

The Returned & Services League of Australia

Forestville



sub-Branch

Serving veterans and their families in the Forest Area

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER, 2022

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome to our November 2022 newsletter.

Our most important news to share this month is that, on Friday 14th October, we received confirmation from Anzac House that our sub-Branch nomination for Ceremonial Officer, John Balfour OAM, to be awarded a Meritorious Service Medal had been approved by RSL Australia. This is the highest individual RSL award and JB is only the second sub-Branch member, after David Hurt, to receive this award. JB is now attending the RSL NSW State Congress in Newcastle to receive his award during the Patron Address by Her Excellency, The Honourable Margaret Beazley, AC KC, Governor of NSW, on Monday 31st October. Our warmest congratulations, JB.

Our sub-Branch Secretary, Vince Williams, and I attended the NBDC/Northern Beaches District Council meeting on Tuesday 20th September at Pittwater RSL Club. Primary discussions were around: the District Presidents' Council meeting which I attended on 15th September at Anzac House; the draft SOP1 on Funding Our Charitable Purpose, which has been circulated to sub-Branches for comment through NBDC by 15th November; and sub-Branch incorporation as a Company Limited by Guarantee, on which our sub-Branch will now pursue legal advice, a process which has already been endorsed by our sub-Branch members.

On 27th September, as President, Northern Beaches District Council, I attended the Pittwater Community Leaders reception at Mona Vale Surf Life Saving Club, with the Hon. Rob Stokes MP as host. It was an excellent opportunity to meet with community leaders from across the northern peninsula, including our Northern Beaches Council Mayor and Councillors.

RSL NSW State Congress will be held on 30th/31st October and 1st November in Newcastle. Vince Williams CSC, our Secretary, is our sub-Branch Delegate, and our VP, Sandy Howard, is our Alternate Delegate. I will attend in my capacity as President, Northern Beaches District Council.

Our sub-Branch continues to be seen as a resource for our sister sub-Branches on the Northern Beaches. On 10th October, two Pittwater RSL sub-Branch/Club representatives visited us, to review our Cenotaph, and consult with our VP, Sandy Howard, on the grant application processes we use. The purpose is for the sub-Branch to formulate a possible renovation of their upper Cenotaph, in conjunction with Pittwater RSL Club.

On Friday 14th October, VP Sandy Howard, Ceremonial Officer John Balfour OAM, and I attended a Dedication Service on Mona Vale headland, where a memorial plinth and seat was unveiled, recognizing POWs, nurses and civilian internees who lost their lives at sea at the hands of the Japanese in WW2. Our RSL NSW President, Ray James OAM, and Pauline James OAM, State Coordinator, RSL NSW Auxiliaries, were also in attendance.

Our RSL Auxiliary is responsible for the Meat Raffle in the Club on the evening of Friday 28th October. On Monday 21st November a Fashion Parade has been organized. Then, our joint Christmas Fundraising Luncheon will be held on Sunday 4th December. Full details are available in this newsletter. We encourage all members to support these fundraising activities in support of veterans and families in need, a part of our charitable purpose. Be generous, please.

We would appreciate your support with spreading information on the Remembrance Day Educational Grants Program to your family and friends with eligible applicants in Year 6 this year, entering year 7 in 2023. Further details on our Education Grants Program (EGP) for 2022 are available on our sub-Branch website.

Our Guest Speaker at the General Meeting on Wednesday 2nd November will be our Service member, Scott Reynolds, convenor of Saltwater Veterans. Scott and his wife, Jen, in August/September attended the inaugural Warrior Sailing Cup in Toronto, Canada, in conjunction with Invictus Australia, with our support. We are looking forward to hearing from Scott. Please enjoy our warmer weather and call us if you need assistance.

Bob Lunnon
President

What's On

General Meeting
Wednesday, 2nd November
7.30pm

Remembrance Day
Commemorative Service
Friday 11th November
10.15am for 10.25am

Christmas Fundraising
Luncheon
Sunday 4th December
11.50am for 12 noon



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Please consider the environment. Receive your Newsletter via Email.

