

# The Returned & Services League of Australia

## Forestville



## sub-Branch

Serving veterans and their families in the Forest Area

### NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 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

June/July has been another busy period for the sub-Branch Committee, resulting from COVID-19 restrictions, including our extending lockdown, which caused disruption to our sub-Branch Office operations. We have tried to keep you updated, as best we could, under changing circumstances weekly, and we thank you for your patience.

On Tuesday 20th July, Vice President Sandy Howard and I attended the Northern Beaches District Council meeting at Pittwater RSL Club. A draft model constitution for sub-Branches to incorporate as a Company Limited by Guarantee/CLG continues 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, especially with a re-draft of the CLG documents. Also, our sub-Branch proposal to review/update the RSL Badge has been approved as a motion to go forward to State Congress in October in Newcastle.

**Due to the extended lockdown, the Committee has decided to postpone our Commemoration Luncheon to Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> September.** Tickets sales have been bubbling along, thank you for your support. At this luncheon, we will now commemorate: Korean Veterans' Day, 27<sup>th</sup> July; The Battle of Amiens, 8<sup>th</sup> August 1918; Victory in the Pacific Day, 15<sup>th</sup> August 1945, now VP Day; Vietnam Veterans' Day, 18<sup>th</sup> August; and Malaya and Borneo Veterans' Day, 31<sup>st</sup> August. Booking and payment details are included in this newsletter.

Our Australia My Country award presentations were held on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> June at the Club. The Hon. Jonathan O'Dea MP was initially intending to be in attendance to present the awards however, due to COVID-19, he went into isolation the day before. We were fortunate that our good friend and Affiliate member, Michael Regan, Mayor of Northern Beaches Council, was able to step in at short notice to present the awards to all winners. Our sincere thanks again to Committee Members, John Balfour OAM, John Scifleet, and Vince Williams CSC, for managing our AMC process so well this year – see photos in this newsletter.

While we had to cancel our General Meeting on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> July due to COVID lockdown, **we look forward to you joining us for our next General Meeting on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> August at 11am using this Zoom link:** <https://zoom.us/j/97934399970?pwd=eWpZSDFlczA0VmZBUehyclZxdWh5Zz09>

The ACCC has a handy website called ScamWatch, which provides up to date information on recent scams, reporting of scams, and getting help if you've been scammed. Scams are becoming more and more prevalent, especially at risk are some of our more vulnerable members. So, for members who receive their newsletter by email, in the Useful Links section on page 5, we'll be including in this and all future newsletters a ScamWatch link for your use: <https://www.scamwatch.gov.au/>. Highly recommended.

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 still upon us.

Best Regards,  
Bob Lunnon

#### What's On

**General Meeting via Zoom**  
11.00am  
Wednesday, 4th August

\*

**Commemoration Luncheon**  
Sunday 12th September  
11.30 for 12 noon



#### In this issue

- Membership Update
- RSL Auxiliary News
- Dates to Remember
- Significant Anniversaries
- COVID-19
- Contact details
- Pre-paid Pavers
- Commemoration Luncheon
- New Members
- Scamwatch
- Census 2021
- AMC Awards
- John Balfour, OAM
- Shirts & Jackets

#### 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: **395**

Sadly we report the passing of the following dear member:  
**RUBIE John Lucian Stinson RAAF**

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 and Next of Kin 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

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

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

Our Australia My Country award presentations were held on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> June at the Club. We had initially prepared for The Hon. Jonathan O'Dea MP to be in attendance to present the awards. However, due to COVID-19, he went into isolation the day before. We were fortunate that our good friend and Affiliate member, Michael Regan, Mayor of Northern Beaches Council, was able to step in at short notice to present the awards to all winners. Our sincere thanks again to Committee Members, John Balfour OAM, John Scifleet, and Vince Williams CSC, for managing our AMC competition so well this year. Photos from the presentation were also placed on our sub-Branch website for viewing by all winners and participants.

<https://www.forestvillersl.org.au/photos/>



**Computer take over scams are on the rise .... (and more)**  
Beware of scammers and scams that can trick you into making costly mistakes. Keep up to date with the latest warnings by visiting:

<https://www.scamwatch.gov.au/>

## **RSL AUXILIARY**

Ladies, I hope you are all well and keeping safe. Unfortunately, we have to cancel our August Meeting, we feel at this time it is the safest thing to do. We hope we will be able to have our September Birthday Lunch but, again, that depends on where we are with COVID-19 restrictions. We will keep you informed as much as possible and, of course, it will also depend on the Club's policy as well. If we are able to have our Birthday Lunch we will need you to contact Rae on 99727385 so we have the numbers for catering purposes. Thank you for your help with this. In times like these we need to take some time to give each other a call and have a catch up. It makes such a difference to know someone is thinking of you. Keep safe, and if you need any assistance please call me on 94020882.

