



06 Feb 2017

*Issue 21*

***TOUKLEY RSL SUB BRANCH***  
***Newsletter***

## ***From the President:***

A very happy new year to you all.

Our very popular Sub Branch Christmas party was held last month and was a great success. A large number of members and invited guests attended and enjoyed a great afternoon of entertainment, a three-course dinner and monster raffle. One of the popular prizes was the spade used by our Patron, Karen McNamara, to plant the Lone Pine during the Dedication Service. Karen kindly signed the spade for the lucky winner! Thank you to all those who were able to attend. It was great to see such a great turnout for the day.

Planning is well under way for our Anzac Day services, as well as fifteen services at Nursing Homes and schools in the area. The Sub Branch is proud to be involved with the local Nursing Homes and Schools, especially for their Anzac Services each year which members of the Committee attend and conduct the services. Due to School holidays and Easter falling just prior to Anzac Day, the schools and Nursing Homes services will run over a one month period, some prior to, and others after, Anzac Day.

The Sub Branch has completed a Traffic Management Plan for Anzac Day that has been lodged with Central Coast Council and the RMS. A Grant for \$2000.00 has also been lodged with Central Coast Council to cover the cost of road closures for both the Dawn and Morning Services. Letters have been sent to the Police, Fire Brigade, Ambulance, taxis and bus companies, notifying them of Anzac Day road closures.

Don't forget that our AGM will be held on Sunday 19 February 2017 at **10.00am sharp**. Doors will close at this time and, if you arrive after this time, you will not be permitted to attend this very important meeting. Nominations closed on Thursday, 2 February, for positions of Executive and Committee. All positions are for a three year term.

The Trustees met with Trevor Haynes on the 13<sup>th</sup> January to go over details of the loan to Club Limited, unfortunately we are still being held up by conditions that are imposed by the States legal advisors.

The planting of seedlings in the Cenotaph Memorial Gardens will take place during February to ensure that we have a good showing of flowers for Anzac Day. Prior to the planting, more soil will be added to the gardens to raise the level of the beds. There are still a few minor jobs to be completed and these will be carried out prior to Anzac Day. The Sub Branch will be enlisting the services of a Draftsman in the near future to formally draw up the cenotaph area, showing where each Section and plaque is located.

The Electronic Book in the foyer of Club Limited is receiving attention and although it is working, at times it can be temperamental. Thanks to George Meier and Doug Pankhurst who are persisting with trying to rectify the problems.

Prior to the extreme weather conditions in December, the air conditioner at Diggers' Inn gave up. Following an inspection, it was found that it would be far too expensive to repair. Thanks to our electrician, Bill McNair Electrical, who sourced and installed a new ducted air conditioner in the New Year.

You may have heard on the news that Senior Vice President of State RSL, Peter Stephenson, has stood aside while investigations are continuing into alleged misappropriation of funds by the RSL NSW State Branch, we are awaiting the outcome of this enquiry.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Committee for all of your hard work, support and assistance during the past three years. It has been a team effort and, together, we have achieved a lot during the term – something which we can all be very proud of. Thank you also to the Pensions and Welfare Officers at Diggers' Inn, the Ladies' Auxiliary, Honorary Bookkeeper, John Barnes and anyone who has assisted in any way. Your contribution is very much appreciated. A special thank you to Terry Zorbas who has decided not to run for either the Committee or as a Welfare Officer at the AGM. It is time to put your feet up now, Terry, and enjoy your cappuccinos.

All the very best for 2017.

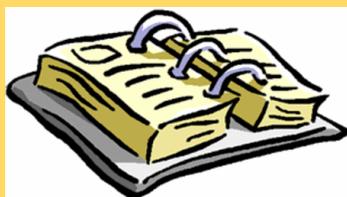
The next General Meeting will be held on **Monday 6 March 2017**.

Bob Wilson  
President



The lucky winner of the spade  
With Patron Karen McNamara

## ***DATES FOR YOUR DIARY***



Tuesday 25 April 2017	Anzac Day
Sunday 30 July 2017	Christmas in July
Wednesday 6 September 2017	Battle for Australia Day
Saturday 11 November 2017	Remembrance Day
Sunday 17 December 2017	Christmas Party

## **VALE**



## **MEMBERS TO BE REMEMBERED AGM 2017**

PAUL LINDSAY O'BRIEN  
MALCOLM JAMES MARTIN  
KELVIN WALKER  
JAMES HARRISON  
FREDRICK THOMAS MINARD  
KEITH CHRISTIAN PIPER  
MAXWELL CLIVE BROWN  
DANIEL MICHAEL GOONAN

