



TOUKLEY RSL SUB BRANCH

Newsletter

Issue 72– April 2022

NEW SUB BRANCH MEMBERS

Welcome to the following new Sub-Branch Members:

Brian Rudd

VALE

Dorothy Justice MBE

Lest We Forget



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



**Sub Branch General Meetings are held on the first Monday of each month,
At 10.30am, upstairs in Club Toukley RSL, with the exception of January.
All Members are invited to attend.**

Wallarah Bay Anzac Service	Sunday 10 April 9.00 am
Anzac Day Dawn Service	Monday 25 April 5.20 am
Anzac Day Morning Service & March	Monday 25 April 10.00 am March starts Village Green at 9.35 am
Next monthly meeting	Monday 2 May 10.30 am

Toukley RSL Sub Branch President's Report:



With Anzac Day just three weeks away, we begin our Schools and Aged Care Anzac services tomorrow, the 5th April, with our last service scheduled for Tuesday 3 May. As always at this time of year, it is very busy, with two services booked in on most days. This year, we will be attending our first service at Porters Creek Public School at Warnervale. We are committed to representing the Sub Branch at these important services, and our attendance at each service is always appreciated by the schools and Aged Care Facilities.

As previously advised our Dawn service at the cenotaph on Anzac Day will commence at 5.20am followed by breakfast upstairs in The Ary for **members, partners and invited guests only**. Members are to present their Sub Branch Membership card for entry to the breakfast. For the general public who attend the Dawn Service, a bacon and egg roll will be available in Ziva Eats and Pizza restaurant, courtesy of the Sub Branch.

The Morning Service will commence on completion of the march, which steps off at 9.45am from the Village Green, (estimated to be around 10.15-10.30am) depending on the time the last of the march arrives at the cenotaph. We are planning for a big crowd, especially because we were unable to have a march last year.

Tickets are now on sale for the Anzac Day luncheon, at a cost of **\$10.00 each per head, Sub Branch member/partner** and are available from the Sub Branch office each Thursday from 10.00am-12.00noon and also at the April General Meeting. The luncheon, which will be held upstairs in the Ary in Celebrations Function room, will include a two-course meal (entrée and main) with entertainment by Brassick. A good day is assured, so get in early if you are a Toukley RSL Sub Branch member and would like to attend. For catering purposes, we will need to advise The Ary of numbers, therefore **sale of tickets will close on Thursday 21 April 2022**.

Hopefully, we get good weather on the day, although Tom Hobbs says it never rains on his parade!

During March, we conducted four interment services at the cenotaph for deceased Sub Branch members: Terry Zorbos, Ronald Arthur Robinson, Henry (Harry) Albert James and Warren William Kelly. The total number of interments now stands at 426.

Our membership numbers are currently sitting at around 170. As a way of attracting new members, we have commenced advertising in *The Central Coast Chronicle*. Keep a watch out for our advertisements which will continue for five weeks. Also, if you know of a veteran who may wish to join our Sub Branch, please encourage them to contact our Membership Officers, Ian Collier and Roy Norman. Membership fees are free. However, membership of The Ary will allow access to the Club to attend our meetings and functions. We welcome and embrace new members!

An Architect has now been given approval by the Committee to proceed with an initial design for renovations to the existing Diggers' Inn structure that fulfils the requirements of the Sub Branch and provides us with a multi-use premise for the future. Once he has come back to us with the drawings, we will advise the members, and keep you informed on progress.

Our Wellness and Wellbeing Function (Christmas in July) will be held on Sunday 24 July 2022 in Celebrations Function Room in The Ary Toukley. Tickets for this popular function will be on sale at the May 2022 General Meeting and, after that, on Thursdays from the Sub Branch office between 10.00am and 12noon, at a cost of \$20.00 each per member/partner. We are already purchasing prizes for our monster raffle. Bookings for tables of 8 are available, so **if you wish to reserve a table, money (\$20 x 8) and names must be provided at the time of booking.** Brassick will be our entertainment on the day.

There are still ongoing problems with the Sub Branch Webpage. It is proving more difficult to fix but be assured that we are working on it and hope to have it up and running as soon as possible.

Have a safe Easter.

Bob Wilson

President
Toukley RSL Sub Branch

.....
“Does your dog bite” asked the friendly chap of the bulldog sitting next to Paddy.

“No” said Paddy. The friendly chap extended a hand to pat the bulldog and nearly had it bitten off.

“I thought you said your dog didn’t bite” said the man in alarm.

