

# The Returned & Services League of Australia

## Forestville sub-Branch



Serving veterans and their families in the Forest Area

### NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 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

It's been a mixed month for our sub-Branch, as it has been for each of you. On your behalf, I thank our energetic and extremely hard-working Committee members and Committee volunteers, who have been managing working-from-home along with actual office attendance for necessary activities. We have a caring, well-oiled, progressive and industrious Committee, always with your interests at the forefront.

Sadly, on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> August, VP Day, our sub-Branch Patron, Bruce Chisnall, passed away after a short time in palliative care. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Barbara and her family at this time of loss of a great man, who was also Past President of Forestville RSL Club. RIP, Bruce Chisnall. Lest We Forget.

We organized a Zoom Member Update at 11am on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> August, in place of our General Meeting scheduled for 7.30pm that night. 20 members were in attendance for the Zoom Member Update joining us from home including Tony Eve from the UK. We thank all of you for joining us.

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> August 2021 marked the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VP Day and the end of WW11. It was not possible to hold any commemorative service. Indeed, RSL NSW also cancelled their planned commemorative service.

**We have postponed our face-to-face General Meeting on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September. However, we again look forward to you joining us for our online Zoom Member Update on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September at 11am using this Zoom link:** <https://zoom.us/j/92472595749pwd=TFIBV3Z1L0dmL3FEEdE9oL1RDR2MyZz09>.

**Due to the uncertainty of the ongoing lockdown, we have also decided to cancel our Commemoration Luncheon, originally set for Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> August, which was then postponed to Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> September. We will hold any payments made by members for this Commemoration Luncheon as payment for our Christmas Luncheon on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December, unless you advise our Assistant Secretary, Kevin Leary, that you would like this payment to be refunded to you.**

Our members will understand that the sub-Branch must continue operations in support of our charitable purpose, the welfare of veterans and their families. To this end, our Committee continues to hold monthly meetings, which include resolutions to be approved at a General Meeting by members. With our August and September General Meetings being postponed, replaced by Zoom Member Updates, our Secretary, Vince Williams, is maintaining a register of these resolutions, which will be presented for approval at a future face-to-face General Meeting, as we did in 2020.

RSL NSW has announced that State Congress 2021, originally slated for 25/26 October in Newcastle, has now been postponed to 6/7 December in Newcastle. NBDC President, Bill Hardman, will register for State Congress in that capacity. Our sub-Branch delegates will be President, Bob Lunnon, and Vice President, Sandy Howard.

During August, Committee members have been telephoning our members living in the Forest area who are 80 and over. It has been wonderful to catch up with all of you, check on how you are travelling in lockdown, to update your contact details, and your Next of Kin details etc. This helps us to ensure that your membership details are up to date in our database. Should any of your details change in future, including your Next of Kin details, please let our Membership Officer know. Contact details are available elsewhere in this newsletter.

A positive point from our 80s and over ring-around is that you have all been fully vaccinated. This is important, as when we are able to resume our face-to-face General Meetings, and commemorative services and events, we have members who are immune-compromised, and full vaccination will be required to participate.

We are finding it increasingly difficult to organize any day trips, as a result of COVID-19 restrictions. Until these rules are relaxed, we have decided not to organize day trips until further notice, whenever that may be in the future. When that happens, we will be requiring all participants to be fully vaccinated. Spring is sprung, the grass is ris, I wonder where the birdies is? Enjoy Spring, and call if you are in need.

Best Regards,  
**Bob Lunnon**

#### What's On

**General Meeting**  
Via zoom  
11am 1st September

**Commemoration Luncheon**  
Sunday 12th September  
**Cancelled**



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## Membership

Membership totals: **389**  
Sadly we report the passing of the following dear members:

**Eaton** Joyce Mary ... ARMY  
**Robin** Kenneth ... ARMY  
**Park** William (Bill) ... ARMY  
**Chisnall** Bruce Frederick ... ARMY  
**Edwards** Kevin James ... 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 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.  
Orders close on Friday 8th 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)***

## **FORESTVILLE RSL SUB-BRANCH MEMBER UPDATE**

**\*\*\* 11am WEDNESDAY 1<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021 \*\*\***

Forestville RSL sub-Branch invites you to join an online **Zoom Member Update**  
**Time: 11am - Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/92472595749?pwd=TFIBV3Z1L0dmL3FEeE9oL1RDR2MyZz09>

Meeting ID: 924 7259 5749

Passcode: 287060



**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, welcome to our September newsletter. It is with sadness that we say farewell to one of our lovely members, Jean Green, who passed away after a long illness. Jean was a member of different sections of the Club, along with her husband Bob who was a Director of the Club. Jean was a much-loved member of the Auxiliary. Our deepest sympathy to Bob, Joy and family. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time.

We also pass on the sad news that Bruce Chisnall passed away on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> August. Bruce was Immediate Past President of the Club and Patron of the sub-Branch. Bruce was the go-to man if you needed any help, he drove the bus, helped with the golf BBQs, Director's raffles. Prior to being sick, you would often see Bruce working in the garden of the Club, also you would see Bruce at the Table of Knowledge having a quiet beer with his mates on a Friday night, solving the world's problems. Bruce was all that Forestville RSL stands for. Our thoughts and prayers are with Barbara, who was a long serving President of the RSL Auxiliary, and to Karen, Jenny and family. Bruce will be sadly missed.

