



RSL NSW



Forestville sub-Branch

Australia My Country

NEWSLETTER

Serving veterans and their families in the Forest Area

SEPTEMBER 2025

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

President's Report

With the RSL NSW Veterans Support Fund (VSF) for 2026, our sub-Branch successfully nominated Australian Catholic University (ACU) for inclusion, which will continue for 2026. ACU has campuses in Blacktown, Strathfield and North Sydney, and has a highly developed Student Veteran Support Program (SVSP) for veterans, especially those currently transitioning, to undertake tertiary education. Donations by RSL sub-Branches in NSW to this SVSP program through VSF 2025/6 will now see many veterans supported with their tertiary education. Our other nominated charity, Saltwater Veterans, has also been approved for inclusion in VSF 2026. Our sub-Branch Executive Committee is continuing to work on a nomination for the VSF 2027 program, specifically with regard to therapeutic and psychotherapy aspects to support the mental health of transitioning veterans, also including their families.

We are extremely proud of these achievements by our sub-Branch, and we appreciate your support as well. All sub-Branches, and RSL NSW, are now moving forward with VSF 2026 as our key focus for supporting veterans and their families, ensuring all of our collective activities are carried out in the name of RSL NSW, in order to ensure all communities in NSW are aware of these RSL NSW activities, funded by sub-Branches. This will strengthen RSL NSW branding, whereas in the past there has been little or no recognition. And, in our own sub-Branch, our Forestville RSL Auxiliary, through Club meat raffles, the fashion parade, Commemoration and Christmas luncheon raffles and other fundraising activities in conjunction with Anzac Day and Remembrance Day, are actively working on an ongoing basis to raise funds to support veterans and their families in need, through RSL NSW VSF 2025/6.

You will all have received from our sub-Branch in July an email asking you to complete a survey by 22nd August for our sister charity, RSL LifeCare, about the future direction of RSL Anzac Village. This will assist RSL LifeCare with their ten year renewal project commencing later in 2025. We trust you took the time to provide your valuable feedback as part of this process?

Our sub-Branch Secretary, Vince Williams CSC and Vice President Sandy Howard, as sub-Branch Delegates, along with me in my role as President of our RSL NSW Northern Beaches District Council, will attend the RSL NSW State Congress in Tamworth from 24th to 26th October 2025. We look forward to hearing from RSL NSW Chair Louise Sullivan FAICD FGIA FCG, RSL NSW President Mick Bainbridge and the RSL NSW team at Anzac House about the future direction for our organisation.

A reminder for all members. Minutes of our monthly Committee meetings (except December), and bi-monthly General Meetings (except January), are always available for your perusal in our sub-Branch office on office days.

We hope you will encourage the ladies in your life to attend the Stafford Spring Fashion Parade 2025 on Wednesday 1st October, sponsored by our Forestville RSL Auxiliary. All proceeds will be donated to the RSL NSW Veteran Support Fund to support veterans and their families. Booking details are in this newsletter.

Finally, Legacy Week is 31st August to 6th September. Please support Legacy fundraising for veterans' families.

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

*Bill Hardman Presentation
Wednesday 3rd September
7.30pm*

*RSL Auxiliary
Fashion Parade
Wednesday 1st October
10am - 1pm*

*General Meeting
Wednesday 1st October
7.30pm*



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The Price of Liberty is Eternal Vigilance

Membership

Membership totals: 343 (plus 6 Honorary members)

RSL Badge found: NA 05523. Handed in at Forestville RSL Club. If you are, or know, the descendants, please contact our Membership Officer (details below).

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: orders for Remembrance Day 2025 close on Thursday 18th September

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

***** 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.

FORESTVILLE RSL SUB-BRANCH GENERAL MEETING 6th AUGUST 2025 WE WELCOME OUR NEWEST COMMITTEE MEMBER



AL TURNBULL, HONORARY ASSISTANT TREASURER

It's wonderful to have you back on board with us in the Committee Room, Al, sharing your Treasury talents as well as your humour!

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 is at 2.30pm on Thursday 11th September, followed by Thursday 25th September at 2.30pm.

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

Let us stay upright!

Forestville sub-Branch WALKING GROUPS

Our next Walking Group activity will be at 9.45am for 10am on Wednesday 17th September from Forestville RSL Club, 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

Forestville RSL Auxiliary **MEAT RAFFLE** FORESTVILLE RSL CLUB

Our Forestville RSL Auxiliary will be conducting the Meat Raffle at the Forestville RSL Club on Friday 12th September from 5.30pm.

We encourage you to bring friends and family to have dinner in the Club when each of our Meat Raffles is conducted. Meat Raffle tickets are \$5 for 50 chances, and multiples thereof. EFTPOS is available. Lots of sub-Branch members have been winners recently.

Our RSL Auxiliary members will attend our General Meeting on Wednesday 3rd September for Meat Raffle ticket pre-sales for the next Meat Raffle on Friday 12th September from 5.30pm. EFTPOS is available.

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 after 12th September will be advised when details are received from Forestville RSL Club.**

RSL AUXILIARY

We held a workshop at our August meeting to knit/crochet/assemble felt, "Red Poppies", a major part of our fundraising activities. Whilst creating these poppies we are able to chat and get to better know our fellow members.

Peter Scope, from "Scope Driver Education" will be our Guest Speaker at our 1st September General Meeting. Peter holds "Older Driver Assessments" designed to assist those due for their license renewal/test, leaving the participant more relaxed and confident in which could otherwise be a nerve racking experience.