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

Membership

Membership totals: 425 (plus 5 Honorary members)

Sadly, we report the passing of the following dear members:

GREEN, Robert Harold ... ARMY
PALMER, Ronald Arthur ... ARMY

.. **COX**, Raymond James-MERCHANT NAVY/RAAF

We welcome new member:

OFNER, Brendan ... AFFILIATE

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

Our Cenotaph and Memorial Gardens

MEMORIAL PAVERS



Please note Orders are being taken
for



Anzac Day 2023

Prepaid Pavers:

*Members are reminded that you can order and prepay your
own paver at any time if you wish.*

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.

You are invited to ...

***** Forestville RSL Auxiliary Fashion Parade *****



*Affordable Women's Clothing
Available in sizes 8-26
Purchase clothing on the day
EFTPOS available*

Date: Monday, 21st November
Venue: 1st Floor Flight Deck, Forestville RSL Club
22 Melwood Ave, Forestville

Tickets: \$15 includes light refreshments & Sparkling Wine
on arrival - limited number of tickets available

Phone: Carol 9452 2189 or 0409251 618
(tickets available from early October)

Helping a good cause.

Proceeds go to supporting Veterans and their Families in need

Purpose of the RSL Auxiliary

RSL Website 20th September, 2022

Similar to sub-Branches, the RSL Auxiliary is a non-political non-sectarian organisation. It raises funds for the well-being of current and ex-serving members of the Australian Defence Force and their families. The members of the auxiliary also visit veterans in hospital, in aged care and those convalescing at home, assist with sub-Branch commemoration activities and often provide meals for sub-Branch functions and events.

The RSL Auxiliary raises funds to support the charitable objects of the sub-Branch by holding raffles, selling tokens during the ANZAC and Poppy Appeals, as well as other fundraising activities that arise throughout the year in their local community.

RSL Auxiliaries were founded on fellowship and a desire to care for our veterans and this principle guides their existence to the present day. Members enjoy the friendship of like-minded people, visiting other auxiliaries when they hold functions, and being able to share ideas and ideals.

RSL AUXILIARY

Our last monthly Meeting for 2022 is on Monday 7th November at 1pm. Bookings are essential. Please ring Rae on 99727385 before Thursday 3rd November, for catering purposes. Thank you for your cooperation.

We will have a special Guest Speaker, Rob Dell, talking about his father Frank Dell who wrote a book, Mosquito Down, on his experiences during World War 2.

Remembrance Day is Friday 11th November. We will be selling handmade Poppies at Club Reception from 1st November through to Remembrance Day, for a gold coin donation. Then we will be selling Poppies and Tokens on Remembrance Day. All funds raised will support veterans and their families. Your support is appreciated.

Our Forestville RSL sub-Branch/RSL Auxiliary Christmas Fundraising Luncheon is on Sunday 4th December, 11.30am for 12pm. Details are available in this newsletter.

Our Fashion Parade is on Monday 21st November at 12.30 for 1.00pm. Fashions are by Donna Lou, come on fellows, give your partner a credit card, her Christmas present is solved! Tickets are \$15 per person, including a glass of sparkling wine on arrival, and afternoon tea after the Fashion Parade. Lucky Door Prize & raffles, with all proceeds going to our well deserved veterans and families in need. There will be a 50c Book Sale, so this is your chance to get your holiday reading sorted out.

New members are welcome. Members on the sick list, please call me on 94020882.

Regards,

Annie Betts

RSL Auxiliary Coordinator

Limited numbers
apply...

REMEMBRANCE DAY

Limited numbers
apply...

11th November, 2022

10.15am for 10.25am

Cenotaph

Forestville RSL Club

Manly Warringah Pipe Band will play from 10.25am with our Remembrance Day Service commencing at 10.35am - 11.00am This will be followed by a march around the Club by the Band & post-service hospitality provided by the sub-Branch for those who have registered to attend.

Members of the sub-Branch & their families are invited to register.

Seating will be provided for all who have registered to attend.

Registration is required by 3rd November.

