

The Returned & Services League of Australia

Forestville sub-Branch



Serving veterans and their families in the Forest Area

NEWSLETTER

JUNE, 2022

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Our Committee members have settled back in to more normal office operations, after our successful Anzac commemorative services in April, reported on to members in our May newsletter and at our General Meeting on 4th May.

Our assessment was that there were 150 in marching groups as part of our Anzac Sunday March and Service, while around 400 attended the Service itself. The March route was lined with residents and well-wishers. At the Anzac Dawn Service, we estimated there were around 800 in attendance, with a majority of younger families including young children. Following the Service, breakfast was served for 500 attendees in 75 minutes from 6.15am.

On behalf of our Committee and members, I thank Club CEO, Ian Thomson, and his management team, as well as Adison "Edi" Wang and his kitchen brigade, for all of the wonderful support, cooperation and assistance, over what was a very busy and long Anzac weekend, in more ways than one!

Darryl Bullock, our sub-Branch member and very professional resident photographer, took some wonderful photos at our Anzac Dawn Commemorative Service, which we included in our May newsletter. A larger selection of Darryl's photos, for both Anzac Sunday and Anzac Day, is available on our sub-Branch website for your perusal, under the Events/Gallery tab, take a look. Our thanks again, Darryl, as always! Great job!

A few "gremlins" found their way into our new wireless sound system used for our commemorative services, with a few issues experienced during our Anzac Dawn Service, when light rain fell for a short period, causing people to head for cover, which coincidentally had an immediate effect on our wireless system. Our active Committee Volunteer, Tony Mooney, has been investigating the issues, along with options to fix this.

Australia My Country judging took place on 29th May at the Forestville RSL Club, and winners will be awarded at our 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.

On Friday 27th May, 8 Committee members representing our sub-Branch attended the 2022 Defence of Sydney Commemorative Service at North Head organized by the Australia Remembers - Northern Beaches and North Shore Committee. This Service commemorated the 80th Anniversary of the night that "war came to Sydney" with the Japanese midget submarine attack on Sydney Harbour on the night of 31 May 1942. We presented a Book Tribute, our sub-Branch book: Soldiers' Settlement, Frenchs Forest – Success or Failure? The Guest Speaker was Brigadier John Cox, AM (Retd), who was the Director of Artillery at North Head in 1995, and provided the concept for the Defence of Sydney Monument there.

It was with great sadness that we heard our dear friend, Margaret Campbell, President of the Widows Group, had passed away on 28 April 2022. Many sub-Branch, Auxiliary, and Widows Group members attended Margaret's funeral on 11 May, followed by afternoon tea at Forestville RSL Club, in honour of Margaret. May You Rest in Peace, Margaret.

With the first month of winter officially upon us, please keep rugged up, and call us if you are in need.

Bob Lunnon
President

What's On

Anzac Memorial Coach Tour

Tuesday 31st May
8.30am

*

General Meeting
Wednesday 1st June
7.30pm

*

General Meeting
Wednesday 6th July
7.30pm



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**CLUB COVID-19 SAFETY
PLANS IN PLACE.....!**

Membership

Membership totals: **419** (including RSL Auxiliary)

Sadly, we report the passing of the following dear member:
Margaret **CAMPBELL** ... RSL Auxiliary

We welcome new members:
Marjorie **HOWARD** ... RSL Auxiliary

Introductions from our members, family and mates for new membership are always welcome.

Our Cenotaph and Memorial Gardens

MEMORIAL PAVERS

Orders can now be placed for laying prior to
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

IMPORTANT MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

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

For any **Changes to Membership** details please see following:

From 2022, there are no membership fees payable to be a member of RSL NSW and RSL Australia. It is the responsibility of each member to ensure your personal details, full contact details, and all Next of Kin details, are up to date at all times. All changes should be advised to our Membership Officer via phone **02-9451 1221** or email : membership@forestvillersl.org.au including if you wish to rescind your membership for any reason.

VALE – MARGARET ANN CAMPBELL (nee Garrity)

5 MAY 1938 – 28 APRIL 2022

President, Widows Group

Our dear friend, Margaret, passed away in palliative care in Wahroonga on Thursday 28 April 2022. Her funeral was at Ann Wilson Funerals at Mona Vale on Wednesday 11 May. This was followed by Afternoon Tea in the Club provided by Forestville RSL Club and Forestville RSL sub-Branch, attended by sub-Branch, RSL Auxiliary, Widows Group and Club members.

Margaret was a lawn bowler at Forestville RSL Club, Patron of the Indoor Bowls group, Secretary of the RSL Auxiliary for over four years, then was a deeply passionate and caring President of the Widows Group for twelve years until her passing.

Margaret will be missed, but fondly remembered by so many. Rest in Peace, Margaret.



RSL AUXILIARY

Welcome to our June Newsletter. It is sad that the Widows Group has closed. It is a sign of the times as we all get older and some of our members move into full care and are unable to attend our meetings. We are very fortunate that the RSL Auxiliary already has some widows as members and we are hoping that some of the other ladies might like to join our Auxiliary. It is another afternoon for you to catch up with friends, make new ones and to fill in the gap left by the closing of the Widows Group. We look forward to welcoming you to our future meetings.

Our next Meeting will be on Monday **6th June at 1.00 pm**. We are looking forward to our Guest Speaker, the Mayor of Northern Beaches Council, Michael Regan who is also a long standing sub-Branch Affiliate Member. I am sure it will be very interesting as we learn what is in store for the future of the Northern Beaches.

Visitors are very welcome. Just give me a call on 94020882 so we can add your name to our list. Please ring Rae on 99727385 if you wish to attend by Thursday 2nd June (before our meeting) for catering purposes.

