

The Returned & Services League of Australia

Forestville sub-Branch



Serving veterans and their families in the Forest Area

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2020

Contact editor via email: 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 coping with COVID-19, as we all are. 48 members attended our General Meeting on Wednesday 2nd September. At that meeting we were extremely pleased to induct Ian Thomson, CEO of Forestville RSL Club, as an Affiliate member. With Ian now as a member, and all current Club Directors as sub-Branch members, our excellent relationship with the Club continues to solidify, and we particularly thank Ian and his management team for their spirit of cooperation and assistance to the sub-Branch.

Our experience under COVID-19 restrictions with managing our General Meetings and VP Day activities on 15th/16th August has prepared us well for our events for the remainder of the year. Our Remembrance Day Service preparations for Wednesday 11th November are well under way, and further details are provided in this Newsletter, as this is a ticket only event due to restricted numbers. We are delighted that Manly Warringah Pipe Band will again be joining us.

Then, as State Congress has now been changed to an online event on 7th/8th December, we have decided to revert to holding our Christmas Luncheon on the original date of Sunday 6th December and, with the age profile of our members, we decided that a Luncheon is now more appropriate, and safer. Further details are provided in this newsletter, including that there will be restricted numbers due to COVID-19.

As mentioned, State Congress will be held 7th/8th December, as an online event, and we are awaiting further details from State Branch. 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 with revisions to the Strategic Plan 2020-2025.

While it has been difficult since March for our RSL Auxiliary to be actively involved in their charitable purpose of fundraising for support of veterans through RSL DefenceCare and Veteran Sport Australia, President Annie Betts and her Committee are now planning meetings and events for later in the year. Annie has included further details in her RSL Auxiliary Report. Due to our Anzac Day commemorative events being cancelled, RSL Auxiliary fundraising for the support of veterans has been curtailed so far this year. We therefore encourage you to also actively support RSL Auxiliary fundraising activities in the remainder of the year, particularly on Remembrance Day, and at our Christmas Luncheon.

Members have responded very well with orders for polo shirts and jackets. Details have been included again in this newsletter, so please contact our Welfare Officer, Stuart Hablethwaite, if you wish to order them for your own use. They are an excellent way for all of us to proudly support and promote our sub-Branch in our local communities.

And some good news! The Forestville RSL Club is re-introducing its Club Courtesy Bus service for members on peak nights such as Thu/Fri/Sat. Our sub-Branch has been paying an external provider to supply a bus service for our members to attend General Meetings and VP Day Luncheon etc. We have now agreed with the Club that we will pay the Club to provide this service commencing with our General Meeting on Wednesday 7th October, and onwards. Reservations will still have to be made directly with Club Reception on 02-94511011.

You may have heard that Club President, and Northern Beaches District Council President, Bill Hardman, underwent a medical procedure in North Shore Private Hospital on 15th September. Many of you are aware that hospital visits are restricted under COVID-19, however we have been in regular contact with Bill's wife, Judy, who reports that Bill is making good progress in his recovery. We will keep you informed about when Bill is ready to resume normal duties.

Finally, while this has been a different year for all of us, with changing circumstances to our meetings and commemorations due to COVID-19, we encourage you to continually refer to the Dates to Remember section in each of our monthly newsletters for full details of all upcoming sub-Branch activities. Enjoy Spring, and call us if you need assistance.

Best Regards,
Bob Lunnon

What's On

General Meeting
7.30pm
Wednesday 7th October

*
General Meeting
7.30pm
Wednesday 4th November



In this issue:

- Membership Update
- RSL Auxiliary News
- Contact details
- Dates to Remember
- Significant Anniversaries
- Pre-paid Pavers
- sub-Branch Shirts/Jackets
- Christmas Luncheon
- Remembrance Day Service
- Australian Death Notification Service

COVID-19 SAFETY PLANS

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

Membership

Membership totals: **402**
Sadly we report the passing of the following dear members:

MILAZZO Salvatore Glen **RAN**
MACONACHIE Norman **RAF**
GULLIFORD David Ronald **ARMY**
SHAW Isobel Ailsa **AAMWS**

We advise the following member **Richard Harold EVANS** has transferred to a Queensland sub-Branch and is no longer a member.

