

The Returned & Services League of Australia

Forestville sub-Branch



Serving veterans and their families in the Forest Area

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2018

Contact editor via email: newsletter@forestvilliersl.org.au or via post: 22 Melwood Ave, Forestville, NSW 2087

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Another busy month for your Committee, and for RSL NSW. The Invictus Games 20-27 October events have attracted a lot of media attention. Prince Harry and his wife Meghan have brought a renewed focus to veterans in our community, with media exposure of their visit being extremely positive and widespread, locally and internationally.

Arrangements are in hand for our Remembrance Day Service at 1030 and a special tribute at 4.45pm on Sunday 11 November, the Centenary of Armistice in 1918, ending the fighting in WWI.

You are aware of the Extraordinary Congress on 4 December and that RSL NSW will be sending out a revised draft Constitution in November for our consideration. We will keep you informed on this, and State Branch is keeping each of us abreast of many other changes by regular email communication.

Bob Connors our Travel Officer excelled himself with a Central Coast Coach Trip on Thursday 25 October. Thanks again for all of your hard work, time and effort, Bob!

The October edition of Reveille included a feature on Life Member Don Kennedy entitled "All at Sea", remembering the sacrifices of those who served in the Merchant Navy during WWII. Don also featured in a report on the commemoration service "Battle of the Atlantic – 75 years on" in Canberra at the Australian War Memorial. Well done, Don!

Barbara and I were in the USA in September/October. We visited Arlington National Cemetery for the Changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. This cemetery is over 240 hectares, with more than 430,000 active service members, veterans and their families buried there. Rather than walking, we took one of the trolley bus tours, as do thousands of other visitors. It was especially pleasing to see all tour guides offer participants a free poppy at the conclusion of their tour.

Enjoy our warmer weather, and call us if you need assistance.

Bob Lunnon, President



CHRISTMAS DINNER

6.30pm Sunday, 2nd December 2018—Flight Deck



For sub-Branch, RSL Auxiliary, Widows Group, members and partners only.

Tickets on a cash-only basis are **\$40 per person** and are available from the sub-Branch Office on Monday 5th November, afterwards from Club Reception. The price includes three courses, drinks and lucky door prizes. Tables are numbered and you can choose your table when booking.

Please supply all names with your booking.

Dress: Jacket & Tie for Gentlemen; Semi-Formal for Ladies

The Club bus will be running from 5pm to 11pm for your convenience. This is a free service.

Please contact Club Reception on **9451 1011** to book your pickup.

Please note there will be NO ENTRY to the Flight Deck before 6.00pm

What's On

*

General Meeting

7.30pm

Wednesday 7th November

*

Remembrance Day

Sunday 11th November

10.30am—Service

4.45pm—Tribute



In this issue:

- Membership Update
- RSL Auxiliary News
- Dates to Remember
- Contact details
- Prepaid Pavers
- General Meeting Transport Update
- Remembrance Day Services
- Christmas Dinner
- Western Front Tour
- Anzac Heroes In the Forest
- Frenchs Forest Bushland Cemetery

Membership

Sadly, we report the passing of the following dear member:

GORMAN Raymond Breffeny - ARMY

Our sincere condolences are passed onto family and friends.

We have the pleasure in welcoming two new sub-Branch members:

Maurice Charles BAUER - RAAF
James Vivian MALONE - ARMY

Current membership totals **424**

Introductions from our members' family and friends for new membership are always welcome.

Changes to your Membership Details

Your advices of ANY change to personal details eg new address, phone number, email address or next of kin would be appreciated.

Our Cenotaph and Memorial Walkway

The welcome rain has been excellent for our lawn and shrubs and good growth should soon be seen. Volunteers in the maintenance "A" Team Norm Reynolds and Geoff Brown have now completed their 10 years.

At the southern end of the memorial walkway a new small plinth has been built and installed by Jim Murphy (all our plinths have been built and installed by Jim).

The FOREST rainfall for Sept was 111.5mm.



MEMORIAL PAVERS

The Paver order for October was forwarded for engraving and upon completion and return all will be laid before Remembrance Day.

Prepaid Pavers:

Members are reminded that you can order and prepay your own paver at any time if you wish.

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

*For all Membership enquiries: Please get in touch with Geoff Brown,
Membership Officer and Cenotaph and Memorial Walkway Co-ordinator
Email: membership@forestvillersl.org.au*



Northern Cemeteries
Always

Frenchs Forest Davidson REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

Northern Cemeteries invites you to the official opening of The War Memorial and unveiling of WW1 Statue for our Remembrance Day service at French's forest Bushland Cemetery followed by a light lunch in the Lorikeet Room.

10.30am - Tuesday, 6th November 2018

Hosted in conjunction with the Forestville RSL sub-Branch
RSVP: info.ffbc@northerncemeteries.com.au or 02 9451 6204

RSL AUXILIARY

Our next meeting is on Monday 5th November at 1pm followed by an afternoon of Trivia, so put your thinking caps on and arrange your team. There will be a prize for the winning table. At this meeting we will be taking names and money for our Christmas Lunch on Monday 3rd December, the cost is \$35. It should be a great afternoon with some lovely lucky door prizes.

November is a busy month with the Remembrance Day Service on 11th November at 10.30 at the Cenotaph at Forestville RSL Club, followed by refreshments in the Club. Then, at 5pm, there will be a special Centenary of the Armistice tribute by Manly Warringah Pipe Band as part of this worldwide ceremony, followed by refreshments in the Club. All are welcome to attend, please be at the Cenotaph at Forestville RSL Club by 4.45 pm. The RSL Auxiliary ladies will be serving tea and coffee after each of these services.

Good news! We are now able to sell poppies so they will be on sale in the Club foyer from Friday 9th November through until Remembrance Day on 11th November.

