



TOUKLEY RSL SUB BRANCH

Newsletter



Issue 83 – April 2023

NEW SUB BRANCH MEMBERS

Welcome to the following new Sub-Branch Members:

Auxiliary

Sue Allen
Jan Arnold
Christine Dileo
Jenny Leach
Edna Luckie
Virginia Prescott
Margaret Scott
Barbara Shepherd
Narelle Votano

Service

Jason Gavin
Chris Van Namen
Shane Czemerys
James Bowring
Wayne Parsons
Mathew Edwards
Leigh Gough

VALE

Lest We Forget



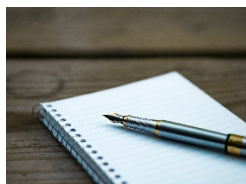
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



**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.**

Anzac Day services continue at Schools, Pre-schools and Aged Care facilities	Wednesday 5 April
Anzac Day Service at Wallarah Bay	Sunday 16 April 9.00 am
Dawn Service at Cenotaph	Tuesday 25 April 5.20 am
March & Morning Service 9.45 am March from Village Green morning service to follow	Tuesday 25 April 9.45 am
Next General Meeting	Monday 1 May 10.30 am

Toukley RSL Sub Branch President's Report:



Welcome to this my second report as President of Toukley RSL Sub-branch.

Firstly I should thank my Vice President Mike Humphries for sitting in the chair to run the March General Meeting while I was on holidays.

We have received a reply from Karen McNamara indicating that she is willing to continue as Patron of the Sub-branch. This is very welcome news.

Anzac Day preparations have been taking up most of our time and we still have a lot of work to do to ensure the day is a success. The sub-committee formed to

take care of this process have been doing a good job and at this stage I am confident we are on the right track for a good outcome on the day.

At the time of writing this report there are 10 schools, 9 Aged Care facilities and 1 Pre school booked in for an Anzac Day service. The services will start on 29 March so by the time you read this report one of the services at a school will have already been completed and the remainder will be completed by 1 May. Obviously also there are the two Services to be held at the Cenotaph on Anzac Day so the total of services conducted will be 22.

The committee has been looking at ways to accommodate our members who may wish to participate in the march but think it may be beyond them physically. One thought is to include the bus in the march with these members in the bus. The bus will leave the front of the club at 9.15 am to drive to the Village Green and if there are sufficient numbers the bus will be in the parade just behind the jeep.

Tickets for the Anzac Day luncheon for members and partners will again be available for purchase at the April 2023 General Meeting from Mike Humphries. Ticket sales have been a bit slow so please purchase your tickets from Mike so that we can organise the seating on the day.

The Annual Anzac Day Service is again being held at the Wallarah Bay Recreation Club on Sunday 16 April starting at 9.00 am.

Toukley RSL Sub-branch has always supported this event and the Committee feels this should continue this year. We need a flag party so if anyone is available please let Tommy Hobbs know that you are willing to be in the flag party. The bus leaves the club at 8.00 am. A light meal and refreshments are served after the service and the bus will drop you back at the club after the lunch.

I attended an afternoon tea representing the Sub-branch on Sunday 19 March following the AGM of the National Servicemens' Association Central Coast Sub-branch Toukley. This was held to celebrate the 26th anniversary of the formation of the Association. It was good to see and talk to an old friend of the Sub-branch Edna Luckie who continues to support the Nasho's.

On Tuesday 28 March I had a meeting with Sue Allen – the Deputy State Co-ordinator of RSL NSW Auxiliaries. Sue is one of our nine auxiliary ladies that are now members of Toukley RSL Sub-branch. The Auxiliary members do not have voting rights but can attend meetings at the discretion of the President. I have decided to allow them to attend a meeting if they wish to. Any monies raised by the Auxiliary members goes directly to the Sub-branch. The names of the Auxiliary members are listed on page 2 of this newsletter.

There is more positive news on the membership front. Our new committee member Chris Doyle has enlisted seven new members to join the Sub-branch from the Veteran's Motorcycle Club. Again their names are listed on page 2.

Ian Collier

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.

Bus trip to Singleton Army Museum 24th Feb 2023

A highlight of the trip to the Singleton Army museum was the demonstration and explanation of the Australian built 'Bushmaster' Personnel carrier which Australia has donated so many to the Ukrainian army. The information inside the museum covering the numbers of Australians killed and wounded in the various wars since federation is mind blowing and has a very sobering effect on those visitors to the museum.

The museum has to be applauded for its displays of weaponry, both old and new.

Lunch was spent at Cessnock Rugby Leagues Club and as always was very satisfying and very reasonably priced.

We all enjoyed the wine tasting at Draytons Winery. We were allowed to sample 10 glasses each and many bottles were purchased over the counter to take home.





