



TOUKLEY RSL SUB BRANCH *Newsletter*

Issue 76– August 2022

NEW SUB BRANCH MEMBERS

Welcome to the following new Sub-Branch Members:

VALE

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.

Next monthly meeting	Monday 5 September 10.30 am
Wellness & Wellbeing Function (Xmas Party)	Sunday 18 December 11.00 am to 4.00 pm

Toukley RSL Sub Branch President's Report:



The Sub Branch's annual Wellness and Wellbeing Function (Christmas in July) was held on Sunday 24 July 2022 with 80 members, partners and invited guests in attendance. From all reports, everyone enjoyed the day, and it was a good opportunity for, particularly the members, to get together and enjoy the camaraderie, good food, great entertainment and the opportunity to win a prize or two in the monster raffle.



Christmas in July

Our last Sub Branch function of the year, the Wellness and Wellbeing Function (Christmas party), will be held on Sunday 18 December 2022. Make a note in your diary, so you don't miss out.

A Dedication Service for the Afghanistan/Iraq plaque, to be placed on the cenotaph, will be held in conjunction with our Remembrance Day service at the

cenotaph on 11 November 2022, commencing at 10.45am. This plaque will honour all who served in both the Afghanistan and Iraq wars and made the supreme sacrifice.

The Committee has been investigating the suitability of two new bench seats to be located at the cenotaph, and requested quotations for two different seating types which will complete the DVA Grant which was provided for both the plaque and seats.

The Anzac centenary memorial plaque for Porters Creek Public School is on order and I am advised that it will be in place at the school prior to Remembrance Day. The Committee is planning on having a Dedication Service at the school, in conjunction with a Remembrance Day Service.

The fading signage at Diggers' Inn has now been replaced with new, more visible signage, thanks to Committeeman Bob Swift, who organised both the sign and its installation. Bob is also arranging for the provision of lighting inside the sign. This will act as an additional deterrent to vandalism. Below is a photo of the new signage.



The plaques which were inadvertently replaced into the incorrect positions at the cenotaph will be put back into their original positions, at no cost to the Sub Branch. Central Coast Memorials has advised that they have, to date, partially completed the work.

I have recently received the resignation of Rod Clark from the Sub Branch Committee, which I have sadly accepted. Rod has been an integral part of the Committee for some time and has been happy to assist with any duties, as required. Rod has agreed to continue driving the Sub Branch bus for which we are very grateful. Thank you, Rod, for your input and assistance to the current, and past Committees.

Mike Humphries, Roy Norman and Allan Love have recently been busy cleaning out our two Memorabilia Cabinets and documenting all memorabilia which has been generously donated over the years. The cabinets are now looking refreshed and clean thanks to the time put in by Mike, Roy and Allan.

Don't forget that the Sub Branch has an extensive library at Diggers' Inn for the use of members who wish to borrow a book to read. Secretary Judith Walker has dedicated a lot of time in getting the library sorted and finding homes for duplicated books. Please contact Judith for opening hours if you are interested in visiting the library.

Another friendly reminder to members of our next Annual General Meeting which will be held on **Sunday 19 February 2023**. At this AGM all positions will be declared vacant. Please consider volunteering to serve on the Committee. This is your Sub Branch: have a say in ensuring that we have a future and leave a legacy. Elections are held every three years. I am more than happy, at any time, to answer any questions or concerns that you may have, or to explain what is involved.

Bob Wilson

President

Editors Note :

Tom Hobbs has asked me to thank the members for the unanimous support of his nomination for life membership of RSL NSW.

. 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.



WANTED NEW MEMBERS

National Servicemen's Association Central Coast Sub-branch Toukley

Benefits- monthly meetings held 3rd Sunday every month except APRIL, DECEMBER and JANUARY, regular social luncheons for members, family and friends, BBQ's, Bus trips to places of interest.

Membership forms available from our Membership Officer Bobby Byrnes on 0400 352 811 or email robertbyrnes7@bigpond.com

Volunteers required for Vietnam Veterans Park at Gorokan.

The Vietnam Veterans Park which is on the left hand side of Wallarah Road just as you drive over the Toukley Bridge towards Gorokan is maintained by the Vietnam Vets group. The group would appreciate some assistance if anyone has a few hours to spare. They meet on a Wednesday at 9.30 every five weeks in winter and about every 2-3 weeks in growing season. If anyone has some spare time please contact John Frahar on 0408 092 230 or email at jffcashman@hotmail.com.au.

Member Profile : Helen Sutton

Helen was born on the 11th November,1937 at Wentworthville N.S.W.

Helen attended primary school at Hoxton Park and her secondary schooling was at Liverpool Girls High.

In 1956 Helen joined the W.R.A.A.F. and commenced her training at Richmond, N.S.W. and was posted to Tottenham, Victoria.

Helen served 4 years in the W.R.A.A.F. as a Steward and obtained the rank of Corporal.

After her discharge Helen started up a Business College at Liverpool N.S.W. teaching typing, shorthand and bookkeeping and also had an office in York Street, Sydney.

Helen retired in 2000 and moved to Budgewoi.

Helen has a son Mark and three grandchildren.

Helen joined The City of Liverpool R.S.L. in 1986 and is an associate member of Toukley R.S.L. Sub Branch.

Joined The Ex Servicewomen's Association at Toukley R.S.L. Sub Branch.

Helen enjoys being involved in the outings, functions and meetings and proudly represents the W.R.A.A.F. at commemorativeservices.

Follows the Canterbury Bulldogs in the N.R.L.

In her leisure time Helen enjoys reading and knitting.



