



RSL NSW



Forestville sub-Branch

Australia My Country

NEWSLETTER

Serving veterans and their families in the Forest Area

JULY, 2024

Contact editor via email: newsletter@forestvillersl.org.au or via post: 22 Melwood Ave, Forestville, NSW 2087

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

We're half-way through a very busy 2024 for our Committee members, and our Committee volunteer Sue Duchesne.

Based on recent occurrences with the passing of some of our members, we are finding that details of many of our member's Next of Kin (NOK) contacts are not being kept up to date. It is your responsibility to ensure your NOK contact details are correct and up to date. We therefore ask that you constantly ensure our Membership Officer is always aware of both your primary NOK contact details (eg your partner), as well as your secondary NOK contact details (eg a family member such as a son or daughter), are always correct. These details can change from time to time, depending on your individual circumstances. Please help us to help you, it's that simple. Thanks for your cooperation.

A large contingent of our sub-Branch Committee members attended the Australia Remembers – Northern Beaches & North Shore – 82nd Anniversary Defence of Sydney Commemoration Service at North Head on Friday 7th June 2024. We have included a selection of photos in this newsletter.

The RSL NSW State Congress 2024 will be held in Newcastle 27th to 29th October. Our sub-Branch Delegates will be Vince Williams CSC, and VP Sandy Howard. As President of RSL NSW Northern Beaches District Council (NBDC), I will attend as the NBDC Delegate.

We were pleased to see 187 entries from 12 area schools for the Australia My Country (AMC) competition, down on last year. Prize winners were awarded at the AMC Presentation Ceremony on 15th June at the Club by Matt Cross MP, State Member for Davidson. We thank our Committee Members who co-ordinated the AMC program with our schools in 2024 for our sub-Branch: AMC Coordinator John Balfour OAM, John Scifleet, Kevin Leary, Peter McAskill and Stuart Hablethwaite, supported by our Committee members. Well done, all! We also thank our Official sub-Branch Photographer, Darryl Bullock, for always being available to pictorially record these sub-Branch events and activities. Details are available in this newsletter.

Our next event will be the **Commemoration Fundraising Luncheon on Sunday 18th August** for sub-Branch members and partners only, commemorating all wars, campaigns, and battles in the July to September period. Full details are included in this newsletter. Please book early to avoid disappointment.

RSL NSW has arranged an inaugural Middle East Area of Operations Commemoration (MEAO) on Thursday 11th July 2024 at 11am at the Cenotaph, Martin Place in Sydney. All members who are veterans from the MEAO conflicts are invited to attend to honour the service and sacrifice of our ADF personnel. Our sub-Branch will include this annual MEAO commemoration as part of our annual Commemoration Luncheon on Sunday 18th August. See details above.

Members who are Facebook users are encouraged to access our sub-Branch Facebook page directly through Facebook, or also through our sub-Branch website if you click on the Facebook icon available in various areas of our website. Give it a try, this will give you access to daily posts on our sub-Branch Facebook page, including RSL Australia, RSL NSW, RSL LifeCare, DVA and many other updates. Take care with the cold weather and call us if in need.

Be vigilant, with influenza, bronchitis, pneumonia and COVID around us!

Bob Lunnon
President

What's On

General Meeting
Wednesday 3rd July
7.30 pm

General Meeting
Wednesday 7th August
7.30 pm



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The Price of Liberty is Eternal Vigilance

Membership

Membership totals: 380 (plus 6 Honorary members)

Sadly we have lost the following members:

APITZ Neville

RAAF

We welcome new members:

DONNELLY Michelle

AFFILIATE

BRITTON Marie Therese

AUXILIARY

Our Cenotaph and Memorial Gardens

MEMORIAL PAVERS

Prepaid Pavers:

Members are reminded that you can order and prepay your own paver at any time if you wish.

Please note: Orders for pavers are now being taken for Remembrance Day

Cost for pavers for sub-Branch members is \$35

IMPORTANT MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

For all Membership enquiries please get in touch with our Membership Officer: membership@forestvillersl.org.au

For any **Changes to Membership** details please see following:

It is your responsibility to ensure your NOK contact details are correct and up to date. We therefore ask that you constantly ensure our Membership Officer is always aware of both your primary NOK contact details (eg your partner), as well as your secondary NOK contact details (eg a family member such as a son or daughter), are always correct.

All changes should be advised to our Membership Officer via phone **9451 1221** or email : membership@forestvillersl.org.au including if you wish to rescind your membership for any reason.

EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGY CLASSES



As part of our sub-Branch support of our members under the RSL NSW Sport & Recreation program, we have introduced exercise physiology classes for our members and families. **It will be a twice-monthly class held in the Forestville RSL Club's Flight Deck Room at no cost to participants, on the second and fourth Thursday. Our next classes will be held at 2pm on Thursday 11th July, and then 2pm on Thursday 25th July.** Our instructor is from Rebound Health who already provide DVA physiology service across the Northern Beaches. While our emphasis will be on balance, there are also Heart Health program events available to members. While this is open to members and family, you **MUST register** by calling our sub-Branch Assistant Secretary, Kevin Leary, at the office during office hours on 9451 1221), or email: asstsecretary@forestvillersl.org.au. Let us stay upright!