“That’s not my dog” said Paddy.

. 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 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.



COMMEMORATION OF ANZAC

**March and Service 9.00 am
WBRC Sunday 10 April 2022**



Note from Editor :

As in previous years the Toukley RSL Sub-branch will continue to support the organizing committee for the Anzac Commemoration Service at Wallarah Bay Recreation Club. The service this year will be held on Sunday 10 April 2022 commencing at 9.00 am.

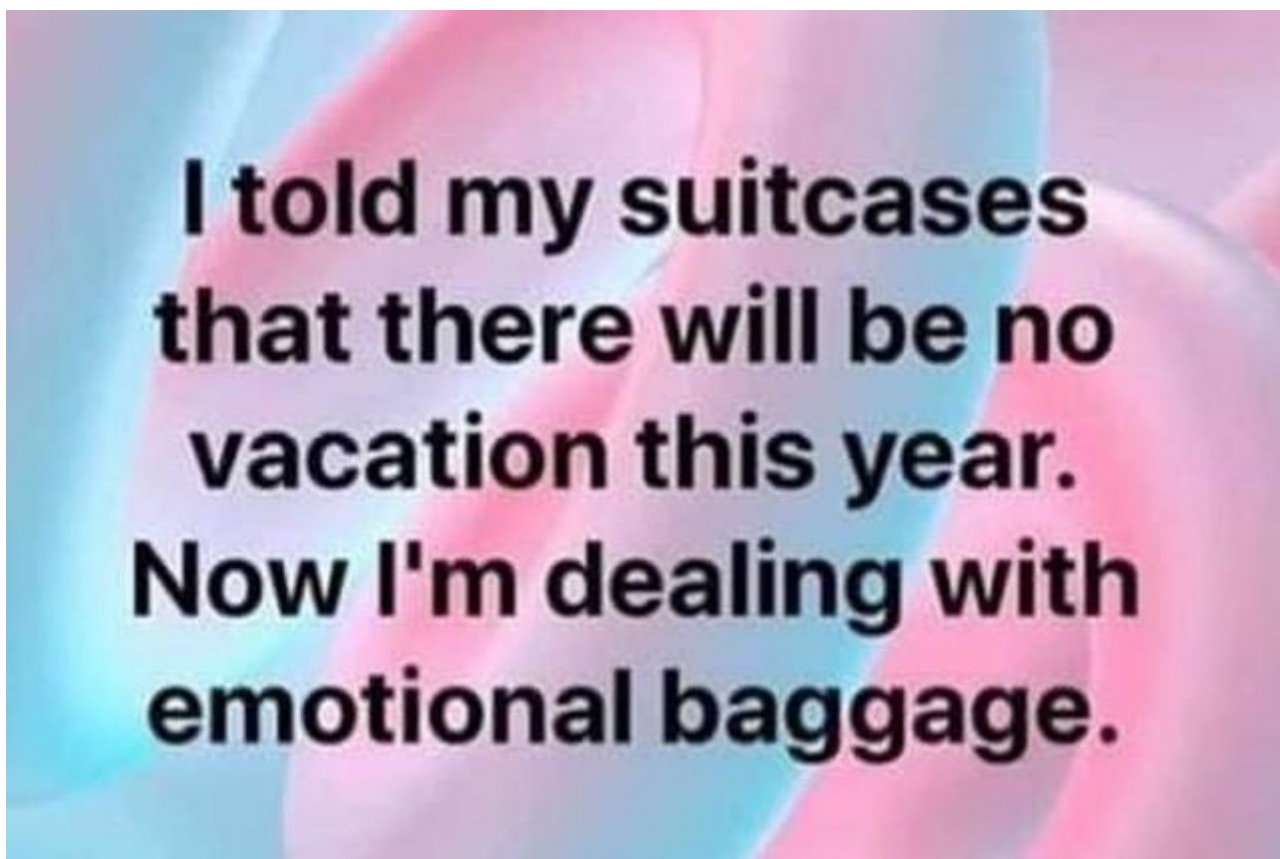
The Sub-branch bus will be leaving the club at 8.00 am for all those that wish to attend.

A note from Tommy Hobbs to all members :

A flag party will be required for the following services :

1. Anzac Commemoration Service at Wallarah Bay Recreation club on Sunday 10 April 2022 commencing at 9.00 am. The Sub-branch bus will leave The Ary at 8.00 am. Refreshments and a snack will be provided at the completion of the service.
2. A Flag Party will also be required for Anzac Day 25 April 2022 as the march WILL be held this year. The Flag Party will be required to march from The Village Green at Toukley forming up at 9.45 am and marching to The Cenotaph. Refreshment and lunch will be provided at the luncheon upstairs at The Ary. This is a ticketed event so ensure you have purchased your ticket before the event.

