



TOUKLEY RSL SUB BRANCH *Newsletter*



Merry
Christmas
to all!

Issue 80 – December 2022

NEW SUB BRANCH MEMBERS

Welcome to the following new Sub-Branch Members:

Robert Crofton

Stephen Wilkinson

VALE

Frank del Riego



Lest We Forget

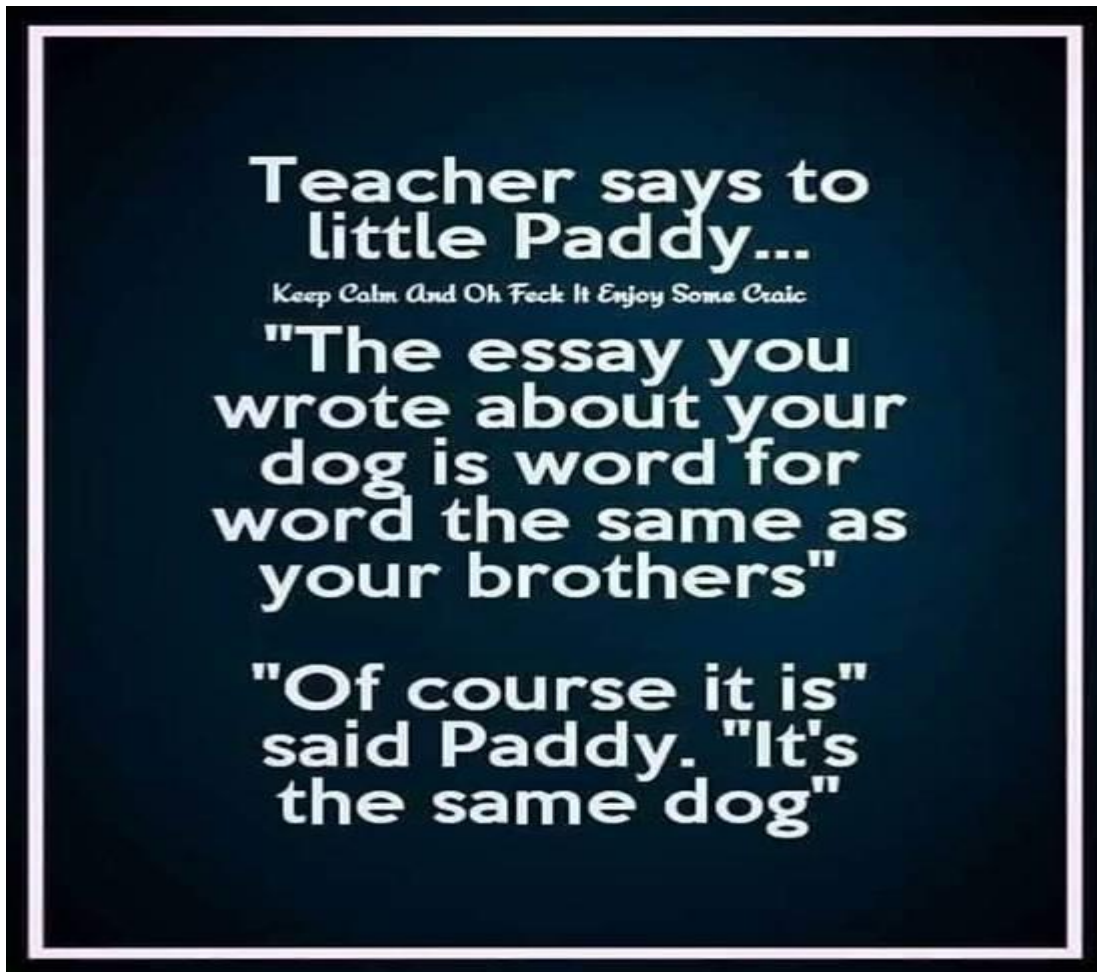


DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



**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.**

Hunter Valley Gardens Xmas lights bus trip	Friday 9 December 4.30 pm
Members Xmas Party & Raffle	Sunday 18 December 11.00 am
Committee Meeting	Monday 19 December 10.30 am
Next General Meeting	Monday 6 February 10.30 am
Annual General Meeting	Sunday 19 February 10.30 am



Toukley RSL Sub Branch President's Report:



It seems like only yesterday that I was working on the December 2021 President's Report. How quickly the last twelve months has flown by!

