



HMAS Newcastle's final visit to Newcastle prior to decommissioning on 30 June 2019

TOUKLEY RSL SUB BRANCH

Newsletter

Issue 49 – July 2019

From the President:



Welcome to the July Newsletter. It is hard to believe that we are now into the second half of the year!

I am very pleased to be able to confirm my advice to the members at the June 2019 General Meeting that the Sub Branch has been successful in obtaining a Grant which will come close to matching the total cost of the cenotaph replacement and associated works. This Grant was made possible because of the support provided by the Member for Dobell, Emma McBride MP, and her staff, thus enabling us to have this cenotaph reconstruction work done at minimal cost to the Sub Branch. We are very grateful to the Local Federal Member and her staff for making this Grant possible.

I have recently met with our contractor, Central Coast Memorials, regarding the replacement of the cenotaph and upgrading works. Work is scheduled to commence during the week beginning Monday, 8 July 2019 and, weather permitting, should be completed in 8-10 weeks (approximately mid-September).

The Committee has made enquiries regarding suitable plants for the new hedge garden on the southern side of the Memorial Gardens. This garden would run from the Police Station fence to the western carpark.

Stage Three work will complete all of the upgrading work at the cenotaph and will provide the Sub Branch members, who are interred in these Memorial Gardens, the respect they so richly deserve.

Over the past few months, it has become evident that the Lone Pine has been struggling to survive. The Committee contacted Charmhaven Garden Centre and subsequently met with Steve, their Horticulturist, on site at the cenotaph. After admitting the Lone Pine to “hospital” and monitoring its health for a number of weeks, Steve advised that it could not be revived. A new Lone Pine, which is also struck from a seed of the original Lone Pine from Gallipoli, was then ordered from the Yarralumla Nursery in Canberra and planted by Steve on 21 June 2019. Steve

has kindly offered to monitor the new Lone Pine on a regular basis for the Sub Branch, thus ensuring that it has the best possible care and is well looked after. Thank you to Charmhaven Garden Centre for your advice and assistance – it is greatly appreciated.

On Sunday, 18 August 2019, I will be representing the Sub Branch at the Victory in the Pacific/Korean Veterans Day/Vietnam Veterans Day Commemoration Service at Doyalson/Wyee RSL Club and laying a wreath on behalf of Toukley RSL Sub Branch.

Governance training for the Sub Branch Executive and Trustees will be held on Monday, 19 August 2019 at Doyalson/Wyee RSL Club. State RSL will be in attendance to conduct the training.

A new draft Constitution has been drawn up by NSW RSL and forwarded to all Sub Branches for perusal and comment. Copies are in the hands of all Committee Members at this time. We will report back to the Members on the outcome as soon as we have all had a chance to read and digest this rather large document.

We have received advice from NSW RSL that the fundraising ban has been lifted, as of 12 June 2019. This means that, should we wish to recommence fundraising, we will need to apply to the Office of Fair Trading for approval.

Fundraising, as we have done in the past, will be very different in the future and careful consideration will need to be given as to how it will be done. Official records all merchandise purchased and sold will need to be kept, and all stock that is to be purchased from NSW RSL, requires a percentage of profits go to RSL Defence Care.

On Saturday night, 15 June 2019, Secretary Graham Tredinnick and his wife, Lori, attended the Australian Air League Inc, Toukley Squadron's Annual Dining-In Night at Club Toukley RSL. Graham presented a cheque for \$1000.00 to the Squadron on behalf of the Sub Branch. We are very proud of our continuing association with the Air League and grateful for their involvement in our Anzac Day and Remembrance Day events each year.

If you haven't already purchased tickets to our Christmas in July function on Sunday 28 July and would like to attend, then please see Tom Hobbs, who will

gladly help you out with your ticket/s. Tickets are \$20.00 each per member/partner and tables of 8 are available if you would like to reserve one. **However, you must provide Tom with the names and full amount (8 x \$20.00) at the time of purchasing your tickets to be able to reserve a table.** A fabulous time is anticipated.

Regrettably, the proposed Sub Branch bus trip to Canberra has had to be cancelled due to lack of numbers. We needed a minimum of 40 to make the trip viable. It is disappointing, especially for Bob Swift, who has put in a lot of time and effort to get this trip happening. Those who have paid a deposit will receive a full refund. Please see Bob to arrange. As this is the second attempt that we have had for a trip away, resulting in cancellation, due to lack of numbers, I would just like to say that the current Committee will not consider any further proposals for Sub Branch trips of this nature, because of the lack of adequate support.

