



# TOUKLEY RSL SUB-BRANCH *Newsletter*



*Merry  
Christmas  
to all!*

## **NEW SUB BRANCH MEMBERS**

Welcome to the following new Sub-Branch Members:

### ***Service***

Steven Buckingham

### ***Auxiliary***

Roseleen May

### ***Sub-Else***

Bob Couper

Phil Davies

Michael Henly

### **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.**

CCDC Meeting – hosted by Terrigal/Wamberal	Monday 11 December 2.00 pm
Wellness and Wellbeing sub-Branch Christmas Party	Sunday 17 December 11.00 am to 4.00 pm
Next Committee Meeting	Monday 18 December 10.30 am
February General Meeting	Monday 5 February 10.30 am

## ***Toukley RSL Sub Branch President's Report:***



Another busy month for the Executive and Committee in November.

Four of the Committee helped Eric McDonald celebrate his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on the day after the last General Meeting – story and photos later in Newsletter.

The Commemoration Service on Remembrance Day was well attended. Thanks go out once again to the office staff of Emma McBride and David Harris, 236 Army Cadets, Australian Cadet Corps, the Wallarah Community Band, the Toukley RSL Pipes and Drums and Warnervale Public School Choir for their continued support of our Commemoration Services.

The Trustees and I held an investment review with John Coombe the Investment Advisor at Ethinvest.

The Committee and a couple of members again supported the Merchant Mariners Day at Norah Head on Saturday 2 December.

Judith Walker and Michael Humphries represented the sub-Branch at the 236 Army Cadets Annual Dinner on Saturday 2 December. Two events in one day show how invested both are in the future of the Toukley RSL sub-Branch.

DVA have announced that RSL Lifecare have received a grant of \$1.7 million to establish a Veterans Welfare Hub on the Central Coast. The location of the Hub has still not been announced but we may hear more at next week's CCDC meeting.

Central Coast Council have announced that they are to re-introduce the popular Australia Day Eve event at Canton Beach. The Committee have expressed an interest in having a tent at the day to try and help with recruitment of new members. The events used to attract up to five thousand people before Covid put a stop to them.

*Jan 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto: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 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](mailto:jffcashman@hotmail.com.au).

# Puzzle Corner



## Trivia

1. Who played "Soul Deep" during the 1960s?
2. Who played "I Want To Hold Your Hand" during the 1960s?
3. Who fatally shot Lee Harvey Oswald?
4. Which two candidates for U.S. President were the first to debate on TV in 1960?
5. Who was killed in 1968 after winning the Democratic primary for the presidency?
6. What is the capital city of American Samoa, a group of islands in the South Pacific?
7. Bremen is a city In what European country?
8. How many hours a day on average does a domestic cat sleep?
9. On average, how many hours does a domestic cat spend sleeping?
10. A 'bunion' is a painful swelling on which joint?
11. Haddock is a species of which animal?
12. Fiorello LaGuardia was elected mayor of what city in 1933?
13. Of which country was Ferdinand Marcos President from 1965 to 1986?
14. Henry VIII had Anne Boleyn executed on what grounds?
15. The 'Battles of Concord and Lexington' were fought during which war?

## Sub-Branch Bus Trip 24 November

The sub-Branch bus trip for November was to the Anzac Memorial in Hyde Park Sydney for a 90 minute tour conducted by a guide then onto the iconic Sydney fish markets for lunch.

The memorial was built in the early 1930's to perpetuate the memory of the men and women from New South Wales who served in the First World war. In 1984 the Anzac Memorial (Building) Act 1923 was amended to enable the memorial to be redicated for all Australians who serve their country.

After the tour the group then moved on to the fish markets for an enjoyable lunch. Bus driver Ron Whitby did an admirable job in the Sydney traffic and Bob Swift again excelled in the organisation of a lovely day that was enjoyed by all who attended.

The raffle prize on the trip home was won by Cec Baker. There are photos of the day following this article – including one of Ted Heath standing in front of the propeller of HMAS Kuttabul and the story attached to the photo.

