

# The Returned & Services League of Australia

## Forestville sub-Branch



Serving veterans and their families in the Forest Area

### NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 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

June/July has been another busy period for the sub-Branch, and your Committee.

On Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June, Frenchs Forest Bushland Cemetery held a meeting to brief the community and seek feedback on development plans for the Cemetery. The existing chapel is to become a function room with a capacity of 60, and a new chapel with a capacity of 130 is to be built in place of the existing cottage adjacent to Hakea Avenue. Community feedback was around parking issues and the colour and height of the new chapel, which will all be reviewed in final design specifications.

Our 2<sup>nd</sup> July Zoom Update Meeting was reasonably well attended, with some new faces. Based on changing NSW Government COVID-19 restrictions, we will now re-commence our General Meetings, with the first to be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> August in the Forest Room. When arriving, please allow extra time to complete Club registration, required for tracing purposes.

On Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July, Vice President Sandy Howard and I attended the Northern Beaches District Council meeting at Pittwater RSL Club. Draft "model constitutions for sub-Branches to incorporate" continue to be a major topic of discussion and our sub-Branch has submitted written feedback. We thank Bill Hardman for his ongoing work on the District Presidents Council, in addition to his role as President of the Northern Beaches District Council.

Looking ahead, we have decided to hold a Commemoration of the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Victory in the Pacific (VP) Day at 2.45pm for 3pm on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> August at the Cenotaph at Forestville RSL Club, supported by Manly Warringah Pipe Band. All are welcome to attend, with normal social distancing in place during the short service. Limited seating will be available. We will not be offering hospitality afterwards, however you are free to utilise Club facilities if you wish.

Then, we have the VP Day Luncheon on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> August at the Club – see details in this newsletter.

Our Australia My Country award presentations were held on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> July at the Club, with the Hon. Jonathan O'Dea in attendance to present the awards. Our thanks to Committee Member John Balfour OAM for managing the AMC process so well this year – see photos in this newsletter.

Another important change which we intended to introduce at our General Meeting on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April is with our lucky door prize draws, as flagged at General Meetings earlier in the year. We will no longer be offering Coles \$50 vouchers to five lucky winners. **We will now introduce this at our General Meeting on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> August.** Each of five lucky winners will receive two Bistro Vouchers to the value of \$20 each, and two Bar Vouchers to the value of \$5 each, redeemable in the Club. Each Bistro Voucher can be combined, and each Bar Voucher can be combined, however no change will be given on these vouchers.

The Forestville RSL Club Ltd. AGM will be held at 7pm on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> August. As a sub-Branch member, if you wish to attend and vote, please ensure your Club membership card shows RSL in the bottom left under your name. If not, please see Club Reception beforehand to have it amended accordingly. We are delighted that sub-Branch Life Members, Bill Hardman and John Finlay, will be elected unopposed at the AGM as President and Vice President respectively.

As always, your welfare and wellbeing are our main concern, so please call if you need assistance. And stay rugged up during the winter months which are upon us.

Best Regards,  
Bob Lunn

#### What's On

##### General Meeting

7.30pm  
Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> August

##### VP Day 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

2.45pm for 3pm Service  
Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> August

##### VP Day Luncheon

11.30am for 12 noon  
Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> August



#### In this issue:

- Membership Update
- RSL Auxiliary News
- Contact details
- Dates to Remember
- Significant Anniversaries
- VP Day Commemorative Service
- VP Day Luncheon
- AMC Presentations
- 12-Pounder
- 80th Commemoration Bombing of Darwin

#### COVID-19 SAFETY PLANS

A plan will be in place for each event. Maintain 1.5m distancing. Remain seated at all times. Club Marshall in place. Please follow all directions provided. Thank you for your co-operation.

## Membership

Membership totals: **404**

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

**SCHUBERT Ralph Windsor ... ARMY**  
**HOPKINS Eric Arthur James ... ARMY**

We welcome a new Affiliate Member:  
**RICHARDSON Philip Edgar**

**PLEASE NOTE: the new "perpetual" membership card will be issued shortly...**

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

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

## Our Cenotaph and Memorial Gardens



The grassed area & hedges are now maintained by our resident greenkeeper.

### **MEMORIAL PAVERS**

Orders are now being taken for new pavers which will be laid prior to Remembrance Day. Orders close on Tuesday 6th October.

### **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 COMPETITION PRESENTATIONS SATURDAY 25<sup>th</sup> JULY 2020**



We were honoured and delighted, once again, to have the Hon. Jonathan O'Dea MP with us to present AMC awards to our worthy 2020 winners.



## **80th Commemorative Anniversary Bombing of Darwin 19th February, 2022**

For the attention of sub-Branch members with stories or photos of Darwin, squadrons, units or ships during WWII, and in particular, the first attacks on Darwin on 19<sup>th</sup> February 1942. These stories and photos are being put together in a book to be released to commemorate the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Bombing of Darwin. If you are able to assist with this, the organizers would be happy to hear directly from you.

**Karen Marchant – Phone: 08 8985 6322**

**Email: [info@darwintours.com.au](mailto:info@darwintours.com.au)**

## **RSL AUXILIARY**

Hopefully this newsletter finds you well. We don't have much to report, however we are having a Committee meeting to come up with some ideas for the coming months. Again we will be missing our August Monthly Meeting, which is usually our Patrons Day. I am sure Barbara Lunnon as our Patron will be disappointed.

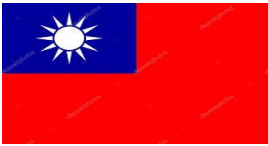
We were hoping to commence with our Birthday Lunch in September but we have been advised by the Club to wait for a bit longer before a firm date is announced.

