

# The Returned & Services League of Australia

## Forestville sub-Branch



Serving veterans and their families in the Forest Area

## NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2019

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

September has again been a busy time for your Committee.

Importantly, we are delighted to announce that our sub-Branch has agreed to introduce a Remembrance Day Education Grants Program, which was launched in September. The purpose of the grant will be to assist Year 6 students at Primary Schools in our geographic area in defraying the costs involved when entering high school. The initial grants, valued at \$1000, will be provided to eligible students who are entering high school in 2020. More details are available elsewhere in this newsletter, and on our website.

On Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September, the RSL Auxiliary celebrated its 65<sup>th</sup> Birthday with a luncheon at the Club, also attended by sub-Branch Committee members. Our RSL Auxiliary was formed during 1954, then known as the RSL Women's Auxiliary. Since then, it has raised enormous sums of money for the welfare of veterans, as well as providing tea, coffee and biscuits for our commemorative events, including Anzac and Remembrance Days. Congratulations again to our wonderful RSL Auxiliary on achieving this milestone, led by President Annie Betts and her Committee. The same day, Committee members John Scifleet and John Balfour attended the Pittwater House Cadet Unit 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Ceremonial Parade and Prizegiving at Collaroy.

On Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September, the Merchant Navy RSL sub-Branch held their commemoration service at the Mosman Cenotaph, attended by VP Sandy Howard and me. On Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September, VP Robin Tapp and I attended the Battle for Australia Day and Australian Flag Day ceremony at the Dee Why Memorial.

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September was another significant milestone. Along with five other sub-Branch Presidents in the electorate, and Annie Betts representing our RSL Auxiliary as President, I was invited to an afternoon tea in the Electorate Office in Manly of Zali Steggall OAM, Federal Member for Warringah. Some Club representatives also attended, including Forestville RSL Club. It was an opportunity for our new Member for Warringah to connect with all of these various RSL groups to discuss our activities in the electorate.

The Widows Group held their BBQ lunch at the Club on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September, attended by Committee members. It was another lovely and successful lunch, cooked by friendly chefs John Anstiss and Dave Stoddart.

I then attended the Killarney Heights High School Year 12 Graduation ceremony on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September, representing the sub-Branch.

Finally, State Congress will be held in Albury 27<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup> October, attended by VP Sandy Howard and me, along with NBDC President Bill Hardman. We will be voting on the new Constitution, SOPs, and the draft Strategic Plan 2019/2021. We all strongly believe that the role which RSL NSW plays in the lives of veterans and their families is just as relevant today as it was 100 years ago. But, as with all things, the way this should be done has evolved, and we need to evolve with it. State Congress this year will hopefully be setting us on this new course.

Enjoy Spring, and call us if you need assistance.

Best Regards,  
**Bob Lunn**

### What's On

#### General Meeting

7.30pm

Wednesday 2nd October

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#### General Meeting

7.30pm

Wednesday 6th November

Guest Speaker

\*

Seven Hills Coach Trip

9am Tuesday 19th November



### In this issue:

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## Membership

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

**FLAWITH Wallace Raymond ARMY**

**LINTON Robert Harriman RAN**

**GROVES William Thomas RAAF**

**Membership totals 409** made up of the following age groups:  
Over 90 - 63, 80 - 170, 70 - 120, 60 - 29, 50 - 21, 40 - 6

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

### **Changes to your Membership Details**

Please advise any changes to your personal details either by phone to our Membership Officer on 02 9451 1221, or by email to: [membership@forestvillersl.org.au](mailto:membership@forestvillersl.org.au)

## Our Cenotaph and Memorial Walkway

Area is now maintained by our resident greenkeeper.



### **MEMORIAL PAVERS**

Orders taken for **Remembrance Day** in November 2019 closed on 16th September and will be laid by end October.

Orders are now being taken for **Anzac Day** in April 2020 and will close Monday 16th March.

### **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](mailto:membership@forestvillersl.org.au)***

## **RSL AUXILIARY**

We celebrated in style on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September our 65<sup>th</sup> Birthday Lunch with Bob Lunnon and his Committee members. THANK YOU to the Sub-Branch and to Kim, Angie and staff for the wonderful meal. Everyone had a great afternoon.



There is no Meeting in October as we are having our Fashion Parade on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October, so come around 12.45pm. Tickets are \$15, which include Afternoon Tea served after The Parade, and a glass of Champagne or Juice on arrival. The clothes for our Parade are supplied by Stafford, so you will have a wide range to choose from, and I am sure you will find something special to take home. It has been three years since our last Parade, so we are looking forward to seeing you there. Credit card and Eftpos available.

**BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL, NUMBERS ARE LIMITED**, so invite friends or neighbours, tables up to 10, but any number of tickets are available, they can be purchased by phoning Carol on 99707026. You must have your ticket on the day of the Parade as it will have attached your drink voucher and lucky door number.

We will also have lots of lucky door and raffle prizes. Our raffle prizes consist of vouchers donated by the Shops at Forestville, a big THANK YOU to them.

As this is our main fundraiser of the year we hope you will come along and support us. The profits are going to supporting our RSL Defence Care families.

New members are very welcome, why not start by coming to the Fashion Parade.