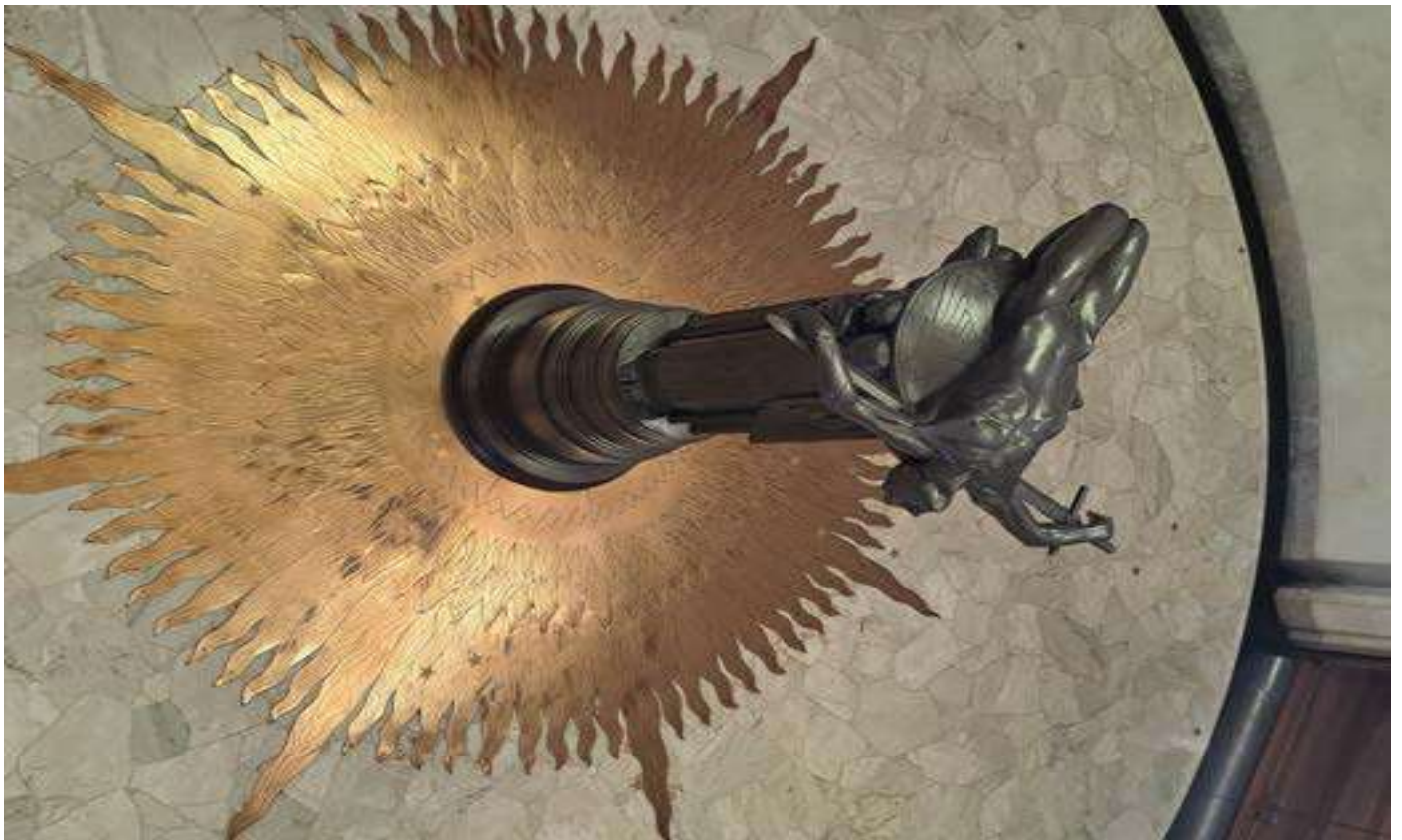


Ted Heath at Anzac Memorial Hyde Park Sydney standing next to the propeller of HMAS Kuttabul

The ferry *Kuttabul* was built for Sydney Ferries Ltd at the Walsh Island Shipyard in Newcastle, NSW, in 1922. On entering service, she ran the Circular Quay-Milsons Point run on Sydney Harbour.