Anybody interested in being in either flag party please contact Tommy Hobbs after a general meeting or on a Thursday morning in the Sub-branch office.



Puzzle Corner



Trivia

1. Who sang this song : "Wishin' and Hopin'" back in the 60s?
2. The Peach Melba was invented in honour of which Australian soprano?
3. An American Corn dog is usually served on a what?
4. A leek is related to which other vegetables?
5. What is the English name of the Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese?
6. Mayonnaise flavoured with which herb often accompanies poached salmon?
7. The patron saint of England is famous for killing which type of creature?
8. In which German city were the war trials of leading Nazis held after World War II?
9. Mikhail Kalashnikov, the inventor of what iconic weapon, died in 2013?
10. The King of Reggae Bob Marley hailed from which island?
11. How many points is the 'Z' worth in scrabble?
12. Which singer released the famous track 'Tutti Frutti' in 1956?
13. Soda bread is traditional food from which country?
14. Complete this film title: Blair _____ Project.
15. In which country is the famous beach of Ipanema?
16. Which European country gave us the dish of goulash?
17. Persian, Abyssinian and Ragdoll are breeds of which animal?

MEMBER PROFILE: Thomas (Tommy) Hobbs

Hi.. This is Tom, I'm either out running or drinking.. This is the message that you get when you ring Tommy's number if he didn't pick-up. One thing is for certain, He certainly enjoys running and he certainly enjoys a drink. His motto in life is: Train hard and party harder..No denying that he lives by that motto..

Tommy was born in Carlton Victoria on the 20th December 1937.

He left school and started work at the age of 15 as a roustabout working in shearing sheds and on dairy and sheep farms.

He served in the Royal Australian Navy from 1958 until 1960.

He has an interest in all sports and follows Carlton in the AFL.

He moved to Toukley in 1965.

Worked at Toukley RSL Club Ltd from 1972 until his retirement in 2004.

Joined Toukley Sub Branch in 1999.

Has held various positions on Sub Branch committee including Vice President.

Raises funds through charity runs since the 1990's for The Westmead Childrens Hospital. He has a tattoo of a Care Bear on his arm.

Volunteers at Lions Club of Toukley.

**Wife: Did I get fat during
quarantine?
Husband: You weren't
really skinny to begin with!
Time of Death: 11:00pm
Cause: Covid**

THE NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME, 1964-72

The National Service scheme was introduced by the Menzies Government in November 1964 and operated until December 1972, when the newly elected Whitlam Labor Government suspended it. The scheme was based on a birthday ballot of twenty-year-old men who had registered their names with the Department of Labour and National Service (DLNS). If balloted in, these men were called up to perform two years' continuous full-time service in the Regular Army Supplement, followed by three years' part-time service in the Regular Army Reserve. National servicemen on full-time duty were liable for what was called 'special overseas service', which included combat duties in Vietnam. When the scheme was introduced the Government planned to raise 4200 servicemen during the second half of 1965, then 6900 annually thereafter. This would create the desired Army strength of 37 500 full-time soldiers. In August 1965 Menzies announced that from 1966 the annual intake would be maintained at 8400 (two intakes of 4200), resulting in an Army strength of 40 000. He explained that the Government's decision had been made 'in the light of the successful introduction of the national service scheme and bearing in mind all the various commitments, at home and abroad, which our forces might be required to undertake'.

The role of the DLNS in operating the scheme was to handle all matters dealing with call-up of national servicemen from the time of registration to the time service commenced in the Regular Army Supplement. The department administered all aspects involving registration, selection and examinations and answered questions concerning deferment or exemption from call-up. The day-to-day operation of the scheme was largely handled by the department's regional offices in the capital cities and, in country areas, by offices of the Commonwealth Employment Service.

Registration

The national service scheme required most men who turned twenty years of age and who were 'ordinarily resident' in Australia to register with the DLNS. Men turning twenty who were temporarily absent from the country at the time of their birthday were required to register within fourteen days of returning. From June 1968 men turning twenty who intended to travel overseas could not do so without first obtaining permission from the DLNS, while airline and shipping companies were not to issue tickets to men in the twenty-year age group without first obtaining a departmental certificate. However, the Government could neither prevent men liable to register from travelling to New Zealand, for which a passport was not required, nor prevent them from obtaining and using British passports, after which the Government had no way of tracing the men's movements.