Also on Wednesday 14th November we have the Narrabeen RSL War Veterans Luncheon at 12pm provided by the sub-Branch.

Wishing our ladies on the sick list a speedy recovery.

Regards

Annie Betts
President



REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICES

11th November, 2018

Centenary of the Armistice in 1918



Remembrance Day Service

1030

Forestville RSL
Cenotaph



Centenary of the Armistice Tribute

1645

Forestville RSL
Cenotaph

Remembrance Day Service

Our traditional Remembrance Day service, this year commemorating the centenary of Armistice on 11th November 1918, will take place at the Cenotaph at Forestville RSL Club commencing at 1030.

Remembrance Day photograph of Opera House courtesy of Darryl Bullock, sub-Branch photographer

Centenary of the Armistice Tribute

Pipers and drummers around the world are taking part in a simple, once-in-a-lifetime, poignant tribute that involves playing *The Battle's O'er*. In Australia 1700 AEDT on 11th November has been chosen as the time for this to take place. The Manly Warringah Pipe Band, having recently returned from performing at the 2018 Edinburgh Tattoo, has accepted our Forestville RSL sub-Branch invitation to join us as part of this worldwide ceremony. **All are welcome to attend. We ask you to be in place at the Cenotaph—Forestville RSL Club by 1645.**

Refreshments will be served in the Club afterwards



MONASH WESTERN FRONT TOUR SEPT/OCT 2018

John Balfour, Andrew McCallum & 3 other 7 Field Regt RAA Association members have just completed a tour of the Western Front in France.

The tour was conducted by Battlefield History Tours, with COL Graham Fleeton and LTCOL Ron Lyons as the Tour Guides. The tour followed the victories of the AIF, commanded by LTGEN Sir John Monash in the Somme in 1918, which helped bring WW1 to an end.

The group visited Fromelles, Ieper (formerly Ypres), Hill 60, Polygon Wood, Menin Gate, Dernacourt, Pozieres, Amiens, Perrone, Mont St Quentin, Montbrehain (and many more) plus around 15 Cemeteries operated by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

The "Combined RSL NSW Centenary of Anzac Pipes and Drums" accompanied the Tour Group for most of the trip.

Particular emphasis was placed on Villers Bretonneux where 7th FAB fired on the Germans in the latter part of WW1 in 1918. The first highlight of the tour was at Menin Gate when John was invited (with 20 minutes notice) to lay a wreath at the Last Post Ceremony. The second highlight was at Villers Bretonneux with the presentation of a plaque to the Director of the Museum above the school (L'Ecole Victoria). The final highlight was at Montbrehain where they all participated in three separate marches / ceremonies conducted in conjunction with the Australian Ambassador and the Military Attache' to celebrate the liberation of Montbrehain by 6th Brigade, 2nd Division on 5 October 1918.



Dates to Remember in 2018

Wednesday 07 November 2018	**	1930 Monthly General Meeting
Thursday 8th November 2018	**	Anzac Heroes in the Forest
Sunday 11 November 2018	**	1030 Remembrance Day 1645 Armistice Tribute
Wednesday 14 November 2018	**	1200 Narrabeen War Veterans Luncheon
Sunday 02 December 2018	**	1800 sub-Branch Christmas Dinner
Wednesday 05 December 2018	**	1930 Monthly General Meeting

GENERAL MEETING TRANSPORT

For attendance at General Meetings, the bus has been organised for pickups commencing from 1800, and returns completed by 2200.

All bookings within these times are to be made through Club Reception.

Anzac Heroes in the Forest

Ross Downie and Beth Robertson will be conducting a guided tour 'Anzac Heroes in the Forest' on Thursday 8th November at 0930. It is at no cost, but bookings are essential. Please ring Beth Robertson (02) 9452 2396 or email: ffbcfriends@aapt.net.au

Group Tours: Ross Downie and Beth Robertson are willing to provide a group tour at any time. Numbers are limited.

LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE

Gittlesohn R.B. (1975)

Gates of Prayer, London

In the rising of the sun and in its going down,
we remember them.

In the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter,
we remember them.

In the opening of buds and in the rebirth of spring,
we remember them.

In the blueness of the sky and in the warmth of summer,
we remember them.

In the rustling of leaves and in the beauty of autumn,
we remember them.

In the beginning of the year and when it ends,
we remember them.

When we are weary and in need of strength,
we remember them.

When we are lost and sick of heart,
we remember them.

When we have joys we yearn to share,
we remember them.

So long as we live, they too shall live, for they are now a part of us, as we
remember them.

sub-Branch Office

Office: secretary@forestvillersl.org.au
Phone: (02) 9451 1221

Office Hours:

Monday: 0900 to 1200 and 1245 to 1400
Friday: 0900 to 1200

Membership:

membership@forestvillersl.org.au

Newsletter:

newsletter@forestvillersl.org.au

President: Bob Lunnon

Phone (02) 9452 4078

Mobile: 0499 977 111

Secretary & General Enquiries:

Tony Mooney

Phone: 9451 1884

Mobile: 0417 023 580

Treasurer: Alastair Turnbull

Phone: (02) 9451 1221

Welfare, Funerals & Public Relations:

Robin Tapp

Phone: 9451 1221

Mobile: 0425 318 531

Newsletter Editor:

Bob Lunnon

Phone: (02) 9452 4078

Mobile: 0499 977 111

Australia My Country:

Phone: (02) 9451 1221

Fax: 02 9975 1367

Pensions: (02) 9451 1221

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>

RSL NSW Mailing List Contact Details:

<http://www.rslnsw.org.au/update-member-details>

Sub-Branch Resources and Presentations:

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

RSL Lifecare At Home

<https://rsllifecareathome.org.au/>