On 7 November 1940 *Kuttabul* was requisitioned by the Royal Australian Navy as a depot ship to the naval base at Garden Island, at that time known as HMAS *Penguin*. She later commissioned as HMAS *Kuttabul* on 26 February 1941 under the command of Lieutenant Commander Alan Lewis, RAN. In her role as a depot ship *Kuttabul* was used primarily as an accommodation ship for ratings posted to *Penguin*. She soon became a familiar sight moored against the sea wall along the east side of Garden Island. On the night of 31 May-1 June 1942 three [Japanese midget submarines](#) launched an attack on Sydney Harbour. At around 12:30am on 1 June, the midget submarine *M-24*, crewed by Sub Lieutenant Katsuhisa Ban and Petty Officer Mamoru Ashibe, fired one of its torpedos at the American heavy cruiser, *USS Chicago*, but missed its intended target. The torpedo struck the seabed underneath *Kuttabul* sinking the vessel with the loss of 21 lives.





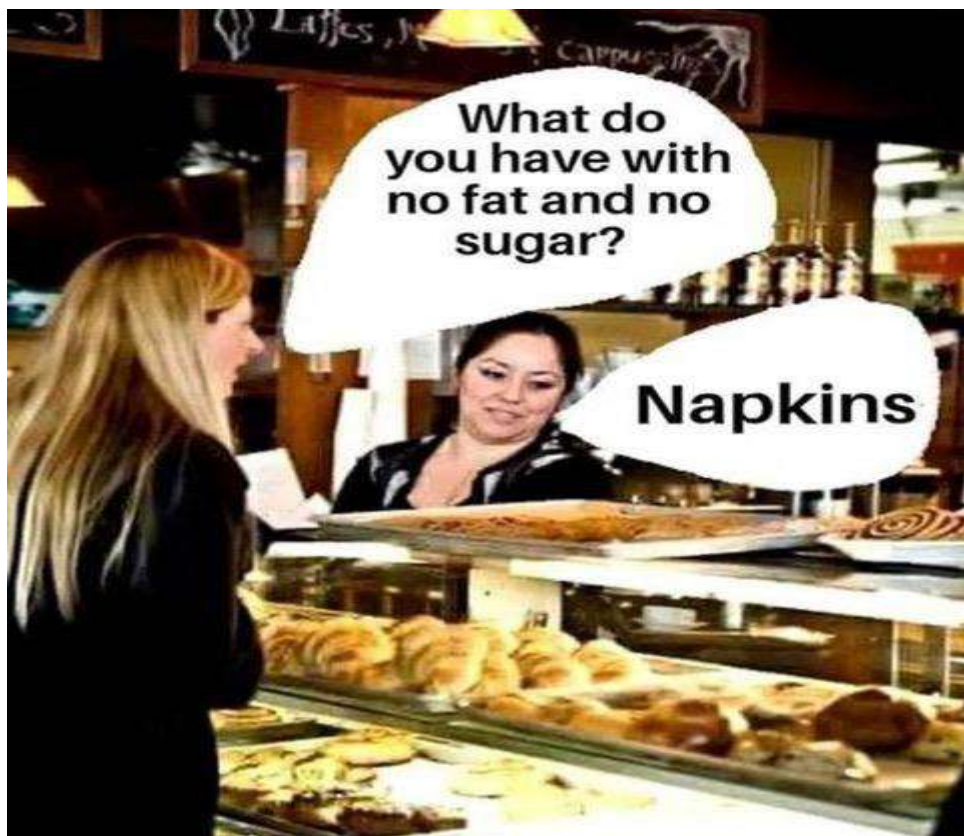
The bronze Sculpture "Sacrifice" standing in the centre of the Hall of Silence. Below is the "Eternal Flame" which stands on the first floor of the Memorial



Some of the seafood available at the Fish Markets.



