

# The Returned & Services League of Australia

## Forestville sub-Branch



Serving veterans and their families in the Forest Area

## NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2020

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

Greetings to all!

Our General Meeting on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February was a busy one. We inducted a new Affiliate member, Michelle Joosse, a busy local lady who is also a Board Director of Forestville RSL Club. It was then a distinct pleasure for me to present Robin Tapp with his Life Membership of the League. Robin joined the League in 1969, and served in many roles on our sub-Branch Committee, which he joined in 2009. They have included Public Relations Officer, Trustee, Welfare Officer, Vice President and Funerals Officer plus providing RSL Tributes at the funerals of many of our members. He also served as our sub-Branch Alternate Delegate at Northern Beaches District Council/NBDC meetings, and as NBDC Secretary/Treasurer. Congratulations on your Life Membership of the League, Robin.

As expected, our Georges River/Botany Bay Cruise Day Trip on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March has proved to be very popular, with a very small number of tickets still available at the time of writing. We thank you for your early and strong support, and we trust you will all have a most enjoyable day.

Work continues by your Committee on our efforts to generate new members from our Forest area catchment, in conjunction with the Strategic Plan 2020-2025 being developed by RSL NSW CEO Jon Black. On that note, it was fortuitous for us to have Jon Black join us as Guest Speaker at our General Meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> February, to let us know more about the RSL NSW Disaster Assistance Fund, to which we donated \$10000 in January this year. Jon gave examples of how the funds raised are being dispersed to veterans and their families in need as a result of the bushfires this summer; and Jon provided updates on the RSL NSW Strategic Plan development and implementation.

Other upcoming sub-Branch events this year include:

**AGM – Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm**  
**AMC Competition Judging – Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April at 9am**  
**Anzac Sunday March and Service – Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April at 2.40pm**  
**Anzac Day Dawn Service – Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April at 5.30am**

Under our ACNC charity status, as part of our charitable purpose to assist veterans and their families, and our sub-Branch now having the required ACNC Fundraising Authority, for our Anzac Day Dawn Service we can now only provide free breakfast to past and current Service members wearing their medals. The cost for members of the public will be \$5 per person, adult or child. These details are already available on signs in the Club, and in the Club's social media activities, in order to ensure members of the public are aware of this change. We would appreciate your assistance in explaining this change to members of the public as well.

Finally, our sub-Branch will host the Northern Beaches District Council AGM at Forestville RSL Club on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm, with Bill Hardman OAM in the chair as President.

Please enjoy yourselves as we move into our (hopefully) milder Sydney autumn weather, and call us if you are in need.

Best Regards,  
**Bob Lunn**

### What's On

**AGM**  
7.30pm  
Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2020

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General Meeting  
7.30pm  
Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020



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## Membership

Membership totals: **406**

**PLEASE NOTE:** There will be a new "perpetual" membership card issued during May.

**For the time being please retain your current 2019 card**

*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 Gardens



The area is now maintained by our resident greenkeeper.

### **MEMORIAL PAVERS**

Orders are still being taken for Anzac Day in April 2020 and will close on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

### **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 our Membership Officer***

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



### **AUSTRALIA MY COUNTRY (AMC) APPEAL FOR HELP**

The 2020 AMC is well underway and the students of all our area primary schools have been invited to participate. It's a great topic "They had no Choice – Animals in Australia's Conflicts" so there's plenty of scope for imaginative entries.

While the schools are coordinating their students' participation we would very much appreciate it if you could let your friends, children, grandchildren or great grandchildren, who go to primary school in our area, know about the competition and encourage their participation.

More information is available on our website at:  
[www.forestvillersl.org.au/schools/amc](http://www.forestvillersl.org.au/schools/amc)

***Please note that entries close on 27<sup>th</sup> March***

## **AGM 2020**

### **COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS**

**Nominations received are as follows:**

President: Bob Lunnon

Vice President: Sandy Howard

Secretary: Vince Williams

Treasurer:

Committee: John Balfour OAM, John Scifleet,  
Stuart Hablethwaite

**AGM Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm**  
**nominations can be taken from the floor, ballots if required.**

## **RSL AUXILIARY**

Our next meeting is on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at 12pm for our AGM, followed by our General Meeting and BBQ. If anyone would like to join the Committee, forms will be available on the day.

We have Bob Lunnon as returning Officer and he will be giving a talk on the changes that are taking place with the RSL Auxiliary and the sub-Branch. Our yearly Subscriptions are now due and we will be collecting \$10 at our meeting. Anyone who can't be there could you please leave your name and money in an envelope in the Auxiliary Box at Club Reception so we can have our numbers finalised to pass on to the sub-Branch.

Any ladies who haven't put their name down for the BBQ which is \$12 and wish to come, please give Rae a ring on 99727385. Also, we need to know cancellations by Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February, so again please ring Rae in order for us to let Catering know, otherwise your meal will have to be paid for. Looking forward to seeing you there.