ROBERT WILLIAM BATEY  
REGINALD PHILLIP BOW  
JOHN KEITH CARTER

ALEXANDER MAURICE AITKEN  
ETTORE EPIS  
PERCY HOLDSWORTH  
JOHN DARBY  
BADEN CATLIN  
RAYMOND BRUCE  
HUBERTUS IGNACZ GOSEWISCH  
SYDNEY RAYMOND JOHNSON

RONALD GEORGE COOKE  
THOMAS MORRIS  
PHILLIP MICHAEL PREST

***Lest we forget***



## **ANZAC Day 2017**

### **Commemorative Services**

**Toukley RSL Cenotaph**

**Holmes Avenue Toukley**

**Dawn Service 0530Hrs**

**Morning March 1000Hrs**

## LADIES AUXILLIARY



With 2016 now over, done and dusted, we look forward to 2017, a busy year ahead.

Anzac Day is not far away.

In July we will be celebrating our 68<sup>th</sup> birthday as an auxiliary.

In February we will have our Annual General Meeting. President Bob will be our Returning Officer - oops, he doesn't know it yet - oh well, he will now.

Our membership totals 9. Let us hope we will be lucky enough to have some new members. Even though we are small in number, we get a lot done over the year.

I went around the Cenotaph - how great. I felt it really is an Icon admired by many locals. I tend to look to see if the Lone Pine is still there. It seems to be thriving. Congratulations to the gardeners. They do a great job. The flowers looking more like a park than a Memorial. Bet the "residents" there feel proud!

Our Auxiliary is so blessed to belong to the RSL Sub Branch. The friendship with one another is the envy of other Auxiliaries. People change, ideals change. It seems our comradery and friendship will be there for many years to come.

We wish everyone a Happy New Year. We may be a bit older but still young at heart. Just keep up with the medications ha ha.

Danny  
Secretary

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## RSL NSW payment scandals referred by Veterans Affairs Minister to police for investigation



[A forensic audit found that Don Rowe withdrew more than \\$200,000 from an RSL corporate credit card.](#)

**Multiple payment scandals at the top of RSL NSW have been referred to the police for investigation.**

The interim findings of a recent forensic audit revealed the former president of RSL NSW, Don Rowe, [withdrew \\$213,000 in cash from a corporate credit card.](#)

The independent investigation, commissioned by the RSL, was initially set up to investigate the payment of \$2.5 million in consultancy fees to senior figures from the NSW branch, but has since expanded.

Now, the New South Wales Minister for Veterans Affairs, David Elliott, has referred several matters concerning the RSL on to NSW Police and other parties, including the Attorney-General and the Minister for Fair Trading.

They will be asked to consider whether the Charitable Fundraising Act or the Charitable Trusts Act have been breached.

The Minister made the decision after reviewing the interim findings of the investigation.

"I needed an independent advice on the activities of the League and this report has given me that," Mr Elliott said.

["If breaches to the Acts have been found to have occurred, those that have breached the Acts will be called to account."](#)

Mr Rowe has defended his expenses, which reached about \$475,000 over a six-year period.

Car expenses accounted for \$120,000 of the former RSL president's cash withdrawals, but \$93,000 in cash remains barely accounted for, according to the report from audit firm KordaMentha.

Robert Cockerell, a partner and fraud investigator from KordaMentha, had been trying to establish why Mr Rowe withdrew the cash from his company card.

"We've been told by the organisation and others we've spoken to that withdrawing using a credit card, withdrawing cash, is not typically the way people would do things," Mr Cockerell said.

Mr Rowe has [defended his expense claims.](#)

TO: ALL DISTRICT COUNCIL PRESIDENTS, RSL SUB-BRANCH MEMBERS -  
STATE COUNCIL UPDATE

December, 2016

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of State Council and State Branch to thank all members for their patience and understanding in relation to the current investigations underway regarding RSL NSW. Whilst State Council and State Branch have worked hard to maintain our current levels of service to the members, the investigations are still ongoing and the process will continue until a satisfactory resolution is achieved. As always, State Branch is committed to providing members with as much information as possible and is happy to receive any feedback members may wish to make regarding the process to date and any future actions that could be addressed. At a Special State Council meeting on 20 December, following a briefing from the Acting National President, National Solicitor and lead investigator from KordaMentha, it was resolved to commit to the following actions:

1. RSL NSW will engage KordaMentha to conduct further investigations into a number of areas highlighted in the preliminary report which was delivered on 20 December
2. State Council will establish a Board of Inquiry to hear matters raised in the KordaMentha preliminary report
3. State Council in conjunction with the National Solicitor will cooperate in an investigation into the governance standards of RSL NSW.