Puzzle Corner



Trivia

1. What doesn't "thrill me at all" according to the Frank Sinatra song?
2. "Day of the Dead" is a famous cultural custom celebrated in which country?
3. Which capital city is situated on the River Liffey?
4. Between what dates were you born if you are a Pisces?
5. Where was the first generation of 'Civics' manufactured?
6. What is a seven-letter word meaning "a place where leather is tanned"?
7. Grenadine is made from which fruit?
8. Which country was Helen Clark the prime minister of?
9. Who sang this song : "Who'll Stop the Rain" in 1971?
10. Who sang this song : "Look What They've Done to My Song, Ma" in 1971?
11. What is the highest title a chess player can attain?
12. Which illness is caused by lack of vitamin 'C'?
13. What do you call someone who studies earthquakes?
14. What is the world's smallest breed of dog by weight?
15. Where did the Ridgeback dog originate?
16. What dancing fad was popularized by Chubby Checker in the 1960's?
17. How many commandments were given to Moses?
18. Actor Arnold Schwarzenegger was born in which country?



Member Profile : Michael Humphries

Michael was born on the 4th August 1950 at Bondi N.S.W.

Michael's family moved to Katoomba N.S.W soon after due to his father's employment as a store manager.

The family then moved to Seven Hills N.S.W. after his father was transferred and Michael attended Seven Hills West Primary School.

Michael's secondary schooling was at The Marist Brothers College at Parramatta N.S.W.

In February 1968 Michael joined the Royal Australian Navy and commenced his Ordinary Seaman Training at H.M.A.S. Cerberus in Westernport, Victoria.

Michael had training at H.M.A.S. Watson and also spent 11 months on H.M.A.S. ANZAC training and was then back to H.M.A.S. Cerberus for training doing a Writer's Course.

Michael was drafted in 1969 to H.M.A.S. Nirimba from there completed a computer course at H.M.A.S. Harman. In 1971 he joined H.M.A.S. Sydney where Michael did 4 trips to Vietnam. During H.M.A.S. Sydney 's involvement she carried 16.000 Army and R.A.A.F. personnel to Vung Tau on 24 ferry runs and had made a 25th trip to Vietnam to deliver and pick-up military equipment in 1972. HMAS Sydney gained the nick name the Vung Tau Ferry. After HMAS Sydney he served at HMAS Albatross before his discharge from the R.A.N on 23rd July, 1972.

On the 4th September, 1971 Michael married his childhood sweetheart Denise at the Toongabbie Catholic Church. They met when Michael was 13 and Denise was 12 after Michael's sister Glenda asked if she could bring a friend to his birthday party.

They settled in Prospect and Bossley Park to raise their children, Colin and Natalie and have 3 Grandchildren.

Michael worked for Australian Posters for 35 years which is now known as JC Decaux, doing outdoor posters and billboards and was self employed for 6 years doing Signs and Graphics.

Michael joined the N.S.W.R.S.L. on the 20th September 2011 when a member of the Sub Branch at Smithfield NSW.

Michael and Denise moved to Hamlyn Terrace in 2019.

Michael and Denise both enjoy travelling with Patong Beach in Thailand and the U.S.A. as their favorite destinations.

Denise is on the committee at Our Lady of Mercy College at Parramatta and enjoys gardening, tennis and enjoys watching serials on Netflix and follows Parramatta Eels in the N.R.L.

Michael is Vice President of the Toukley R.S.L. Sub Branch and also an active member of the Vietnam Veterans Association.

Michael enjoys horse racing, gardening and follows the Parramatta Eels and looks forward to them winning the 2023 Grand Final.

Member Profile : Margaret (Molly) Whittle

100 years young

Molly was born in India on 2 April 1923 where her father was serving in the British Army. He was a private in the Royal Welsh Fusiliers. She lived in India until the age of 4 when her father was transferred to Germany. She spent 3.5 years in Germany before the family then returned to England. Molly was 8 years old by this time.

She left school at 16 and worked in a Chemist shop (Boot's) until joining the Woman's Royal Airforce at 19 years of age in 1942.

In the WRAF she was employed as an Ambulance driver at which time many air raids were concentrated on London. She stayed with the Medical Corps for the remainder of the war and was de-mobbed in 1947.



Molly remembers driving around London while the V2 rockets (Doodlebugs) were falling. In fact she was hit in the face by shrapnel from one that fell in the area where she was driving. She spent a couple of weeks hospitalized.

She has many memories of living in London during the war – many of them happy but some not so.

She married Patrick in 1954 and they migrated to Australia in 1955. She has had many hobbies of which golf was one of her favourites.

Her favourite TV show these days is 'The Chaser'.