**DATES TO REMEMBER:** General Meeting Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April at 1pm.

Any Ladies on the sick list please call me on 94020882 if you need any assistance.

Regards  
**President Annie**

**GEORGES RIVER, BOTANY BAY  
CRUISE  
SOUTHERN BEACHES TOUR  
THURSDAY 26<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2020**



Join us for a cruise on the beautiful Georges River, including morning tea on the shores of Botany Bay en route to the wharf. Departing from Sans Souci, we explore many of the sparkling bays and inlets on one of Sydney's prettiest waterways.

The subsidised cost for sub-Branch members and partners is \$40 per person, including morning tea, three hour commentary cruise, excellent lunch with tea or coffee and coach transport. Departure at 9am, returning approximately 5 pm.

**A very small number of tickets on a cash-only basis is available from Club Reception.**



**Congratulations!**  
**Robin Tapp**  
**Life Membership**



**Jon Black CSC – Guest Speaker – 5th February 2020**

We were privileged to have Jon Black CSC, CEO of RSL NSW, as guest speaker at our 5<sup>th</sup> February meeting. Jon came in response to our request for a speaker to give us an insight into how our \$10,000 donation to the RSL NSW Disaster Assistance Fund is being spent.

In fact, the RSL NSW website has links to exactly what has been contributed and a spreadsheet detailing expenditure. An excellent example of full disclosure. It is worth noting that the Fund covers not only the devastation caused by the bushfires (our trigger for the donation), but also the ongoing drought plaguing our regional members.

However, as part of a 3 month "travelling roadshow", Jon presented and sought feedback on the RSL NSW Strategic Plan 2020-2025. In addition to an introduction on-screen, hard copies were distributed and are available online from the RSL NSW website. Should members require a hard copy, we can provide it for you if you visit the office. This is a great opportunity for us to provide input into the future of RSL NSW.

The presentation was well received and we look forward to another visit by Jon Black CSC.



**RSL NSW – ANZAC HOUSE**

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

Our RSL NSW CEO, Jon Black CSC, has identified areas in Anzac House where volunteer members could assist with duties on an interim basis. These roles are not envisaged to be ongoing if the Strategic Plan is adopted, when decisions will be made on funding of future organizational roles to deliver agreed outcomes.

The interim Anzac House volunteer roles are:

**A protocol officer:** to assist the State Secretary discharge his responsibilities around major events and commemorations, and general protocol advice to all sub-Branches (for example: ex-RSMs and equivalents?).

**An assistant grants officer:** to assist the GM Commercial and Strategy (the role that oversees Hyde Park Inn, fundraising, communications and assists the CEO with strategy). This would include the recently won grant for 'IT for retirees' training, and for the South Coast veterans centre once that agreement is settled.

**An assistant for policy/advocacy :** to assist with research and prepare the arguments to progress to policymakers (government etc).

If you are interested in putting your name forward to assist in any of these volunteer roles, in the first instance please contact our sub-Branch Secretary. Many thanks.

## Dates to Remember in 2020

Wednesday 04 March	*	1930 AGM
Wednesday 01 April	*	1930 Monthly General Meeting
Sunday 19 April	*	1440 Anzac Sunday Service & Street March
Saturday 25 April	*	0530 Anzac Day Dawn Service
Wednesday 06 May	*	1930 Monthly General Meeting
Wednesday 03 June	*	1930 Monthly General Meeting
Wednesday 01 July	*	1930 Monthly General Meeting
Wednesday 05 August	*	1930 Monthly General Meeting
Sunday 16 August	*	1200 VP Day Luncheon
Wednesday 02 September	*	1930 Monthly General Meeting
Wednesday 07 October	*	1930 Monthly General Meeting
Monday 19 October	*	1200 RSL sub-Branch Widows Luncheon
Wednesday 04 November	*	1930 Monthly General Meeting
Monday 11 November	*	1030 Remembrance Day Service
Wednesday 18 November	*	1200 Narrabeen War Veterans Lunch
Wednesday 02 December	*	1930 Monthly General Meeting
Sunday 06 December	*	1800 sub-Branch Christmas Dinner

### Significant Anniversaries

March 2020 is noteworthy for the following significant dates:

**1<sup>st</sup> March 2000:** Interfet handover to UNTAET in East Timor

**5<sup>th</sup> March 1965:** 3RAR and 102 FdBy deploy to Sarawak as part of the Confrontation with Indonesia

### **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)  
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Friday: 0900 to 1200

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Treasurer: Alastair Turnbull  
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Welfare, Funerals & Public Relations:  
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Rev. Gavin Parsons Phone: 8012 2020

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

Widows Group:  
President: Margaret Campbell  
Phone: 9452 5561

RSL Auxilliary:  
President: Annie Betts  
Phone: 9402 0882 Mobile: 0478 044 566

*"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](https://www.instagram.com/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>

## **DVA Australian Defence Veterans' Covenant**

[www.dva.gov.au/myservice](http://www.dva.gov.au/myservice)