

The Returned & Services League of Australia

Forestville sub-Branch



Serving veterans and their families in the Forest Area

NEWSLETTER

JULY 2021

Contact editor via email: newsletter@forestvillersl.org.au or via post: 22 Melwood Ave, Forestville, NSW 2087

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

We're half way through a very busy 2020 for our Committee members, and our Committee volunteer Sue Duchesne.

Our members at the General Meeting on 2nd June endorsed the nomination of Kevin Leary to join our Committee in the new role of Assistant Secretary. We warmly welcome you, Kevin, and we look forward to you supporting our Secretary, Vince Williams, particularly with the management of our commemorative services, events, meetings and annual lunches etc. Thanks again, Kevin.

On your behalf, we take this opportunity to thank the Committee and members of the RSL Auxiliary. Over the period of our Anzac commemorative services, the RSL Auxiliary was able to raise \$2000, a great result considering the COVID-19 restrictions which were in place. Well done, President Annie Betts, Committee, and RSL Auxiliary members!

The RSL NSW State Congress 2020 will be held in Newcastle 4th to 6th October, attended by Bill Hardman and myself as Delegates, and VP Sandy Howard as Alternate Delegate. As already endorsed by our members, our sub-Branch will have a motion in place at the Congress to make the RSL badge more contemporary, particularly the flowers used which are not representative of Australian flowers, and the service representatives depicted which are now out of date. The RSL brand and badge are among the most highly regarded and respected brands in Australia. Now that RSL NSW is in the process of modernising the organisation to attract new service members under 50, our Committee feels that the RSL badge needs to be updated as part of this process.

We were pleased to see 275 entries from area schools for the Australia My Country competition, after only 210 entries were received due to COVID last year. Judging took place on 29th May. Winners were awarded at the AMC Presentation Ceremony on 26th June at the Club by the Hon. Jonathan O'Dea, BA, LL.M, MBA, MP, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly. We thank our Committee Members who co-ordinated the AMC program in 2021 for our sub-Branch: John Balfour OAM, John Scifleet, and Vince Williams CSC, supported by our Committee members. Well done, all! We also thank our Active Committee Volunteer, Darryl Bullock, our resident photographer, for always being available to pictorially record these sub-Branch events and activities.

Our Committee has decided to rename our annual luncheon in August as the Commemoration Luncheon, commemorating three significant August events in our history: The Battle of Amiens on 8th August 1918; Victory in the Pacific Day on 15th August 1945; and The Battle of Long Tan on 18th August 1966 - now Vietnam Veterans Day. This luncheon will be held at the Club on Sunday 15th August and full details are included in this newsletter.

At our December 2020 General Meeting, I reported on Northern Beaches Council plans to upgrade the Forestville Centre shopping precinct, including the Cenotaph which we maintain. In discussions with Council, we have been advised that these plans have been put on hold, awaiting possible grants to support any upgrade, and what form it might take. We will keep you informed as and when further information becomes available.

Members who are Facebook users can access our sub-Branch Facebook page directly through Facebook or now through our sub-Branch website if you click on the Facebook icon (available in various areas of our website). Give it a try, this will give you access to daily posts on our sub-Branch Facebook page, including RSL and DVA updates etc.

Take care with the cold weather and call us if in need.

Best Regards,
Bob Lunn

What's On

General Meeting

7.30pm
Wednesday, 7th July

General Meeting

7.30pm
Wednesday, 4th August

Commemoration Luncheon

Sunday 15th August
11.30 for 12 noon



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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: **396**

Sadly we report the passing of the following dear member:

BEAZLEY, William Roy ... NAVY
LAMBERT, Robert Ian ... RAF

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 are now being 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.

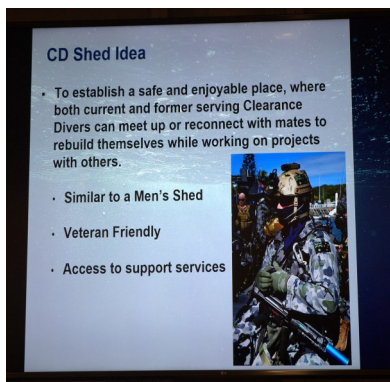
**For all Membership enquiries: Please get in touch with our
Membership Officer
Email: membership@forestvillersl.org.au**

Guest Speaker - General Meeting, 2nd June

CPOCD KEVIN PAUL

Chief Petty Officer & Clearance Diver (CD) RAN

As part of our Reaching Out initiative, our Guest Speaker at our General Meeting was CPOCD Kevin Paul. Kevin, a current serving Chief Petty Officer Clearance Diver (CD) RAN. Kevin talked about a proposed meeting place for clearance divers. Our sub-Branch will be supporting Mosman RSL sub-Branch to obtain premises at the former Water Transport facility at Chowder Bay. We were also privileged to have the Mosman sub-Branch President, CMDR Peter Watson JP RAN (Retd) joining us. Thank you, Gentlemen!



RSL AUXILIARY

Hi, I hope everyone is well and keeping warm.