Sadly for us, our very popular Padre, Reverend Tim Waghorn, will be leaving the Gorokan area at the end of July and moving further up the coast to warmer weather. We have been privileged to have Reverend Tim's participation in our Anzac Day and Remembrance Day Services over the last three years. Thank you, Tim, for your very valuable contributions - you will be very much missed. A new sin bosun will need to be located!

We now have Pensions Officers available at Diggers' Inn. Les Jacobs from Doyalson/Wyee RSL Sub Branch will be at Diggers every Thursday morning. The Veterans Motorcycle Group also have qualified Pensions Officers who are there to assist veterans.

Diggers' Inn is there for the use of all veterans so please make use of it. Call in, have a cuppa, a chat, relax and read or borrow a book from the extensive library.

I would personally like to acknowledge the work done by our recently departed Librarian, Graham Crawley. Many months ago, Graham undertook to look after the library at Diggers' Inn, cataloguing and sorting the large number of books on display for members' use. Graham did a wonderful job and we will be forever grateful for all his time and effort in getting the library into such a great state.

We also lost Edna (Danny) Daniels, although not a Sub Branch member, she has been a member of our family, and matriarch of the RSL Auxiliary and Nashos for a lot of years.

They will be sadly missed, along with all of our recently departed comrades.

Bob Wilson
President

The average human will yawn around 250,000 times over the course of his life.

NEW SUB BRANCH MEMBERS

Welcome to the following new Sub Branch Members:

Bob HOWITT
Hayden YOUNGMAN

VALE

Graham CRAWLEY – 13 June 2019

Lest We Forget

INTERMENT OF ASHES AT THE CENOTAPH MEMORIAL GARDENS

Rick BOLTON – 9 May 2019
Vernon Max LUCKIE – 13 June 2019
Beryl Jean BARNES – 13 June 2019
Alfred Sidney TURNER – Date TBA
Graham CRAWLEY – Date TBA



If you have an idea which you think could benefit or improve the Sub Branch, please put it in writing or speak to one of our Committee Members. Remember that we are there to represent the members, so if you have any ideas, then please let us know.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Sub Branch General Meetings are held on the first Monday of each month, At 10.00am, upstairs in Club Toukley RSL, with the exception of January. All Members are invited to attend.

Sunday 28 July 2019 – 11.00am-4.00pm	Christmas in July
Tuesday 24 September 2019 – Thursday 26 September 2019	Sub Branch Bus Trip to Canberra CANCELLED
Monday 11 November 2019 – 10.40am	Remembrance Day
Sunday 15 December 2019 – 11.00am-4.00pm	Christmas Party
February 2020 – <i>Date to be Advised</i>	Sub Branch AGM Election for a new Committee
Saturday 25 April 2020 – 5.20am	Anzac Day

Puzzle Corner



Trivia

- 1 In a standard pack of playing cards, which king doesn't have a moustache?
- 2 Where in the body is the thyroid gland found?
- 3 What metal is an alloy of copper and tin?
- 4 In which Canadian province is Montreal?
- 5 What colour by law are all Venetian gondolas?
- 6 The faces of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt and Abraham Lincoln are carved into which mountain?
- 7 What colour is vermilion – red, green, blue or yellow?
- 8 What is the currency of Vietnam?
- 9 Which is the smallest planet in our solar system?
- 10 In which ocean did the Titanic sink?

Did You Know this about Australia?

- 1 Koalas sleep up to 22 hours each day because their diet of eucalyptus leaves are high in toxins and fibrous materials that take a lot of energy to digest.
- 2 Australia is known for its venomous spiders and snakes, as well as stinging insects and dangerous marine life, but a study by Melbourne University researchers has revealed that in recent years more Aussies have been killed by horses than all the venomous creatures combined!
- 3 In 1933 Western Australia became the first and only State to seek independence from the rest of Australia. After years of financial struggles made worse by federal tariffs, a referendum asked the people of WA if they believed the State should secede. The answer was a

resounding yes, with 68 per cent of West Aussies believing they would be better off on their own. But the Commonwealth said “no”.

- 4 The electric drill was invented by Melburnians Arthur Arnot and William Brain in 1889.
- 5 The aviation industry’s “black box” recorder was invented in 1953 by scientist Dr David Warren.
- 6 In 1928 Sydney Doctor Mark Lidwell invented the first cardiac pacemaker.
- 7 Emus can run 45km/h – that’s about as fast as legendary sprinter Usain Bolt!
- 8 Since being introduced in 1840, the number of feral camels roaming Australia has risen to 1.2 million.
- 9 The average Aussie eats 110kg of meat each year. Throughout the ‘60s and ‘70s, we loved our lamb and beef, but these days we’re putting more chicken and pork on our forks.
- 10 Ninety percent of the 25 million people who live in Australia have chosen to call the coastline their home.

