

The Returned & Services League of Australia

Forestville sub-Branch



Serving veterans and their families in the Forest Area

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2019

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

On behalf of our Committee members and lady volunteers, best wishes to all of our sub-Branch members, our RSL Auxiliary and Widows groups, and all of our friends and associates, for a happy and healthy 2019.

Beginning with an update on RSL NSW affairs and activities, we advise as follows:

- The draft RSL NSW Constitution was **not** approved at the Extraordinary Congress on 4th December 2018
- State Council met on 13th December 2018 and agreed that changes needed to be made to the draft Constitution, that members be consulted more thoroughly regarding these changes, and an independent consultant has been appointed to liaise with as many sub-Branches and members as possible during the next few months
- By the end of January, suggested changes are to be included in a survey for sub-Branches to review with members at General Meetings in February, with responses to be submitted to RSL NSW by end February
- Results are then to be published on the RSL NSW website, with a summary of issues raised and RSL NSW Board's response to each
- A revised draft Constitution will be delivered by early April for consideration by members leading up to the vote at State Congress in Albury in late May
- The RSL NSW Act was proclaimed on 31st December 2018 and, as a result, State Council is now the RSL NSW Board
- All future correspondence from State Council will now be from the RSL NSW Board

Your Committee will carry on with sub-Branch business in the meantime. Our own Strategic Plan, as approved by members in 2017, will be reviewed over the coming months with particular emphasis on activities to generate new members from our Forest area catchment.

The months ahead are going to be very busy indeed, so please refer to your newsletter "Dates to Remember" page and note your diaries accordingly, be they digital or manual. Speaking of diaries, we did receive 2019 diaries in early December so, if you did not manage to get one, please visit the sub-Branch office, or you can pick up one at our General Meeting on 6th February.

Drink lots of water and stay well in the hot spells we have been experiencing. As always, call us if in need.

Bob Lunnon

What's On

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General Meeting

7.30pm

Wednesday - 6th February

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AGM

7.30pm

Wednesday - 6th March



In this issue:

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- "Fallen Warrior"
- Congratulations Ralph Schubert

Membership

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

BENNETT, George Gordon - UK ARMY
LAMBERT, Robert John - ARMY
GRAHAM, Donald Ivar - RAAF
NORTH, William Leslie - ARMY/RAAF

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

Hans Werner Wilhelm **HALBICH** - South African ARMY
Stuart **HABLETHWAITE** - RAAF

Current membership totals : 423
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

Commencing in December, maintenance to the area was taken over by the current bowling club green keeper, a Contractor to the club.



MEMORIAL PAVERS

Orders for the March engraving for new pavers will be closing late February.

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*



**** FEBRUARY SPEAKER ****

COL John Platt CSC (Retd)

John has kindly agreed to be our guest speaker for our February meeting. John is Chair of **Warringah Australia Remembers Committee** which organises the annual Defence of Sydney commemoration held at North Head. He will be telling us about the memorial plaque program which is being implemented within the Warringah Electorate. The program is designed to place memorial plaques commemorating significant military service of local citizens. (sub-Branch committee member Vince Williams represents us on this committee.)

RSL AUXILIARY

It is with sadness that I report the passing of Edna Beasley. Edna was a long time member of the Auxiliary and also served on the Committee as our Social Secretary. Edna always had a lovely smile on her face. Sadly, she just missed out on celebrating her 90th Birthday. Edna was a real lady who always had a kind word to say about everyone. Our sympathy to Roy and family, our prayers and thoughts are with them at this sad time.

Welcome back for 2019. We hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas, and there are great things ahead for you all in 2019. We are looking forward to working with Bob and the sub-Branch Committee again as we have some interesting things planned for this year. Our first meeting this year is on Monday 4th February at 1.00 pm. Our Guest Speaker is **Peter Scopes** who is an expert on what we need to know to keep up our driving skills, so we can continue to be independent. Peter has a lot of experience to share with us and is very happy to answer any questions you might have. Sub-Branch members are very welcome to just pop along around 1.30 pm.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

