new membership are always welcome.

**Geoff Brown, Membership Officer**

## Changes To Your Membership Details

To ensure that our records are maintained up to date we would appreciate your advice of any change as soon as possible including new address, phone number, email address, next of kin and any other personal information.

Also please call us if you wish to check any of your information.

Email address is:  
**[membership@forestvillersl.org.au](mailto:membership@forestvillersl.org.au)**

## Our Cenotaph and Memorial Walkway

Thanks to our volunteers for preparing the area so well for ANZAC Day.

### Memorial Pavers

Orders are now being taken for pavers which will be laid prior to Remembrance Day in November.

Cost for pavers for sub-Branch members is \$35.



## sub-Branch Trustees

The retirement of Robin Tapp has created a vacancy. As well, our new President has indicated that he does not think it appropriate for the President to also be a trustee, so he has stepped aside as trustee. The Constitution requires that each member receive written notice of the nominations not less than 14 days prior to the meeting at which the matter is to be decided. Nominations are Geoff Green and Michael Bragg—both Service members, and each being qualified to fill the position. For resolution at the General Meeting on 7th June, 2017.

## The Women's Auxiliary

Thanks to all who participated in our Anzac Services this year, and for supporting us in purchasing badges and poppies, supporting Life Care. Our Women's Auxiliary again did a great job serving tea and coffee on Anzac Sunday and Anzac Day. Thanks also to Club CEO Denis & staff for setting it all up for us.

Our next General Meeting is Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May at 1.00pm. We will have the Trading Table, so clean out those cupboards and bring along any unwanted items in good condition. As the old saying goes, one man's trash is another one's treasure. All are welcome to come and browse. We will have our ever popular Book Table, so join in the fun knowing that you are helping someone else.

Our June General Meeting is on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> at 12.30 pm. We will have The Illawarra Knitters for the first time, with a Fashion Parade of the clothes they have

made. There will also be a table with baby goods, shawls, rugs, beanies, and a dedicated rack for mens wear, vests, cardigans, jumpers.

Garments paraded are available for purchase after the parade. Any goods on the tables can be purchased before the parade. Some of the knitters will knit to order. Cash and cheque only, as there will be no credit card facilities available. There will be a \$5 entry fee, including a light afternoon tea after the parade, with some great raffle prizes to be won.

Invite your friends and book a table. Ring Carol on 99706516 before Thurs 1<sup>st</sup> June. Looking forward to seeing you there. Husbands with cheque books and/or cash are also very welcome.

Those on the sick list, we are hoping to see you soon.

Regards, President Annie

## Brisbane Waters Cruise — 23rd March 2017



### God Hasn't Called Me Yet ..... (thank you, God)

April can be a busy month for our Committee, in the lead up to ANZAC Sunday and ANZAC Day. On 7<sup>th</sup> April, we had been asked by John Colet School in Belrose, and Kambora Public School in Davidson, to assist with their ANZAC Day activities.

President John asked me to attend the John Colet School's ANZAC Day service. John Colet School is a K-6 co-educational multi-faith school for global citizens. Students are encouraged to be courteous, well-mannered, and respectful. Good behaviour is consistently reinforced. I was met by Julian Wilcock, the school's Principal, and Philip Wolfers, Chairman of the Board of Governors. Their ANZAC service took 40 minutes. This included three ANZAC-related hymns, and the children knew all the words! At the appropriate time, they all faced to the West, for the Last Post, followed by a minute's silence, and an ANZAC dedication which I recited.

At the end of the service, I gave a 5 minute talk on the origins of ANZAC Day, as well as reciting the Ode.

There was complete attention from all of them. I also included some comments about the women here at home making ANZAC biscuits to send to Turkey, Europe, and the Middle East. And how yummy ANZAC biscuits are!

The Principal asked for questions. There were at least ten very intelligent questions, such as: "Who won?" to which I answered that actually we Australians and New Zealanders lost, but in the end everyone won, because peace was eventually achieved; and "What food did they eat?" which was relatively easier to answer! On their way out many high-fived me, others waved or smiled, some said thanks, which was very rewarding for me.