Keeping your Sub Branch Details Up to Date

If you have recently moved, or your details have changed, please let the Sub Branch Office know so that we can update your address and contact details.

This information is required so that we can send any correspondence and membership renewals to the correct address.

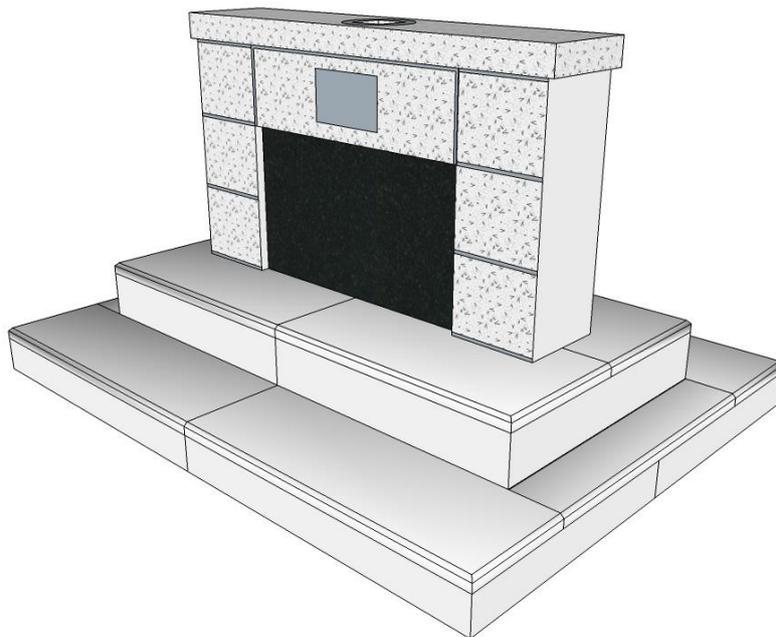
Also, if you know of a member who has moved, either to another area or to an Aged Care Facility, please notify the Sub Branch Office.

Months that begin on a Sunday will always have a Friday the 13th.

Photo Gallery



The clay component of the proposed Eternal Flame - It will have four flickering lights and, when finished, be made from stainless steel, at a height of 60cm



A sketch of how the proposed new granite cenotaph will look

History of the Lone Pine

On 6 August 1915, the 1st Australian Infantry Division launched a major offensive at Plateau 400 at Gallipoli, Turkey. The ridges were once clothed with the Aleppo Pine (*Pinus halepensis*) however, they had been cut down to cover and line trenches, leaving one solitary pine. Hence it became known as Lone Pine Ridge. In the three days of fighting the ANZACs lost 2,000 men and the Turks' losses were estimated at 7,000.

Lance Corporal Benjamin Charles Smith of the 3rd Battalion sent back several cones to his mother in Inverell NSW. Mrs McMullen sowed some of the seeds some 13 years later. Two seedlings were grown and one was presented to the town of Inverell. The Duke of Gloucester planted the second tree at the Australian War Memorial in Canberra.

Sgt Keith McDowell of the 24th Battalion brought back a pinecone and gave it to his aunt, Mrs Emma Gray, of Warrnambool, Victoria. Four seedlings were grown and planted at several Shrines of Remembrance in Victoria.

In 1990, two trees were taken back to Gallipoli by war veterans who attended the memorial service that marked the 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Lone Pine Ridge. Yarralumla Nursery propagates these trees from seed collected from the tree at the Australian War Memorial.

The Lone Pine or Aleppo Pine has a long Middle Eastern heritage. It is mentioned in the Bible and is one of the earliest known sources of turpentine. It is a conical tree becoming rounded with age and has reddish-brown scaly bark. Blue-green shoots appear in spring followed by slender, sparse bright green leaves that are 6-11cm long. Long, oval red-brown female cones 5-12cm long appear in summer.

It grows to a height of 20 metres.



Christmas in July



*Sunday 28 July 2019
11.00am - 4.00pm*

*3 course lunch
Refreshments
Entertainment by Brassick
Monster Raffle*

*Tickets \$20.00 per person for members and partners
go on sale at the June 2019 General Meeting.
Please see Tom Hobbs for tickets.*

*Tables of 8 can be reserved with names and money
(8 x \$20.00 pp) at time of booking*

Dress: Smart Casual

Toukley RSL Sub Branch Bus Trips



<u>Date</u> <u>2019</u>	<u>Destination</u>	<u>Cost</u> <u>of</u> <u>Entry</u>	<u>Number of</u> <u>Members</u> <u>Attending</u>
July Fri. 19th	Catalina Flying Boat Museum. Rathmines. Lunch at Catalina "Officer Mess".	-	
August Fri. 16th	Sydney War Memorial Lunch at Kirribilli RSL Club.		
Sept. Fri 20th	Henry Kendall Cottage, Gosford. Lunch at Davistown RSL	\$4 Cons.	
Oct Wed 16th	Wilberforce Pioneer Village. Helen 0438 751775	-	
Nov Fri 15th	Dangle a line off Patonga Wharf 9.30 am to 10.30am, and Lunch at Palm Beach RSL (also, tour of 'Home & Away Site' Palm Beach) RSL 9974 5566.	Cost of Ferry only	
Dec. Fri 13th	Hunter Valley Gardens, Night Visit.	?	