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL.

Any ladies on the sick list if you need any assistance please give me a call on 94020882.

Annie Betts, President

***** NEWS FLASH *****

General Meeting

Wednesday 1st June, 2022

7.30pm to 8.30pm

**FOREST ROOM
FORESTVILLE RSL CLUB**

**COMMEMORATING THE 80th ANNIVERSARY OF THE
DAY THE WAR CAME TO SYDNEY ON THE NIGHT OF
31st MAY 1942**

Special invited guests will be attending this General Meeting. RSL NSW President, Ray James OAM JP, and Pauline James OAM, Coordinator, RSL NSW Auxiliaries, will be making presentations to Bill Hardman OAM, and Sandy Howard, Vice President.

All sub-Branch and RSL Auxiliary members are cordially invited to attend, to make this a truly memorable commemoration of the **80th Anniversary of the day the war came to Sydney** on the night of 31st May 1942.

We look forward to seeing you all there, ready for a prompt 7.30pm start.



COMMEMORATION LUNCHEON

Sunday, 14th August 2022

Forest Room

FORESTVILLE RSL CLUB



COMMEMORATING WARS, CAMPAIGNS, AND BATTLES

- TIME:** The Luncheon will commence at 12 noon, with the doors opening at 11:30am, with no access prior to 11,30am.
- TICKETS:** On sale from 10.00am Thursday 16th June from the sub-Branch office on Monday and Thursday mornings only. Please provide mobile phone number when paying.
- NUMBERS:** Presently COVID-19 restrictions do not apply...
- COST :** **\$40.00 per person, by cash, and EFTPOS is also now available (Tap & Go).**
- MENU:** A three course meal will be served with alternates on each course, with refreshments
- DRESS:** Smart tropical casual.
- ENTERTAINMENT:** Will be provided.
- RAFFLE:** Please be prepared with cash, and EFTPOS will also be available.
- CLUB BUS:** The Club bus will operate from 10.30am until 4pm, with bookings to be made personally at Club Reception, or by phoning Reception on 9451 1011.
- FURTHER DETAILS:** Will be provided in our July newsletter distributed in late June.
- CONTACT:** Kevin Leary, Assistant Secretary, at email: asstsecretary@forestvillersl.org.au, or phone: 94511221

COLONEL JOHN S. PLATT CSC (RET'D.)Chair, Australia Remembers Northern Beaches & North Shore Committee

The Guest Speaker at our General Meeting on Wednesday 4th May was Colonel John S. Platt CSC (Ret'd.). John updated us on the activities in our area of this vital Committee, including commemorative services, placement of plaques and plinths, and commemorative recognition of significant veterans from our area etc.

One such service was the Defence of Sydney 80th Commemorative Service on 27th May at North Head. This commemorated the day the war came to Sydney, when Japanese midget submarines attacked Sydney Harbour on the night of the 31st May, 1942. *Let's We Forget.*



Forestville Purple Poppy Dog Park



Our sub-Branch proposal to name the Forestville Avenue off-leash enclosed dog park as the Forestville Purple Poppy Dog Park was endorsed by the Northern Beaches Council on 26 April. The naming proposal is now out for community comment, with a closing date of Sunday 5 June for all submissions.

We encourage all of our members to lodge a submission at:

<https://yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/naming-proposal-purple-poppy-dog-park>.

Comments could include: *"Commemorating the sacrifice animals have made in defence of Australia is entirely appropriate and naming an existing dog park as the Purple Poppy Dog Park makes sense. It has even more meaning given this dog park lies within the existing Forestville War Memorial Playing Fields precinct. The naming proposal therefore has my full support."* We've made it easy for you. Now all you have to do is support our proposal.



Computer scams are on the rise!

Beware of scammers and scams that can trick you into making costly mistakes.

Keep up to date by visiting:

www.scamwatch.gov.au

Dates to Remember in 2022 (Subject to change)

Tuesday 31 st May 2022	*	8.30am Anzac Memorial Coach Tour
Wednesday 1 st June 2022	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting
Wednesday 6 th July 2022	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting
Wednesday 3 rd August 2022	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting
Sunday 14 th August 2022	*	11.30am for 12noon Commemoration Luncheon
Wednesday 7 th September 2022	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting
Wednesday 5 th October 2022	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting
Wednesday 2 nd November 2022	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting
Friday 11 th November 2022	*	10.30am Remembrance Day Service
Wednesday 16 th November 2022	*	11.30am for 12noon RSL Anzac Village - War Veterans Luncheon
Sunday 4 th December 2022	*	11.30am for 12noon Christmas Luncheon
Wednesday 7 th December 2022	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting

Significant Anniversaries

JUNE is noteworthy for the following significant dates:

2nd June 1967 – 2RAR arrives in South Vietnam
 3rd June 1942 – Battle of Midway
 7th June 1917 – Hill 60 Messines Ridge
 8th June 1942 – Shelling of Newcastle
 14th June 1982 – Falklands Islands recaptured by UK
 16th June 1942 – Sinking of HMAS Nestor off Tobruk
 19th June 1952 – 1RAR action Jamestown Line, Korea
 30th June 1947 – 2nd AIF disbanded

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

We appreciate your cooperation!

sub-Branch Office

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*"And the world is a little poorer, for a soldier died today"
...Lest We Forget...*



Useful Links

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 Australia:

<http://www.veteranscentre.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/myservice

Australian Death Notification Service

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

Scamwatch

www.scamwatch.gov.au

Military History Society of NSW

www.militaryhistorynsw.com.au