*Cutoff date for catering purposes for bookings/cancellations is 4pm **Wednesday 27th August.***

Bookings/cancellations are to be made via Barbara Norton: mobile 0414 415 332, or email:

*barian@optusnet.com.au. **Also see Fashion Parade booking details elsewhere in this newsletter.***

COMMEMORATION LUNCHEON

We commemorated wars, campaigns and battles in the July to September period and remembered those who served, and particularly those who lost their lives in service.

We will remember them. Lest We Forget.

Our Forestville RSL Auxiliary also conducted a successful fundraising raffle, which resulted in \$755 being raised, thanks to the support of members and guests in attendance. All proceeds will be donated to the RSL NSW Veteran Support Fund, to support veterans and their families. We thank the members of our RSL Auxiliary, and all of you for your support.



More photos of this event available on the website

www.forestvillersl.org.au/photos



Stafford Spring Fashion Parade 2025



Sponsored by the Forestville RSL sub-Branch Auxiliary

When: 10am - 1pm October 1st, Wednesday

Tickets: \$25 - Morning tea included.
Raffle and Door Prizes

Forestville RSL Club

22 Melwood Ave. Forestville

Bookings: Barbara Lunnon 0411 351 654

Email: balunnon@hotmail.com

Fundraising for Veterans and their families in need

*** COMMITTEE POSITION AVAILABLE ***

Our sub-Branch is seeking a nomination for the following Committee position, available immediately:

FUNERALS OFFICER: assisting families with funerals & RSL Tributes, training is available.

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

FORESTVILLE RSL SUB-BRANCH

Day Tour



Western Sydney International Airport
Experience Centre & Camden

Wednesday 24th September 2025

We will commence the day with morning tea at Nurragingy Reserve before embarking on a journey of discovery at the Western Sydney International Airport Experience Centre, showcasing the exciting developments and endless possibilities. We will have a clear view of the future airfield and be able to watch the airport come to life.

Gain valuable insights into Australia's first smart airport & its impacts on the region, where immersive & interactive displays take visitors on a journey to learn about the Airport.

Our two-course lunch is at **Barezn** in Camden, a stylish & modern, yet cosy establishment. Lunch includes a choice of main meal, a delicious cake platter and tea or coffee.

After lunch we will be joined by our Historical Guide and keen member of the Camden Historical Society who will showcase many of the heritage buildings around both Camden & Cobbitty.

Arrive: 8.15am for 8.30am departure (lower carpark)

Return: Approx. 5.30pm

Cost: Members & Partners \$50
Non-members \$90

Dress: Smart Casual

Cancellations: Must be made at least 3 weeks prior by Wednesday 3rd September latest

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

MICHAEL REGAN MP, NSW INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR WAKEHURSTNSW

Parliament Recognition - Peter McAskill JP

NSW LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY HANSARD TRANSCRIPT ON 28th MAY 2025

"I recognize Peter McAskill JP, from Forestville RSL sub-Branch, for his extraordinary commitment to the Wakehurst community. As Membership Officer, Schools Liaison Officer and Wellbeing Support Officer, Peter goes above and beyond for veterans and their families, conducting regular hospital visits and wellbeing check-ups, always being a steady source of support. As Schools Liaison Officer, he builds strong connections between the Forestville RSL sub-Branch and local schools - he not only supports those who have served our country but also educates young people in my community making a lasting difference in the lives of so many in Wakehurst. He is the kind of volunteer every community needs: selfless, reliable and deeply caring. On behalf of the Wakehurst electorate, I thank Peter for all he does for our veterans and for the next generation".

Dates to Remember in 2025
(Subject to change)

FOR YOUR 2025 DIARIES

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 sub-Branch

BILL HARDMAN PRESENTATION – WEDNESDAY 3rd SEPTEMBER 2025
GUEST SPEAKER – DR MAYO THEIVENDRAN, VASCULAR SURGEON

Dr Mayo Theivendran is a Sydney Vascular and Endovascular Surgeon with a dual Fellowship with the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons in General Surgery and Vascular Surgery. He is committed to delivering a premier patient experience and outcomes for both his public and private patients. Dr Mayo holds clinical appointments at Northern Beaches Hospital, North Shore Private Hospital, St Vincent's Private Hospital and Sydney Adventist Hospital. He also performs spinal access surgery at Macquarie University Hospital and Norwest Private Hospital. He consults at St Leonards, Frenchs Forest and Wahroonga. He has been a Flight Lieutenant in the Royal Australian Air Force Reserve since 2006. We look forward to welcoming Dr Mayo on 3rd September, for our Bill Hardman Presentation.

FORESTVILLE RSL AUXILIARY MEETINGS

1pm **FIRST Monday** of each month - 03 February to 03 November - except there will be no October meeting - 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.

SEPTEMBER SIGNIFICANT AUSTRALIAN ANNIVERSARIES

September is noteworthy for the following significant dates:

1 st September	1900	–	TPR J.H Bisdée, VC and LT G.G.E. Wylly, VC at Transvaal
3 rd September	1915	–	T/LT W.T. Dartnell, VC at East Africa
7 th September	1940	–	Blitz on London commenced
12 th September	1955	–	Australian advanced guard arrives Penang
13 th September	1945	–	Japanese surrender at Cape Won, Wewak
15 th September	1940	–	Battle of Britain ended
15 th September	1950	–	UN amphibious landing at Inchon
17 th September	1950	–	Australian advance party reaches Korea
27 th September	1950	–	Australians embark Kure for Pusan, Korea
28 th September	1950	–	3RAR arrives Korea

*“And the world is a little poorer, for a soldier died today”
...Lest We Forget...*



sub-Branch Office

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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>

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