



TOUKLEY RSL SUB-BRANCH *Newsletter*



BINGARA NATIONAL SERVICEMEN'S MEMORIAL PARK

Visited by John Carruthers every March for many years

Issue 109 – October 2025

NEW SUB-BRANCH MEMBERS

Vale

**John Arthur Carruthers OAM
Ken Furness**

Welcome to the following new sub-Branch Members:

Service

David Crane

Auxiliary

Sub-Else

NIL

Internment of Ashes

Kenneth Furness – Sunday 12th October – 10:30am

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.**

National War Widows Day	Saturday 18th October
Sub-Branch Committee Meeting	Monday 20th October – 10.30am
Sub-Branch General Meeting	Monday 3rd November – 10.30am
Remembrance Day	Tuesday 11th November – 11am
Sub-Branch Committee Meeting	Monday 17th November – 10.30am
Sub-Branch General Meeting	Monday 1st December – 10.30am
Merchant Mariners Day – Norah Head	Saturday 6th December – 10.40am
Sub-Branch Christmas Party	Sunday 14th December – 11am
Sub-Branch Committee Meeting	Monday 15th December – 10.30am
Reminder – There is no General	Meeting in January 2026



Presidents Report:

The bus trip to Harden to see the sculpture “Bill the Bastard” was an excellent couple of days. Christine Sellers the Auxiliary Co-ordinator did a terrific job organising the trip and Ron Whitby – as well as advising on the itinerary - did a great job with the driving on the two days. There is more about the trip later in the newsletter.

A reminder to members of our next Annual General Meeting which will be held on Sunday 15 February 2026. At this AGM all positions will be declared vacant. Please consider volunteering to serve on the Committee. Nominations open four (4) weeks prior to the AGM, on 18 January and must be lodged with the Secretary fourteen (14) days before the AGM on 1 February. If you wish to nominate for a position on the Committee, please contact The Secretary for a Nomination Form.

This is your Sub Branch: have a say in ensuring that we have a future and leave a legacy. Elections are held every three years. I am more than happy, at any time, to answer any questions or concerns that you may have, or to explain what is involved.

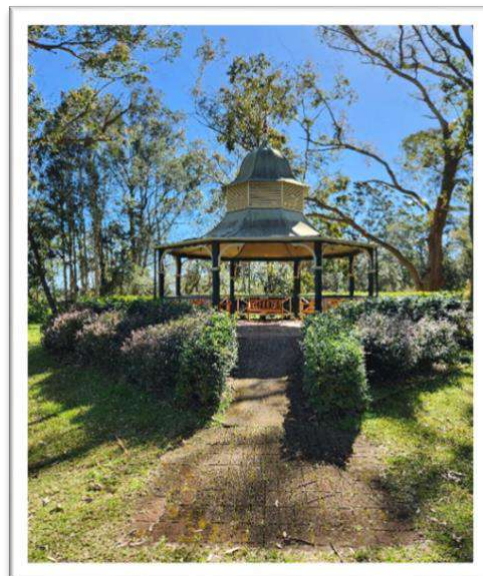
This is an important AGM as you will be voting for a new sub-Branch Committee. Just a reminder that for those members who may be interested in volunteering on the Committee, Duties and Responsibilities for ALL positions can be downloaded from the RSL NSW website.

Ian Collier
President

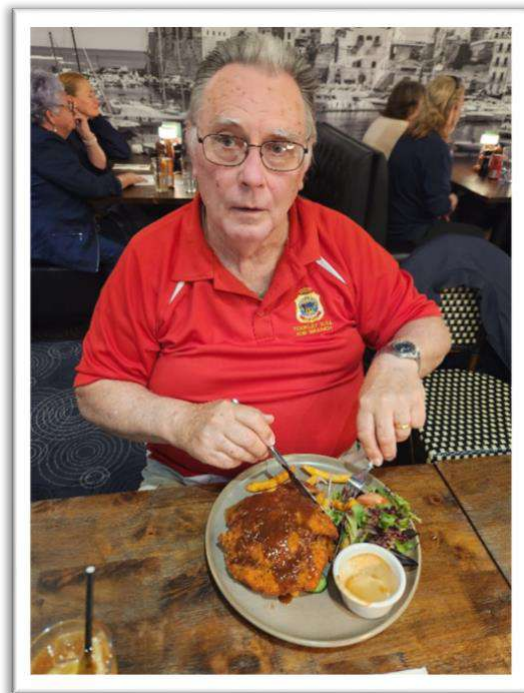
Toukley RSL Sub-Branch President Ian Collier presented Phillip Williams with a Certificates of Membership of the NSW RSL for 50 years.