Our next meeting is on Monday 5th July: **NOTE THE NEW TIME OF 1pm.** We will welcome back one of our favourite Guest Speakers, Peter Scope, helping us to Gain Lifelong Benefits of Safe Driving Skills, as we get older, giving us more confidence. Peter will be only too happy to answer any questions you might have. We are looking forward to seeing Peter again. **Afterwards, afternoon tea will be served.**

Please give Rae a call on 94020882 if you wish to attend our July meeting, or need to cancel by Thursday 1st July, so we can confirm our numbers with the caterers. Thank you for your co-operation.

Members of the Sub-Branch are very welcome to come along about 1.30pm, if you could give Rae a call, we would love to catch up with you for afternoon tea afterwards.

Patron's Day is on Monday 2nd August at 1pm and Barbara Lunnon has a very special afternoon planned.

Dates to Remember:

Patron's Day Monday 2nd August - 1pm
68th Birthday Luncheon Monday 6th September—12.30pm

New members are always welcome, just give me a call on 94020882. Any ladies on the sick list, please call if you need any assistance.

Regards
Annie Betts
President

VALE BOB "BOZO" FULTON AM – RUGBY LEAGUE IMMORTAL

1st December 1947 – 23rd May 2021

"Field no match for time in a war zone" - DERRICK KRUSCHE Daily Telegraph

Bob Fulton first learnt about the importance of discipline when working with Diggers in the Vietnam War. The Manly great was conscripted into the army during the conflict in the 1960s and was put to work as a PE instructor on the aircraft carrier HMAS Sydney. The ship transported Aussie troops into battle.

Fulton, who spent two years in the army, spoke of his admiration for the Diggers, deployed into conflict zones from the HMAS Sydney, while he remained on the ship to continue training. "I did not envy those soldiers getting off the boat, I felt for them, I didn't experience what they went through, they were real tough guys. Think of the toughest footballer you have ever seen. Any soldier who goes to war is tougher than him. Here we are talking about running on to a field to win a State of Origin football game, but compare that with going into a war that would determine whether you lived or died".

Bob Fulton was married to Ann, and is also survived by sons Scott and Brett, and daughter Kristie. The NSW Government accorded him a State Funeral at St Mary's Cathedral on 4th June 2021. A fitting tribute.

RIP ... Lest We Forget



COMMEMORATION LUNCHEON

Sunday 15th August 2021, Forest Room - Forestville RSL Club

COMMEMORATING WARS, CAMPAIGNS, AND BATTLES



The Battle of Amien - 8th August, 1918

Victory In The Pacific Day - 15th August, 1945

The Battle of Long Tan - 18th August, 1966 now Vietnam Veterans Day

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

TIME: 11.30am for 12 noon

TICKETS: On sale from 9.15am Thursday 1st July, initially from the sub-Branch desk at the Club entrance, afterwards from the sub-Branch office on Monday and Thursday mornings only. Please provide your Forestville RSL Club membership number & mobile phone number when paying (so we can comply with the COVID-19 restrictions in place at the time)

NUMBERS: Sadly, due to COVID-19 restrictions, initial ticket sales will be limited to 110

COST : \$40.00 per person on a cash only basis

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

DRESS: Smart tropical casual.

ENTERTAINMENT: Pee Bee Banjo Trio

CLUB BUS: The Club bus will operate from 10.30am until 4pm.
Bookings to be made personally at Club Reception or by phoning Reception on 9451 1011.

Further details will be provided in our August newsletter distributed in July

MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID COURSES

Hornsby RSL sub-Branch and **Veterans Well Being Centre-Hornsby** are conducting two mental health first aid courses for veterans and partners.

Course dates: Sat 28 & Sun 29 Aug; Sat 16 & Sun 17 Oct

Time: 9am – 4pm

Location: Anzac Memorial, Hyde Park, Sydney

Cost: free for current and former serving ADF members and partners

How to register: email George Main at georgemain@bigpond.com and advise course dates, name/s and contact details

RSVP: for Sat 28 & Sun 29 Aug (by Wed 4 Aug)
for Sat 16 & Sun 17 Oct (by Wed 29 Sep)

Catering: will be provided, please advise dietary requirements when you RSVP

NEW MEMBERS WELCOMED GENERAL MEETING – 2nd JUNE 2021

Next time you see them, please say hello, introduce yourself, and make them feel welcome to our sub-Branch.



Raoul Cernaz



Shannon McGowan



Lindsay Morris

Dates to Remember in 2021 (Subject to change)

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 Commemoration 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

July is noteworthy for the following significant dates:

1st July 1916 – Battle of Somme commences
 5th-9th July 1941 – Battle of Damour. Roden Cutler's VC action
 12th July 1941 – Vichy Syria surrender to Allies
 19th-20th July 1916 – 5th Div engaged in the diversion Fromelles

CHANGES TO YOUR MEMBERSHIP DETAILS

Will you please advise any changes to your personal details (particularly your Next of Kin details) either by phone to our Membership Officer on (02) 9451 1221, or by email to:
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

sub-Branch Office

Office - Phone (02) 9451 1221
 Hours:
 Monday 0900 - 1200 / 1245 - 1400
 Thursday: 0900 - 1200

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 Rev. Gavin Parsons Phone: 8012 2020

Travel Officer: Bob Connors
 Phone: 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/>