



RSL
NSW



Forestville sub-Branch

Australia My Country

NEWSLETTER

Serving veterans and their families in the Forest Area

OCTOBER 2025

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

President's Report

On 3rd September, six Committee members attended the Merchant Navy Day Commemoration Service at the Mosman Art Gallery adjacent to the Mosman War Memorial, sponsored by Mosman Council. The service was led by MC and Merchant Navy Chapter Coordinator, Merrill Barker. We laid a wreath on behalf of Forestville RSL sub-Branch members. Later, we laid a second wreath at the Cenotaph at Forestville RSL Club on behalf of our sub-Branch.

Our RSL Auxiliary held a successful Meat Raffle in the Forestville RSL Club on Friday 12th September. The Auxiliary raised in excess of \$500 with your support. All proceeds are donated to the RSL NSW Veteran Support Fund to support veterans and their families, especially those in need, and particularly through the Northern Beaches Veteran Wellbeing Centre at Dee Why RSL Club, managed by RSL LifeCare Veteran Services, our sister charity. Details of Meat Raffle dates for 2026 will be included in our monthly newsletters when we have been advised by Forestville RSL Club.

I attended the District Presidents' Council (DPC) Meeting at Anzac House on 7th August, followed by a meeting of the DPC with the RSL NSW Board on 14th August, where the main topic was the subsequent announcement by RSL NSW on 21st August that the RSL NSW President had launched a Supreme Court action against RSL NSW. No further action could be taken until this court case has been resolved. Secretary Vince Williams CSC and I attended the Northern Beaches District Council Meeting at Pittwater RSL Club on 26th August. Our Remembrance Sunday Commemorative Service preparations for Sunday 9th November at 10.30am are well under way. We are delighted that Manly Warringah Pipe Band will again be joining us. Northern Beaches Council Mayor, Sue Heins, Honorary Member of our sub-Branch, will deliver the Commemorative Address. We encourage you and your family members to attend. Please advise Kevin Leary by 3rd November if you are attending, so we can be prepared for post-service hospitality.

We are planning our Christmas Fundraising Luncheon for Sunday 7th December at 11.30am for 12noon. This will again be a joint Christmas Fundraising Luncheon with our RSL Auxiliary. Further details are available in this and coming newsletters. We encourage you to actively support our Forestville RSL Auxiliary fundraising activities in the remainder of the year, particularly up to and on Remembrance Sunday, as well as our joint Christmas Fundraising Luncheon on 7th December.

Our RSL Auxiliary members have been hand-making poppies for sale on Remembrance Day, and they will also be in the Reception area of Forestville RSL Club on the evenings of 8 and 10 November with poppies and Remembrance Day tokens for sale, and again on Remembrance Day. Please be generous, in support of veterans and their families everywhere.

The Forestville RSL Club redevelopment has been approved by the Sydney North Planning Panel, following a 100-page recommendation for approval by Northern Beaches Council. The redevelopment has to be approved by Club members and we will keep you informed on the date of this meeting, most likely later in the year, so you can come along with your family members who are Club members to vote on the redevelopment.

Finally, please call if you need assistance.

Best Regards
Bob Lunnon

What's On

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

*General Meeting
Wednesday 1st October
7.30pm*

*Bill Hardman Presentation
Wednesday 5th November
7.30pm*



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The Price of Liberty is Eternal Vigilance

Membership

Membership totals: 343 (plus 6 Honorary members)
Sadly, we have lost the following member:

.....**MORRISON** Eva RSL Auxiliary

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 closed on Thursday 18th September . Orders are now being taken for Anzac Day 2026.

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.

Merchant Navy Day Commemoration Service Wednesday 3rd September 2024

This Commemoration Service was 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. Six members of our sub-Branch Committee attended the service and laid a wreath. Afterwards, we also laid another wreath at the Cenotaph at Forestville RSL Club commemorating Merchant Navy Day, Australian National Flag Day, 86th Anniversary of the Beginning of WWII, and Battle for Australia Day.



Forestville RSL Auxiliary

MEAT RAFFLE

FORESTVILLE RSL CLUB

Our Forestville RSL Auxiliary conducted 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 attended our General Meeting on Wednesday 3rd September for Meat Raffle ticket pre-sales for the 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 for 2026 will be advised when details are received from Forestville RSL 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 is at 2.30pm on Thursday 9th October and at 2.30pm on Thursday 23rd October .** 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 15th October 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

RSL AUXILIARY

Finally, after a cold and wet Winter, Spring is here!!

We are busy organising our Spring Fashion Parade, our major fundraiser, from 10am to 1pm on Wednesday 1st October. Morning tea will be served along with raffle draws. Come along and enjoy a fun morning and at the same time support our Auxiliary in our fundraising efforts. Tickets are available at \$25 and can be purchased from Barbara Lunnon, mobile: 0411 351 654.