Sub-Branch bus trip to Hunter Region Botanic Gardens, Heatherbrae and Luncheon at Stockton RSL Club. All enjoyed the day and the walk around the gardens, good exercise! The luncheon was HUGE and enjoyed by all. Ron Whitby came back the coast road to Toukley as the road works are going ahead at the end of the M1.







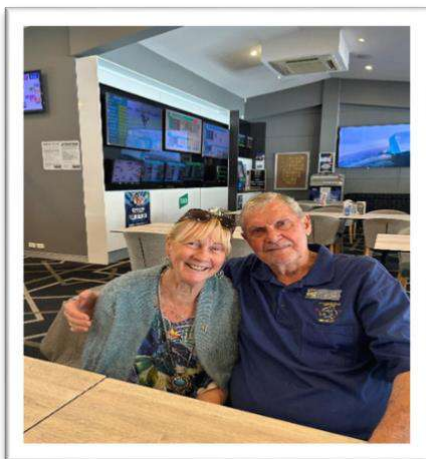
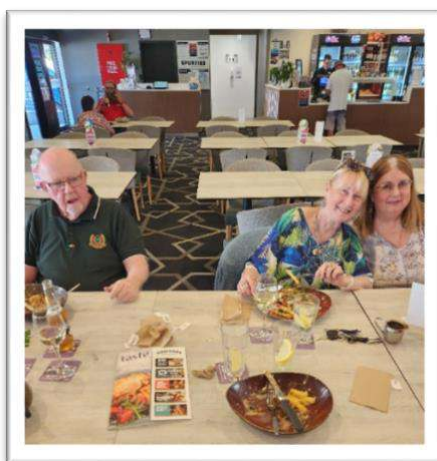
Upcoming Bus Trips:

- **31st October – Fort Scratchley – Newcastle, then onto Hexham Bowling Club for lunch (booked for 12.15pm) at your own cost; there will be a brief morning tea stop (at your own cost) on the way to Fort Scratchley. The bus will depart the front of the ARY at 8.00am. Christine- Co-Ordinator is organising this outing.**
- **28th November – Morpeth Village visit, then Cessnock Leagues Club for lunch at your own cost; there will be a morning tea stop on the way to Morpeth (at your own cost). The bus will depart from the front of the ARY at 8.30am. Christine - Co-Ordinator is organising this outing.**

Presentation by Christine Sellers and Roy Norman to John Doalman of his service blanket and pillows: John and his wife Elaine moved to the Central Coast so that they could be close to their son, (who lives in Toukley) and their daughter (who lives in Maitland) and their families.



Nasho's Lunch – Summerland Point Sports Club. Great lunch with good people, all enjoyed the lunch and the company.



John Arthur Carruthers O.A.M. Funeral at Palmdale. A huge turn out with a Parade, Guard of Honour and a Band from the Corrective Services. The Band had their own bugler and he did the Last Post and Reveille at the service.



Celebrating Dedication: The Story of a Volunteer Supporting RSL NSW Sub-Branch Veterans – Rosaleen (Rose) Millwood

Volunteering is the lifeblood of many Australian communities, and nowhere is this more evident than in organisations like the Returned and Services League of New South Wales (RSL NSW). At the heart of this service are individuals who, with compassion and commitment, dedicate their time to enhancing the welfare of our veterans. This article shines a spotlight on one such outstanding volunteer, Rose Millwood, whose unwavering dedication has made a significant difference in the lives of RSL NSW sub-branch veterans.

When requested, Rose had no hesitation in regularly undertaking voluntary work at RSL NSW Head Office, helping to pack welfare boxes that were sent out to the women's auxiliary's (that were in existence at the time), across the state in support of the sub-branches and their veterans.

Following the passing of her husband in January 2011, Rose moved to the Central Coast of NSW with the assistance of RSL NSW Head Office; Rose was very grateful to RSL NSW, as they supported her by ensuring she had assistance in settling into her new home at Budgewoi.

Driven by a deep sense of gratitude and responsibility, Rose joined the Toukley RSL sub-branch women's auxiliary, (later to be restructured and known as the 'auxiliary') where she has continued to give countless hours to assist in ensuring that veterans received the care, respect, and recognition they deserve. This has been achieved by Rose's unwavering commitment by assisting in organising social gatherings, commemorative events like Anzac and Remembrance days, and always with a friendly smile and a listening ear; her presence brings comfort and reassurance to the member's of the Toukley RSL sub-branch and auxiliary.

While she is humble and quick to deflect praise, her efforts have not gone unnoticed. Fellow auxiliary members and veterans speak highly of her warmth, reliability, and dedication, but perhaps the most meaningful rewards are the friendships she has forged and the continuing positive differences she has made within the Toukley RSL Sub Branch Auxiliary.