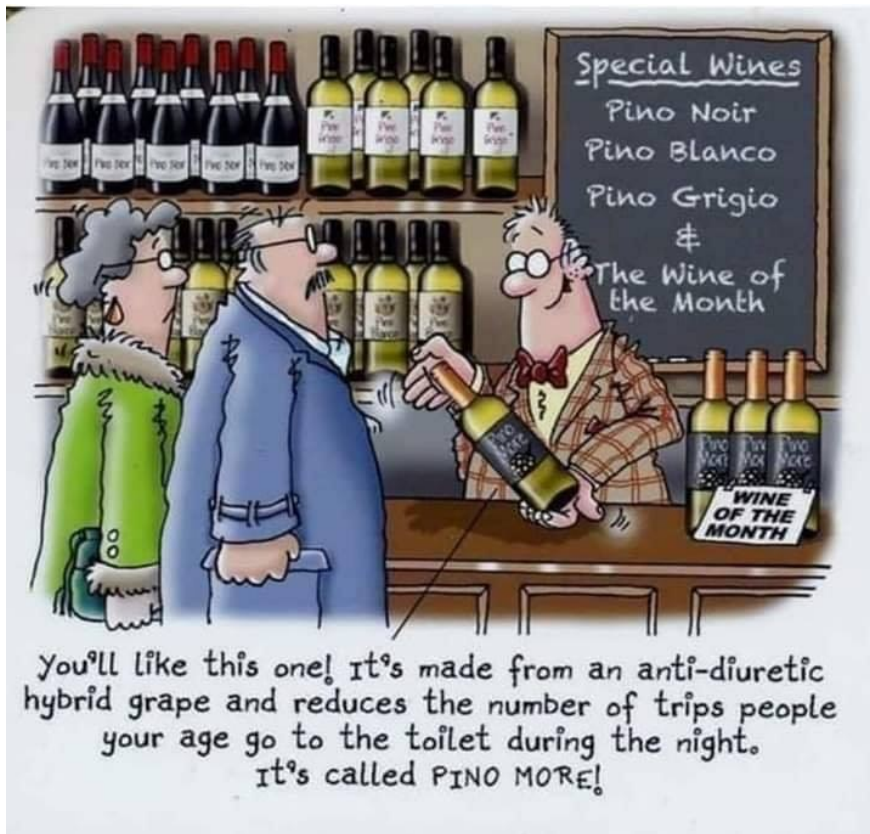
Monday 4th March is our AGM followed by our General Meeting and BBQ. We will be taking names and money at our meeting on 4th February, cost is \$12. If you can't be at our February meeting, give me a call on 94020882 and I will add your name to the list for March. Come along and join in the fun.

For all our Ladies on the sick list we hope to see you soon.

Regards

Annie Betts

President



FALLEN WARRIOR

*Your life so young, by your own hand, was taken,
Because, by those who sent you, you were forsaken.
When they said they needed you, you answered the call,
You never once faltered and never once did you fall.
They sent you away to fight in their foreign wars,
But ignored you when you returned to home shores.
They didn't care that your young mind was now broken,
Just turned their backs, refused all help, not even a token.*

*So you took your young life that fateful day,
As you felt for you, there was no other way.
Just another statistic in the great book of life,
But at least for you, no more pain or strife.
Your brother warriors could all see your pain,
And tried to help, but it was too late, all in vain.
But you did your job and you met the test,
You gave it your all and stood with the best.
So stand young warrior so proud and tall,
You've earned your place in Valhalla's Hall.*

Lee O'Neill
25 September 2016

My tribute to Heather Railton, who encouraged me to continue with my poetry and inspired me to write this poem.



NEPEAN BELLE RIVER CRUISE

DAY TRIP

THURSDAY 14th MARCH

We travel west to the Penrith area for sightseeing and morning tea on the banks of the Nepean River. We then board the Nepean Belle Paddlewheeler for a delicious buffet-style lunch while we cruise the picturesque Nepean River, followed by dessert.

After lunch, we board our coach for the trip home, making an afternoon stop at Sweeties Confectionery to stock up on some goodies.

Departure is from the lower car park at 8.30am, returning around 4.30pm.

Please park in the lower car park, as we will be on tour all day.

The subsidised cost for sub-Branch members is \$40 per person, including Five Star luxury air-conditioned coach travel, full commentary by an experienced Coach Captain, morning tea, buffet lunch, and sightseeing.

Tickets on a cash-only basis will be on sale on Monday 11th February from the sub-Branch office, afterwards from Club Reception, on a first-come first-served basis.

Dates to Remember in 2019

Wednesday 06 February	*	1930 Monthly General Meeting
Wednesday 06 March	*	1930 AGM
Thursday 14 March	*	Nepean River Cruise
Wednesday 03 April	*	1930 Monthly General Meeting
Sunday 14 April	*	1440 Anzac Sunday Service & Street March
Thursday 25 April	*	0530 Anzac Day Dawn Service
Wednesday 01 May	*	1930 Monthly General Meeting
Wednesday 05 June	*	1930 Monthly General Meeting
Wednesday 03 July	*	1930 Monthly General Meeting
Tuesday 16 July	*	Christmas In July Coach Trip
Wednesday 07 August	*	1930 Monthly General Meeting
Sunday 11 August	*	1200 VP Day Luncheon
Wednesday 04 September	*	1930 Monthly General Meeting
Wednesday 02 October	*	1930 Monthly General Meeting
Monday 14 October	*	1200 RSL sub-Branch Widows Luncheon
Wednesday 06 November	*	1930 Monthly General Meeting
Monday 11 November	*	1030 Remembrance Day Service
Wednesday 20 November	*	1200 Narrabeen War Veterans Luncheon
Sunday 01 December	*	1800 sub-Branch Christmas Dinner
Wednesday 04 December	*	1930 Monthly General Meeting

Special Request to Members

Sending monthly newsletters to you electronically by email will help us to be more sustainable, save time and reduce our mailing costs etc.

Please advise your email address details to us at:

membership@forestvillersl.org.au

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

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Congratulations to member Ralph Schubert

Recipient of the Northern Beaches Council Outstanding Community Service Award in the Local Australia Day Awards 2019, for his work with the Volunteer for MULTILIT Program at Wakehurst Public School. Well done Ralph!

*“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/>