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## New plaque at Vietnam Vets Park

After the sub-Branch updated the Vietnam Vets plaque on the Cenotaph the Committee decided to donate the old plaque to the Vietnam Veterans group. They were very happy to accept the old plaque and have now installed it at the Vietnam Vets Park just over the Bridge at Gorokan – see photo below.



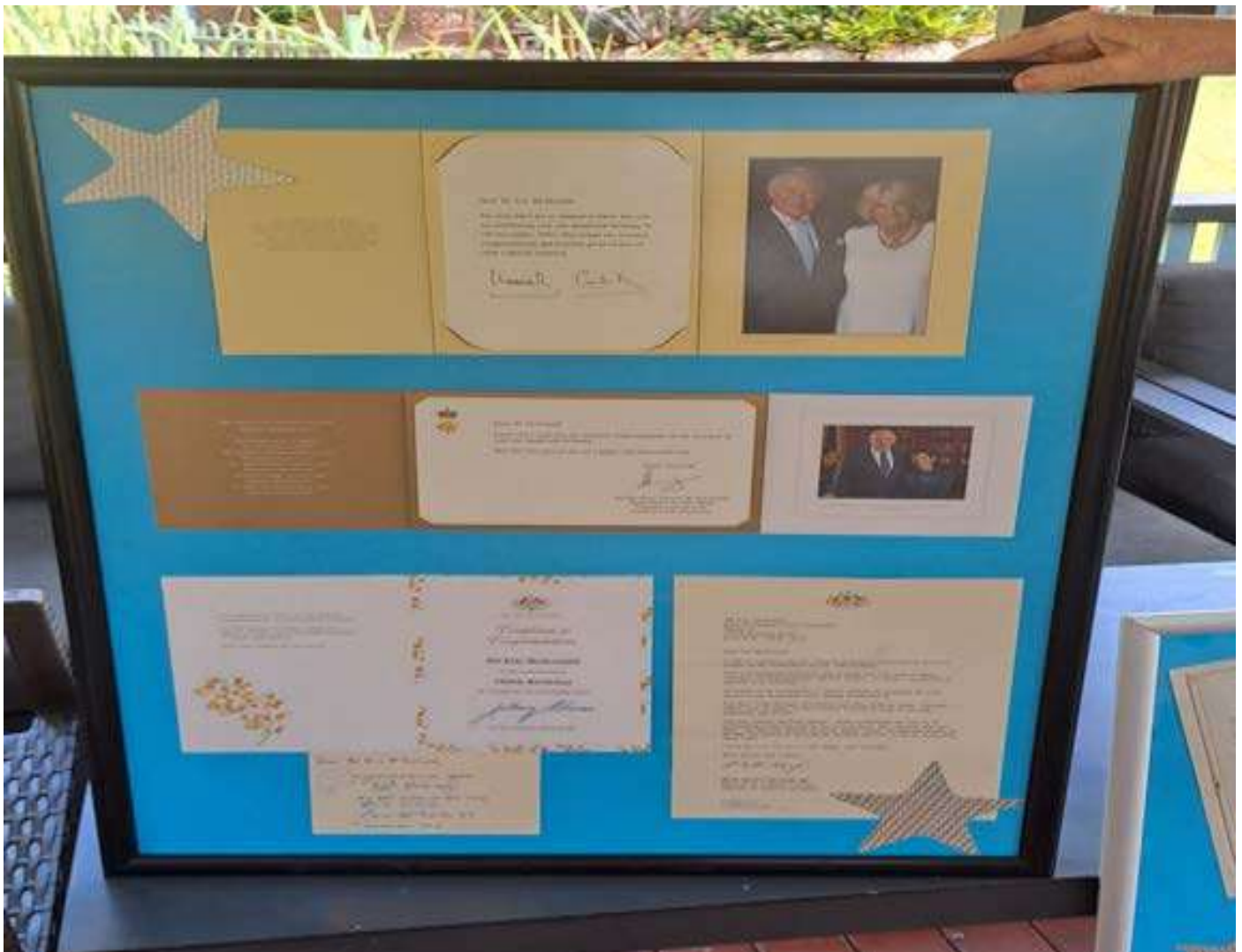
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## Eric McDonald's 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday

One of our members Eric McDonald celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on 7 November 2023.