She celebrated her 100th birthday with friends from Wyong Lions Club at Wallarah Bay Club on Sunday 2 April 2023.

She is in the process of selling her duplex and moving into Arcare Nursing home at Kanwal.

Cards of congratulations were received from:

His Royal Highness – King Charles 111 , Governor General of Australia – David Hurley, Prime Minister – Anthony Albanese, Federal Member for Dobell – Emma McBride and State Member for Wyong – David Harris.



*"They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old,
Age shall not weary them nor the years condemn,
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
We shall remember them"*

Toukley RSL Sub-Branch

ANZAC Day

Holmes Avenue Toukley

Commemorative Services

Tuesday 25th April 2023



Dawn Service - Toukley RSL Sub Branch Cenotaph
commences 05:20 am.

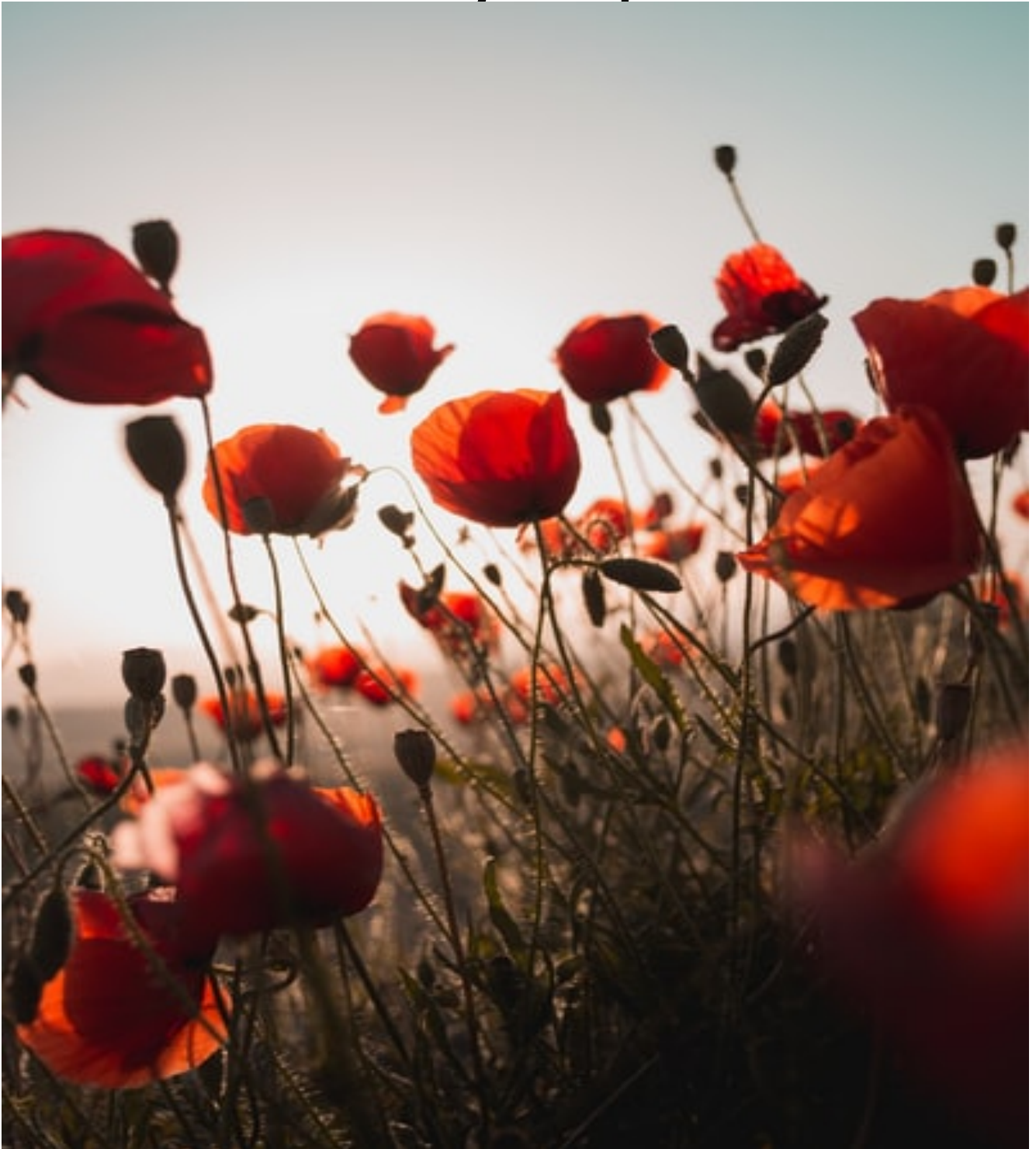
Morning Service — At Toukley RSL Sub Branch
Cenotaph

**March from Toukley shops, Village Green to Toukley RSL
commences at 09:45 am.**

Service commences on completion of the march

COMMEMORATION OF ANZAC

**March and Service 9.00 am
WBRC Sunday 16 April 2023**



Tom Hobbs

Tommy has completed running 96 KM in the month of March raising funds to support Soldier On's life changing mental health services and programs so that our returned ADF members and their families can march on.

