



# RSL NSW



## Forestville RSL sub-Branch

Australia My Country

### NEWSLETTER

Serving veterans and their families in the Forest Area

JULY, 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

We're half way through a very busy 2023 for our Committee members, and our Committee volunteer Sue Duchesne.

Based on recent occurrences with the passing of some of our members, we are finding that details of many of our member's Next of Kin (NOK) contacts are not being kept up to date. It is your responsibility to ensure your NOK contact details are correct and up to date. We therefore ask that you constantly ensure our Membership Officer is always aware of both your primary NOK contact details (eg your partner), as well as your secondary NOK contact details (eg a family member such as a son or daughter), are always correct. These details can change from time to time, dependent on your individual circumstances. Please help us to help you, it's that simple. Thanks for your cooperation.

A large contingent of our sub-Branch Committee members attended the Australia Remembers – Northern Beaches & North Shore – 81<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Defence of Sydney Commemoration Service at North Head on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2023. We have included a selection of photos in this newsletter.

The RSL NSW State Congress 2022 will be held in Newcastle 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> October. Our sub-Branch Delegates will be Vince Williams CSC, and VP Sandy Howard. As President of Northern Beaches RSL District Council (NBDC), I will attend as the NBDC Delegate.

We were pleased to see 300 entries from 11 area schools for the Australia My Country/AMC competition, up around 35% on last year, which is a very commendable result. The number of area schools which participated is down from 12 in 2022, largely as a result of staff changes, which we can now work on for AMC 2024. Prize winners were awarded at the AMC Presentation Ceremony on 17<sup>th</sup> June at the Club by Matt Cross MP, Member for Davidson. We thank our Committee Members who co-ordinated the AMC program in 2023 for our sub-Branch: AMC Coordinator John Balfour OAM, John Scifleet, and Kevin Leary, supported by our Committee members. Well done, all! We also thank our Active Committee Volunteer, Darryl Bullock, our resident photographer, for always being available to pictorially record these sub-Branch events and activities. Details are available elsewhere in this newsletter.

Our next event will be the Commemoration Luncheon on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> August, commemorating all wars, campaigns, and battles. Full details are included in this newsletter. Please book early to avoid disappointment.

Members who are Facebook users are encouraged to access our sub-Branch Facebook page directly through Facebook, or also through our sub-Branch website if you click on the Facebook icon available in various areas of our website. Give it a try, this will give you access to daily posts on our sub-Branch Facebook page, including RSL, DVA and many other updates.

Take care with the cold weather and call us if in need.

Best Regards  
**Bob Lunnon**

#### What's On

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

**General Meeting**  
Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August  
2023  
7.30pm

**Commemoration Luncheon**  
Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> August 2023  
11.30 for 12pm



#### In this issue

- Membership Update
- RSL Auxiliary
- Dates to Remember
- Significant Anniversaries
- Contact details
- Pre-paid Pavers
- SCAMWATCH
- Walking Groups
- Commemoration Luncheon
- Anzac Day March
- Australia My Country
- Australia Remembers

Please consider the environment. Receive your Newsletter via Email.

## Membership

**Membership totals: 411** (plus 5 Honorary members)  
Sadly we have lost the following members:

**TUCKWELL** Peter Norman ARMY  
**CHAMPION OAM** George Annells ARMY  
**PRIDDY** Eric Philip RAF  
**WICKHAM** Margaret Joan AWAS

We welcome new members:

**KENNEDY** Wynne RSL AUXILIARY  
**REYNOLDS** Jennifer Markunas AFFILIATE  
**WILLIAMS** Clive Owen Gestern ARMY  
**MULLINS** Damien Joseph ARMY  
**BAIN** Vincent 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 your responsibility to ensure your NOK contact details are correct and up to date. We therefore ask that you constantly ensure our Membership Officer is always aware of both your primary NOK contact details (eg your partner), as well as your secondary NOK contact details (eg a family member such as a son or daughter), are always correct.***

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.