These steps show that RSL NSW is taking a proactive stance regarding issues which have been highlighted in the last few months. Through addressing these issues, State Council and State Branch will restore confidence in the leadership of RSL NSW and ensure the future of our great organisation. Finally I wish you all the best for the New Year. Yours

Sincerely

JOHN HAINES  
STATE PRESIDENT

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## Very Disturbing; A Must Read!

"This is something that happened in an Assisted Living Centre where my wife used to work. The people who lived there have small apartments but they all eat at a central Cafeteria. One morning, one of the residents didn't show up for breakfast so my wife went upstairs and knocked on his door to see if everything was OK. She could hear him through the door and he said that he was running late and would be down shortly so she went back to the Dining area.

An hour later, he still hadn't arrived; so she went back up towards his room and she found him on the stairs. He was coming down the stairs but was having a hell of a time. He had a death grip on the hand rail and seemed to have trouble getting his legs to work right. She told him she was going to call an ambulance but he told her no, he wasn't in any pain, and just wanted to have his breakfast. So she helped him the rest of the way down the stairs and he had his breakfast.

When he tried to return to his room he was completely unable to get up even the first step so they called an ambulance for him. A couple hours later she called the hospital to see how he was doing. The receptionist there said he was fine, he just had both of his legs in one leg of his boxer shorts."

### The Zipper

(Danny's Name withheld by request)

A man walked into a super market with his Zipper down  
A lady cashier walked up to him and said "Your barracks door is open"  
Not a phrase that man normally use, he went on his way  
Looking puzzled  
When he was about done with shopping, a man came up  
And said "your fly is open"  
He zipped up and finished his shopping.  
At the checkout he got in the lane where the lady was who told him  
About his barracks door.  
He was planning to have a bit of fun with her, so when he reached  
Over the counter he said, "when you saw my barracks door open  
Did you see a Marine standing there at attention?  
The lady, naturally smarter than the man, said  
NO NO I DIDN'T, - ALL I SAW WAS A DISABLED VETERAN SITTING  
ON A COUPLE OF OLD DUFFLE BAGS





The Bunnings team (Janet, Collin and Scott) after they had completed putting in flowers and bark around the Cenotaph in preparation for the dedication.

## DVA BOOK OPPORTUNITY

Since around 2003, DVA has issued a number of books, primary and secondary school resources, an annual calendar and annual ANZAC and Remembrance Day posters.

Typically, the books and posters centre on key World War 1 and World War 2 battles and the Korean and Vietnam wars, while the school resources and calendars centre on topics as varied as Gallipoli, the Home Front, Innovation during War, Chinese ANZACs, Kokoda, Indigenous service, animals and nursing.

A list follows.

With closure of a Canberra-based storage facility, **we have been provided with excess copies of these publications** – some numbering in the 10s or less, some in the 100s. The resources have, over the years, been widely distributed. The school resources (teacher aides), for instance, have been sent nationally to every primary and secondary school, as appropriate.

Rather than being held in DVA, I would prefer these publications to be seen and read, particularly during what's left on the Centenary of ANZAC period.

One RSL Sub-Branch intends using relevant publications to create a special World War 1 display in the local RSL Club.

If you are interested in obtaining any of these resources, please let me know (including number of copies of each) and I'll try to accommodate on a first in basis.

And Happy New Year.