Tommy did not have a final figure of what he has raised for this cause at the time of going to print but it is over \$4,000 and we will give the final figure in the next newsletter.

Welfare Report

WELLBEING/VISITATION OFFICERS' MONTHLY REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2023

OFFICER	NUMBER OF VETERANS/FAMILY VISITS	HOURS	KILOMETRES TRAVELLED	PHONE CALLS	TRAINING HOURS	FUNERALS Interments
Michael Humphries	3	7	25	0	0	0
Roy Norman	3	22	45	11	0	0
TOTALS	6	29	70	11	0	0

From the Editor : Thank you to Roy Norman, Mike Humphries and Bob Swift for contributions to the newsletter.

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

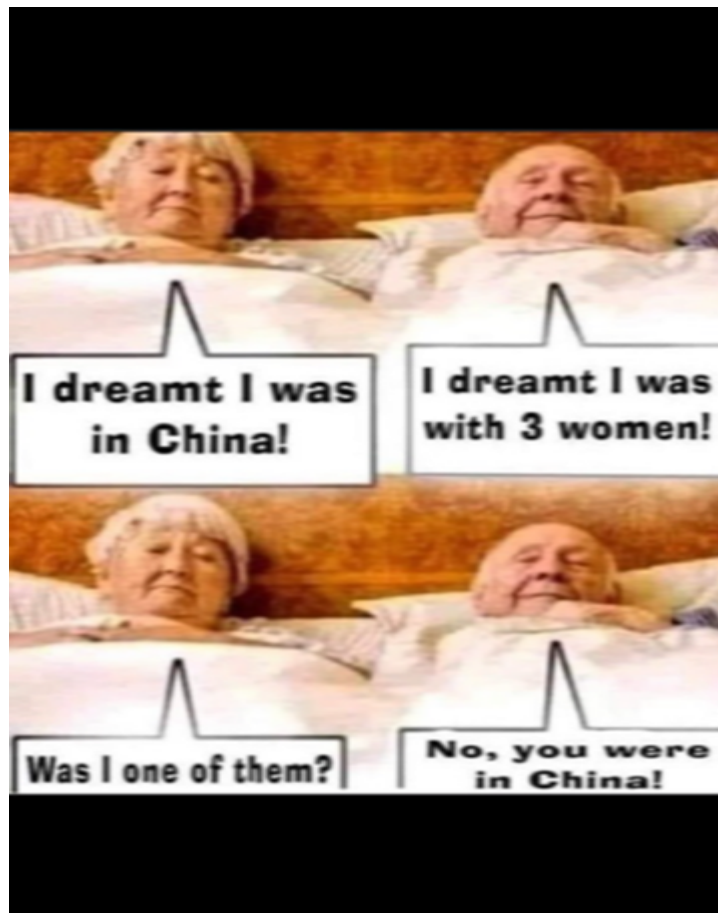
Anzac Service at Porters Creek Public School

Our first School service for 2023 was held on Wednesday 29 March at Porters Creek Public School. The Sub-branch had seven committee members in attendance and the Principal Robyn Christie and Deputy Principal Sam Myers thanked us for participating in their Anzac Service. The following photos were taken on the day :









Puzzle Corner Answers



1. "mere Alcohol"
2. Mexico
3. Dublin
4. Feb 19 – Mar 20
5. Japan
6. Tannery
7. Pomegranates
8. New Zealand
9. Creedent Clearwater Revival
10. The New Seekers
11. Grandmaster
12. Scurvy
13. Seismologist
14. Chihuahua
15. Rhodesia
16. The Twist
17. 10
18. Austria

TOUKLEY RSL SUB BRANCH

Patron:	Karen McNamara
President:	Ian Collier
Vice President:	Mike Humphries
Secretary:	Judith Walker
Treasurer:	Terry Murray
Committee:	Chris Doyle Alan Thiele Tommy Hobbs Roy Norman Allan Love Bob Swift
Telephone:	4396.4855
FAX:	4396.9310 4396.8807
Pensions& Welfare: (Located at Diggers' Inn)	Roy Norman 0409 845 856
Trustees:	George Meier, Milton Porter, Steve Edmunds
Newsletter Co-ordinator:	Ian Collier
Phone:	0412 265 623
Email:	ianpamcoll@aapt.net.au president@toukleyrslsb.org.au