The registration process involved filling in a form at a local national service registration office. There were two registration periods each year, each lasting a fortnight and widely publicized. The first, in January, was for men who turned twenty in the first half of the year. The second, in July, was for men turning twenty in the second half. Failure to register was an offence. Those who did not register without reasonable explanation were automatically

balloted in and considered for call-up. They were also liable to be fined. Although men were legally required to register within their registration period, in practice registration was accepted without penalty up to the date of the ballot.

Young men who had reached the age of eighteen years and nine months, and men aged twenty who had been granted indefinite deferment or exemption, could volunteer for national service. Volunteers could also request to serve in limited duties of a non-combatant nature.

The ballot

As the number of twenty-year-old men was greater than the number needed for the annual intakes, a ballot was held about four to six weeks after the close of each registration period to select those to be considered for callup. Selection for military service by ballot had been introduced with the approval of Cabinet in 1957 for an earlier national service scheme, and the selection procedures adopted then were unchanged. Numbered marbles, each representing two birthdates, were placed in a barrel. A predetermined number of marbles were drawn randomly by hand, one at a time. One hundred and eighty-one marbles were placed in the first ballot barrel, and 184 in the others. The number drawn depended on statistical calculations by the DLNS not only of the final number of national servicemen needed for military service, but also of how many registrants were expected to apply for exemption or were already exempt from service, and of how many were entitled to indefinite or temporary deferment. The calculation also made allowances for those classified as medically unfit. Once the ballot was completed, the results were sent to DLNS State offices which held registration records. Within a month, all affected by the ballot knew if they were 'balloted in' or 'balloted out'. The former received a letter informing them of their rights to apply for exemption or deferment; the latter were told they were under no further obligation and were indefinitely deferred.

The Government went to great lengths to ensure that the ballot was conducted in a fair, equal and random manner. The drawing of the ballot was conducted as a ceremony under the supervision of a representative of the Government and the marbles were drawn by a 'distinguished citizen' not associated with the administration of the scheme. The procedure was supervised by senior officers of the army and the DLNS, and the marbles drawn were checked and crosschecked in the DLNS central office. The ceremony, up to the drawing of the first marble, was open to representatives of the press, radio and television, but the drawing of marbles was conducted in secret.

Also secret for the first eleven of the sixteen ballots were the birthdates that the drawn marbles represented, for the Government wished to make it impossible both for the public to deduce the results of the ballots and for men whose national service obligation had been indefinitely deferred to deduce whether deferral had been granted as a result of the ballot or on other grounds discussed below. The Government had three main reasons for such secrecy. First, it believed that publishing the ballot results would encourage men to register only after their ballot, having first waited to see which birthdays were drawn. This could

assist those who desired to escape national service and add to the DLNS administrative workload. Second, the Government was concerned that some members of the public might study the mathematical probability of the same numbers falling in successive ballots. The Government was convinced that such study could not lead to successful evasion, but it might prompt some registrants to give false birthdates and, again, increase the administrative workload substantially. Third, as not all those balloted in were called up, the Government did not want to be put in the position of explaining why some men balloted in were not called up. The DLNS believed that this could lead to delicate situations and a breach of confidentiality between the department and registrants, especially those with mental or physical illness or defects, or those considered a security risk. Growing criticism and suspicion of the secrecy of the ballot led to increasing pressure on the Government to publish the birthdates. In 1970 the DLNS examined the ballot arrangements and on 12 June that year the Minister for Labour and National Service, Billy Snedden, announced that the ballot dates would be published from September

Conditions and obligations of service

Men who passed the final medical examination served for two years fulltime in the Regular Army Supplement and a further three years part-time in the Regular Army Reserve. An initial ten weeks' recruit training was followed by three months of corps training, after which national servicemen could then usually apply for posting to any corps. They were not always successful in obtaining the posting of their choice. In October 1971 the length of full-time service was reduced from two years to eighteen months and the length of liability for service in the Reserve increased from three years to three and a half. National servicemen could volunteer for an additional period of service at any time.