His family organised a family function on the Sunday before and then on his birthday four members of the Committee went out to Kanwal Gardens Care Community to help him celebrate with a morning team. Michael Humphries, Roy Norman, Bob Swift and Ian Collier joined Eric's two daughters Colleen and Janeene and a niece Caroline who travelled down from Cairns for the family function and the morning tea. The photos below show :

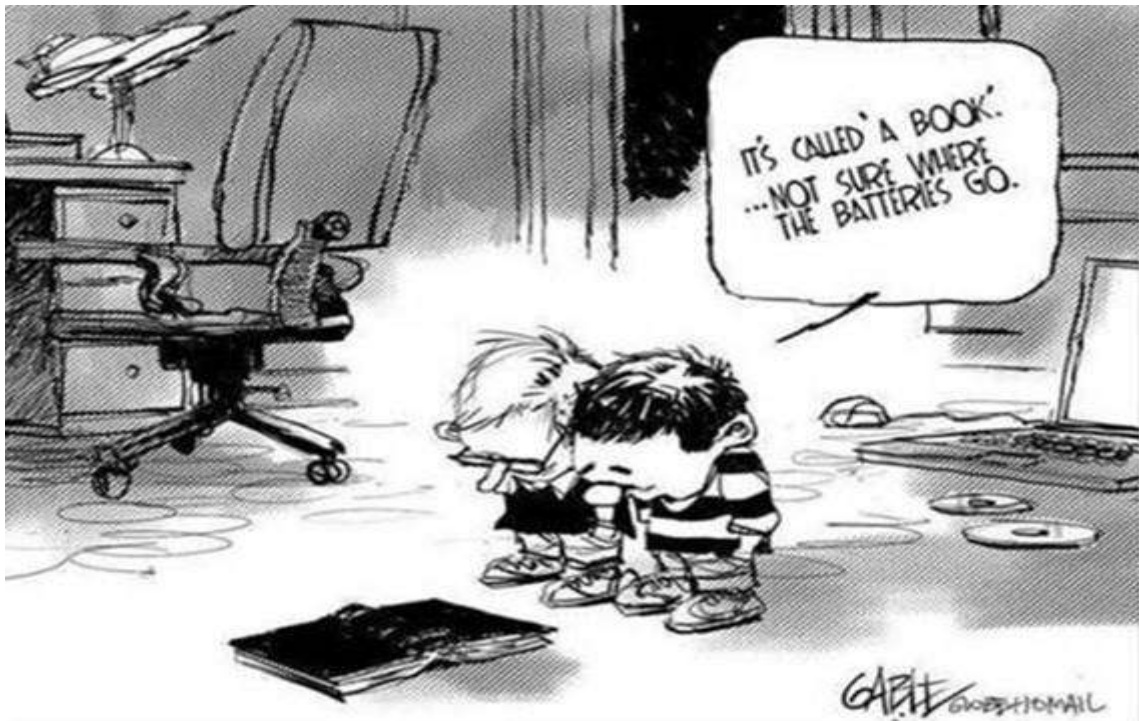
1. Some of the congratulatory letters received framed. There were two frames.
2. The four Committee men helping Eric celebrate his birthday
3. The 100<sup>th</sup> birthday cake
4. The birthday table







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## Toukley RSL sub-Branch 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Toukley RSL sub-Branch celebrated our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a luncheon on Sunday 5 November in the Function Room at The Ary. An excellent day was had by all who attended and thanks should go to all the Committee for the amount of work that was put in to make the day the success that it was. Deserving of special mention is Secretary Judith Walker who worked tirelessly and came up with a lot of the special ideas that contributed to the enjoyment of the day. On the following pages are plenty of photos taken on the day.