It has been a rather busy year with the Committee working hard on the general day-to-day running of the Sub Branch, for the benefit of the members and veterans in the area. Looking back, it has been a better year than the previous two, with Covid restrictions easing, thus allowing us to move around more freely and live a more normal lifestyle. Being able to resume meetings has been a big “plus”, as it is sometimes one of the few times that members are able to socialise.

Just a few of our achievements this year have been the acquisition of the Iraq/Afghanistan plaque for the cenotaph and the Anzac Commemorative plaque for Porters' Creek Public School. Keeping our cenotaph records and Policies and Procedures up to date is an ongoing job and a mandatory requirement.

We were recently advised by the CEO of The Ary Toukley that membership of The Ary is now free for Toukley RSL Sub Branch members. We are very grateful to the Board and Management of The Ary Toukley for this generous offer. Membership fees for the Sub Branch remain free. We welcome new members to join our Sub Branch.

Diggers' Inn is now being utilised more often, which is pleasing to see. Thanks to Tiffany Kelly, from Open Arms, who is running workshops out of Diggers and also bringing in representatives to assist veterans on the coast. We have been working closely with Tiffany and her group to provide the necessary tools to carry out this important work more effectively. We recently purchased a new TV which has been installed on a wall in the main area to be used as a training aid to conduct Powerpoint presentations for workshops and classes. This will make it easier for the trainers and participants.

The Committee has also discussed the importance of having a defibrillator at Diggers' Inn. This has now been approved and we are currently making enquiries on the most appropriate type for our needs, together with the necessary training. We have contacted a Paramedic who has said he will make himself available to conduct the training.

Our Remembrance Day Commemoration and Dedication Service at the cenotaph was well attended by members, partners, invited guests and members of the general public. We were honoured to have David Harris MP, Member for Wyong, as our guest speaker. The Warnervale Public School choir performed at the service and did a great job. This year, we also had the Signing Choir from Warnervale Public School, combining with the singing choir. It was such an honour to have these students take part in this special Commemoration Service. A letter of thanks has been sent to the school.

On Saturday night 19 November, I had the honour of attending the 236 Army Cadet Unit (North Lakes) formal dinner and presenting a cheque to the Unit on behalf of Toukley RSL Sub Branch to assist with ongoing costs. Prior to the event, I was made aware that the Unit did not have an Australian Flag in its possession. This has now been rectified, as I was also able to present one to them on the night. I was also honoured to present the Field Craft Award to one of the cadets. As you know, the Cadet Unit supports our Sub Branch at our Commemorative Services each year and it was a privilege to represent the Sub Branch at this important event.



Presenting the Australian Flag and donation to CUO Connor Gregory on the night

The Annual Merchant Mariners' Day was held at Norah Head on Saturday 3 December 2022, with the Sub Branch being well represented with twenty members and partners in attendance. Thank you to our driver for transporting us safely to and from the event.

The Committee recently received an invitation to attend 311 Squadron's 40th Annual Review Parade at Erina on Thursday 15 December. I am pleased to report that this event will be attended by three Committee members, representing our Sub Branch.

Just a friendly reminder to those members who would like to attend our Wellness and Wellbeing Function (Christmas Party) on Sunday 18 December 2022. Tickets are on sale from the Sub Branch office each Thursday from 10.00am-12.00noon. Please see Tom Hobbs for tickets, which are \$20.00 each per member and partner. If you have any special dietary requirements, let Tom know at the time of purchasing your tickets.

With the AGM coming up on Sunday 19 February 2023, notification letters have been posted to all members on the 1st December. Please be aware that it is a requirement to show your Sub Branch membership card to gain entry to the AGM. No membership card, or arriving after 10.30am, means that you will not be permitted entry. This is an important AGM as you will be voting for a new Sub Branch Committee. Just a reminder that for those members who may be interested in volunteering on the Committee, Duties and Responsibilities for **ALL** positions can be downloaded from the RSL NSW website.

Thank you to Rod Clarke who has been driving the Sub Branch bus for Commemoration Services and monthly bus trips for some time. Rod and his lovely wife have recently sold up and will be moving out of the area. Rod, your involvement and assistance with the Sub Branch is very much appreciated, and we wish you all the best in your move to your new home.