Puzzle Corner



Trivia

1. What is Iceland's capital city?
2. What was the name of Polish director Roman Polanski's eight months pregnant wife, who was murdered in her home on 8 August, 1969?
3. What "Muppet" character sings "It's Not Easy Bein' Green"?
4. Which US state is nicknamed 'The Golden State'?
5. Beirut is the capital city of which country?
6. Lima is the capital of which country?
7. What do you call someone who studies earthquakes?
8. Prague is the capital of which country?
9. Which islands are famous for their giant tortoises?
10. Which famous rock star was killed in New York City on December 8, 1980?
11. What was Margaret Houlihan's nickname on TV's "M*A*S*H"?
12. What seventies punk band had the hit, "God Save the Queen"?
13. Seker, Osiris, Isis and Horus were gods in what culture?
14. The deadliest earthquake of 2012 occurred in which neighbor of India?
15. What were all Roman people who were not slaves called?
16. Who created the fictional detective Sherlock Holmes?
17. Galatasaray is a soccer team from which country?
18. Who has had a son, Flynn, with financier Arki Busson?
19. What is cider made of?
20. The casing holding the insides of an egg is called what?

The following letter was donated to the Sub-branch recently.

A letter from the Western Front WW1 dated 6th January 1918.

A letter from a Digger to his Uncle back in Australia

I am in receipt of your letter dated 6th Nov informing me of Robinson's visit, and giving me all the news, and how your color music is advancing. I am sorry to tell you that the prismatic compass has nothing to do with colour, and is merely a name. The understanding is very easy, it is merely an improved form of compass to ensure accuracy in finding your bearing any given direction N. S. E. or W.

The past two months I have been out of the Scouts and merely doing my bit in the line. In fact very little scouting was necessary.

With you I am certain that Germany's ultimate defeat is certain, in spite of the pendulum's back-ward swing in Italy & Russia and the latest news seems to bear that idea out, as Russia is again gathering strength and Italy seems to be again holding her own while Germany must be looking with apprehension to America's Spring offensive.

I can see the bully turning down her Allies in the near future, and the Terrible Turk will yet rue her alliance. Looking at the price we pay for any advance we make it is hard to believe we are on the winning side.

Many individual soldiers believe our ultimate victory, absolutely uncertain as the price of our advance is so expensive, forgetting the price to Germany is much dearer, while we have the World's reserves at our back.

All this peace talk is sure to have some actual feeling for the same, the game being to bluff the other fellow.

We have been thru the Fromelles and Paschendale advances and the carnage is awful while the artillery barrages is terrific.

In our advance on Paschendale we suffered terribly, four of my section being killed. Pearson, Sparrow, Simpson and many old chums.

It is nights like these when one thinks the price altogether too heavy for the object won, especially when, even now we can't see the result, and so many good men seemingly gone for nothing, and it is still going on.

The dead and dying everywhere, the earth shell-torn, like a moon cratered surface and all for the greed of gold. The Allies talking of giving back willy-nilly Alsace to France, and at the same time preaching democracy. From a soldier who has travelled there, he tells me Alsace is purely German in its Sympathies. Why create future dispeace by enforcing rule on the people which they do not desire.

I do hope a plebiscite will be put to that state instead of putting an undesirable rule on them.

If we stand for democracy then uphold its principles, and not make the peoples sacrifice a future mockery.

These are my views, if rather imperfectly put, Autocracy is proved no good, then why apply them in the name of democracy.

Forgive this somewhat rambling letter, we like all at home are looking forward to an early & suitable peace brought about on mutual understanding amongst the nations and the sooner the better. We at present are billeted in an agricultural district some distance behind the line with the promise of prolonged rest and I can assure you not before time as we have had it very strenuous of late.

The weather is clear, cold and frosty and all well but feeling the severity of the weather.

A good walk before turning in is the only way of getting up heat.

You will already know Willie has been missing since 25th August, no hope being held out as to his turning up. I had a letter from home today and they are all well, but they are having an anxious time of it with Peter also being away fighting.

Now I will draw to a close. Give my love to Aunt Nell, Margaret and the boys and hoping you are all well and wishing you a Happy New Year.

Your Nephew

John

PS Stewart is some miles away, not likely to see him for some time.

Editors Note : Sadly the writer was killed in action four days after writing this letter.

The original letter is stored in the Library at Diggers if anyone is interested in seeing it. It is in remarkable condition given that it is 104 years old.

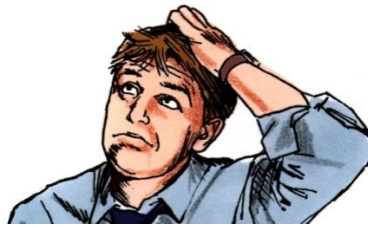
"To get back to my youth I would do anything in the world, except exercise, get up early, or be respectable." - Oscar Wilde

"The older we get, the fewer things seem worth waiting in line for." - Will Rogers

"We must recognize that, as we grow older, we become like old cars – more and more repairs and replacements are necessary." - C.S. Lewis

"Old age comes at a bad time." – San Banducci “

Puzzle Corner Answers



1. Reykjavik
2. Sharon Stone
3. Kermit the frog
4. California
5. Lebanon
6. Peru
7. Seismologist
8. Czech Republic
9. Galapagos
10. John Lennon
11. Hot Lips
12. Sex Pistols
13. Egyptian
14. Pakistan
15. Citizens
16. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
17. Turkey
18. Elle McPherson
19. Apples
- 20 Shell

From the Editor :Thank you to Roy Norman & Bob Wilson. for contributions to the newsletter.

TOUKLEY RSL SUB BRANCH

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