RSL AUXILIARY

*Click, Clack, Click, Clack was the noise at our General Meeting on Monday 3rd June, we took this opportunity to form a "Working Bee" to make Poppies to sell for Remembrance Day. The "Click Clack" was the very clever Knitters and Crocheters and other quieter ladies cutting out felt Poppies. Although those ladies made enough noise with their laughter and chatter! Our next meeting is on the 1st July at 1.00pm, **YAY, "Christmas in July"**. Wear something **Christmassy** to get in the festive mood. Lots of surprises in store. A fun afternoon. To assist with catering, bookings/cancellations are to be made with Barbara Norton: mobile 0414 415 332, or email: barian@optusnet.com.au. Cut-off date for our 1st July meeting is Wednesday 26th June at 5pm.*

Tickets for HAMILTON are available: Sunday 4th August, 6pm, Lyric Theatre, at a very special fundraising price of \$165 per person, with no booking fee. Contact: Barbara Lunn on 0411 351 654, email: balunnon@hotmail.com.

Ring Barbara Norton above if you, and one of your friends as well, would like to be a member of our Auxiliary to help with fundraising for Veterans and their Families in need.

Forestville RSL Auxiliary

MEAT RAFFLE

Friday 19th July, 2024

FORESTVILLE RSL CLUB

Our Forestville RSL Auxiliary will be conducting the Meat Raffle at the Forestville RSL Club on Friday 19th July from 5.30pm. We encourage you to bring friends and family along to have dinner in the Club. Meat Raffle tickets are **\$5 for 50 chances**, and multiples thereof.

Our RSL Auxiliary members will be at our General Meeting on Wednesday 3rd July taking pre-sales orders for tickets in the Meat Raffle on 19th July, and EFTPOS will be available.

Purchasing pre-sale Meat Raffle tickets means that you do not have to physically be present in the Club on 19th July to win. If you do win, you will be contacted on the night by our RSL Auxiliary members to arrange delivery/pick-up of your meat raffle prize. **Our sub-Branch had 4 winners in June.**



Forestville RSL sub-Branch WALKING GROUP

Our next Walking Group activity will be on Wednesday 17th July 2024 at 9.45am for 10am from Glen St Theatre followed by morning tea/coffee hosted by the sub-Branch. All sub-Branch members and partners, and dogs on a leash, are encouraged to join us for a gentle walk, as part of RSL NSW Sport and Recreation activities. We look forward to seeing you, in support of our individual wellbeing, health and camaraderie.

AS PART OF THE RSL NSW STRATEGIC PLAN 2021/2026
RSL NSW SPORT AND RECREATION ACTIVITIES FOR SUB-BRANCH MEMBERS

AUSTRALIA MY COUNTRY ART & POETRY COMPETITION

Forest Area Primary Schools

2024 Prizewinner Presentation - Saturday 15th June 2024

Presented by Matt Scott MP, State Member for Davidson
Congratulations to this year's winners. Photos can be viewed on our sub-Branch website:

www.forestvillersl.org.au/photos



COMMEMORATION FUNDRAISING LUNCHEON

Sunday 18th August 2024

Forest Room, Forestville RSL Club

subsidised for sub-Branch members and partners only

**COMMEMORATING WARS, CAMPAIGNS, AND BATTLES
IN THE JULY TO SEPTEMBER PERIOD
NOW INCLUDING THE MIDDLE EAST AREA OF OPERATIONS
(MEAO) COMMEMORATION HELD ANNUALLY ON 11th JULY**

- Time:** The Luncheon will commence at 12 noon, with the doors opening at 11:30am, and no access prior to 11.30am.
- Tickets:** On sale from 10.30am on Thursday 27th June from the sub-Branch office on Monday and Thursday mornings only. Please provide mobile phone number when paying.
- Cost:** \$50.00 per person, which is heavily subsidised by the sub-Branch, by cash, and EFTPOS is also available (Tap & Go).
- Menu:** A two-course meal will be served with alternates on each course, with refreshments.
- Dress:** Smart casual.
- Entertainment:** Lionel Robinson (Pianist, Vocals)
- Raffle:** RSL Auxiliary fundraising raffle, please be prepared with cash, and EFTPOS is also available.
- Club Bus:** The Club bus will not be available.
- Cancellations:** Please note that there will be no refunds on cancellations received on or after Thursday 15th August.
- More Details:** Will be provided in our August newsletter.
- CONTACT:** Kevin Leary, Assistant Secretary, at email: asstsecretary@forestvillersl.org.au or phone: 94511221.