### **DATES TO REMEMBER:**

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 1pm General Meeting

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November 10.30am Remembrance Day

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

Regards

**President Annie**

# Schools update ...



## Remembrance Day Education Grants

We are delighted to announce that the sub-Branch has recently (in September) introduced a **Remembrance Day Education Grants Program**. The purpose is to assist Year 6 students in defraying the costs involved when entering high school. The initial grants, valued at \$1000, will be provided to eligible students, living and schooling in our area, who are entering high school in 2020. More details are available via our website

[www.forestvillersl.org.au/school-grants](http://www.forestvillersl.org.au/school-grants)

## Australia My Country (AMC)

As you know the sub-Branch also supports the **Australia My Country (AMC)** competition for primary schools in our area. The topic for 2020 will be **"They had no Choice—Animals in Australia's Conflicts"**. The topic has been selected to highlight the important role animals have played in Australia's conflicts since 1901. More details on the AMC competition can be viewed on our website

[www.forestvillersl.org.au/australia-my-country](http://www.forestvillersl.org.au/australia-my-country)



## DVA NEWS

The DVA e-news edition for July/August 2019 contained good news regarding DVAs future:

"The Australian Government released the final report of the Productivity Commission Inquiry into compensation and rehabilitation for veterans – **A Better Way to Support Veterans** – on 4 July 2019.

The final report is comprehensive. It is more than 900 pages long

and makes 69 recommendations and 26 findings. The report is available on the Productivity Commission website.

The final report changes a number of recommendations made in the draft report. In particular, the recommendation that DVA should be abolished has been removed, with an emphasis on the need for a standalone agency. There are also new chapters focusing on mental health and advocacy."

## SEVEN HILLS RSL & OLD GOVT HOUSE TRIP - Tuesday 19th November

We will leave from the lower car park at 9.00am, returning at around 3.45pm. **Please park in the lower car park, as we will be on tour all day.** First stop is Parramatta Park, for Morning Tea followed by a tour of Old Government House.

Then we will proceed to Seven Hills RSL Club for lunch, followed by a tour of their new RSL War Memorabilia Walk. Afterwards, there will be time to use the Club facilities, before departing at 2.30pm for Forestville.

The subsidised cost for sub-Branch members is \$40 per person including morning tea, two-course lunch with one drink (wine/beer/soft), Old Government House visit, and sightseeing.



**Tickets on a cash-only basis will be on sale from Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October from the sub-Branch office, afterwards from Club Reception, on a first-come first-served basis.**

## WWI PLAQUE UNVEILING CEREMONY

We are seeking the descendants of the following WW1 enlistees from the Frenchs Forest NSW area:

**William Leslie CARNEY  
William MORRISON  
William James POUND  
Alexander William SHEPHERD  
Alfred THOMPSON**

The Forestville RSL sub-Branch will be unveiling a plaque in their honour at our Remembrance Day Service to be held on Monday **11<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at our Cenotaph at 22 Melwood Avenue, FORESTVILLE** commencing at 10.30am. Relatives are invited to attend.

Please forward contact details, together with proof of relationship to enlistee, to [treasurer@forestvillersl.org.au](mailto:treasurer@forestvillersl.org.au) or contact Alastair Turnbull on 02 9451 1221 on Mondays (9.00 till 2.00) or Fridays (9.00 till 12.00).

## Dates to Remember in 2019

Wednesday 02 October	*	1930 Monthly General Meeting
Monday 21 October	*	1200 RSL sub-Branch Widows Luncheon
<b>Wednesday 06 November</b>	*	<b>1930 Monthly General Meeting Sun Doctor—Guest Speaker</b>
Monday 11 November	*	1030 Remembrance Day Service
Tuesday 19 November	*	Seven Hills Coach Trip
Wednesday 20 November	*	1200 Narrabeen War Veterans Luncheon
Sunday 01 December	*	1800 sub-Branch Christmas Dinner
Wednesday 04 December	*	1930 Monthly General Meeting



Our traditional Remembrance Day service will take place at the Cenotaph at Forestville RSL Club commencing at 1030. Refreshments will be served in the Club after the ceremony.

### Significant Anniversaries

September is noteworthy for the 80th anniversary of the outbreak of World War 2 on the 3rd; the 18th anniversary of start of the Global War on Terror, following the terrorist attack on the World Trade Centre, on the 11th and the 20th anniversary of the deployment of the Intervention Force East Timor (Interfet), Australia's largest overseas operation since World War 2, on the 20th.

### CHANGES TO YOUR MEMBERSHIP DETAILS

Will you please advise any changes to your personal details either by phone to our Membership Officer on 02 9451 1221, or by email to: [membership@forestvillersl.org.au](mailto:membership@forestvillersl.org.au)

### 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.

Please advise your email address details to us at:

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

## sub-Branch Office

Office: [secretary@forestvillersl.org.au](mailto: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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Joint Padres  
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Phone: (02) 9975 5410

Rev. Gavin Parsons  
Phone: (02) 8012 2020

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 Forestville Club website:**

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

**RSL NSW website:**

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

**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/>

**Vet Affairs News**

<https://dva.gov.au/vetaffairs>