**Birthdays for July:** we hope you all had a great day.  
Marian Smith 9<sup>th</sup>, Pam Harvey 15<sup>th</sup>, Marg McKenzie 23<sup>rd</sup>

### **Dates to Remember**

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September at 12.30pm, General Meeting followed by our 67<sup>th</sup> Birthday Lunch at 1pm.

Regards  
**Annie Betts**

**REVISED DATE!**



## COMMEMORATION LUNCHEON

**Sunday 12th September 2021 - Forestville RSL Club  
COMMEMORATING WARS, CAMPAIGNS, AND BATTLES**

*Korean Veterans' Day – 27<sup>th</sup> July  
The Battle of Amiens - 8th August 1918  
Victory in the Pacific Day - 15th August 1945  
Vietnam Veterans' Day – 18<sup>th</sup> August  
Malaya and Borneo Veterans' Day - 31<sup>st</sup> August*

**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 the sub-Branch office on Monday and Thursday mornings only; or by email to our Assistant Secretary, Kevin Leary via [asstsecretary@forestvillersl.org.au](mailto:asstsecretary@forestvillersl.org.au). Please provide your Forestville RSL Club membership number/s & mobile phone number/s when booking (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 :** Payment due by Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September (latest)  
\$40.00 per person **cash** or by **direct debit** via online banking to:  
**Forestville RSL sub-Branch**  
**BSB: 062 170 ACCT NO: 0080 0042**  
Please reference CL and SURNAME eg **"CL 2 Lunnon"**  
EFTPOS is also now available
- MENU:** A three course meal with alternates (on each course) includes 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*



**2021 Census**  
Tuesday 10 August 2021

**The 2021 Census is coming on 10th August 2021**  
Your participation is compulsory. The 2021 Census website has all the information you need to complete the Census. Here's a link to learn more:  
<https://www.census.abs.gov.au/>  
A family member might also be able to assist you if required.

### Polo shirts and Jackets have arrived...



For members who have ordered sub-Branch polo shirts and jackets, we have received our bulk order. However, due to lockdown, we are unable to arrange collection by you from the sub-Branch Office. You will hear from our Welfare Officer, Stu Hablethwaite, shortly to arrange collection.

### JOHN BALFOUR, OAM

**Commendation in the NSW Legislative Assembly by Jonathan O'Dea MP, Member for Davidson, in Hansard on 9th June 2021**

**Mr Jonathan O'DEA (Davidson) - John Balfour, OAM**, is an outstanding person from Belrose in my electorate of Davidson, who recently completed 50 years as a Marshall for the RSL NSW Anzac Day March. As Senior Marshall of the Anzac Day March Executive Committee, he marches in the event and helps to organise it. John is also a Ceremonial Officer and committee member of the Forestville RSL Sub-Branch, and has given 48 years of service in the Royal Australian Artillery, a regiment of the Australian Army. In his spare time, John is a volunteer groundsman at Belrose Public School and Wesley Gardens. In 2013 he was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia. I commend and congratulate John on completing 50 years of service as a Marshall in the RSL NSW Anzac Day March, for his services in the Australian Army and as a volunteer in my local community.

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

Wednesday 04 August 2021	*	11.00am Member update via Zoom
Wednesday 01 September 2021	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting
Sunday 12 September 2021	*	11.30am for 12noon <b>Commemoration Luncheon</b>
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

August is noteworthy for the following significant dates:

August 1916 - Battle of Mosquet Farm

18th August 1966 – Battle of Long Tan

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

Secretary & General Enquiries:  
Vince Williams  
Email: [secretary@forestvillersl.org.au](mailto:secretary@forestvillersl.org.au)  
Phone: 9451 1221  
Mobile: 0417 430 389

President: Bob Lunnon  
Email: [president@forestvillersl.org.au](mailto:president@forestvillersl.org.au)  
Phone: 9452 4078  
Mobile: 0499 977 111

Treasurer: Ted Samojlowicz  
Email: [treasurer@forestvillersl.org.au](mailto:treasurer@forestvillersl.org.au)  
Mobile: 0417 532 936

Welfare & Funerals: Stuart Hablethwaite  
Email: [welfare@forestvillersl.org.au](mailto:welfare@forestvillersl.org.au)  
Phone: 9451 1221  
Mobile: 0402 626 485

Membership: Peter McAskill JP  
Email: [membership@forestvillersl.org.au](mailto:membership@forestvillersl.org.au)  
Phone: 9451 1221  
Mobile: 0409 122 025

Newsletter Editor: Bob Lunnon  
[newsletter@forestvillersl.org.au](mailto:newsletter@forestvillersl.org.au)  
Phone: 9452 4078  
Mobile: 0499 977 111

Australia My Country: John Balfour  
Phone: 9451 1221  
Mobile: 0418 412 354

Pensions: 9451 1221

Joint Padres  
Rev. Dave Lanham Phone: 9975 5410  
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/mysevice](http://www.dva.gov.au/mysevice)

**Australian Death Notification Service**

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

**SCAMWATCH**

<https://www.scamwatch.gov.au/>