



TOUKLEY RSL SUB-BRANCH *Newsletter*



NEW SUB BRANCH MEMBERS

Welcome to the following new Sub-Branch Members:

Service

John Dean
James Ryan
Geoffrey Davidson
Paul Forrest

Auxiliary

Sub-Else

VALE

Kevin Ibbett

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 Doyalson/Wyee | Monday 8 April 2.00 pm |
| Wallarah Bay ANZAC Day Service | Sunday 14 April 9.00 am |
| Next Committee Meeting | Monday 15 April 10.30 am |
| ANZAC Day Dawn Service | Thursday 25 April 5.20 am |
| ANZAC Day March and Morning Service | Thursday 25 April 9.45 am |
| May General Meeting | Monday 6 May 10.30 am |

Toukley RSL Sub Branch President's Report:



ANZAC Day preparations are progressing well. All the school services and Aged Care Facility services have been booked in – starting on 8 April and ending on 2 May.

Letters or emails have also been sent out to all the ancillary support groups that help us out on the day. Discussions and negotiations have been going well and it looks as though we are on target to ensure two successful Commemoration Services on ANZAC Day. A new highlight this year hopefully will have a second flypast of smaller planes from Warnervale Airport. I have been in touch with the

Central Coast Aero Club and they seem happy to provide a flypast for us when the march is in progress.

The sub-Branch will again be supporting the ANZAC Day service at Wallarah Bay on Sunday 14 April. We are again looking for members to be in the Flag Party. Please contact Allan Love if you would like to be in the Flag Party. The bus will leave The Ary at 8.00 am. and return to the club about 1 hour after the conclusion of the service.

At the March general meeting it was agreed by the members to purchase a new Lexmark printer/photocopier. This has been done and as we hoped and expected it is a very good machine and has already been put to good use printing the newsletter you are now reading. It also allows the Committee to scan documents and email – removing the need to ask The Ary office staff to do this for us.

The two vacancies on the Committee were filled at the last General Meeting and I would like to welcome Steve Edmunds and Robert Sellers onto the Committee.

The Auxiliary group have elected a new co-ordinator in Christine Sellers and assistant co-ordinator in Beverley Pritchatt. Christine and Beverley have already hit the ground running and had a meeting with me last week to outline some of their fundraising ideas. They will be selling ANZAC badges etc. at the Wallarah Bay ANZAC Service on 14 April and also intend to sell badges etc. at The Ary in the week leading up to our ANZAC Day commemoration services.

Tickets are on sale now for the ANZAC Day luncheon at the normal price of \$10 member and partner. Tickets available in the sub-Branch office on Thursday morning from 10.00 am to 1.00 pm or at other times by contacting me on 0412 265 623 if you can't make a Thursday morning.

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 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.

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?

HERstory: Remembering Australia's Military Women

Women have long played a significant role in Australian military service, from serving as nurses in the Boer War, to the formation of the women's auxiliary forces during the Second World War and their current roles on the front lines.

The *HERstory: Remembering Australia's Military Women* exhibition is artist Carla Edwards' personal thank you to the women who have served in the Australian Defence Force. The exhibition features 24 women from New South Wales whose military service spans from 1942 up to the present day.

The women served, in the Air Force, Army and Navy as well as the Australian Army Medical Women's Service, Australian Women's Army Service, Women's Auxiliary Australian Air Force, Women's Royal Australian Air Force, Women's Royal Australian Army Corps and the Women's Royal Australian Naval Service.

Our Secretary Judith Walker was one of the servicewomen chosen to be included in this display at the Anzac Memorial in Hyde Park. Judith's story for the exhibition follows her photo below :



I came from a military background. I had two great uncles and my grandfather who were in the First World War. My grandfather survived but the two uncles were killed in action and missing in action.

My father was in the Army 6 Div during the Second World War and my mother was in the Air Force for 12 months in the Women's Auxiliary Australian Air Force (WAAAF).

Growing up I used to say to my parents I was going to join the Air Force when I was 'grown up'. When I did grow up, I went to all the recruiting offices to find out the information.