Her story is a testament to the power of volunteering and the positive ripple effect it can have. By giving her time selflessly, she inspires others to step forward and continue the proud tradition of supporting those who have served Australia. Her example reminds us all of the importance of community, compassion, and looking after each other, especially those who have given so much for their country. She has given so much of herself and deserves our deepest gratitude and recognition.

The welfare of veterans is a responsibility that extends beyond government and official organisations, it is a community effort. Volunteers like this remarkable woman is one of the unsung heroes ensuring that RSL NSW sub-branch veterans are supported, respected, and remembered.

Rose Millwood turns 90 years young on the 4th of October, and the Toukley Sub Branch Members wish her a happy 90th birthday and thank her for her continuing contribution.

Christine Sellers

Toukley RSL Sub Branch

Auxiliary Co-Ordinator

Wellness & Welfare Bus Trip to Young and Cowra:

The bus trip to the twin towns of Murrumburrah/Harden via Cowra and Young departed the front of the Ary at 7.00am on the 25th of September. We decided to stop at Bathurst for lunch, but first, following a request from Ian Collier we did a lap of Mount Panorama. Top speed down Conrod straight was 65km's per hour; as our wonderful bus driver reminded us all, when the Bathurst races are not on, road rules need to be obeyed.

Arriving in Cowra, we visited the Cowra Japanese Memorial site, and then the Japanese war cemetery; a time of reflection by all.

We arrived at the Young Federation Motel around 4.30pm, where we were greeted by the Manager and everyone given a key to their assigned rooms. Dinner was organised for 6.30pm in the Young Club bistro which was located conveniently across the road from the motel. Everyone enjoyed their dinner, and we all sang happy birthday to Rose Millwood-Auxiliary member, who turns 90 years young on the 4th of October.

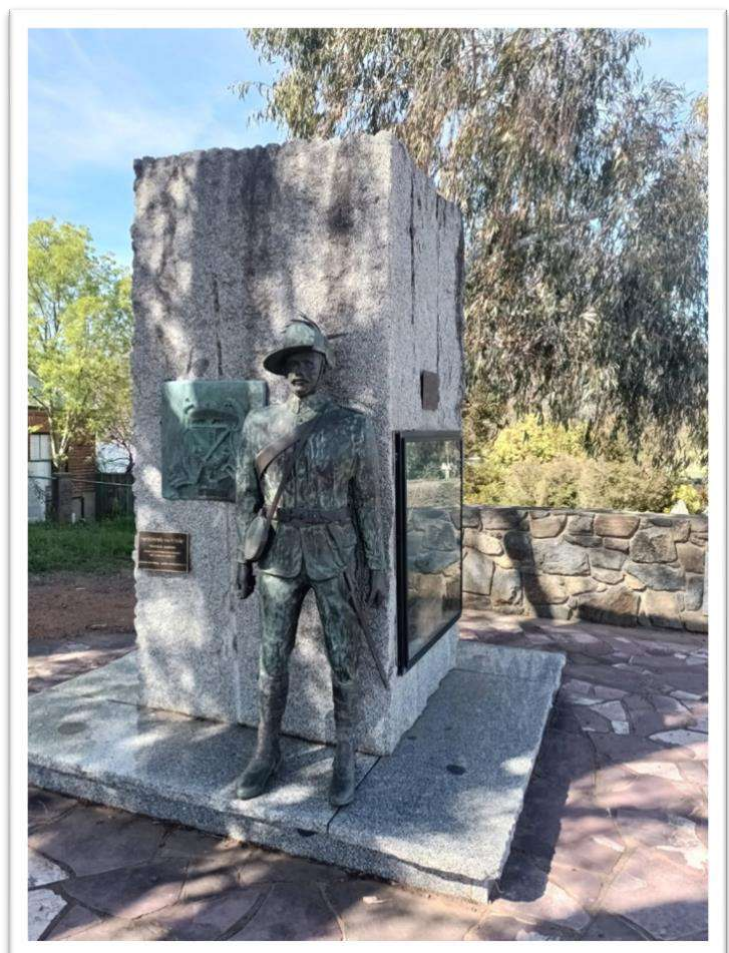
Next morning at 8.15am, we travelled to Murrumburrah/Harden. We stopped at the sculpture of 'Bill the Bastard' horse with Carl Valerius the sculptor meeting us there and explaining the details of the sculpture. After a short period of time, we travelled a few minutes up the road to Carl's home which he shares with his wife Faye; Carl provided more information regarding Bill and his role in WW1, and then morning tea; some people also took the opportunity to review Carl's magnificent model rail layout that takes up two rooms of the home.