With only twenty sleeps until Santa arrives, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our members, partners and families a very happy and safe Christmas and 2023. I know that it has been a difficult year for many, especially those who have lost loved ones, and my condolences go out to those families. At this time, we also remember those members of the Armed Forces who are

currently serving overseas, or are on duty in various parts of the country and unable to make it home to be with their families for Christmas. Please raise a glass to them on Christmas Day.



Bob Wilson
President

. 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 Fraher on 0408 092 230 or email at jffcashman@hotmail.com.au.

**Me & my mate were sat in a
cafe this morning, the
waitress came over and
said you can't eat
your own sandwiches in
here! So we swapped**

Puzzle Corner



Trivia

1. Which fish is pickled for the German dish of rollmops?
2. Turnips are a type of which vegetable?
3. Which salad is made from chopped apple, celery, walnuts and a mayonnaise dressing?
4. What colour is the Japanese condiment wasabi?
5. Which meat forms the outer layer of a Turducken?
6. A 'bunion' is a painful swelling on which joint?
7. Haddock is a species of which animal?
8. Of which country was Ferdinand Marcos President from 1965 to 1986?
9. Lima is the capital of which country?
10. In which continent is the capital city of Maputo?
11. What is the capital of Romania?
12. Which film would you associate with the character Buzz Lightyear?

Member Profile : Carl Stever

Carl was born on the 11TH December 1955 at the Crown Street Women's Hospital, Surry Hills. N.S.W. and lived at Robey Street, Mascot in the house that had been in his family for 5 generations.

Carl's primary schooling was at Mascot Public School and for a short term at Terrigal and his secondary schooling was at J.J.Cahill Memorial High at Mascot.

In 1968 Carl left school and started work as a Telegram boy for the Postmaster – General's Department (P.M.G.) at Mascot.

With his love of motorcycles Carl then joined Bennett Honda in Gardeners Road, Mascot repairing motorcycles.

Carl has had many motor bikes including a Villiers, B.S.A. Bantam, 1988 Harley Davidson Soft-Tail and a 2019 Peugeot Trike.

In November and December 1976 Carl had a major role in the movie "The F.J. Holden " which was released on 29th April 1977 at the Chullora Twin Drive-In and had premiere openings in cinemas in Sydney and Melbourne on the same night. Patrons arriving at the drive-in in FJ an FX Holdens were admitted free. The filming locations were in the streets around Chullora, Bankstown and Punchbowl. It was the first theatrical feature film of Australian actress Sigrid Thornton. Frankie J Holden played himself and also sang in the movie. The movie was a box office hit and was one of 50 Australian films selected for preservation as part of the National Film and Sound Archive of Australia. Carl received 3rd billing in the movie as 'Bob' and unfortunately it was Carl's only movie.

On the 12th December 1973 Carl enlisted in the Royal Australian ARMY and commenced recruit training at Kapooka. Half way through his basic training, Carl was a pillion passenger on a bike that was hit by a taxi cab and was in St.Vincents Hospital for 18 months and then moved to Concord Repatriation Hospital and then 2nd Military Hospital Ingleburn. Carl was then transferred to Mt. Wilga Private Rehabilitation Hospital at Hornsby for 7 months. Carl was discharged from military service medically unfit at Watsons Bay in 1975.

Carl became a member of R.S.L. N.S.W. on the 20th March 1985.

Carl was Vice President of Mascot R.S.L.

Carl moved to Tacoma in 2013 and drove trucks for Metro delivering fuel all over N.S.W.

In 1987 he married Deborah and they have a daughter and son and have 9 grand-children.

Carl follows the South Sydney Rabbitohs and the Parramatta Eels and his wife Deborah follows Easts in the N.R.L.

Carl enjoys getting out on his Peugeot Trike.



The Richmond Vale Railway Museum

On Friday 25th November a number of Sub Branch members and their partners visited the Richmond Vale Railway Museum located near Kurri Kurri. The site consists of approx. 40 hectares and is approx. 1 klm off the Kurri Kurri Rd. The museum has open days with working trains (both Steam and Diesel) on certain days of the year.