After visiting the recruitment centres, I chose the Army as first enlistment was three years or six years. I said, "I'll take the three years." Twenty years later I'm still there. I initially enlisted in the Women's Royal Australian Army Corps (WRAAC). But in 1985, the women of all services were disbanded and merged with the men and depending on your trade we were allocated respective corps. In my case being a clerk, I changed to Royal Australian Army Ordnance Corps (RAAOC).

I had broken service. I completed six years, took my discharge and I went travelling around the world. I came back and needed a job because I had run out of money. I applied to go to Customs and also to go back into the Army. The Army came in first and shortly after Customs said they wanted me. I told Customs I had already been accepted back into the Army so I completed 20 years service.

The biggest hurdle to get through in my first three-year enlistment, to begin with, was I was very shy. My first posting from recruits was the School of Military Engineering – for 12 months – then I went to another Engineer unit at Chowder Bay. This was Water Transportation with a mixture of men and women which made integration a lot easier compared to the school where there were only a handful of women.

That posting was the best posting I'd ever had. It was right on Sydney Harbour – it was beautiful watching all the ship go by.

My next posting was to Central Army Records in Melbourne Park and I spent 18 months there before I took my discharge and went on my travels again. I was brought up in New Guinea and so had been travelling all my life backwards and forward to Sydney so I caught the travel bug early in life and it hasn't stopped!

When I re-enlisted for the second term I went to Oakey – the Aviation Centre. In the course of my Army career, I went from Engineering to Water Transportation, Aviation and feel I touched on a lot of areas in the Army. I had a great time.

I would encourage people to join one of the forces. Even if you're only in for a short enlistment period, you have a camaraderie that lasts a lifetime. That's what makes it perfect.

Sub-Branch Bus Trip 22 March

The bus departed The Ary at 8.00 am and headed for John Singleton's Saddles Café and Restaurant at Mount White. All enjoyed the superb views of the lake and morning coffee as well as the walk around the large nursery and the magnificent bird aviaries. Actual saddles are the seating in the Restaurant and bar.

The bus departed Saddles at 10am and headed for Australian Reptile Park at Somersby. All enjoyed the walk around the park and inspecting the Spiders, Lizards, Snakes, birds and the Koala Bears. We were lucky enough to have employees at the park bring us a baby Koala and baby Lizard and the ladies naturally were very attracted to the Koala. Time was spent patting the Koala and Lizard before the usual shopping for trinkets and souvenirs at the park's store.

The bus departed the park around 11.45am for Gosford RSL for Lunch and relaxation after a strenuous morning's activities. All enjoyed a nice lunch and a couple of beers before the bus departed at 1.15pm for The Chocolate Factory at West Gosford where the ladies shopped for the delicious treats they make there. The bus departed there at 2.30pm for the return trip to The Ary.

All had a great day, which without the planning of Bob Swift or the fantastic driving by Steve Edmunds would not have been possible. Steve showed his skills as a driver navigating his way around the windy roads and bends around Saddles and The Reptile Park.









*"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

Thursday 25th April 2024



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 14 April 2024**



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

Puzzle Corner Answers



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

From the Editor :

Thank you to Mike Humphries, Roy Norman and Brian Murphy for contributions to the newsletter.

Welfare Report March 2024



TOUKLEY RSL SUB-BRANCH

WELLBEING/VISITATION OFFICERS' MONTHLY REPORT FOR THE SUB-BRANCH GENERAL APRIL 2024

| OFFICER | NUMBER OF VETERANS/FAMILY VISITS | HOURS | KILOMETRES TRAVELLED | PHONE CALLS | TRAINING HOURS | FUNERALS Interments |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|----------------------|-------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Michael Humphries | 4 | 26 | 10 | 2 | 0 | 1 |
| Roy Norman | 4 | 40 | 80 | 21 | 0 | 1 |
| Alan Thiele | 0 | 4 | 36 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Ian Collier | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| | | | | | | |
| TOTALS | 17 | 74 | 126 | 23 | 0 | 4 |

Always make sure your loved ones are buckled up.



TOUKLEY RSL SUB BRANCH

| | |
|---|---|
| Patron: | Karen McNamara |
| President: | Ian Collier |
| Vice President: | Mike Humphries |
| Secretary: | Judith Walker |
| Treasurer: | Terry Murray |
| Committee: | Allan Love Alan Thiele Bob Swift Roy Norman Robert Sellers Steve Edmunds |
| 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 |