

July 2021 – Toukley RSL Sub Branch President's Report:



Unfortunately, because of the announcement yesterday (26 June 2021), we are all in lockdown until 9 July 2021 inclusive.

We have had to cancel our July 2021 General Meeting and, therefore, will be providing a President's Report only, in place of the July Newsletter.

The Committee will be working remotely wherever possible and with minimum numbers, for essential work, at Diggers' Inn on a Thursday, in keeping with Covid Regulations (1 person per 4 square metre rule).

Should you have any queries during lockdown time, please email either myself (president@toukleyrslsb.org.au) or Vice President George Meier (vicepresident@toukleyrslsb.org.au). Both George and I will be checking our emails on a regular basis.

If you have an issue of an urgent nature, please contact:

Bob Wilson (President)	-	0418.979.785
George Meier (Vice President)	-	0418.266.411
Graham Tredinnick (Welfare)	-	0419.634.624

We will keep you posted with updates via the Toukley RSL Sub Branch Facebook Page and also the Webpage under *What's Happening*. Thanks to the immediate reaction, both George Meier and John Noorbergen have posts already in place.

Please pay particular notice to updates as our planned bus trips, Christmas in July, Hawkesbury River cruise, etc may all be jeopardised – we hope not!!

I was honoured to represent the Sub Branch at the Australian Air League Ilma Nicholson Wing Annual Formal Dinner at Doylson RSL Club (The Doylo) last month and to present a cheque to the Toukley Squadron on behalf of the Sub Branch. I was able to chat with Peter Allen, Group Lieutenant, during the evening, and also convey our appreciation of the continuing support of the Toukley Squadron, especially at our commemorative events. The Sub Branch will continue our support for them in whatever way we can, as these young people are our future. The Toukley Squadron currently has 24 young men in their Unit ranging in age from 8 years.

Work on the mural for the Police Station Fence is continuing, and we are on track to have it in place for Remembrance Day. The mural will take up five panels of fencing, although it will be mounted on separate panels. The Committee is waiting on appropriate Grants to open in order for us to apply for recessed lighting on the edges of the walkways. We will keep you updated on progress.

A very big “thank you” to everyone who assisted over two days with the soil preparation and planting of the small shrubs in the Commemorative Gardens last month. Your help was very much appreciated. A special “thank you” to Bunnings Lakehaven, especially Anne-Marie and Jane, for their input, advice and assistance. Bunnings also generously provided sufficient fertilizer and soil nutrients for the gardens and delivered it all, plus the 250 plants, to the site.

Having permanent plants in five of the six gardens makes the overall look more appealing, especially in the times between the Commemorative Services plantings.

Photos of the working parties have been previously posted on the Sub Branch Facebook page.

The Sub Branch has sent a letter of thanks and appreciation to Bunnings Lakehaven.

The Committee discussed the future of Diggers' Inn at the June Meeting. Due to the recent increase in house prices, the Committee agreed that it is not a viable proposition to continue further negotiations with the owners of the Bait Shop block next door. Renovating our current premises has the recommendation and support of the Committee. To overcome the storage issue for the Sub Branch and the Veterans Motorcycle Group, the Committee proposed putting a shed across the back of the block, with a view that the Veterans Motorcycle Group has one separate half and the other half to be used by the Sub Branch for storage and maybe room for the library. This is all in the early stages of discussion and planning and we want to use all space in the best possible way. The Committee will continue to discussions on this matter and the best way forward.

Unfortunately, the Vivid Light Show and harbour cruise, planned for Thursday 12 August, has had to be cancelled, due to shortage of numbers. We needed to have a minimum of 60 people for it to go ahead. All members who have paid will have their money returned in full. Please see Bob Swift for your refund.

Just a reminder that our Annual Wellness and Welfare Function (Christmas in July) will be held on **Sunday 25 July 2021** from 11.00am-4.00pm. Tickets for members and partners cost \$20.00 each and are selling quickly for this popular event so if you are interested in attending, please email me president@toukleyrslsb.org.au with your details and those of your partner. I will then advise you of how to make your payment. For catering purposes, the last date for purchase of tickets is **Friday, 16 July 2021**. This is an event definitely not to be missed.

At the June Committee Meeting, Bob Swift was replaced as one of the Committee responsible for the Library at Diggers' Inn. For future enquires please contact either Steve Edmunds or Judith Walker.

Stay home, stay safe and stay well.

Bob Wilson
President

Vale

John Harris – 8 June 2021

Trevor John Lawrence – 21 June 2021

Lest We Forget