If you are interested in any of the tours, or have any queries regarding bus trips, please contact – Bob Swift, Mobile: 0432 362 475.

Sub Branch Bus Trip to Barramundi Fish Farm

On Friday 21 June 2019 a group of Toukley Sub Branch members visited the Cookabarra Restaurant and Function Centre at Bobs Farm, Nelson Bay. The site is a working farm which includes Australia's biggest Barramundi fish farm and a hydroponic garden.

The site covers approx. 6 hectares, has a large restaurant and two huge sheds where the fish are bred and harvested. Inside the two sheds are about 40 tanks about 5m long by 3m wide and a metre deep.

The fish come into the farm as Finglings and when full grown either finish up on the plates in the restaurant, head off to Sydney fish markets or sold in the Newcastle area. People can even feed Big Barry who is over 22kg and 1m long; just watch your fingers!

We had two separate tours each with its own guide who were very conversant with all aspects of the fish farm and Aquaponic gardens systems. They advised how the main part of their jobs was to monitor all the conditions which affect the fish, from water temperature, PH levels of the water, exactly how much food each fish should eat at their various stages, balancing the nutrients coming from the fish faeces which is recycled into the aquaponics garden section There was so much to it. The tour costs \$7.50 Concession but we could have had a combined tour and lunch (Yes! Fresh Barra) for \$25.

From the Fish Farm we proceeded to Nelson Bay Bowling Club for lunch. On the way to the Bowlo, Alan (our driver) took us on a Love's magical Mystery Tour (he got lost) of Fingal and Shoal Bays. Following lunch we visited the Gan Gan Lookout with amazing views of Port Stephens. Harry James won the Lucky Door prize (his ticket just happened to be drawn out by his daughter Connie! (ICAC have been notified!)



A good day was had by all.



February 2020

Are you interested on volunteering for a position on our Committee?

Do you have some spare time on your hands and would like to help out your Sub Branch comrades? If the answer is “yes”, and you have computer skills (Word and Excel), please speak to one of our Committee who will be more than happy to answer any questions or queries you may have.

To ensure continuity after the next AGM, we need volunteers to take over the roles of those on the current Committee who will be standing down. Please give it some thought.

Puzzle Corner Answers



Trivia Answers

- | | | | |
|---|----------|----|----------------|
| 1 | Hearts | 6 | Mount Rushmore |
| 2 | The Neck | 7 | Red |
| 3 | Bronze | 8 | Dong |
| 4 | Quebec | 9 | Mercury |
| 5 | Black | 10 | Atlantic Ocean |

Recipe of the Month

Cob Loaf Dip



This recipe is great for a group gathering.

Prepare the day before:

Cook 1 packet of frozen spinach in microwave, as per instructions. Squeeze out excess water.

Add 1 packet spring vegetable soup, approximately 3 tablespoons Praise Mayonnaise, 1 carton sour cream, approx. 1-2 tablespoons Clive of India brand authentic curry powder.

Mix to combine. Adjust taste. Add more curry if you think it needs it. Refrigerate until required.

1 Cob Loaf (purchase on the day of use for freshness)

To assemble: Cut the top off the cob loaf and gently pull out most of the soft insides. Keep this for dipping. Scoop the filling into the cob loaf.

It is best to assemble just prior to it being required.

Enjoy!!!!

*The road to success is lined with many
tempting parking spaces*

TOUKLEY RSL SUB BRANCH

Patron:	Karen McNamara
President:	Bob Wilson
Vice Presidents:	Tom Hobbs George Meier
Secretary:	Graham Tredinnick
Treasurer:	Milton Porter
Committee:	Ray Sutton Bob Swift Allan Love Ian Collier Brian Murphy
Telephone:	4396.4855
Fax:	4396.9310
Pensions & Welfare: <i>(Located at Diggers' Inn)</i>	4396.8807
Trustees:	Bob Wilson, George Meier, Milton Porter
Newsletter Co-ordinator:	Ian Collier
Phone:	0412 265 623
Email:	ianpamcoll@aapt.net.au

