

# The Returned & Services League of Australia

## Forestville



## sub-Branch

Serving veterans and their families in the Forest Area

### NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2021

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

March is always a busy month for our Committee with preparations for our Anzac Sunday and Anzac Day commemorative services. These are well under way for this year, with COVID-19 restrictions in place, which are also subject to change. Further details are available in this newsletter.

At our AGM on 3<sup>rd</sup> March, with 83 in attendance, we were delighted to present long-standing Committee member and Past President, John Scifleet, with a plaque in recognition of his Committee service from 2011 to 2021. We are equally delighted that, at 88 years of age, John is continuing to serve on our Committee in various important roles. Another indication of John's commitment is that he has put his hand up to fill the vacant third Trustee position, a role he has filled in the past, which was endorsed by our members at our AGM. Thanks, John!

Also at the AGM, we announced that Service member, Ted Samojlowicz, has put his name forward to be our Treasurer. Our Committee at our meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> March accepted Ted's nomination, and we will ask members to endorse Ted's appointment as Treasurer at our 7<sup>th</sup> April General Meeting. Ted has extensive experience in the finance industry. Thanks, Ted!

This means that Vice President Sandy Howard can now spend more of his valuable time on key issues such as grants, guest speakers and, importantly, our Reaching Out initiative. Interestingly, the RSL NSW Strategic Plan 2021-2026 calls for sub-Branches organising teams of Wellness Support Officers to be in place to support our veterans and their families in need. This will be a key part of our Reaching Out initiative, and we will be hearing more from Sandy Howard on this and other activities. We have been encouraged that some of our members have already voluntarily put their names forward to be an integral part of this Wellness Support Officer concept.

Secretary Vince Williams and your President hosted the AGM of the Northern Beaches District Council on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March at Forestville RSL Club. This is an increasingly important part of our overall operations, with Bill Hardman OAM as President of the NBDC.

Finally, many of you are downsizing your home libraries while you are downsizing your homes. You would be aware of our Resource Centre library in the sub-Branch office, which is available for you to access reading materials on loan. In the last few years, there has been no demand from members to take advantage of this member service. On the other hand, we have heard from many members wanting to utilise the Resource Centre as a repository for their excess books. Please note that we do not require any more books in our Resource Centre, as we do not have any space for them. Local libraries would be a more suitable opportunity for you.

In these ongoing days of social distancing, please let us know at the sub-Branch Office if you are in need of welfare assistance ... that's why we are here. Our thanks again for your cooperation and understanding. Best wishes to all and, as usual, call if you need assistance.

Best Regards,  
**Bob Lunn**

#### What's On

##### **General Meeting**

7.30pm  
Wednesday, 7th April

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##### **ANZAC Sunday Service**

2.30pm for 2.45pm  
Sunday 18th April 2021

\*

##### **ANZAC Day Dawn Service**

5.25am for 5.35am  
Sunday 25th April 2021

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#### 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: **400**

Sadly we report the passing of the following dear member:

**QUINN, Barry - ARMY**

We welcome new member: **HAYES, Frank John - ARMY**

*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

### MEMORIAL PAVERS

The new pavers have been ordered & will be laid prior to Anzac Day. Orders will now be taken for Remembrance Day.

### 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)**



## **Guest Speaker – 7<sup>th</sup> April 2021** **Rita Coenen – Aussie Hero Quilts**



As a part of our ongoing Reaching Out initiative, at our 7<sup>th</sup> April meeting we are privileged to have Rita Coenen speaking to us about the work of Aussie Hero Quilts. To quote from their website: "This blog is dedicated to encouraging people to make quilts and laundry bags to send to Aussie service men and women currently serving overseas and express our gratitude for their service. We care about the people – not the politics or the mission. Our quilts are not works of art, but works of the heart"

They are a not-for-profit organisation whose principal aim is to provide home comforts for ADF personnel deployed on operations with volunteer-made combat essential items, such as quilts and laundry bags. Rita can give us the statistics, but their contribution is wholeheartedly appreciated by the recipients. Please come along and hear her story. Also view the website <http://aussieheroquilts.blogspot.com/> for further information.



## **RSL AUXILIARY**

It was great to attend the sub-Branch AGM on 3rd March to hear their plans for the future, and offering us their continued support. We are looking forward to working with Bob and his Committee in 2021. It was lovely to catch up with some of the sub-Branch members as well.

It is wonderful that we are able to hold the Anzac Sunday Service on Sunday 18th April at 2.30pm for 2.45pm at the Cenotaph. Then the Anzac Day Dawn Service on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> April at 5.25am for 5.35am also at the Cenotaph, and afterwards the RSL Auxiliary will again be serving tea and coffee in the Bistro, so come and say hello.

We will be selling badges prior to Anzac Day in the Club foyer and at the Anzac Sunday Service. We thank you for your continued support with all funds raised going to RSL DefenceCare and Veteran Sport Australia.

Our next General Meeting is on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April at 12.30pm, followed by lunch.

