



RSL NSW

ANZAC DAY 2023



Forestville RSL sub-Branch

NEWSLETTER

Serving veterans and their families in the Forest Area

MAY, 2023

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As usual April has been a very busy month for your Committee members including attendance at Anzac services at John Colet School in Belrose on 5th April, Belrose Country Club on 21st April, Forestville Public School on 27th April, and Terrey Hills Primary and Killarney Heights Public Schools on 29th April. Sub-Branch representatives also attended RSL commemorative services at RSL Anzac Village in Narrabeen on 19th April, the Kokoda Track Memorial Walkway on 22nd April, and Terrey Hills Community and Collaroy Beach Sunset Services on 25th April.

Our own Anzac services on Anzac Sunday 23rd April and the Dawn Service on 25th April were very successful and well attended. Our thanks to those hardy volunteers for their help in placing chairs for seating, plus other duties. Special mention of the diligent and hard work behind the scenes goes to Vince Williams CSC, our Secretary, and Assistant Secretary, Kevin Leary, supported by Committee members and volunteers. And thanks to our Anzac Sunday March Parade Commander, John Balfour OAM. Well done JB! Thanks also to our RSL Auxiliary members for their assistance, including fund-raising for the RSL NSW Veterans Support Fund over the Anzac period.

I represented our sub-Branch and Northern Beaches District Council at the Harbord RSL sub-Branch "Anzac Sportsmen of War" Luncheon on 14th April, with the special guest being our NSW Governor, Her Excellency The Hon. Margaret Beazley, AO KC, who is also Patron of RSL NSW. All proceeds support this sub-Branch's Veterans Wellbeing Program.

The Australia Remembers – Northern Beaches and North Shore Committee is organizing a Defence of Sydney 81st Commemorative Service at 10am on Friday 2nd June at North Head, open to members and the public. Your sub-Branch representatives on this organizing committee are Sandy Howard, Vice President, and me as President of Northern Beaches District Council.

Entries in the Australia My Country competition close on 12th May. They will be collected from schools by 19th May. Marking then takes place on 27th May and winners will be announced at our AMC Presentation Ceremony on 17th June at the Forestville RSL Club.

If you have not already done so, we take this opportunity to remind you to make a donation to the Anzac Appeal 2023, if you are able to do so, at: www.anzacappeal.com.au.

We have successfully launched monthly walking groups as part of the RSL NSW Sport and Recreation program, with the second group on 19th April enjoying a 45 minute perambulation, followed by morning tea in the Club. These walking groups are held on the third Wednesday of each month, with the next event taking place on Wednesday 17th May commencing at 9.45am from the front entrance of the Club. Please join us for some exercise and camaraderie, all are welcome, male and female, as well as animals on a leash.

Congratulations to our Secretary, Vince Williams CSC, who has been appointed to the RSL NSW Tribunal which hears, determines and adjudicates disciplinary matters, and makes recommendations to the RSL NSW Board in accordance with the provisions of the RSL NSW Constitution. Vince brings a high level of requisite qualifications, skills, and experience to his role, including dispute resolution and peer review, knowledge of governance procedures and administrative review.

Please check your "Dates to Remember" in this newsletter, and get ready to rug up a little more as we get to the end of Autumn later this month.

Bob Lunnon
President

What's On

**Anzac Sunday March
& Service**
Sunday 23rd April 2023

Anzac Dawn Service
Tuesday 25th April 2023

General Meeting
Wednesday 3rd May 2023
7.30pm



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Please consider the environment. Receive your Newsletter via Email.

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

Membership

Membership totals: 408 (plus 4 Honorary members)

We welcome new members.

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

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

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.

FORESTVILLE RSL SUB-BRANCH

***** WALKING GROUPS *****

NEXT WALKING GROUP ON WEDNESDAY 17th MAY AT 0930 FOR 0945

AS PART OF RSL NSW STRATEGIC PLAN 2021/2026

SPORT & RECREATION ACTIVITIES FOR SUB-BRANCH MEMBERS

Our next walking group activity will be on Wednesday 17th May at 0930 for 0945 from the Club entrance. All sub-Branch and Auxiliary members and partners, and dogs on a leash, are welcome to join us for another gentle walk, followed by coffee/tea in the Club, hosted by the sub-Branch. We hope you can join us in support of our collective and individual wellbeing, health and camaraderie.

At our General Meeting on 5th April we welcomed Jen Reynolds from RSL NSW Sport and Recreation. Jen provided us with an excellent update on Sport and Recreation activities around NSW, including a goal to achieve 1000 activities in 2023.



RSL AUXILIARY

Our next General Meeting is on Monday 1st May, commencing at 1pm with a light lunch, followed by our meeting at 1.30pm. Bookings are essential – please book by Thursday 27th April latest. Members who confirmed at the April luncheon have had your names entered for May, so please ensure you let us know if you will now not be attending.

Our sub-Branch Assistant Secretary, and our RSL Auxiliary Coordinator, Kevin Leary, is your RSL Auxiliary contact for bookings, and cancellations. Please contact Kevin by email on: auxiliary@forestvillersl.org.au; or by phone on 02-9451 1221 during office hours - on Mondays 9am to 2pm, or Thursdays 9am to 12noon.

On Friday 30th March, we were visited by 40 senior and junior guides who are members of Belrose Guides, accompanied by their Leaders. Three sub-Branch Committee and two Auxiliary members accompanied them on a 30 minute tour of our Cenotaph and Memorial Garden,

the 250 year old cannon at the Club entrance, the three service flags and the Memorial Book in Club Reception, and the Steps of Remembrance. The tour culminated in the guides and their leaders being in the Club for the Ode at 6pm, following which they then walked along the Anzac Memorial Pathway to Poppy Park for a BBQ.