We have cancelled our September Meeting. Then, we will hopefully have our 67<sup>th</sup> Birthday Lunch in December when we hope things will be back to normal, following the advice of Club CEO Ian, and the health guidelines. Please keep phoning each other, it is always a nice surprise to know someone is thinking of you. We have some of our ladies on the sick list and, although we cannot visit, we are thinking of them and wish them a speedy recovery.

Our September Birthdays: Sheila Flaherty 29<sup>th</sup> and Jill Scifleet 30<sup>th</sup>. We hope you have a wonderful day. Best wishes from the Auxiliary.

As always thank you to Bob and his Committee for continuing their great work, in these uncertain times.  
Dates to Remember: Monday 11<sup>th</sup> October 1pm General Meeting, followed by afternoon tea (if restrictions are lifted).  
Keep safe and if you need any assistance please call me on 94020882.

Kind Regards  
**Annie Betts**  
**President**

**CANCELLED**

## **COMMEMORATION LUNCHEON**

### **COMMEMORATING WARS, CAMPAIGNS, AND BATTLES**

**CANCELLED**

*Korean War Veterans Day - 27th July*

*The Battle of Amiens - 8th August, 1918*

*Victory In The Pacific Day - 15th August, 1945*

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

*Malaya and Borneo Veterans Day - 31st August*

*End of Middle East Operations*

Due to the uncertainty of the ongoing lockdown, we decided to cancel this luncheon.

We will hold any payments made by members for this luncheon as payment for our **Christmas Luncheon** on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December unless you advise our Assistant Secretary, Kevin Leary ([asstsecretary@forestvillersl.org.au](mailto:asstsecretary@forestvillersl.org.au)) that you would like this payment to be refunded to you.

## **ROYAL REGIMENT OF AUSTRALIAN ARTILLERY 150<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY**



Congratulations to the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery on the occasion of its 150th Anniversary on 1st August 2021, an integral component of the Australian Defence Force which has played a vital role in conflicts over many years.

### **VALE WILLIAM (BILL) PARK**

**SUB-BRANCH MEMBER SINCE 2<sup>nd</sup>  
JUNE 1954**

This is sad news. Bill was a legend. Also known as "Pickle Pork Bill". He was a local butcher and provided the meat raffle prizes when the sub-Branch was fundraising to build the shed on the current Club site back in the late 1950's. Check the Honour Boards, I am sure his name is there. Bill used to tell me about the working bees they had in those early days. They had to arrange for the keg to arrive later in the afternoon as everyone used to down tools when it did arrive.

Clare and Bill lived in Forestville in Nicholas Avenue, and had the neatest house in the street. Clare was my Chilli supplier for several years until they moved up to the Central Coast. I would rock into the office and was greeted with a bag of "scuds" (small and very hot). They will be remembered as a great couple and for their contribution and commitment to our sub-Branch community.

**Bill Hardman OAM**  
Past President,  
Forestville RSL sub-Branch

### **AUSTRALIAN VETERANS' CHILDREN ASSISTANCE TRUST (AVCAT)**

AVCAT is a national charity that manages tertiary education scholarships to assist children and grandchildren of the Australian ex-service veteran community with the costs of full-time tertiary education. The most deserving applicants are selected on financial need, academic potential and deservedness and who, without financial assistance, would be unable to start or complete tertiary education. Scholarships are usually valued at \$4,000 - \$6,000 per annum.

Following appropriate assessment, at our delayed June Committee Meeting we moved that, subject to later General Meeting approval by our members, we would fund a half-scholarship of \$2,000 per annum plus costs. This provides for one student for the 3 years of a tertiary course, renewable for a further period to another candidate. As is our established practice, we would only support a candidate from our catchment area.

Applications from tertiary students open on Vietnam Veterans Day on 18<sup>th</sup> August, and close on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021.

We see this as a natural progression of educational support with Australia My Country for primary students, Remembrance Day Education Grants for transition to secondary school, and AVCAT for tertiary education. The two latter initiatives are covered by very similar criteria as to eligibility with AVCAT being more strict.

Full information is on the AVCAT website [www.avcat.org.au](http://www.avcat.org.au). Should members which to consider a personal sponsorship of a tertiary student, the website also contains that information.

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

Wednesday 01 September 2021	*	11.00am Members Update via Zoom
Sunday 12th September 2021	*	<b>CANCELLED 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

September is noteworthy for the following significant dates:

3<sup>rd</sup> September 1916 – Battle of Pozieres ends

11<sup>th</sup> September 2001 – Terrorist attack on World Trade Centre.  
Global War on Terror commences

14<sup>th</sup> September 2001 – Australia invokes ANZUS Treaty

### 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

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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/>

## **Scamwatch**

[www.scamwatch.gov.au](http://www.scamwatch.gov.au)