The Guest Speaker is Jill B Bruce, an Australian author who has written over 63 non-fiction books about Australia, mostly for children. Some are information books, for example Flags and Emblems of Australia, and Prime Ministers of Australia. Jill has won awards for Children's Literature, does guest speaking on cruise ships and gives an informative, entertaining and fun-filled talk. We are looking forward to meeting her. Visitors are welcome.

Our following General Meeting will be on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May at 12.30pm.

Regards  
**Annie Betts**  
President



## **AUSTRALIA MY COUNTRY (AMC)**

The 2021 AMC is well underway and the students of all our area primary schools have been invited to participate. It's a great topic "Australian Military Aviation and the Centenary of the Royal Australian Air Force" 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 a primary school in the Forest area, know about the competition and encourage their participation.

More information is available on our website at : <https://www.forestvillersl.org.au/australia-my-country/>

**Please note that entries close on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> May.**

# ANZAC SUNDAY

SERVICE 2021



# ANZAC DAY

DAWN SERVICE 2021

**Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2021**

**2.30PM FOR 2.45PM  
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 2.45PM with our ANZAC Sunday Service commencing at 3PM, concluding around 3.30PM. This will be followed by a march around the Club carpark by the Band. Members of the sub-Branch and their families are invited to attend. Limited seating will be provided. QR code check-in by mobile phone will be necessary.

At the conclusion, under COVID-19 restrictions, the sub-Branch will be providing post-Service hospitality in the Forest Room for ticket holders. Manly Warringah Pipe Band will be playing on the balcony of the Forest Room.

*Since COVID-19 rules must apply, numbers are limited, so this is therefore a ticket only event. Tickets will be available for booking from the sub-Branch office on Mondays and Thursdays. You will be asked to provide full name(s) & mobile contact details when you collect your tickets, to comply with COVID-19 requirements. The final cut off will be Wednesday 7th April, subject to availability. Thank you for your understanding.*

*The Club Bus will operate from 1.30PM until 5PM. Bookings are to be made personally at Club Reception or by phoning 9451 1011.*

**Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2021**

**5.25AM FOR 5.35AM  
AT THE CENOTAPH — FORESTVILLE RSL CLUB**

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

Limited seating will be provided. QR code check-in by mobile phone will be necessary.

At the conclusion, under COVID-19 restrictions, the sub-Branch will be providing complimentary breakfast in the Club Bistro for ticketed attendees.

*Since COVID-19 rules must apply, numbers are limited, so this is therefore a ticket only event. Tickets will be available for booking from the sub-Branch office on Mondays and Thursdays. You will be asked to provide full name(s) & mobile contact details when you collect your tickets, to comply with COVID-19 requirements.*

*The final cut off will be Wednesday 7th April, subject to availability.*

*Thank you for your understanding.*

## Harbour Cruise 1942 Submarine Attack

The organisers of a World War 2 Sydney Harbour Cruise have circulated details of the event scheduled for 2:00PM on Saturday, 24 April 2021. The cruise on board the iconic 1874 barque James Craig will last for 3 hours and feature sites relating to the Japanese submarine attacks in 1942. If you are interested, please go to the link below for more information about the cruise, including the cost and how to book:

<https://shf.rezdy.com/433616/harbour-cruise-1942-submarine-attack>



**JOHN SCIFLEET AWARD PRESENTATION  
AGM 3<sup>rd</sup> MARCH 2021**

Our sub-Branch was delighted to present a plaque to John Scifleet at our AGM on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021, in recognition of John's outstanding service to our Committee and the sub-Branch. The inscription on the plaque reads:

*To John Scifleet from the Forestville sub-Branch in appreciation of the outstanding contribution made to the Committee, from 2011 to 2021, as Welfare Officer, Australia My Country Coordinator, Trustee, Treasurer, Vice President and President.*

Our sincere thanks, John! Well done! And congratulations!



## Dates to Remember in 2021 (Subject to change)

Wednesday 07 April 2021	*	7.30 pm Monthly General Meeting
Sunday 18 April 2021	*	2.45 pm Anzac Sunday Service
Sunday 25 April 2021	*	5.30am Anzac Day Dawn Service
Wednesday 05 May 2021	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting
Wednesday 02 June 2021	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting
Wednesday 07 July 2021	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting
Wednesday 04 August 2021	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting
Sunday 15 August 2021	*	11.30am for 12noon VP Day Luncheon
Wednesday 01 September 2021	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting
Wednesday 06 October 2021	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting
Monday 18 October 2021	*	12noon RSL sub-Branch Widows Luncheon
Wednesday 03 November 2021	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting
Thursday 11 November 2021	*	10.30am Remembrance Day Service
Wednesday 17 November 2021	*	11.30am for 12noon RSL Anzac Village War Veterans Luncheon
Wednesday 01 December 2021	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting
Sunday 05 December 2021	*	11.30am for 12noon Christmas Luncheon

### Significant Anniversaries

April is noteworthy for the following significant dates:

6<sup>th</sup> April 1941 – German invasion of Greece

11<sup>th</sup> April 1941 – Siege of Tobruk commences (241 days) (9<sup>th</sup> Div AIF under Morshead)

### 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

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Monday 0900 - 1200 / 1245 - 1400

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*"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](http://www.dva.gov.au/my-service)

**Australian Death Notification Service**

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