The Platinum Jubilee Luncheon Sunday 19th May 2024



Past President John Scifleet cuts our Anniversary Cake

See more photos on the sub-Branch website:

www.forestvillersl.org.au/photos

AUSTRALIA MY COUNTRY ART & POETRY COMPETITION

Forest Area Primary Schools
2024 PRIZEWINNER PRESENTATION
Saturday, 15th June 2024

*Presented by Matt Cross MP
Member for Davidson*

Congratulations to this year's winners:

Written (Year 3&4) 1st place - Avery Skeers, 2nd place - Huxley Geerson, 3rd place - Megan Opperman

Written (Year 5&6) 1st place - Indiana Quin, 2nd place - Annabella Ko, 3rd place - Nathan Giddy

Poetry (Year 3&4) 1st place - Lydia Xu, 2nd place - Sebastian Hoskins, 3rd place - Charlotte Seeto

Poetry (Year 5&6) 1st place - Oliver Gandia, 2nd place - Nathan Keyes, 3rd place - Harry Cassidy

Art (Year 3&4) 1st place - Charlotte Seeto, 2nd place - Jacob Slater, 3rd place - Lachlan Chatman

Art (Year 5&6) 1st place - Hamish Stock, 2nd place - Maya Moulds, 3rd place - Grace Heanemann

Special Commendation Art: Jialu (Alice) Tian, Poppy McDonald & Harry Cassidy



Photos can be viewed on our sub-Branch website:
www.forestvillersl.org.au/photos

AUSTRALIA REMEMBERS

Northern Beaches & North Shore
82nd Anniversary Defence of Sydney Commemoration Service
North Head - Friday 7th June, 2024



Computer scams are on the rise!

Beware of scammers and scams that can trick you into making costly mistakes.
Keep up to date by visiting:

www.scamwatch.gov.au

Dates to Remember in 2024 (Subject to change)

Wednesday 3 rd July 2024	*	7.30pm The Inaugural Hardman Presentation
Wednesday 7 th August 2024	*	7.30pm General Meeting
Sunday 18 th August 2024	*	11.30am for 12noon Commemoration Luncheon
Wednesday 4 th September 2024	*	7.30pm The Hardman Presentation
Wednesday 2 nd October 2024	*	7.30pm General Meeting
Wednesday 6 th November 2024	*	7.30pm The Hardman Presentation
Monday 11 th November 2024	*	10.30am Remembrance Day Service
Sunday 1 st December 2024	*	11.30am for 12noon Christmas Fundraising Luncheon
Wednesday 4 th December 2024	*	7.30pm General Meeting
Monday 16 th December 2024	*	Office Close for Christmas Break

sub-Branch Office

Office - Phone (02) 9451 1221
Hours:
Monday 0900 - 1200 / 1245 - 1400
Thursday: 0900 - 1200

Secretary & General Enquiries:
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RSL Auxiliary Coordinator:
Barbara Norton
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Email: barian@optusnet.com.au

GUEST SPEAKER—GREG MULLINS AO AFSM

The Inaugural Hardman Presentation - Wednesday 3rd July, 2024



Greg Mullins AO AFSM is an Australian firefighter. He is former Commissioner of Fire & Rescue New South Wales, a Climate Councillor with the Climate Council and a founding member of Emergency Leaders for Climate Action. We look forward to hearing from Greg at our meeting.

Special Request to Members

Sending monthly newsletters to you electronically by email will help us to be more sustainable, save time and reduce our mailing costs.

Please advise your email address details to us at:

membership@forestvillersl.org.au

If you do not have an email address, you could have a family member or neighbour receive your newsletter by email and pass it onto you.

July Significant Anniversaries

July is noteworthy for the following significant date:

9th July 1944 – British Army enters Caen

***“And the world is a little poorer, for a soldier died today”
...Lest We Forget...***



Useful Links

Forestville RSL sub-Branch website:

<http://www.forestvillersl.org.au>

Forestville RSL sub-Branch Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/ForestvilleRSLSubBranch/>

Forestville RSL sub-Branch Instagram page:

[forestvillerssubbranch](https://www.instagram.com/forestvillerssubbranch)

The Forestville Club website:

<http://www.forestvillersl.com.au>

RSL NSW website:

<http://www.rslnsw.org.au>

The Veterans Centre Australia:

<http://www.veteranscentre.org.au>

The Australian War Memorial website:

<http://www.awm.gov.au>

RSL NSW Mailing List Contact Details:

<http://www.rslnsw.org.au/update-member-details>

Sub-Branch Resources and Presentations:

<http://www.forestvillersl.org.au/resources>

RSL Lifecare At Home

<https://rsllifecareathome.org.au/>

Vet Affairs News

<https://dva.gov.au/vetaffairs>

DVA Australian Defence Veterans' Covenant

www.dva.gov.au/my-service

Australian Death Notification Service

<https://deathnotification.gov.au/>

Scamwatch

www.scamwatch.gov.au

Military History Society of NSW

www.militaryhistorynsw.com.au