The site was originally the Richmond Vale Colliery founded in 1888 and we were fortunate to have as our guide on the day Mr Graham Smith who also doubles as the Chairman of the Board, Chief Fundraising Officer and Guide. Graham was a walking encyclopaedia of information re; the colliery and it's management and it's workings and history and the Railway side of the museum. He also mentioned Sir William Edgeworth David KBE CMG DSO FRS who was a Welsh Australian geologist and worked at the mine. A household name in his lifetime, David's most significant achievements were discovering the major Hunter Valley coalfield in New South Wales, leading the first expedition to reach the South Magnetic Pole with Mawson. He was also responsible for developing the Australian Army Tunnelling Regiment which gained fame in the Hill 60 Operation during WW 1.

We also learned about the John Brown family who migrated from Scotland and eventually owned and developed the Colliery and many other businesses around the Newcastle/Lower Hunter area.

The colliery finally ceased production in 1976. The site was eventually taken over by the Richmond Vale Preservation Society which turned the site into an Operational Railway and mine museum.

Members of our group stated that this museum/mine site tour was probably the best of the many bus excursions that we have undertaken. Lunch was taken at the Cessnock Leagues Club. The prices were very reasonable and the quality of the food excellent. This rounded off a very memorable day. Rae Moss was the winner of the Lucky door prize.



Ron Whitby, Graham Smith & Alan Thiele

Welfare Report

WELLBEING/VISITATION OFFICERS' MONTHLY REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2022

OFFICER	NUMBER OF VETERANS/FAMILY VISITS	HOURS	KILOMETRES TRAVELLED	PHONE CALLS	TRAINING HOURS	FUNERALS Interments
Tiffany Kelly	5	8.5	84	1	5	
Michael Humphries	3	2	15	0		
Roy Norman	3	19	20	16		
Ian Collier	0	2	0	2		
TOTALS	11	31.5	119	19	5	

VETERAN/FAMILY	AT HOME	AGED CARE
Stephen Climpson		Wallarah Point Community Care
Gordon (Len) Webster		Wallarah Point Community Care
Robin Wighton		Kanwal Community Care
Alan Fowler		Hakea Grove Hamlyn Terrace
Geoff Dark		Hakea Grove Hamlyn Terrace
L.Warren		RSL Life Care Narrabeen
James Hislop		William Cape Gardens Kanwal
Bob Crofton		William Cape Gardens Kanwal
Laurie Bartlett		Gosford Hospital/ Woy Woy Rehab

From the Editor : Thank you to Roy Norman, Bob Swift, Brian Murphy, Mike Humphries & Bob Wilson for contributions to the newsletter.



Sub-Branch Christmas Party



Sunday 18 December 2021

11.00am – 4.00pm

3 course lunch

Refreshments

Entertainment by Brassick

Monster Raffle

Tickets \$20 per person for members and partners.

***Tom Hobbs will be at Sub-branch office on Thursday from 10.00 am to noon
and also at the December General meeting selling tickets***

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

Dress : Smart casual

Puzzle Corner Answers



- 1 Herring
- 2 Root
- 3 Waldorf
- 4 Green
- 5 Turkey
- 6 Big toe
- 7 Fish
- 8 The Philippines
- 9 Peru
- 10 Africa
- 11 Bucharest
- 12 Toy Story

**SOME PEOPLE
WON'T ADMIT THEIR
FAULTS. I WOULD,
IF I HAD ANY.**

I WENT BY THE HOUSE I GREW UP IN, AND
ASKED IF I COULD GO IN AND LOOK AROUND.
THEY SAID NO AND SLAMMED THE DOOR.