We will let you know when we can move forward, so keep that party dress ready! One lucky lady, Pat Smith, has her birthday on 6<sup>th</sup> August, we hope you have a wonderful day. Thanks again to Bob Lunnon and our sub-Branch Committee for their continued support.

We still have a few ladies on the sick list but I am pleased in talking with you that with the help of family you are coping well. If anyone needs any assistance, please call me.

New members are always welcome, just give me a call on 94020882.

Regards  
**President Annie**



## COMMEMORATION OF THE 75th ANNIVERSARY Victory In The Pacific (VP) Day - Marking the End of WW11

**2.45PM for 3PM ON SATURDAY 15<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2020  
AT THE CENOTAPH—FORESTVILLE RSL CLUB  
TICKET ONLY EVENT**



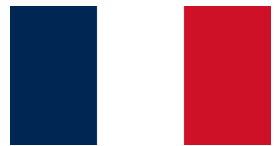
Manly Warringah Pipe Band will play from 2.45pm with our Commemorative Service marking the end of WW11 commencing at 3pm, concluding at 3.30pm followed by a march around the Club carpark by the Band. Members of the sub-Branch and their families and friends are invited to attend. Limited seating will be provided.



At the conclusion, due to COVID-19 restrictions, the sub-Branch will not be providing any post-Service activities. However, please feel free to utilise Club facilities for informal refreshments if you wish. Normal registration procedures will apply at Club Reception.



*Since COVID-19 rules must apply, numbers are limited, so this is therefore a ticket only event. If you wish to attend please contact the sub-Branch Secretary on 02 9451 1221 or email [secretary@forestvillersl.org.au](mailto:secretary@forestvillersl.org.au). You will be asked to provide full name(s) & mobile contact details. Thank you for your understanding.*



We look forward to you joining us for this special 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Service.



## VP DAY LUNCHEON Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> August 2020



**THIS FUNCTION IS ONLY FOR MEMBERS OF THE RSL  
SUB-BRANCH, RSL AUXILIARY AND THEIR PARTNERS & SERVICE WIDOWS**

The Luncheon will commence at 12 noon, with the doors opening at 11:30.

**TICKETS:** on sale from the Reception desk of the Club. Please provide your Forestville RSL Club membership number and mobile phone number when paying, so we can be in accord with COVID-19 restrictions.

**NUMBERS:** sadly, due to COVID-19 restrictions, initial ticket sales will be limited to 104.

**COST :** \$40.00 per person (cash only please).

**MENU:** A three course meal will be served with alternates on each course, with refreshments, and lucky door prizes.

**BUS:** A bus will operate from 10.30am until 4pm, with bookings to be made personally at Club Reception, or by phoning Reception on 9451 1011.

**DRESS:** **SMART CASUAL** with an Hawaiian theme.

## HOW MANY MEN DOES IT TAKE TO DELIVER A 1900KG 12-POUNDER TO FORESTVILLE RSL CLUB?

### SMOOTH BORE MUZZLE LOADING CANNON "12-POUNDER"

This cannon is most likely one of the earliest pieces from the Colony of NSW and Sydney Cove's defences. The barrel is an original and was recovered from Cockatoo Island, where 15 barrels had been dug into the walls of Fitzroy Dock as bollards.

It is a *Smooth Bore Muzzle Loading* cannon, shortened to *SBML*. Made in England in the 1700s, it is also referred to as a "12 Pounder" due to the weight of the solid metal ball it fired.

This type of cannon was first recorded in NSW in 1800, when 8 were placed at Dawes Battery, near what is now the Southern Pylon of the Sydney Harbour Bridge. By 1806 another 4 cannons were placed at Dawes Battery and 4 at Georges Head, now part of Mosman.

This "SBML 12 Pounder" is displayed with the cooperation of the Forestville RSL sub-Branch, Forestville RSL Club Ltd and the Royal Australian Artillery Historical Company. We also thank sub-Branch member, Rob Crawford for his assistance.



## Dates to Remember in 2020

Wednesday 05 August	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting <i>Numbers limited</i>
Saturday 15 August	*	3.00pm VP Day Service <i>Numbers limited</i>
Sunday 16 August	*	12noon VP Day Luncheon <i>Numbers limited</i>
Wednesday 02 September	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting
Wednesday 07 October	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting
Monday 19 October	*	12noon RSL sub-Branch Widows Luncheon
Wednesday 04 November	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting
Monday 11 November	*	10.30am Remembrance Day Service
Wednesday 18th November	*	12noon Narrabeen War Veterans Lunch
Sunday 29th November (note date change)	*	6pm sub-Branch Christmas Dinner
Wednesday 02 December	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting

## Significant Anniversaries

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August is noteworthy for the following significant dates:

06-09 August 1915: Battle of Lone Pine. Seven Australian VCs awarded

06 August 1945: A Bomb Hiroshima

09 August 1945: A Bomb Nagasaki

15 August 1945: VP Day

06 August 1965: 3RAR group depart Sarawak

02 August 1990: Iraq invades Kuwait

## 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

Monday: 0900 to 1200 & 1245 to 1400

Thursday: 0900 to 1200

Secretary & General Enquiries:

Vince Williams

Phone: 9451 1221 Mobile: 0417 430 389

President: Bob Lunn

Phone: 9452 4078

Mobile: 0499 977 111

Treasurer:

Phone: (02) 9451 1221

Welfare & Funerals:

Stuart Hablethwaite

Phone: 9451 1221

Mobile: 0402 626 485

Membership:

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

Newsletter Editor:

Bob Lunn

Phone: 9452 4078

Mobile: 0499 977 111

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

Australia My Country:

John Balfour

Phone: (02) 9451 1221 Mobile:

Pensions: (02) 9451 1221

Joint Padres

Rev. Dave Lanham Phone: 9975 5410

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>

**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)