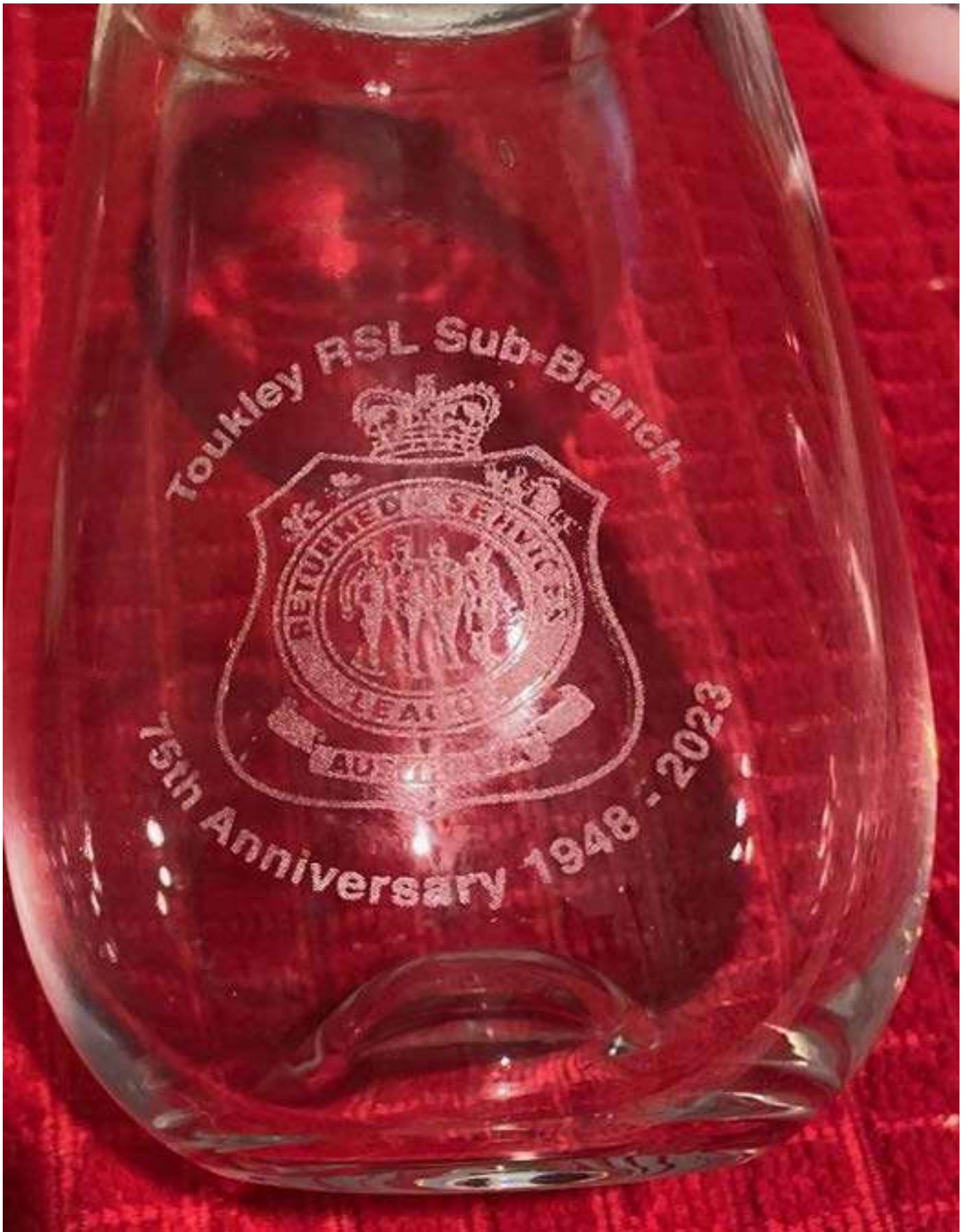












## **Member Profile: Robin Victor Wighton**

Robin was born on the 9<sup>th</sup> June 1940 at Crows Nest N.S.W.

He was the eldest of 2 brothers

Robin attended his Primary Education at Cammeray Public School and his Secondary Schooling was at Mosman Intermediate High.

Robin joined the N.S.W. Police Force in 1964.

He was stationed at The Entrance Police Station and was Officer –In –Charge of the highway patrol cars and motor cycles.