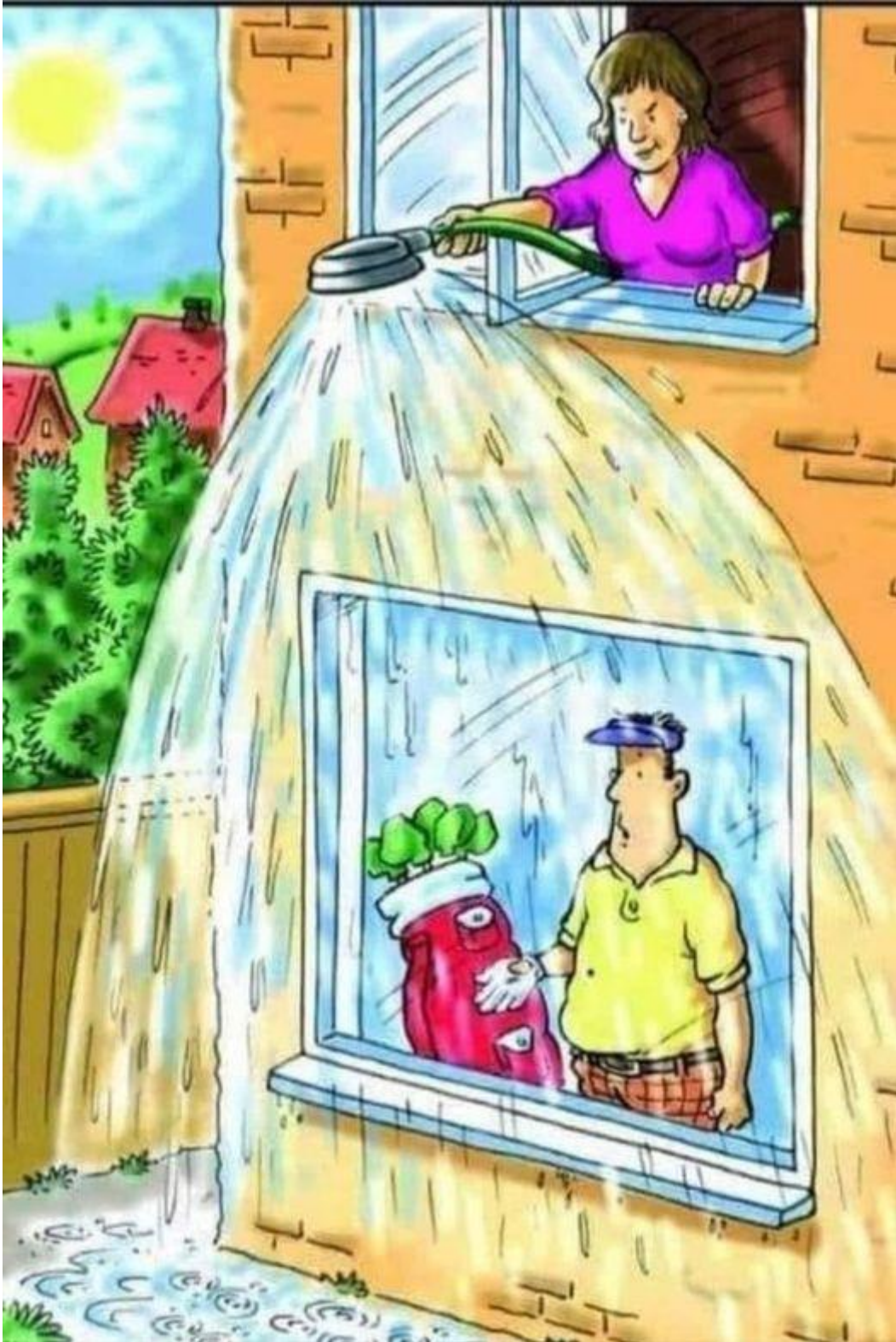
MY PARENTS CAN BE SO
RUDE.

*The reason women love
military men? It's NOT the
uniform. It's because they
can cook, clean, iron, make
beds and sew, but above all:
they know how to follow
orders*



"What's the point of my staying on in the Army if we're going to row every time I'm late in the morning"





Emergencies	000
Open Arms	1800 011 046
Lifeline	13 11 44
Kids Helpline	1300 224 636

TOUKLEY RSL SUB BRANCH

Patron: Karen McNamara

President: Bob Wilson

Vice Presidents: George Meier
Ian Collier

Secretary: Judith Walker

Treasurer: John Fraher

Committee: John Noorbergen
Michael Humphries
Tommy Hobbs
Roy Norman
Allan Love
Bob Swift

Telephone: 4396.4855

FAX: 4396.9310

4396.8807

Pensions & Welfare: Roy Norman
(Located at Diggers' Inn)

Trustees: Bob Wilson, George Meier, Milton Porter

Newsletter Co-ordinator: Ian Collier

Phone: 0412 265 623

Email: ianpamcoll@aapt.net.au