The new "perpetual" membership cards have finally arrived and were posted along with the September Newsletter.

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

Our Cenotaph and Memorial Gardens



MEMORIAL PAVERS

Orders close on Tuesday 6th October for pavers which will be laid prior to Remembrance Day.

Prepaid Pavers:

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

CONGRATULATIONS to Bill & Clare PARK who celebrated their 75th Wedding Anniversary on 1st September.

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

FORESTVILLE RSL SUB-BRANCH UNIFORM SHIRTS AND JACKETS

Polo shirts and jackets are now available for purchase, as follows:

POLO SHIRTS: navy/white, 80% polyester/20% cotton, shoulder and back contrast panels, XS, S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 5XL.
Subsidised cost per shirt is \$35.

SOFT SHELL JACKETS: navy, water resistant and windproof, 2 way zip front, 2 zippered front pockets, S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 5XL.
Subsidised cost per jacket is \$85.

Sample shirts and jackets are available in the office for your viewing and sizing. Please place your orders through Stu Hablethwaite, our Welfare Officer, on 94511221, or by email at welfare@forestvillersl.org.au. Bulk orders will be arranged so you will be advised when your order is ready for collection - cash on delivery please.



Polo Shirt & Soft Shell Jacket

RSL AUXILIARY

We hope everyone is well and keeping safe. It is with sadness that I report the passing of one of our much-loved members of the RSL Auxiliary, Joyce Tregent. Joyce was a lifetime member of the Auxiliary having lived in Frenchs Forest for many years. Joyce moved to War Vets Village a few years ago when she had part of her leg amputated and she managed to overcome the many obstacles that came her way. Joyce enjoyed coming back to the Club when we had the War Vet's Luncheon to catch up with everyone. Her bubbly personality and positive attitude was an inspiration to us all. Her smiling face will be missed by both Club staff and residents at the Village. Our thoughts and prayers are with Denise and Rick at this sad time.

The Committee would like to welcome you all back to our first meeting on Monday 2nd November at 1pm, of course we will have to follow all the COVID-19 guidelines put in place for our safety. **You will need to make a booking so please ring Rae on 99727385 by Wednesday 28th October so we can arrange seating and organise catering. We will not be able to accept anyone who just turns up on the day, and we are sure you can all appreciate that.** It will be lovely to catch up with everyone over a cuppa.

We will also be taking names for our Christmas/Late Birthday Luncheon which the sub-Branch are generously providing for us.

New members always welcome. If anyone needs any assistance please call me on 94020882.

Regards
President Annie

WIDOWS

Firstly, some Good News! Val Wirrell celebrated her 100th Birthday on 18th September. We wished her a very Happy Birthday and a fabulous day, we were sorry we couldn't actually be with her. Next year we will have a special day for all birthdays.

On a sadder note we have lost another 2 of our members, Joyce Tregent and Judith Brown. Joyce was a member for 13 years and Judith for 3 years. Both will be greatly missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families. RIP.

Each month we think about returning to our monthly meetings. Your Committee and I feel at the moment we will wait until the New Year, should matters improve, and we will keep you informed.

Our annual sub-Branch luncheon on Monday 19th October has been cancelled due to COVID-19, so we will have a double celebration in 2021. We thank the sub-Branch for all assistance provided, when needed.

To everyone, keep well. Should you need help in any way, please let me know.

Regards,
Margaret Campbell, President

REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE



WEDNESDAY 11th NOVEMBER 2020

**10.15AM FOR 10.25AM ON WEDNESDAY 11th NOVEMBER
2020
AT THE CENOTAPH—FORESTVILLE RSL CLUB**

**TICKET ONLY EVENT – LIMITED NUMBERS APPLY
COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN IN PLACE**

Manly Warringah Pipe Band will play from 10.25am with our Remembrance Day Service commencing at 10.35am, concluding after 11.00am. This will be 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, under COVID-19 restrictions, the sub-Branch will be providing post-Service hospitality in the Forest Room. 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. 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 our Remembrance Day Service.



*** * * CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON * * ***

**Sunday 6th December 2020
11.30am for 12.00 at the Forestville RSL Club**

**TICKET ONLY EVENT – LIMITED NUMBERS APPLY
COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN IN PLACE**

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

TICKETS: on sale from the sub-Branch desk in the Club Foyer at 9.15am on Monday 12th October, then afterwards from Club Reception. Please provide names, your Club membership number/s & mobile number/s when you pay (to comply with COVID-19 requirements). You can select your Table when you book.

NUMBERS: sadly (due to current COVID-19 restrictions) ticket sales are limited to 104.

COST: \$40 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. Bookings are to be made personally at Club Reception or by phoning 9451 1011.

DRESS: Jacket and Tie for Gentlemen; Semi-Formal for Ladies.

PLEASE NOTE: there will be NO ENTRY to the Dining Room prior to 11.30am.

Australian Death Notification Service

New online service helps cut down paperwork when a loved one dies

It is estimated that the new online death notification service could save 30 hours of your time. An Australia-first digital service aims to make it easier for families to cope with the loss of a loved one. The one-stop online site is the Australian Death Notification Service <https://deathnotification.gov.au/> and allows families to notify relevant organisations when someone close to them dies so their accounts can be closed or transferred.

"When a loved one passes away, up to 40 government, private organisations and non-government organisations need to be notified," said NSW Customer Service Minister Victor Dominello.

"These notifications can be stressful and traumatic, taking up to several months and often requiring multiple physical visits with a certified copy of a death certificate."

Mr Dominello said this was the last thing people needed during such a difficult time. **"This is something most people go through and it shouldn't be the case."**

The new service validates details about the person who has died against the Australian Death Check, a system that holds death registration data recorded by Birth, Deaths and Marriages Registries. **"The customer simply enters the details of the deceased, chooses which institutions and services they wish to notify, and adds their contact details,"** Mr Dominello said. **"Then they will receive communication back on next steps within 10 business days from the chosen service providers."**

The big four banks were the first to get on board, following a pilot with innovation partner ANZ. Major telecommunications providers and the first utility provider, Sydney Water, will also join this month. The government is working with other providers to join. The NSW Government set up the service in collaboration with Births, Deaths and Marriages Registries across Australia. It is available in all states and territories except the ACT.

Dates to Remember in 2020

Wednesday 07 October	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting
Wednesday 04 November	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting
Monday 11 November	*	10.30am Remembrance Day Service
Wednesday 02 December	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting
Sunday 06 December (note date change)	*	11.30 for 12noon sub-Branch Christmas Luncheon

Significant Anniversaries

October is noteworthy for the following significant dates:

- 09 October 1950: UN forces invade North Korea
- 19 October 1950: Pyongyang occupied
- 31 October 1950: LTCOL Charlie Green DSO, CO 3RAR mortally wounded

SYDNEY NORTHERN BEACHES WOODTURNERS Inc (SNBW)

Hi neighbours! We have leased the old Girl Guides hall in Forestville Avenue, from Northern Beaches Council. Our membership is predominately a group of retired people, both male and female, all of whom have the common interest in working with wood. People of all ages, from fifteen-years and above, who want to learn or practise the art of woodturning are also very welcome.

SNBW is a not-for-profit organisation. Monies earned or donated are used for the running expenses of the Club. This money is also used to support local charities by way of making and donating wooden toys for needy and disadvantaged children.

EDITOR'S NOTE: SNBW have very kindly and carefully crafted our new Flag Plinth in the Club Lobby, proudly displaying the three Service flags and plaques. Thanks, SNBW!

FORESTVILLE RSL SUB-BRANCH REMEMBRANCE DAY EDUCATION GRANTS PROGRAM FOR 2021

This grant was first introduced in 2019 for 2020. The 2020 program is open to eligible applicants who will be entering Year 7 in 2021, to assist with the costs associated with transition to high school. The value of each grant is \$2000. Letters have been sent to primary schools in our area, with details for their newsletters.

We would appreciate your support with spreading information on this program to your family and friends with eligible applicants in Year 6 this year. Further details on our Education Grants Program (EGP) for 2021 are available on our sub-Branch website.

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

sub-Branch Office

Office: 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 Lunnon
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

Newsletter Editor:
Bob Lunnon
Phone: 9452 4078
Mobile: 0499 977 111
Email: 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/my-service

Australian Death Notification Service

<https://deathnotification.gov.au/>