The last child to pass me was a little girl, who looked up, smiled, and said: "Why are you still alive?". I had to think quickly. All I could come up with was: "I hope to be alive for at least the next ten years", as I smiled back at her. At morning tea with some school staff I explained the brief encounter with the little girl, which caused a lot of laughter.

Philip Wolfers replied that I could have said to her that "God hasn't called me yet", because all of the students would understand such a comment, given their learning environment. I said that I wished I had thought of that, and his response was that he had just thought of it too! Phew!

In these situations, you have to be ready to expect anything. Including being rewarded by children with their loving, caring, thoughts, and words. Teaching there must be very rewarding too.

**Bob Lunnon**  
Vice President

# Dates to Remember in 2017

Wednesday 3rd May	***	1930 Monthly General Meeting
Saturday 13th May	***	1100 Australia My Country Presentation
Wednesday 7th June	***	1930 Monthly General Meeting
Wednesday 5th July	***	1930 Monthly General Meeting
Wednesday 2nd August	***	1930 Monthly General Meeting
Sunday 13th August	***	1200 VP Day Luncheon
Wednesday 6th September	***	1930 Monthly General Meeting
Wednesday 4th October	***	1930 Monthly General Meeting
Monday 23rd October	***	1200 sub-Branch Widow's Luncheon
Wednesday 1st November	***	1930 Monthly General Meeting
Saturday 11th November	***	1030 Remembrance Day Service
Wednesday 15th November	***	1200 Narrabeen War Vets Luncheon
Sunday 3rd December	***	1800 sub-Branch Christmas Dinner
Wednesday 6th December	***	1930 Monthly General Meeting

## Special Request to Members

We can send each monthly newsletter to you electronically by email. This will help us to be more sustainable and save time in the preparation and filling of envelopes and reduce our mailing costs etc.

Please advise your email address details to us at:  
[membership@forestvillersl.org.au](mailto:membership@forestvillersl.org.au)

We appreciate your cooperation!

## sub-Branch Office

Office: [secretary@forestvillersl.org.au](mailto:secretary@forestvillersl.org.au)

Pensions: [pensions@forestvillersl.org.au](mailto:pensions@forestvillersl.org.au)

Membership:  
[membership@forestvillersl.org.au](mailto:membership@forestvillersl.org.au)

Newsletter:  
[newsletter@forestvillersl.org.au](mailto:newsletter@forestvillersl.org.au)

Australia My Country:  
 Phone: 02 9451 1221  
 Fax: 02 9975 1367

President: John Scifleet  
 Phone (02) 9451 1193  
 Mobile: 0428 118 889

Secretary & General Enquiries:  
 Tony Mooney  
 Phone: 9451 1884  
 Mobile: 0417 023 580

(Acting) Treasurer: Alastair Turnbull  
 Phone: (02) 9451 1221

Welfare / Death Notices & Funerals  
 Pensions  
 Contact office: (02) 9451 1221  
 Mobile: 0428 118 889

Newsletter Editor:  
 Bob Lunnon  
 Phone: (02) 9452 4078  
 Mobile: 0499 977 111

Padre:  
 Rev. Dave Lanham  
 Phone: (02) 9975 5410

Travel Officer:  
 Bob Connors  
 Phone: (02) 9451 9494

*"And the world is a little poorer, for a soldier died today"*

*...Lest We Forget...*

## Useful Links

Visit the following sites for more information:

### **Forestville RSL sub-Branch website:**

<http://www.forestvillersl.org.au>

### **Forestville RSL sub-Branch Facebook:**

<https://www.facebook.com/ForestvilleRSLSubBranch/>

### **Forestville RSL sub-Branch Instagram page:**

[forestvillerssubbranch](#)

### **The Forest Club website:**

<http://www.forestvillersl.com.au>

### **RSL NSW website:**

<http://www.rslnsw.org.au>

### **RSL Membership Advantage website:**

<http://www.memberadvantage.com.au/rslnsw>

### **The Veterans Centre Sydney Northern Beaches website:**

<http://www.vcsnb.org.au>

### **The Australian War Memorial website:**

<http://www.awm.gov.au>