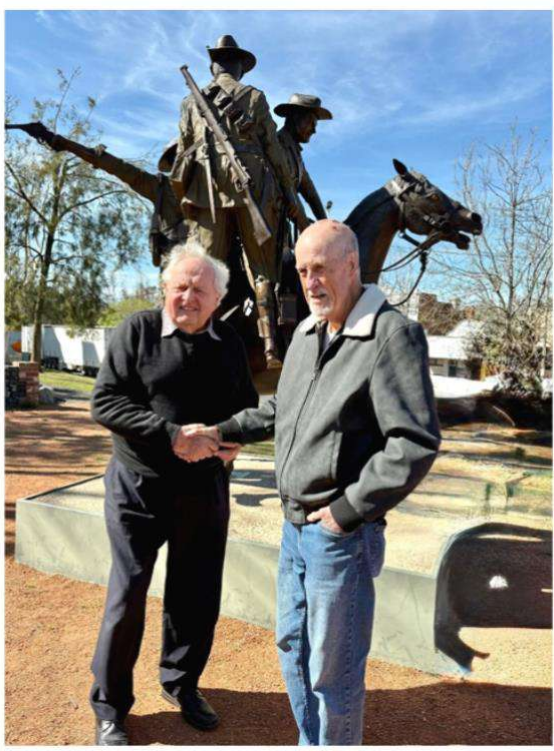
Leaving Harden, we stopped at 'windy' Goulburn for lunch, with our last stop being Pheasants Nest rest stop. After many klm's travelled (just short of 1000.00klm's), we arrived back at the ARY at approximately 5.40pm.

A big thankyou to Ron Whitby for the professionalism he displayed in ensuring our safety and comfort whilst travelling such a long distance.

Christine Sellers

Auxiliary Co-ordinator





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 - monthly meetings held 3rd Sunday every month except December, 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 located on the left-hand side of Wallarah Road just as you drive over the Toukley Bridge towards Gorokan is maintained by the Vietnam Veterans 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 Steve Edmunds on 0428 093 726 or email at sheenasteve21@gmail.com



Birthdays this month

Roseleen Millwood – 4th October

Kerry Chillingworth – 7th October

Graham Munro – 7th October

Allan Love – 8th October

Christine Sellers – 10th October

Rob Sellers – 15th October

Gary Trinder – 15th October

David Watts – 15th October

Mathew Edwards – 20th October

Garrie Hensby – 20th October

Malcolm Mastello – 21st October

Terence Murray – 21st October

Sid Moyce – 22nd October

Alan Thiele – 26th October

Leo Kirkman – 28th October

Puzzle Corner



Trivia Questions:

Question 1: In the movie "Finding Nemo", who was Marlin's wife?

Question 2: In what year was the original "Jurassic Park" film released?

Question 3: What substance is Han Solo frozen in during "The Empire Strikes Back"?

Question 4: What famous character is known for saying, "I'll be back"?

Question 5: What is Forrest Gump's IQ?

Question 6: What is Batman's city?

Question 7: Which villain is known for saying the following: "Why So Serious?"

Question 8: Who always made an appearance in Marvel films until his death?

Question 9: Which movie franchise character holds 'family' as the most important thing in the world?

CENTRAL COAST VETERANS CENTRE Inc

ABN 90 141 703 076

President:

Graham Kerle JP

Secretary:

Danny Chouffot

Treasurer:

Kelly Gray



Address:

203 Main Road

Toukley

NSW 2263

Ph 02 4353 1297

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.

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

Welfare Report September 2025



TOUKLEY RSL SUB-BRANCH

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

OFFICER	NUMBER OF VETERANS/FAMILY VISITS	HOURS	KILOMETRES TRAVELLED	PHONE CALLS	TRAINING HOURS	FUNERALS Interments
Michael Humphries	6	20	33	12	0	2
Roy Norman	10	25	45	31	0	2
Ian Collier	1	12	25	15	0	1
Rob Sellers	1	4	25	0	0	1
Christine Sellers	7	10.5	70	10	0	0
Alan Thiele	2	4	25	0	0	2
TOTALS	27	81.5	248	78	0	2 IN TOTAL

Puzzle Corner Answers



Answers:

1. Coral
2. 1993
3. Carbonite
4. The Terminator
5. 75
6. Gotham City
7. The Joker
8. Stan Lee
9. Fast and Furious

TOUKLEY RSL SUB-BRANCH

Friend of:

David Harris MP

President: Ian Collier

Vice President: Mike Humphries
Mick Henly

Secretary: Alan Thiele

Treasurer: Terry Murray

Committee: Allan Love
John Tyson
Roy Norman
Robert Sellers
Steve Edmunds
Marie Berry

Telephone: (02) 4396 4855
Telephone: (02) 4353 1297 (Diggers Inn)

Pensions: Mick Henly
0417 223 164

Welfare: Roy Norman
0409 845 856

Trustees: Milton Porter, Steve Edmunds, Ian Collier

Newsletter Co-ordinator Mike Humphries
Phone: 0414 693 481
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mikeh@bigpond.net.au