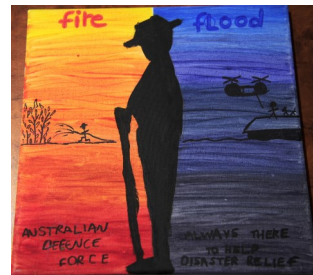




RSL NSW



Forestville RSL sub-Branch

Australia My Country

NEWSLETTER

Serving veterans and their families in the Forest Area

DECEMBER, 2023

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

My first message to all members is an important one regarding bereavement payments on the passing of a Service member, to assist with the high costs of funerals. A bereavement payment is a privilege, not a benefit or a right. Service members are requested to ensure that your NOK and other family members are aware that a bereavement payment must be claimed within three months of your passing. A form is supplied by our sub-Branch for this purpose. Copies of paid funeral invoices must be provided to claim a bereavement payment. Please ensure that our Membership Officer is aware of your primary NOK details (eg you partner) as well as your secondary NOK details (eg a family member such as a son or daughter) and are always up to date.

With the election of our new RSL NSW President, and RSL NSW Board Directors, voting was open to all RSL NSW members. Sadly, only 1556 members exercised their right to vote. This is disappointing, it means that the President and Board for the next three years were put in place by only 5% of our members eligible to vote. Those of you who have registered for email updates from RSL NSW will receive updates on State Congress 2023 outcomes, including outcomes of motions. We also offer our heartiest congratulations to our hard-working Forestville RSL Auxiliary members who at State Congress were awarded Second Place 2023 in the Lady Woodward Cup, against 11 other RSL Auxiliaries around NSW.

Our Remembrance Day Commemoration Service was attended by 150 members and guests, with the Commemorative Address delivered by sub-Branch member Professor Clive Williams, MG. Manly Warringah Pipe Band again were in attendance and they joined us afterwards to play in the Forest Room, where we provided hospitality for all attendees after the service.

John Balfour OAM and I attended the Remembrance Sunday Commemorative Service at Balgowlah, as well as the Northern Beaches Council Commemorative Service on 10th November at Manly Dam. I also attended the Commemorative Service at the War Graves Cemetery at Rookwood on Remembrance Sunday 5th November. We laid wreaths at all three services.

On your behalf, at the end of another successful year, we thank our Committee members; Committee volunteers; Active Committee Volunteers; Cenotaph and Funeral volunteer Norm Reynolds; photographer Darryl Bullock; Travel Officer Bob Connors; Flag Marshal Jimmy Murphy; and our Club caterers; for all of their support throughout the year.

Our gratitude goes to Ian Thomson, RSL Club CEO, his Club management team, and to all Club staff, for another wonderful and memorable year. Our heartfelt thanks also go to all of the RSL Auxiliary members who participated in Remembrance Day fundraising, as well as throughout the year. Our RSL Auxiliary fundraising activities support veterans and their families, especially those in need, as part of our RSL NSW charitable purpose.

At our General Meeting on Wednesday 6th December, we will be making a presentation of our 2023 Remembrance Day Education Grants to six recipients. It will be a full evening with a number of other special presentations to be made. We do hope you will be able to join us for our final meeting for 2023.

We have listed on page 4 of this newsletter all the **Dates to Remember** for inclusion in your 2024 diaries.

Our sub-Branch Office will be closed from midday on Monday 18th December 2023 and will re-open on Monday 15th January 2024. Contact details during this time are listed on page 4.

Best wishes to each of our members and families for a Joyous and Peace-Filled Christmas and a Happy New Year. Please call us if you are in need.

Best Regards

Bob Lunnon

What's On General Meeting

Wednesday 6th December
2023
7.30pm

General Meeting

Wednesday 7th February
2024
7.30pm



In this issue

- Membership Update
- RSL Auxiliary
- Dates to Remember
- Significant Anniversaries
- Contact details
- Pre-paid Pavers
- SCAMWATCH
- Christmas Luncheon
- Guest Speakers
- Purple Poppy Day
- Saltwater Veterans
- Remembrance Day
- Walking Groups

Please consider the environment. Receive your Newsletter via Email.

Membership

Membership totals: (plus 6 Honorary members)

Sadly we have lost the following member:

CARNEY, Frank George Army

We welcome new Member:

GREAVES, Paul RAAF



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 pavers for Anzac Day are now being taken and will be in place before Anzac Day

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:

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.

GUEST SPEAKERS PROGRAM FOR 2024 MEMBER FEEDBACK REQUESTED

At our first General Meeting for 2024 on Wednesday 7th February, we will be asking members for your suggestions on the types of guest speakers you would like to hear from during the year. Please give this your consideration over the Christmas break, and come prepared to share your thoughts, including the names and contact details of specific speakers, where appropriate.

We look forward to hearing all of your suggestions.



SALTWATER VETERANS SAILING PROJECT

www.saltwaterveterans.org/sailing-project

To acknowledge the incredible support Saltwater Veterans has received from fellow Forestville RSL sub-Branch members, Saltwater Veterans extends to you complimentary membership of our Salty sailing community. Please use this link, join the crew, and enter Discount Code: FORESTVILLE (must be in capitals):

<https://www.saltwaterveterans.org/sailing-project>.

