



RSL
NSW

Forestville sub-Branch

Australia My Country



NEWSLETTER

Serving veterans and their families in the Forest Area

JUNE, 2025

Contact editor via email: 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, 13th April, there were around 150 in marching groups, and around 750 attended the Service itself. The March route was lined with residents and well-wishers, waving flags. At the Dawn Service with light rain, there were around 750 in attendance, with a number of younger families including young children. Following the Service, breakfast was served for 400 attendees in 35 minutes from 6.15am. Our RSL Auxiliary members served 400+ teas/coffees in an hour. Thanks again to our sub-Branch Ceremonial Officer and Parade Commander, John Balfour OAM, for another outstanding job with our ANZAC Sunday March.

On behalf of our Committee and all members, I thank Forestville RSL 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 period, especially on ANZAC Day! We especially thank the Club for allowing us to use the Club sound system, which our sub-Branch had restored, and which proved very successful for both services. For the first time, we also used our new Forestville RSL sub-Branch lectern with RSL NSW branding and our motto: **The Price of Liberty is Eternal Vigilance.**

Darryl Bullock, our sub-Branch member and very professional volunteer photographer, took photos at both ANZAC Sunday and the Dawn services, a selection of which are 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. Thanks again, Darryl, as always! Great job!

On 20th May, at Forestville RSL Club, our sub-Branch hosted the AGM and Quarterly General Meeting of our RSL NSW Northern Beaches District Council (NBDC), attended by Delegates from our 10 RSL sub-Branches on the Northern Beaches. As this is not an election year, I continue as President of NBDC, and Vince Williams continues as Secretary/Treasurer of NBDC, until the AGM in 2026 when NBDC elections for 2026/2029 will take place. Our sub-Branch Alternate NBDC Delegates, Sandy Howard and Kevin Leary, also continue in their roles until 2026.

Australia My Country judging took place on 24th May at the Forestville RSL Club. Winners will be awarded at our AMC Presentation Ceremony on 14th June at the Club. Matt Cross MP, State Member for Davidson, has been invited to present the awards commencing at 10am.

On Friday 6th June, Committee and sub-Branch members will attend the 83rd Defence of Sydney Commemorative Service at North Head organized by the Australia Remembers - Northern Beaches and North Shore - Committee. This Service commemorates the 83rd anniversary of "The Day The 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 Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC KC, Governor of NSW.

We congratulate our RSL Auxiliary members who participated in fundraising activities on ANZAC Sunday and in the lead up to and on ANZAC Day. Over four days, selling ANZAC tokens and handmade poppies, along with generous donations from the general public in attendance, particularly at our Anzac Dawn Service, our RSL Auxiliary members raised \$3745. This is an outstanding achievement. We offer our congratulations to all RSL Auxiliary members involved. Funds raised will be used to support the RSL NSW Veteran Support Fund, to assist veterans and their families, especially those in need.

With the first month of winter officially upon us, please keep rugged up, and call us if you are in need. We encourage you to be vigilant, with influenza, bronchitis and pneumonia around, by ensuring all of your vaccinations are always up to date.

Footnote: The Davidson High School annual Season of Performing Arts (SOPA) Seniors Free Concert will be held at the Glen Street Theatre at 1pm on Thursday 12th June. To reserve your FREE tickets, please contact the theatre direct on 99751455, or use this link:

<https://glenstreet.com.au/form/sopa-seniors-booking-form>

Regards

Bob Lunnon

What's On

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General Meeting
Wednesday 4th June
7.30pm

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Bill Hardman Presentation
Wednesday 2nd July
7.30pm

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Commemoration Luncheon
Sunday 10th August
11.30am for 12noon



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The Price of Liberty is Eternal Vigilance

Membership

Membership totals: 347 (plus 7 Honorary members)
Sadly we have lost the following members:

..... Nothing to report

New Member:

..... Nothing to Report

Our Cenotaph and Memorial Gardens

MEMORIAL PAVERS

Prepaid Pavers:

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

**Please note: we are now taking orders for
Remembrance Day 2025**

There is now no cost for pavers for sub-Branch service members

***** IMPORTANT MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION *****

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, Peter McAskill via phone 0409 122 025 or 9451 1221 or email : membership@forestvillersl.org.au including if you wish to rescind your membership for any reason.

AUSTRALIA MY COUNTRY (AMC)

Our Australia My Country (AMC) 2025 Competition is now coming to a conclusion. Students of our area Primary schools were invited to participate. It's a great topic: **"Commemorating 110 years of Anzac – an Enduring Legend"** or **"August 1945 – Victory in the Pacific & Returning Home from the War"** so there was plenty of scope for imaginative entries.

Judging took place on Saturday 24th May. Winners will be awarded at our AMC Presentation Ceremony on 14th June at the Club. Matt Cross MP, State Member for Davidson, has accepted our invitation to present the awards commencing at 10am.