All national servicemen were liable for military service in Australia and overseas, or 'special overseas service', while with the Army full-time. Officially, national servicemen could not be posted according to their wishes and therefore could not choose whether or not they served in Vietnam, although a national serviceman could apply to his commanding officer to remain in Australia on compassionate grounds. The general impression given by serving Army officers at the time is that more national servicemen were keen to serve in Vietnam than were needed, and that those unwilling to serve there were transferred to units serving only in Australia. Commanding officers were understandably reluctant to have any soldier who actively opposed participation in the war and who therefore might be a danger to other members of the unit. For most of the war the Government denied that this practice existed. In September 1971, with the level of Australian involvement in Vietnam decreasing markedly, the Minister for the Army, Andrew Peacock, stated that although national servicemen would continue to be sent to Vietnam, they would not be compelled to go.

Statistics

Between 1964 and 1972, 804 286 twenty-year-olds registered for national service and 63 735 national servicemen served in the Army.¹²

Balloted out: 567, 238

- Granted indefinite deferment: 566 513
- Awaiting 'next' ballot: 725

Balloted in, not eligible for ballot, elected to serve in the Citizen Military Forces, and volunteers: 237 048

- Exemptions: 3563

Theological students, ministers of religion and members of religious orders: 553

Physical or mental disabilities: 1768

Conscientious objection determined by a court: 1242

- Indefinite deferments: 35 548

Married before the date of call-up: 20 502

Members of the Citizen Forces: 7197

Citizen Forces whose obligations completed: 7849

- No longer liable to be called up: 102 134

Death subsequent to registration: 916

Served or serving in Permanent Forces: 2194

Rejected as not meeting the medical, psychological and educational standards required by the Army: 99 010

Imprisoned for refusal to obey a call-up notice: 14

- Unavailable for call-up as at 31 December 1972: 21 876

Granted or being considered for deferment 15 526

Granted or seeking deferment on grounds of exceptional hardship: 470

Under investigation for suspected breaches of National Service Act: 3890

Granted permission to leave Australia: 610

Migrants not included elsewhere, not yet due for call-up: 1380

- Called up and enlisted in the Army: 63 740
- Available for call-up subject to meeting the standards required for Army service and the outcome of applications for exemption or deferment: 10 187

Termination Act

During the 1972 election campaign the Australian Labor Party promised that 'all men imprisoned under the National Service Act will be released, pending prosecutions discontinued and existing convictions expunged'.

Within a few days of winning office in early December the new Minister for Labour and National Service, Lance Barnard, suspended the operation of the scheme by administrative action, cancelling the call-up of approximately 2200 men who had been medically examined and deferring the liability of all men who had enlisted for service. National servicemen already in the Army who did not wish to continue their service were released as quickly as possible. Prosecutions and pending prosecutions were dropped. Young men who had taken up the option of part-time military service in the Citizen Military Forces were able to be discharged at their own request. National servicemen who opted to complete their term of service were entitled to the same benefits as before. In June 1973 the Whitlam Government passed the National Service Termination Act, giving legislative effect to Barnard's administrative action. The Government also intended to repeal the National Service Act itself as soon as possible, but felt constrained to wait until national servicemen who continued to serve under the Act had completed their service and received all the benefits to which they were entitled under the Act. This state of affairs did not come about before the dismissal of the Whitlam Government on 11 November 1975.

The National Service Act 1951 and its subsequent amendments were repealed by the Defence Legislation Amendment Act of 1992. Following this legislation, the Government retained the power to introduce conscription under the Defence Act, but only in a time of war and only with prior parliamentary approval. The Act also revised provisions concerning conscientious objection, providing for special tribunals to determine claims and making it possible for an individual to be recognised as a conscientious objector to a particular war. In introducing the legislation the Parliamentary Secretary to the Attorney-General, Peter Duncan, said that the Keating Government's aim was 'to preserve the capacity to introduce conscription for the protection of Australia, but to ensure that those claiming exemption would receive a rapid and fair hearing'. The Government clearly wished to remove many of the anomalies in the operation of compulsory military service that had become evident during the Vietnam War. Duncan expressed the hope that repeal of the National Service Act would 'remove this last vestige of an unhappy and divisive episode in our history'.

Puzzle Corner Answers



- 1. Dusty Springfield**
- 2. Nellie Melba**
- 3. Stick**
- 4. Onions**
- 5. Parmesan**
- 6. Dill**
- 7. Dragon**
- 8. Nuremberg**
- 9. AK-47**
- 10. Jamaica**
- 11. 10**
- 12. Little Richard**
- 13. Ireland**
- 14. Witch**
- 15. Brazil**
- 16. Hungary**
- 17. Cat**

TOUKLEY RSL SUB BRANCH

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President:	Bob Wilson
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