Happy sailing everyone!

RSL AUXILIARY

The big news for our RSL Auxiliary was the announcement at the RSL NSW State Congress on 23rd October in Newcastle that we were awarded Second Place in the Lady Woodward Cup 2023 competition. This is wonderful recognition of our fundraising and other activities in support of our purpose. The award was presented by Her Excellency, the Hon. Margaret Beazley, AC KC, Governor of NSW (see photograph).

Guest Speaker at our General Meeting on Monday 6th November in the Flight Deck Room was Snr Constable Matt from Dee Why Police, who provided us with a very interesting and informative presentation on common and prevalent scams in our community. These scams are particularly targeted at seniors, so we suggest you be very careful if you are contacted by scammers. Our thanks to Marj Howard for arranging this.

Our next function is the Forestville RSL sub-Branch Christmas Fundraising Luncheon on **Sunday 3rd December at 11.30am for 12noon in the Flight Deck Room.** Details are included in this newsletter if you still wish to book.

Our next General Meeting will be on **Monday 5th February 2024 at the regular start time of 1pm.** We will be letting you know if any members have put their name forward for the role of RSL Auxiliary Coordinator in 2024.

Kevin Leary is now needed to give his full attention to his increasing sub-Branch responsibilities. Until then, Kevin Leary is your 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.

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.



REMEMBRANCE DAY 2023



MORE PHOTOS CAN BE VIEWED ON OUR WEBSITE:

WWW.FORESTVILLERSL.ORG.AU/PHOTOS



PURPLE POPPY DAY

Commemorating Animals in War

FORESTVILLE RSL SUB-BRANCH

Purple Poppy Day Dog Walking Group

Saturday 24th February, 9.45am for 10am
from the Club



Christmas Fundraising Luncheon



for sub-Branch members and partners

Sunday 3rd December 2023

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 10.30am on 2nd November from the sub-Branch office on Monday & Thursday mornings only. Please provide your mobile number when paying.

Cost: \$50 per person by cash or eftpos (available at sub-Branch office). No refunds after 30th November.

Menu: A two course meal will be served with alternates for each course, with refreshments.

Dress: Christmas festive for ladies and gentlemen.

Entertainment: Ross Maio/Accordian - Vocal.

Fundraising & Raffle: Great prizes to be won so bring your luck and dollars, eftpos will be available.

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; phone: 94511221.

M E R R Y C H R I S T M A S !

NOVEMBER
WALKING
GROUP



We were delighted to be joined by our sub-Branch Honorary Member, Matt Cross MP, Member for Davidson in the NSW Parliament. Thanks Matt!



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)

Sunday 3 rd December 2023	*	11.30am for 12noon Christmas Fundraising Luncheon
Wednesday 6 th December 2023	*	7.30pm Monthly General Meeting
Monday 15 th January 2024	*	9am sub-Branch re-opens
Wednesday 7 th February 2024	*	7.30pm General Meeting
Saturday 24 th February 2024	*	9.45am for 10am Purple Poppy Day Walking Group
Wednesday 6 th March 2024	*	7.30pm Annual General Meeting
Wednesday 3 rd April 2024	*	7.30pm General Meeting
Sunday 21 st April 2024	*	2.40pm Anzac Sunday March &
Thursday 25 th April 2024	*	5.30am Anzac Day Dawn Service
Wednesday 1 st May 2024	*	7.30pm General Meeting
Sunday 19 th May 2024	*	11.30am for 12noon 70 th Anniversary
Wednesday 5 th June 2024	*	7.30pm General Meeting
Wednesday 3 rd July 2024	*	7.30pm General Meeting
Wednesday 7 th August 2024	*	7.30pm General Meeting
Sunday 11 th August 2024	*	11.30am for 12noon Commemoration
Wednesday 4 th September 2024	*	7.30pm General Meeting
Wednesday 2 nd October 2024	*	7.30pm General Meeting
Wednesday 6 th November 2024	*	7.30pm General Meeting
Monday 11 th November 2024	*	10.30am Remembrance Day Service
Sunday 1 st December 2024	*	11.30am for 12noon Christmas
Wednesday 4 th December 2024	*	7.30pm General Meeting
Monday 16 th December 2024	*	Office Close for Christmas Break

December Significant Anniversaries

December is noteworthy for the following significant dates:

- * 26th December 1943 – Americans land Cape Gloucester, supported by RAN
- * 27th December 1943 – 7th Div. captured The Pimple, Shaggy Ridge

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

Secretary & General Enquiries:
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Mobile: 0417 430 389 (leave a message)

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Email: president@forestvillersl.org.au
Phone: 9452 4078
Mobile: 0499 977 111

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Joint Padres
Rev. Dave Lanham Phone: 9975 5410
Rev. Sanghyeon (Daniel) Nam
Phone: 0425 477 003

RSL Auxilliary
Coordinator: Kevin Leary
Phone: 9451 1221
Email: auxiliary@forestvillersl.org.au

Travel Officer: Bob Connors
Phone: 9451 9494

Merchant Navy:
Chapter Co-Ordinator: Merrill Barker
Email: mnchapter@forestvillersl.org.au
Phone: 0433 934 705

Office closed : 12noon Mon 18th Dec
9am Mon 15th Jan 2024

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