

## TOUKLEY R.S.L.SUB BRANCH Newsletter



Issue 88 – September 2023

#### NEW SUB BRANCH MEMBERS

Welcome to the following new Sub-Branch Members:

Service

<u>VALE</u>

#### Lest We Forget



Cover photo : Attendees at Vietnam Veterans Commemoration service.

# 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 General Meeting	Monday 4 September 10.30 am
Next Committee Meeting	Monday 18 September 10.30 am
CCDC Meeting – hosted by	Monday 9 October 2.00 pm
Doyalson/Wyee	
Toukley RSL sub-Branch 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	Sunday 5 November 11.00 am to
Luncheon	4.00 pm
Remembrance Day	Saturday 11 November 10.30 am
Wellness and Wellbeing sub-Branch	Sunday 17 December 11.00 am
Christmas Party	to 4.00 pm

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



July has been a busy month for the Committee with multiple meetings to be attended.

Mike Humphries, Tiffany Kelly and I attended Breakers Club at Wamberal for a meeting convened by RSL NSW and RSL Lifecare. The meeting was to discuss the possibility of establishing a Central Coast Veterans Hub to be administered by RSL Lifecare. DVA currently have grants available from \$150,000 upto \$5 million to establish a Veterans Hub. It was pointed out that it is not a fait accompli that one will be established on the Coast but there is an opportunity to apply for a grant. The grant application closes on 9 August so time is of the essence. There were about 40 interested participants in the room covering sub-Branches from the Coast, Legacy and other ESO groups. In all about six locations were proposed including Diggers at Toukley. Gosford and Wyong seemed to be the most likely options to be considered because of their rail and bus links. At this stage no location has been announced. RSL NSW CEO Jon Black was at pain to explain that the Hub would need to be funded in the future to ensure it continued to exist. None of the grant money can be used for this purpose.

The next meeting I attended was with the new Auxiliary members. In accordance with the SOP from RSL NSW we were obliged to elect a Co-ordinator and Assistant Co-ordinator. Jenny Leach was elected to the Co-ordinator role and Wendy Blandon to the Assistant Co-ordinator role. I congratulate them on their election and the Committee and I look forward to working with them in the future.

The third meeting was with Graham Treddinick to discuss Welfare matters. Roy Norman as our Welfare Co-ordinator, Jenny Leach representing the Auxiliary, Mike Humphries and I met with Graham to discuss general Welfare issues and resolve boundaries so that there was no doubling up of visits at Aged Care Facilities. The fourth meeting was with the CEO of the Ary Trevor Haynes, Ken Baker a Director of the Ary, Debbbie Dixon, our Executive and representatives from LEP Digital Marketing. This was the initial meeting to allow the staff from LEP Digital understand what we are looking for in regards to attracting new younger members to join the sub-Branch to ensure its survival. I was able to provide them with some literature from the RSL NSW Marketing team and spelt out we were not only after numbers but also members who may be Office Bearers into the future.

In between these meetings I have also had several discussions with a local accounting firm Horizon Accounting. Liam Potter from Bishop Collins recommended this firm. After these discussions on our requirements I received a quote that was accepted by the Executive team. Horizon are now working on putting seven months of transactions into the new software system they will be using to provide our accounting support and monthly and yearly reports. The Sub Branch's annual Wellness and Wellbeing Function (Christmas in July) was held on Sunday 16 July 2023 with 75 members, partners and invited guests in attendance. It was pleasing to see two tables of our new Auxiliary members and their partners enjoying the day. From the reports I have received 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. Thanks should go to a couple of the auxiliary ladies who provided hand-made goodies to be included as raffle prizes and also to Jenny Leach for sourcing a couple of donations that were also used as raffle prizes.

Planning is well under way for our commemoration service on Friday 18 August for Vietnam Veterans Day. This will be a special service as it is for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the withdrawal of the Australian troops from Vietnam after 13 years service. We are happy that several of our Vietnam Vets will be involved in the service.

Sadly we have lost another three members this month. Ronald Elphick, Carl Stever and Keith Saloway. Four Committeemen attended a graveside burial for Ronald Elphick and performed an RSL tribute service. Carl Stever's funeral is on Tuesday 8 August and his widow has requested an RSL tribute service. Keith Saloway has already been buried and we were not aware of his passing.

#### Keeping your Sub Branch Details Up to Date

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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

#### 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.

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#### Toukley RSL sub Branch Auxiliary



The RSL Auxiliary raises funds to support the charitable objects of the sub-Branch by holding raffles, selling tokens during the ANZAC and Poppy Appeals, as well as other fundraising activities that arise throughout the year in the local community.

If you know of anyone who may be interested in joining the Auxiliary, please have them call Sue Allen on 0409608901 for more information.



## 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 1948 - 2023



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## Puzzle Corner



Trivia

#### Welfare Report August 2023



#### **TOUKLEY RSL SUB-BRANCH**

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

OFFICER	NUMBER OF VETERANS/FAMILY VISITS	HOURS	KILOMETRES TRAVELLED	PHONE CALLS	TRAINING HOURS	FUNERALS Interments
Michael Humphries	6	18	42	4	0	0
Roy Norman	5	40	250	31	0	1
Tiffany Kelly	2	35	60	8	6	0
Chris Doyle	5	20	50	0	0	0
TOTALS	18	113	402	43	6	1

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

**Puzzle Corner Answers** 



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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:	Roy Norman
(Located at Diggers' Inn)	0409 845 856
Trustees:	Milton Porter, Steve Edmunds,
	Max Thom
Newsletter Co-ordinator:	
Phone:	lan Collier
Email:	0412 265 623
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	president@toukleyrslsb.org.au