Thank you, Peter Scope from Scope Driver Education, who spoke at our 1st September meeting, for your very informative and entertaining presentation, we're all much more relaxed pending our future driving tests. If you happen to need private 'driver education', you can contact Peter: 0421 941 961.

Would you like to become a member of our RSL Auxiliary, helping with fundraising for Veterans and their Families in need? Ring Barbara Norton, Phone: 0414 415 332, or email: barian@optusnet.com.au.



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

FORESTVILLE RSL SUB-BRANCH

BILL HARDMAN PRESENTATION

Wednesday 3rd September 2025

Guest Speaker

DR MAYO THEIVENDRAN,
Vascular Surgeon

Dr Mayo Theivendran, a Sydney Vascular and Endovascular Surgeon with a dual Fellowship with the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons in General Surgery and Vascular Surgery, was our Guest Speaker for our Bill Hardman Presentation on 3rd September. He delivered an outstanding presentation, carefully answered all of our many questions and also provided us with information to shape our own individual health and wellbeing. Our sincere thanks, Dr Mayo!



Vietnam Veterans Day, Manly
18th August 2025

Christmas Luncheon

for sub-Branch members and
partners

Sunday 7th December 2025

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 3rd 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 4th December.

Menu: A three course meal with tea & coffee will be served with alternates for each course, with table refreshments (bar additional)

Dress: Christmas festive for ladies and gentlemen.



Entertainment: Ross Maio - Entertainer,
Piano Accordion - great variety of *fun music!*

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

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



Northern Beaches District Council VP Day
15th August 2025

Dates to Remember in 2025
(Subject to change)

FOR YOUR 2025 DIARIES

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 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.

OCTOBER SIGNIFICANT AUSTRALIAN ANNIVERSARIES

October is noteworthy for the following significant dates:

- 9th October 1950 – U.N. forces cross 38th Parallel
- 10th October 1950 – 77 Sqn. transfer to Powang
- 12th October 1945 – 1RAR official birthday (Morotai Island)
- 12th October 1950 – US Task Force – including HMAS Warramunga – bombard Chongju
- 16th October 1900 – New South Welshmen in action Lake Chrissie
- 16th October 1945 – 2RAR/66 Bn official birthday (Morotai Island)
- 17th October 1950 – Australians in action Sanwon – Korea
- 18th October 1950 – 3RAR supported by American tanks capture Samgapo village – Korea
- 19th October 1915 – Malay Archipelago patrols by HMAS WARREGO PARRAMATTA, YARRA, UNA
- 20th October 1900 – NSW naval contingent enters Peking
- 20th October 1945 – 3RAR official birthday (Morotai Island)
- 22nd October 1950 – Battle of Apple Orchard, Yongju, Korea
- 27th October 1945 – First Australian Army Unit arrives Japan
- 27th October 1950 – Australians win battle of Broken Ridge – Korea
- 28th October 1940 – Italy invades Greece
- 29th October 1950 – Australians advance to Chongju
- 29th October 1970 – South Vietnam Unit commendation to 8RAR

***** 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.

**"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:
Vince Williams CSC
Email: secretary@forestvillersl.org.au
Mobile: 0417 430 389 (leave a message)

President: Bob Lunnon
Email: president@forestvillersl.org.au
Mobile: 0499 977 111

Vice President: Sandy Howard
Email: support@forestvillersl.org.au
Mobile: 0411 145 077

Honorary Treasurer: Sandy Howard
Email: treasurer@forestvillersl.org.au
Mobile: 0411 145 077

Funerals Officer: Vacant
Email: funerals@forestvillersl.org.au
Office: (02) 9451 1221

Membership, Wellbeing Support, Schools
Liaison Officer: Peter McAskill JP
Email: membership@forestvillersl.org.au
Mobile: 0409 122 025

Newsletter Editor: Bob Lunnon
Email: newsletter@forestvillersl.org.au
Mobile: 0499 977 111

Ceremonial Officer & AMC Coordinator:
John Balfour OAM JP
Email: ceremonial@forestvillersl.org.au
Mobile: 0418 412 354

Assistant Secretary, Events, Schools Liaison
Officer: Kevin Leary
Email: asstsecretary@forestvillersl.org.au
Mobile: 0420 304 873

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

Travel Officer: Bob Connors
Phone: 9451 9494

Merchant Navy Chapter Coordinator:
Merrill Barker
Email: mnchapter@forestvillersl.org.au
Mobile: 0433 934 705

RSL Auxiliary Coordinator:
Barbara Norton
Email: barian@optusnet.com.au
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