Hadyn White

Executive Officer to the Deputy Commissioner NSW & ACT

Department of Veterans' Affairs

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## **Books**

Australian Women A War

Australians in Britain - Two World Wars

Australians in the Pacific War - Aitape-Wewak 1944-1945

Australians in the Pacific War - Australian Prisoners of War 1941-1945

Australians in the Pacific War - Australia's Home Defence 1939-1945

Australians in the Pacific War - Battle of the Beachheads 1942-43

Australians in the Pacific War - Borneo 1942-1945

Australians in the Pacific War - Bougainville 1942-1945

Australians in the Pacific War - Burma and India 1941-1945

Australians in the Pacific War - Kokoda 1942

Australians in the Pacific War - Milne Bay 1942

Australians in the Pacific War - Royal Australian Air Force 1941-1945

Australians in the Pacific War - Royal Australian Navy 1939-1945

Australians in the Pacific War - The Huon Peninsula 1943-1944

Australians in the Pacific War - The Japanese Advance 1941-1942

Australians in the Pacific War - Wau-Salamaua 1942-1945

Australians In World War 1 - Australian Flying Corps

Australians In World War 1 - Australian Light Horse

Australians In World War 1 - Gallipoli

Australians In World War 1 - Home Front

Australians In World War 1 - Royal Australian Navy

Australians In World War 2 - Bomber Command

Australians In World War 2 - Greece And Crete

Australians In World War 2 - North Africa And Syria

Australians in World War 2 - RAN in the Atlantic and Mediterranean

Australians On The Western Front 1916 - Fromelles And The Somme

Australians On The Western Front 1917 - Bapaume and Bullecourt

Australians On The Western Front 1917 - Ypres

Australians On The Western Front 1918 - Amiens To The Hindenburg Line

Australians On The Western Front 1918 - Villers-Bretonneux To Le Hamel

## God's Plan for Aging

Most seniors never get enough exercise. In His wisdom God decreed that seniors become forgetful so they would have to search for their glasses, keys and other things thus doing more walking. And God looked down and saw that it was good.

Then God saw there was another need. In His wisdom He made seniors lose coordination so they would drop things requiring them to bend, reach & stretch. And God looked down and saw that it was good.

Then God considered the function of bladders and decided seniors would have additional calls of nature requiring more trips to the bathroom, thus providing more exercise. God looked down and saw that it was good.

So if you find as you age, you are getting up and down more, remember it's God's will. It is all in your best interest even though you mutter under your breath.

### Nine Important Facts To Remember As We Grow Older

**#9 Death is the number 1 killer in the world.**

**#8 Life is sexually transmitted.**

**#7 Good health is merely the slowest possible rate at which one can die.**

**#6 Men have 2 motivations: hunger and hanky panky, and they can't tell them apart. If you see a gleam in his eyes, make him a sandwich.**

**#5 Give a person a fish and you feed them for a day. Teach a person to use the Internet and they won't bother you for weeks, months, maybe years.**

**#4 Health nuts are going to feel stupid someday, lying in the hospital, dying of nothing.**

**#3 All of us could take a lesson from the weather. It pays no attention to criticism.**

**#2 In the 60's, people took LSD to make the world weird. Now the world is weird, and people take Prozac to make it normal.**

**#1 Life is like a jar of jalapeno peppers. What you do today may be a burning issue tomorrow.**

**Please share this wisdom with others while I go to the bathroom.**

## January Babies

First Name	Surname	Birthday
William	Jones	1 January
James	Thomson	1 January
Robert	Howitt	3 January
Barry	Brown	4 January
Stan	Hessey	6 January
Colin	Sutton	6 January
Arthur	Giblin	8 January
Stanley	Cameron	9 January
Robert	Swift	9 January
Garry	Burgess	10 January
Bruce	Scott	19 January
Mark	O'Neill	20 January
Milton	Edwards	21 January
John	Sorrensen	21 January
Ronald	Gall	22 January
Shirley	Watling	22 January
Robert	Lord	22 January
Kenneth	Herzog	23 January
Douglas	Whitwam	23 January
Harvey	Street	24 January
Alan	Smith	25 January
Thomas	Smith	26 January
Bertie	Dayment	27 January
Raymond	Butterfield	29 January
Kenneth	Paterson	30 January
Anthony	Duggan	31 January



## FEBRUARY BABIES

First Name	Surname	Birthday
Wayne	Stottelaar	1 February
John	Wilson	2 February
Alan	Skidmore	3 February
Vernon	Luckie	6 February
Herbert	Davis	6 February
Reginald	Baxter	7 February
Raymond	Longford	8 February
Colin	Carville	11 February
James	Stockton	12 February
John	Dale	13 February
Ashley	Priest	13 February
Terry	Zorbas	17 February
John	Middleton	17 February
Ronald	Marchbanks	17 February
Alexander	Mackie	17 February
Harry	Davies	17 February
Kevin	Foley	18 February
Murray	Oates	18 February
Douglas	Pankhurst	18 February
Dorothy	Justice	18 February
Victor	Bilbow	23 February
Robert	Cubitt	24 February
Reginald	Bow	24 February
James	Keily	24 February
Ronald	Whitby	25 February
Brian	Ford	26 February
David	Kitchin	26 February



The Dedication Ceremony on 25 November 2016

## TOUKLEY RSL SUB BRANCH

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