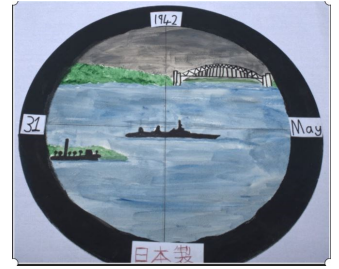




**RSL**  
**NSW**



## Forestville RSL sub-Branch

Australia My Country

### NEWSLETTER

Serving veterans and their families in the Forest Area

JUNE, 2023

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

Our Committee members have settled back in to more normal office operations, after our very successful Anzac commemorative services in April.

On Anzac Sunday there were around 150 in marching groups, and around 750 attended the Service itself. The March route was lined with residents and well-wishers. At the Dawn Service, there were around 1000 in attendance, with a majority of younger families including young children. Following the Service, breakfast was served for 521 attendees in 75 minutes from 6.15am.

On behalf of our Committee and members, I thank Club CEO, Ian Thomson, his management team and all Club staff, 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 photos at the Dawn Service, a selection of which is included in this newsletter. A larger selection of Darryl's photos for both services are available on our sub-Branch website for your perusal, under the Events/Gallery tab. Our thanks again, Darryl, as always! Great job!

A few "gremlins" found their way into our wireless sound system used for both services, with a few issues experienced during the Dawn Service, when attendees were around the entrance to the Club, which coincidentally had an immediate effect on our wireless system. We are now pursuing a hard-wired system for Remembrance Day and our Anzac services next year.

Australia My Country judging took place on 27<sup>th</sup> May at the Forestville RSL Club. Winners will be awarded at our AMC Presentation Ceremony on 17<sup>th</sup> June at the Club. Michael Regan MP, Independent Member for Wakehurst, has been invited to present the awards.

On Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June, Committee and sub-Branch members will attend the 81st Defence of Sydney Commemoration Service at North Head organized by the Australia Remembers - Northern Beaches and North Shore - Committee. This Service commemorates the 81st Anniversary of the night that "war came to Sydney" with the Japanese midget submarine attack on Sydney Harbour on the night of 31st May 1942. Our sub-Branch will lay a wreath. The Guest Speaker will be Commodore Raymond Leggatt, AM, CSC, RAN – Deputy Fleet Commander.

On your behalf, we congratulate our RSL Auxiliary members who participated in fundraising activities on Anzac Sunday and Anzac Day, which resulted in \$3425 being raised, an outstanding achievement. So far this year, \$6454 has been raised, so our congratulations to all RSL Auxiliary members involved.

Our sub-Branch 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary will occur in 2024. Should any members have original photos depicting the construction of the Soldiers' Memorial Hall on Starkey Street, or the early stages of building the Club on Melwood Avenue, and you are happy to share them, please drop them into the sub-Branch office during office hours.

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

Best Regards,  
**Bob Lunnon**

#### What's On

**General Meeting**  
Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2023  
7.30pm

\*  
**General Meeting**  
Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2023  
7.30pm



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Please consider the environment. Receive your Newsletter via Email.

## Membership

**Membership totals: 412** (plus 5 Honorary members)  
Sadly we have lost the following members:

**RICHARDSON** Gordon ..... RAAF  
**HODGES** Albert John ..... ARMY

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](mailto: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](mailto:membership@forestvillersl.org.au) including if you wish to rescind your membership for any reason.

### **GENERAL MEETING – WEDNESDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> MAY 2023**

#### **WE WELCOME TWO NEW MEMBERS**

At our General Meeting on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2023, we welcomed two new members: **Mat Bell** who resides in Liverpool, and **John Campbell** who lives in Killarney Heights. It is wonderful to have you as members of Forestville RSL sub-Branch, Mat, and John.



### **FORESTVILLE RSL SUB-BRANCH**

#### **WALKING GROUP**

*Next Walking Group on WEDNESDAY 21<sup>st</sup> June at 0930 for 0945*

*As part of the RSL NSW Strategic Plan 2021/2026*

#### **SPORT & RECREATION ACTIVITIES FOR SUB-BRANCH MEMBERS**

Our next walking group activity will be on **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> June 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.

## **RSL AUXILIARY**

Our next General Meeting is on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June, commencing at 1pm with a light lunch, followed by our meeting at 1.30pm. Bookings are essential – please book by Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> June latest. Members who confirmed at the May luncheon have had your names entered for 5<sup>th</sup> June, so please ensure you let us know if you will now not be attending.

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

The primary purpose of our RSL Auxiliary is fundraising, to support veterans and their families in need. On Anzac Sunday and Anzac Day, \$3245 was raised, which is an outstanding achievement by our members who participated. This year, \$6454 has been raised, so congratulations again!