In 1968 whilst on motor cycle duty Robin was involved in an accident out the front of The Mater Hospital at Crows Nest.

Robin was then transferred to the Highway Patrol driving the then famous Morris Cooper “S”.

During his time in the Police Force, Robin had duties that included escorting Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth 2<sup>nd</sup>, the 36<sup>th</sup> President of the United States of America Lyndon Baines Johnson and President of South Vietnam Nguyen Cao Ky.

In 1978 Robin was retired from the Police Force and worked for the N.R.M.A. and G.I.O. insurance companies as an arson and motor vehicle fraud Specialist Investigator.

In 1958 Robin joined the Royal Australian Navy as a reservist and served at H.M.A.S Rushcutter Naval Base and H.M.A.S. Wagga.

Robin was discharged in 1961 and joined N.S.W.R.S.L. on the 6<sup>th</sup> November 2017.

Robin was married in 1964 and has 2 sons Scott and Sean and has 6 grandchildren and 1 great- grandchild.

Robin played First grade cricket for Toukley and has the most incredible record of 5 hole-in-ones at The Tuggerah Lakes Golf Club.

Robin followed the North Sydney Bears in the Sydney Rugby League competition until they folded and now follows the Canberra Raiders as his nephew Jack Wighton plays for them.

Robin now resides at The Kanwal Gardens Care Community.



Robin Wighton at Kanwal Gardens Care Community

# ***Sub-Branch Christmas Party***



***Sunday 17 December 2023***

***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.***

# CENTRAL COAST VETERANS CENTRE Inc

ABN 90 141 703 076

President:

Les Jacobs JP

Secretary:

Cathy Every

Treasurer:

Graham Kerle JP



Address:

295/25MullowayRd

Chain Valley Bay

NSW 2259

Ph 02 43 968807

Ph 02 43 909041

*Helping Veterans and Their Families*

We are located at 203 Main Road, Toukley. We are available at Toukley on Tuesday morning from 08.00 till midday by appointment, and on Thursdays from 08.00 till midday for interviews and as a drop in coffee centre to meet others and relax.

We are available to assist serving and ex serving veterans and their families in their interaction with DVA as Advocates. We have available;

- Four Advocates to assist with claims advice and general advice on DVA requirements.
- Wellness officers to assist with,
  - Counselling
  - Mental health contacts
  - Seeking appointments with Medical Practitioners
  - Homelessness
  - Widow and widower rights and entitlements.

If you have worn the ADF uniform for more than one day, or are the family of such a person, you may have entitlements that you do not know about. Drop in and let us help you.

We look forward to meeting you.

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## Welfare Report August 2023



### TOUKLEY RSL SUB-BRANCH

WELLBEING/VISITATION OFFICERS' MONTHLY REPORT FOR THE SUB-BRANCH GENERAL NOVEMBER 2023

OFFICER	NUMBER OF VETERANS/FAMILY VISITS	HOURS	KILOMETRES TRAVELLED	PHONE CALLS	TRAINING HOURS	FUNERALS Interments
Michael Humphries	5	10	25	3	0	0
Roy Norman	4	20	30	15	0	0
Tiffany Kelly	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chris Doyle	6	20	95	0	32	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>0</b>

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



# *Puzzle Corner Answers*



1. **1. Box Tops**
2. **2. The Beatles**
3. **3. Jack Ruby**
4. **4. John F Kennedy & Richard Nixon**
5. **5. Robert Kennedy**
6. **6. Pago Pago**
7. **7. Germany**
8. **8. 18**
9. **9. Big toe**
10. **10. Fish**
11. **11. Laurel and Hardy**
12. **12. New York**
13. **13. The Philippines**
14. **14. Adultery**
15. **15. American Civil War**

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## 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: <i>(Located at Diggers' Inn)</i>	Roy Norman 0409 845 856
Trustees:	Milton Porter, Steve Edmunds, Max Thom
Newsletter Co-ordinator:	Ian Collier
Phone:	0412 265 623
Email:	president@toukleyrslsb.org.au ianpamcoll@aapt.net.au