



RSL
NSW



Forestville RSL sub-Branch

Australia My Country

NEWSLETTER

Serving veterans and their families in the Forest Area

SEPTEMBER, 2023

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

On your behalf, I thank our energetic and extremely hard-working Committee members and Committee volunteers for what has been another busy month. We have a caring, well-oiled, progressive and industrious Committee, always with your interests at the forefront. My report this month will be short, so we can include more articles which are full of information for all members.

Tuesday 15th August 2023 marked the 78th Anniversary of VP Day, the end of WW11. 70 members and guests attended our Commemoration Luncheon on Sunday 13th August, commemorating all Wars, Campaigns and Battles in July, August and September. It was a very successful luncheon, with thanks to all who attended.

On Thursday 3rd August Northern Beaches District Council (NBDC) held a very successful Vietnam Veterans' Vigil at Frenchs Forest Bushland Cemetery, commemorating three Vietnam Veterans buried there, who were KIA or died for health reasons in Vietnam. On Friday 18th August, I represented our sub-Branch, and NBDC, at the Vietnam Veterans' Day 2023 Commemoration Service at the War Memorial on Manly Corso. That afternoon, NBDC held a Vietnam Veterans' Day Commemoration Service in the Chapel at War Vets Village at Narrabeen, hosted by War Vets Village RSL sub-Branch. Then, on Sunday 20th August, Palm Beach RSL sub-Branch organized an NBDC march, service, and luncheon, where I was Guest Speaker.

Finally, it's Legacy Week from 27th August to 2nd September, so please support Legacy fundraising. If you can assist with badge selling in our area, please contact sub-Branch member, and Acting Sydney Legacy President, Tim Becker, on 0411 185 668. Tim looks forward to hearing from you.

Spring is sprung, the grass is ris, I wonder where the birdies is? Enjoy Spring, and call if you are in need.

Best Regards
Bob Lunnon

What's On

General Meeting
Wednesday 6th September
2023
7.30pm
*

General Meeting
Wednesday 4th October
2023
7.30pm
*

Coach Tour
Tuesday 31st October
2023
7.45am for 8am



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ATTENTION: VIETNAM VETERANS SILENT BURDEN: AN INTERVIEW AND PORTRAIT SESSION

At our Vietnam Veterans' Vigil on 3rd August at Frenchs Forest Bushland Cemetery we had a professional photographer in attendance, who provided us with some excellent photos. His name is James Mott. James is working on a project called Silent Burden, which is a video interview and photographic series which aims to document the experiences of Vietnam Veterans while they were deployed, and their lives post-service. David is wanting to hear from Vietnam Veterans who are willing to share their testimony for this series, with an aim to publish stories for educational purpose, to gain insights and understanding of adversity, and to ensure these stories are not lost in time. It will include a filmed interview, and a one-hour studio portrait session.

If you are interested, James Mott's contact

details are as follows, and you can then make direct contact with him by phone or email:

James Mott, Mobile: 0499 885 118,
Email: Thisisjamesmotty@gmail.com



Please consider the environment. Receive your Newsletter via Email.

Membership

Membership totals: **402** (plus 6 Honorary members)

Sadly we have lost the following members:

McBLANE, John RAAF
GILLING, Douglas Laurance RANVR
MONTGOMERY, John Robert ARMY

THOMAS, Graham Arthur RAN

BANKS, Edgar Austin ARMY (UK)

We welcome new members:

HEINS, Sue HONORARY MEMBER
RAYMER, Michael Joseph AFFILIATE

Introductions of new members are always welcome.



Our Cenotaph and Memorial Gardens

MEMORIAL PAVERS

Prepaid Pavers:

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

Please note: Orders for **Remembrance Day** close on Thursday 21st September, 2023

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 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 **9451 1221** or email :

membership@forestvillersl.org.au including if you wish to rescind your membership for any reason.

GENERAL MEETING – WEDNESDAY 2nd AUGUST 2023

WE WELCOMED TWO NEW MEMBERS

At our General Meeting on Wednesday 2nd August 2023, we welcomed two new members: **Vince Bain** as a Service Member, and **Jen Reynolds** as an Affiliate member, Jen is the wife of Scott Reynolds who is a sub-Branch Service member. It is wonderful to have you as members of Forestville RSL sub-Branch, Vince and Jen.

FORESTVILLE RSL SUB-BRANCH - WALKING GROUP

Our Next Walking Group on Wednesday 20th September at 9.45am for 10am

(AS PART OF RSL NSW STRATEGIC PLAN 2021/2026

SPORT & RECREATION ACTIVITIES FOR SUB-BRANCH MEMBERS)

Our next walking group will be on **Wednesday 20th September at 9.45am for 10am** from the entrance of Glen Street Theatre, then around Lionel Watts Park and Garden. All sub-Branch and Auxiliary members and partners, and dogs on a leash, are welcome to join us for a gentle walk, followed by coffee/tea at the Cafe, hosted by the sub-Branch. We hope you can join us in support of our individual wellbeing, health and camaraderie.