A big thank you to all Auxiliary members who gave up their time to help with our fundraising activities in April. This included selling Anzac tokens as part of our Anzac Sunday March and Service on 23rd April, our Anzac Dawn Service on 25th April, and serving tea/coffee as part of the free breakfast in the Club for attendees at our Anzac Dawn Service. Thanks also to Jacquie Pretti and Shirley Kellock for their wonderful assistance with arranging our Easter raffle prizes, which raised \$185.

New members are always welcome to join our RSL Auxiliary through our sub-Branch Membership Officer, Peter McAskill, at 9451 1221 during the office hours listed above, or by email at: membership@forestvillersl.org.au

ANZAC SUNDAY March & Service 2023



FORESTVILLE RSL CLUB LIMITED Annual General Meeting Monday 1st May 2023 at 7pm

A reminder to all sub-Branch members that the Club AGM is on Monday 1st May at 7pm. It is also a triennial election year for the Club Board of Directors. Sub-Branch members John Anstiss, and Geoff Green, are re-standing for two positions in group 1 for a 3-year term to 2026. Olivier Starck, a local resident, is re-standing for the remaining casual vacancy in group 3 for a 2-year term to 2025.

Nominations closed on Monday 10th April. Only three nomination forms were received. Therefore, sub-Branch members John Anstiss and Geoff Green are returned unopposed as Directors from group 1, and Olivier Starck is returned unopposed as a Director from Group 3.



Forestville RSL sub-Branch

RATHMINES RAAF CATALINA BASE & LAKE MACQUARIE TOUR Tuesday 23rd May, 2023

*For sub-Branch members and partners and RSL
Auxiliary members*

*Departing at 8am sharp from the lower car park, please be
there by 7.45am latest. Returning around 5pm*

COST: \$50 per person (heavily subsidised by the sub-Branch)

CANCELLATIONS: no refunds after Wednesday 17th May

*We have had a great response to the Coach Tour and
only 3 seats are left. **Be Quick!**
When all 50 tickets are sold we will have a waitlist to fill
any cancellations.*

COMMEMORATIVE MEDALLION AND CERTIFICATE TO HONOUR VIETNAM WAR VETERANS

To acknowledge the 50th anniversary of Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War, DVA is producing a Commemorative Medallion and Certificate of Commemoration. This is a small but meaningful way to honour the service of Vietnam War veterans and to recognize the sacrifice of those who never returned home.

Vietnam War veterans, or their widows or family members, with immediate family members taking preference, are entitled to the medallion and certificate, which is free of charge, and no postage costs are involved.

Applications must be submitted before or during June 2023.

For more information, please visit the DVA website at:

www.dva.gov.au/vietnam50; or phone: 1800 838 372; or email: commemorations@dva.org.au.

Guest Speaker Wednesday 3rd May SARAH HUGHES



Sarah is our **Australian Veterans & Children Assistance Trust (AVCAT)** student completing her Bachelor of Arts degree, majoring in film studies and minoring in visual arts. Sarah spoke to us at our February meeting using Zoom and as our first attempt at using that medium to a meeting, was not entirely successful.

We have invited Sarah to speak in person and with the engagement of members in February, it should be enjoyable.



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 2023 (Subject to change)

Wednesday 3 rd May 2023	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting
Wednesday 7 th June 2023	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting
Wednesday 5 th July 2023	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting
Wednesday 2 nd August 2023	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting
Sunday 13 th August 2023	*	11.30am for 12noon Commemoration Luncheon
Monday 4 th September 2023	*	11.30am for 12pm RSL Auxiliary 69 th Birthday Luncheon
Wednesday 6 th September 2023	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting
Wednesday 4 th October 2023	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting
Wednesday 1 st November 2023	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting
Saturday 11 th November 2023	*	10.30am Remembrance Day Service
Sunday 3 rd December 2023	*	11.30am for 12noon Christmas Fundraising Luncheon
Wednesday 6 th December 2023	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting

May Significant Anniversaries

May is noteworthy for the following significant dates:

5th May 1943 – SS Fingal torpedoed and sunk off Nambucca Heads, 12 men killed
9th May 1943 – Point Stuart, NT, bombed by Japanese
10th May 1943 – Point Stuart, NT, bombed a second time
13th May 1943 – North African campaign ends
14th May 1943 – Hospital ship Centaur sunk off South Queensland coast
16th May 1943 – Dambusters raid – Australians in crews
16th May 1968 – Second major Battle for Fire Support Base Coral - South Vietnam
19th May 1918 – Sgt W. Ruthven, VC at Ville-sur-Ancre
26th May 1968 – Battle of Balmoral Fire Support Base – South Vietnam
28th May 1968 – US Presidential Unit Citation – DCoy 6 RAR, from Long Tan

COMMEMORATION SERVICE TO MARK THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SINKING OF THE AUSTRALIAN HOSPITAL SHIP *CENTAUR* 2.45PM FOR 3PM ON SUNDAY 14TH MAY 2023

Northern Beaches RSL District Council (NBDC), on behalf of our 10 sub-Branches on the Northern Beaches, has arranged this Commemoration Service at South Mona Vale Headland (Robert Dunn Reserve), Narrabeen Park Parade, Mona Vale. Ray James OAM, President of RSL NSW, will lay a wreath. You are cordially invited to attend this service, followed by hospitality at Pittwater RSL Club from 4pm to 5pm, hosted by NBDC.

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.

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



sub-Branch Office

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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