If you wish to attend please visit the sub-Branch office during office hours on Monday & Thursday or email our Assistance Secretary asstsecretary@forestvillersl.org.au with full name(s) & contact details.

We look forward to you joining us for our Remembrance Day Service

FITTING WAR VETERAN TRIBUTE ON MONA VALE HEADLAND

A dedicated memorial to commemorate the 1800 service men and women who lost their lives at sea during World War Two was unveiled at Mona Vale's headland (Robert Dunn Reserve) on Friday 14th October 2022.

Sadly, one of the last remaining Australian WWII prisoners of war, Mr Walter 'Wal' Williams OAM, passed away on 4th June of this year at the RSL ANZAC Village at Narrabeen.

Wal Williams had been working closely with Northern Beaches Council, the NSW Government and Pittwater RSL on the location and design of the memorial.

The memorial was unveiled by Minister for Infrastructure, Rob Stokes MP, Minister for Veterans, David Elliott MP and Northern Beaches Mayor, Michael Regan.

Sub-Branch attendees included President Bob Lunnon, VP Sandy Howard and Ceremonial Officer John Balfour OAM. A wreath was laid by Bob Lunnon, President, Northern Beaches District Council.



Mervyn Whiting OAM Presentation

Photo shows Jonathan O'Dea presenting the Order of Australia Medal (OAM) to Mervyn Whiting at Ryde Hospital. Mervyn was due to be presented at Government House on the same day but he had a major heart attack 4 days earlier. John Balfour went immediately into overdrive and pulled the event into place after Government House couriered the Medal by 2pm on the day.



Forestville RSL sub-Branch + Auxiliary

Christmas Fundraising Luncheon

Sunday 4th December 2022

Forest Room
Forestville RSL Club

Time: 11.30am for 12 noon - 3pm Lunch starts at noon.
No access prior to 11.30am

Tickets: On sale from 10.00am 3rd November from the sub-Branch office on Monday & Thursday mornings only. Please provide phone number when paying.

Cost: \$40 per person cash or eftpos (available at sub-Branch office). No refunds after 30th November.

Menu: A three course meal will be served with alternates on each course with refreshments

Dress: Jacket & tie for gentlemen / Semi-formal for ladies

Entertainment: Stephen Kiely

Fundraising & Raffle: Great prizes to be won so bring your luck and dollars to enjoy the fun

Club bus: Will operate from 10.30am till 4pm. Bookings to be made personally at Club Reception or by phoning 9451 1011

Contact: Kevin Leary, Assistant Secretary email:
asstsecretary@forestville.org.au

MERRY CHRISTMAS!



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)

Wednesday 2 nd November 2022	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting
Friday 11 th November 2022	*	10.15 for 10.25 am Remembrance Day Service
Monday 21 st November	*	RSL Auxilliary Fundraising Fashion Parade 12.30 for 1pm
Sunday 4 th December 2022	*	11.30am for 12noon Christmas Fundraising Luncheon
Wednesday 7 th December 2022	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting

Remembrance Day Education Grants Program for 2022

This grant was first introduced in 2019 for 2020. The 2022 program is open to eligible applicants who will be entering Year 7 in 2023. It is to assist with the costs associated with transitioning to high school. The value of each grant is \$2000.

Letters have been sent to Primary Schools in our area with details for their newsletters.

We would appreciate your support with spreading information about this program to your family & friends with eligible applicants in Year 6 this year. Further details on our Education Grants Program (EGP) are available on our sub-Branch website :

<https://www.forestvillersl.org.au/school-grants/>

Significant Anniversaries

NOVEMBER is noteworthy for the following significant dates:

2nd November 1942 – Australians recapture Kokoda

29th November 1942 – FSGT HR Middleton, VC over Italy

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

If you do not have an email address, you could have a family member or neighbour receive your newsletter by email and pass it onto you.

We appreciate your cooperation!

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



sub-Branch Office

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

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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](https://www.instagram.com/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/my-service

Australian Death Notification Service

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

Scamwatch

www.scamwatch.gov.au

Military History Society of NSW

www.militaryhistorynsw.com.au