### **FORESTVILLE RSL SUB-BRANCH WALKING GROUP**

*Next Walking Group on WEDNESDAY 19th July 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 19th July 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 3<sup>rd</sup> July, commencing at 1pm with a light lunch, followed by our meeting at 1.30pm. Bookings are essential – please book by Thursday 29th June latest. Members who confirmed at the June luncheon have had your names entered for 3<sup>rd</sup> July, so please ensure you let us know if you will now not be attending. Our Guest Speaker will be food historian, Diana Noyce.

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 02-9451 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. So far, this year, \$6923 has been raised, so congratulations again for all of your support!

We thank our Guest Speaker at our General Meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> June, Ken Edwards, retired Executive Captain of the James Craig and Forestville RSL sub-Branch member, who spoke about his life at sea in various seaman/pilot/naval roles on many different ships. In his conclusion, he told us how he was chosen for the ABC TV award-winning show: "Old People's Home for Teenagers". We were enthralled with everything you had to say, Ken, and we thank you for joining us.

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).

## 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.
- Cost:** \$50.00 per person, by cash, and EFTPOS is also now available (Tap & Go).
- Menu:** A 2 x course meal will be served with alternates on each course, with refreshments.
- Dress:** Smart 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.
- Cancellations:** Please note that there will be no refunds on cancellations received on or after Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> August.
- Further Details:** Will be provided in our August newsletter

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

## Anzac Day March 2023 GORDON RICHARDSON - 100 YRS OLD

Sub-Branch member **Gordon Richardson**, 100 years old, was invited to join the RSL NSW contingent leading the Anzac Day March in Sydney this year. Gordon is pictured with our Ceremonial Officer, John Balfour OAM, who has been a Marshal of the Sydney Anzac Day March for the last 51 years, at the start point on Anzac Day. Sadly, Gordon passed away on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May. His funeral was at Belrose Uniting Church on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May. An RSL Tribute was provided by our Welfare Officer, Stuart Hablethwaite. RIP, Gordon Richardson



## Australia My Country

ART & POETRY COMPETITION  
Forest Area Primary Schools  
2023 PRIZEWINNER PRESENTATION  
ON SATURDAY 17<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2023

PRESENTED BY MATT CROSS MP  
Member For Davidson



Congratulations to this year's winners. Photos can be viewed on our sub-Branch website: [www.forestvillersl.org.au/gallery](http://www.forestvillersl.org.au/gallery)

## AUSTRALIA REMEMBERS – NORTHERN BEACHES NORTH SHORE 81<sup>st</sup> ANNIVERSARY DEFENCE OF SYDNEY COMMEMORATION SERVICE NORTH HEAD - FRIDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> JUNE 2023



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 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 Commemoration Luncheon
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2023	*	11.30am for 12pm RSL Auxiliary 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 Service
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2023	*	11.30am for 12noon Christmas Fundraising Luncheon
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting

### June Significant Anniversaries

July is noteworthy for the following significant dates:

1 <sup>st</sup> July 1942	...	Sinking of the Montevideo Maru (1053 Australian POWs died)
2 <sup>nd</sup> July 1952	...	Operation Blaze raid on Hill 227 Korea
7 <sup>th</sup> July 1942	...	Div in action 1 <sup>st</sup> Battle of El Alamein
8 <sup>th</sup> July 1942	...	460 Sqn raid Wilhelmshaven
22 <sup>nd</sup> July 1942	...	Start of Battle of Kokoda Trail
27 <sup>th</sup> July 1942	...	Australian Womens Land Army formed
27 <sup>th</sup> July	...	Korean Veterans Day
31 <sup>st</sup> July 1917	...	3 <sup>rd</sup> Battle of Ypres begins
31 <sup>st</sup> July 1962	...	AATTV arrives in South Vietnam

### 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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# 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)