More information is available on our website at:

<https://www.forestvillersl.org.au/australia-my-country/>

Forestville RSL Auxiliary

MEAT RAFFLE

FORESTVILLE RSL CLUB

Our Forestville RSL Auxiliary is conducting the Meat Raffle at the Forestville RSL Club on Friday 27th June from 5.30pm. We encourage you to bring friends and family to have dinner in the Club. Meat Raffle tickets are \$5 for 50 chances, and multiples thereof.

Our RSL Auxiliary members will attend our General Meeting on Wednesday 4th June for Meat Raffle ticket pre-sales.

EFTPOS is available. Lots of sub-Branch members have been winners recently.

All proceeds from the Meat Raffle are donated directly by our sub-Branch to the RSL NSW Veteran Support Fund, supporting veterans and their families in need, as part of our charitable purpose. **NOTE:** the next Meat Raffle at the Club will be advised when details are received from the Club.

EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGY CLASSES

As part of our sub-Branch support of our members under the RSL NSW Sport & Recreation program, we have introduced exercise physiology classes for our members and families. **It is a twice-monthly class held in the Forestville RSL Club's Flight Deck Room funded by our sub-Branch, on the second and fourth Thursday of each month. OUR NEXT CLASS AT 2.30PM ON THURSDAY 12th JUNE IS CANCELLED.** Our next class is at 2.30pm on Thursday 26th June.

Our instructors are from Rebound Health who already provide DVA physiology services across the Northern Beaches. While our emphasis will be on balance, there are also Heart Health program events available to members. This is open to members and family, however you **MUST register** by calling our sub-Branch Assistant Secretary, Kevin Leary, at the office during office hours on 9451 1221, or email: asstsecretary@forestville.org.au

Forestville sub-Branch

WALKING GROUPS

Our next Walking Group activity will be at 9.45am for 10am on Wednesday 18th June from Glen Street Theatre followed by morning tea/coffee hosted by the sub-Branch. All sub-Branch members and partners, and dogs on a leash, are encouraged to join us for a gentle walk, as part of RSL NSW Sport and Recreation activities. We look forward to seeing you, in support of our individual wellbeing, health and camaraderie.

Please note that you **MUST register** by calling our sub-Branch Assistant Secretary, Kevin Leary, at the office in office hours on 9451 1221, or email: asstsecretary@forestville.org.au.

AS PART OF THE RSL NSW STRATEGIC PLAN 2021/2026

RSL NSW SPORT AND RECREATION ACTIVITIES FOR SUB-BRANCH MEMBERS

NEW SERVICE MEMBER – PETER MANAHAN

On 7th May 2025, we were delighted to welcome our newest Service member, Peter "Pete" Manahan, NAVY, who is also a member of Saltwater Veterans. We look forward to seeing you at our future General Meetings and commemorative services, Peter.

RSL AUXILIARY

At our 5th May General Meeting, in honour of our upcoming Mothers' Day, members shared many wonderful memories of their own Mothers, some showing beautiful photos. Upon reflection of years gone by, a very moving meeting indeed.

*Our next meeting is on Monday 2nd June starting with lunch at 1pm. The cut-off date is at 5pm on **Wednesday 28th May.***

Our Guest speaker will be Dr. Signe Steers, Audiologist, who will help raise our awareness on "hearing health" which is about so much more than your ears. It's about your safety, independence and your overall quality of life.

*To assist with catering, **it is really important that bookings or cancellations are to be made** via Barbara Norton: mobile 0414 415 332, or email: barian@optusnet.com.au.*

*Would you like to be a member of our RSL Auxiliary to help with fundraising for Veterans and their Families in need? Ring Barbara Norton, details *above*.*

Anzac March
&
Service
2025



Anzac
Dawn Service

2025



COMMEMORATION LUNCHEON



Sunday 10th August 2025
Forest Room, Forestville RSL Club
for sub-Branch members and partners only

**COMMEMORATING WARS, CAMPAIGNS, AND BATTLES
IN THE JULY TO SEPTEMBER PERIOD INCLUDING THE
MIDDLE EAST AREA OF OPERATIONS (MEAO)
COMMEMORATION HELD ANNUALLY
AND THE 80th ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF WW1**

Time: The Luncheon will commence at 12 noon, the doors will open at 11:30am, with no access prior to 11.30am.

Tickets: On sale from 10.30am on Monday 23rd June from the sub-Branch office on Mondays and Thursdays only. Please provide mobile phone number when paying.

Cost: \$40.00 per person for members and partners which is heavily subsidized by the sub-Branch, by cash, and EFTPOS is also available (Tap & Go).

Menu: A 2 course meal will be served with alternates on each course, with refreshments.

Dress: Smart casual.

Entertainment: Will be provided.

Raffle: RSL Auxiliary fundraising raffle, please be prepared with cash, and EFTPOS is also available.

Club Bus: The Club bus will not be available.

Cancellations: Please note that there will be no refunds on cancellations received on or after Thursday 7th August.

More Details: Will be provided in our July/August newsletters.