YOU are invited

STAFFORD SPRING FASHION PARADE



Sponsored by the Forestville RSL Auxiliary

Wednesday 27th September—10am to 1pm

Tickets: \$20 Morning Tea included

Bookings: Barbara Lunnon 0411 351 654

All proceeds will support veterans and families in need

RSL AUXILIARY

Our gathering on Monday 7th August was a very successful poppy-making workshop in preparation for our fundraising in conjunction with Remembrance Day on 11th November. Eighteen members were there for our workshop. Our poppy-making will now be ongoing, if you wish to help please contact Barbara Lunnon on 0411 351 654.

We are looking forward to our 69th Birthday Luncheon on Monday 4th September in the Flight Deck Room commencing at 12 noon. This luncheon is hosted by the sub-Branch, and sub-Branch Committee members will be joining us for lunch. Our special guest, and Guest Speaker, is Pauline James OAM, State Coordinator, RSL NSW Auxiliaries. Don Kennedy OAM, sub-Branch Patron, will also be joining us to cut our 69th Birthday cake. Please book early as this is an important luncheon in our annual calendar.

Some of our RSL Auxiliary members joined the Bundeena RSL Auxiliary at Anzac House last month. They assisted Anzac House preparing branded t-shirts for RSL NSW veterans competing in the City to Surf.

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; or by phone on 9451 1221 during office hours - on Mondays 9am to 2pm, or Thursdays 9am to 12noon.

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.



Merchant Navy Day Memorial Service
Sunday 3rd September 2023 – 11am
The Grand Hall, Mosman Art Gallery
1 Art Gallery Way, Mosman

This Remembrance Service is dedicated to the service and sacrifice of Australian merchant seamen who manned ships in all parts of the world during the First and Second World Wars. The Australian War Memorial has listed the names of 520 Australian mariners who died during the Second World War.

All are welcome to lay a wreath/tribute following the official wreath laying. Please notify Merrill Barker so your name can be added to the list.

RSVPs: Merchant Navy Chapter, PO Box 6159, Narrabeena, NSW, 2099

Or Email: mnchapter@forestvillersl.org.au

Mobile: 0433 934 705



DON KENNEDY OAM

SUB-BRANCH PATRON, LIFE MEMBER
MERCHANT MARINERS OF WWII

CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL

The Congressional Gold Medal is the highest honour bestowed by the U.S. Congress, recognizing those whose dedication, heroism, and public service have created an impact on American history. Don Kennedy OAM was a member of the U.S. Merchant Marine between 7th December 1941 and 31st December 1946, which qualifies him for this prestigious award. Congratulations, Don!



Forestville RSL sub-Branch
SMALL ARMS MUSEUM & WILDWOOD GARDENS TOUR
Tuesday 31st October, 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 5.30pm.

Full day includes:

- ***Morning tea on the way to Lithgow***
- ***Visit to the Small Arms Museum in Lithgow***
- ***Visit to Wildwood Gardens in spring time***
- ***Two course lunch (alternate serve for main course), with dessert, and tea/coffee, in the Wildwood Gardens café***
- ***A stop at the Bilpin Fruit Bowl for stocking up, including apple pies etc!***
- ***Luxury coach transport***
- ***Numbers currently limited to 43, dependent on coach size***

Cost: \$50 per person, which is heavily subsidized by the sub-Branch

Tickets: on sale from the sub-Branch office at 9.30am on Monday 4th September and after, or contact our Assistant Secretary, Kevin Leary, on 94511221, or by email at: asstsecretary@forestvillersl.org.au, during office hours on Mondays (9am-2pm), and Thursdays (9am-12noon).

Cancellations: no refunds after Wednesday 25th October

Payment: by cash, or EFTPOS



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)

Monday 4th September 2023	*	11.30am for 12pm RSL Auxiliary 69 th Birthday Luncheon
Wednesday 6th September 2023	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting
Wednesday 4th October 2023	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting
Wednesday 1st November 2023	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting
Saturday 11th November 2023	*	10.30am Remembrance Day Service
Sunday 3rd December 2023	*	11.30am for 12noon Christmas Fundraising Luncheon
Wednesday 6th December 2023	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting

September Significant Anniversaries

September is noteworthy for the following significant dates:

ON VARIOUS DATES – PTE W.M. Currey, SGT A.D. Lowerson, PTE P. Mactier, LT E.T. Towner, T/CPL A.H. Buckley, CPL A.C. Hall, TCPL L.C. Weathers, **VCs at Perrone, France**; TPR M. Donaldson, **VC near Tarin Kowt, Afghanistan**; PTE R. Kelliher, **VC at Nadzab**; PTE J.P. Woods, SGT M.V. Buckley, **VCs at Le Verguier, France**; MAJ B.A. Wark, **VC at Bellicourt**; PTE J. Ryan, **VC at Hindenburg**

4th September 1943 – 9th Div. lands at Lae, New Guinea

5th September 1943 – Australians and US Troops land at Nadzab

8th September 1943 – Unconditional surrender of Italy announced

11th September 1943 – Australians capture Salamaua

16th September 1943 – 7th and 9th Divisions enter Lae

17th September 1918 – Australians attack the Hindenburg Line

19th September 1918 – Australian Light Horse captured Nablus

21st September 1918 – AFC at Wadi Fara, Palestine

25th September 1918 – Light Horse captured Amman

26th September 1943 – Operation JAYWICK, Z Force raid on Singapore Harbour from the KRAIT

29th September 1918 – Australians attack Hindenburg Line

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

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

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Email: mnchapter@forestvillersl.org.au
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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>

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