We thank our Guest Speaker at our General Meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> May, Wynne Kennedy. Wynne's husband is Don Kennedy OAM, our sub-Branch Patron. Wynne enjoyed it so much that she is now intending to join our RSL Auxiliary. Thanks, Wynne!

Our Guest Speaker for our General Meeting on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June will be the inimitable Ken Edwards. Ken is the retired Executive Captain of the James Craig, and Tall Ship Editor. He is also a star of stage, screen and social media when he was recognised for his part in the Old Peoples Home for Teenagers program on ABC TV, which was also the winner of the 2022 AACTA Awards: Best Factual Entertainment Program. Welcome, Ken!

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

# Anzac Dawn Service 2023



## COMMEMORATION LUNCHEON

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> August 2023  
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 9.30am on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June from the sub-Branch office on Monday and Thursday mornings only.  
Please provide mobile phone number when paying. \$50.00 per person, by cash, and EFTPOS is also now available (Tap & Go).
- Cost:** A 2 x course meal will be served with alternates on each course, with refreshments.
- Menu:** Smart casual.
- Dress:** Will be provided.
- Entertainment:** Please be prepared with cash, and EFTPOS will also be available.
- Raffle:** 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.
- Club Bus:** Please note that there will be no refunds on cancellations received on or after Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> August.
- Cancellations:** Will be provided in our July newsletter
- Further Details:**

**CONTACT:** Kevin Leary, Assistant Secretary, at email: [asstsecretary@forestvillersl.org.au](mailto:asstsecretary@forestvillersl.org.au), or phone: 94511221

### COMMEMORATION SERVICE

To mark the  
80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Of The Sinking of the  
Australian Hospital Ship  
**CENTAUR**  
Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2023

Northern Beaches RSL District Council (NBDC) arranged this Commemoration Service at South Mona Vale Headland (Robert Dunn Reserve), Narrabeen Park Parade, Mona Vale. **Ray James OAM**, President of RSL NSW, and sub-Branch Patron, **Don Kennedy OAM**, laid wreaths.



## THE 2023 LEST WE FORGET ANZAC DAY TRIBUTE AT SYDNEY'S TOWN HALL

Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> April 2023

Our sub-Branch Patron, WWII veteran and Life Member, Don Kennedy OAM, was invited as a special guest to participate in this 2023 Anzac Day Tribute, broadcast nationally by 7 News on Anzac Day afternoon. Don, at 96 years of age, laid a wreath, and recited The Ode, as part of the program. It is highly recommended viewing for an hour, using the link below:



[https://www.google.com/search?](https://www.google.com/search?q=Donald+kennedy+oam+at+Sydney+Town+Hall+concert&oeq=Donald+kennedy+oam+at+Sydney+Town+Hall+concert&ags=chrome..69i57j33i160i3.42822j0j15&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8#fpstate=ive&vld=cid:8a8e5e4e.vid:-aCVy95wuM4)

[q=Donald+kennedy+oam+at+Sydney+Town+Hall+concert&oeq=Donald+kennedy+oam+at+Sydney+Town+Hall+concert&ags=chrome..69i57j33i160i3.42822j0j15&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8#fpstate=ive&vld=cid:8a8e5e4e.vid:-aCVy95wuM4](https://www.google.com/search?q=Donald+kennedy+oam+at+Sydney+Town+Hall+concert&oeq=Donald+kennedy+oam+at+Sydney+Town+Hall+concert&ags=chrome..69i57j33i160i3.42822j0j15&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8#fpstate=ive&vld=cid:8a8e5e4e.vid:-aCVy95wuM4)



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

## Dates to Remember in 2023 (Subject to change)

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

### Defence of Sydney – 81<sup>st</sup> Anniversary

10:00am Friday 02 June

#### NORTH FORT VIEWING PLATFORM

As President Bob has stated, this annual conducted by the Australia Remembers – Northern Beaches and North Shore - Committee is an appropriate way to commemorate the City of Sydney's place in the conflict of WWII. Seating is provided and morning tea will be served afterwards courtesy of Mackellar Girls High School. Please advise the office if you intend to join us.



### June Significant Anniversaries

June is noteworthy for the following significant dates:

- 1<sup>st</sup> June 1968 – 4RAR arrives South Vietnam ex HMAS Sydney
- 12<sup>th</sup> June 1943 – LCDR L. V. Goldsworthy, GC RANVR
- 18<sup>th</sup> June 1953 – Australian POWs released at Panmunjon
- 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2013 – Cpl C. S. Baird, VC at Uruzgan Province, Afghanistan (Posthumous)

### 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)

*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

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

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Chapter Co-Ordinator: Merrill Barker  
Email: [mchapter@forestvillersl.org.au](mailto:mchapter@forestvillersl.org.au)  
Phone: 0433 934 705

# 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](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)

**Military History Society of NSW**

[www.militaryhistorynsw.com.au](http://www.militaryhistorynsw.com.au)