Contact: Kevin Leary, Assistant Secretary, at email: asstsecretary@forestvillersl.org.au or phone: 94511221

Forestville RSL sub-Branch Auxiliary ANZAC SUNDAY AND ANZAC DAY FUNDRAISING RSL NSW VETERAN SUPPORT FUND

Our Forestville RSL sub-Branch Auxiliary undertook fundraising activities at our Anzac Sunday Service on 13 April, in Club Reception on 22, 23, 24 April, and at our Anzac Day Dawn Service on 25 April. Their untiring efforts over this period resulted in \$3745 being raised to support the RSL NSW Veteran Support Fund. Congratulations to our Forestville RSL sub-Branch Auxiliary members for the time and effort they have put in to achieve this outstanding result.

As part of this, on Anzac Day, a Killarney Heights mother of a 4 year old daughter came into Club Reception to drop off \$30.60 as a donation. With the assistance of the mother, the daughter held a FREE Anzac Biscuit stall in their street. Their community members generously donated \$30.60 to support the daughter's efforts. On behalf of all members, we have thanked both mother and daughter for their care, efforts and support, as part of our Anzac Day fundraising efforts to support the RSL NSW Veteran Support Fund.

***** COMMITTEE POSITIONS AVAILABLE *****

Our sub-Branch is seeking nominations for the following two Committee positions, available immediately:

TREASURER: experience in bookkeeping and data entry in MYOB, also reporting requirements for RSL NSW and BAS, and other duties as required.

VICE-PRESIDENT: acting as Second Vice President in the absence of the President, including other tasks and duties as required.

Nomination forms are available from the sub-Branch office, on office days.

Dates to Remember in 2025
(Subject to change)

FOR YOUR 2025 DIARIES

Wednesday 4 th June	7.30pm General Meeting
Wednesday 2 nd July	7.30pm Bill Hardman Presentation
Wednesday 6 th August	7.30pm General Meeting
Sunday 10 th August	11.30am for 12noon Commemoration Luncheon
Friday 15 th August 2025	80 th Anniversary of VP Day
Wednesday 3 rd September 2025	7.30pm Bill Hardman Presentation
Wednesday 1 st October 2025	7.30pm General Meeting
Wednesday 5 th November 2025	7.30pm Bill Hardman Presentation
Sunday 9 th November 2025	10.30am Remembrance Sunday Service
Wednesday 3 rd December 2025	7.30pm General Meeting
Sunday 7 th December 2025	11.30am for 12noon Christmas Luncheon
Monday 15 th December 2025	2pm sub-Branch office closed - Christmas Break

FORESTVILLE RSL AUXILIARY MEETINGS

1pm **FIRST Monday** of each month - 03 February to 03 November - except October will be Monday 13 October - check RSL Auxiliary monthly newsletter reports.

WALKING GROUPS

9.45am for 10am - third Wednesday of each month—check monthly newsletters.

EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGY CLASSES

2.30pm on the second and fourth Thursday of each month—check monthly newsletters.

JUNE SIGNIFICANT AUSTRALIAN ANNIVERSARIES

June is noteworthy for the following significant dates:

- 4th June 1900 – Victorians/Western Australians engaged at Six mile Spruit
- 4th June 1940 – Evacuation from Dunkirk ends
- 6th June 1965 – 6RAR official birthday
- 8th June 1945 – Australians land at Bonis Peninsula, Bougainville
- 8th June 1965 – 1RAR arrived in Vietnam
- 9th June 1945 – Navy supports Brunei landing
- 10th June 1945 – 9th Div landings at Brunei, Labuan and Muar
- 10th June 2010 – Battle of Eastern Shah Wali Kot
- 11th June 1900 – 1 AH and NSW Lancers in Battle of Diamond Hill
- 11th June 2010 – CPL B. Roberts-Smith, VC at Kandahar Province, Afghanistan
- 13th June 1945 – Australians capture Brunei
- 17th June 1945 – Australians land at Weston, North Borneo
- 20th June 1945 – Australians land at Lutong, Sarawak
- 21st June 1940 – HMAS SYDNEY and STUART bombard Bardia
- 22nd June 1945 – Japanese resistance on Tarakan ends
- 22nd June 1945 – Beaufort, Borneo, occupied
- 23rd June 1885 – NSW contingent to Sudan disembarked at Sydney
- 24th June 1945 – Kuala Belait, North Borneo, occupied
- 25th June 1950 – Nth Koreans cross 38th Parallel to invade Sth Korea
- 27th June 1950 – UN Command – Korea (UNC-K) (start of Korean conflict)
- 28th June 1945 – PTE L.T. Starcevich, VC at Borneo
- 29th June 1950 – 38 (Transport) Sqn. RAAF, arrives at Singapore

*“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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Rev. Sanghyeon (Daniel) Nam
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RSL Auxiliary Coordinator:
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Mobile: 0414 415 332

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/mysevice

Australian Death Notification Service

<https://deathnotification.gov.au/>

Scamwatch

www.scamwatch.gov.au

Military History Society of NSW

www.militaryhistorynsw.com.au