



RSL

Stanthorpe Sub Branch

SERVE - REMEMBER - INSPIRE

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Branch Contacts

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Women's Auxiliary

President: Veronica Ryan
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Secretary: Helen Corbett
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Office Hours

Tuesday 10am - 12noon
Friday 10am - 12noon

Drop Inn Centre

Friday 10am - 12noon
BBQ - First Friday of Every Month
Lunch - Third Friday of Every Month
If you are close by, feel free to pop in.

Useful Links

Stanthorpe Sub Branch - Website
www.stanthorperssubbranch.org

stanthorperssubbranch.org

JUNE 2021

CP NEWS

PRESIDENT RAMBLINGS

ANZAC DAY 2021

What a memorable day for all those who attended all the different ceremonies during the day. First of all I must say thank you to Vice Admiral Michael Noonan AO who made a surprise visit to our ANZAC Dawn Service. I also like to thank Squadron Leader Nicholas Hese for being our Reviewing Officer and of course SDRC Mayor Vic Pennisi. It would be amiss of me not to also thank our Navy Cadets from T.S. Kookaburra who I believe did an excellent job as the Catafalque Party. It was estimated we had approx. 500 people attend our Dawn Service.



Pictured - Reviewing Officer Nicholas Hese, SDRC Mayor Vic Pennisi, Vice Admiral Michael Noonan AO and President of the Stanthorpe RSL Sub Branch Martin Corbett

The Bacon and Egg Burgers worked a treat and the Rum and Milk worked wonders to warm people up.

Congratulations for a great job to Glen Gibson for his first of many as Parade Marshall. It was tremendous to see all the veterans and community march. The fly over by the Hornet F18 was marvelous and topped of our celebrations for the RAAF 100th Birthday.



Pictured - Stanthorpe RSL Sub Branch Director Glen Gibson leading the march



Photo Courtesy of Robert Bryan

The civic ceremony at the park after the march fitted in so well. Great idea, Michael Bell from the SDRC.



Pictured - Wreath Laying Ceremony presented by Greg Thouard. Event organised by Michael Bell from the SDRC. President of the Stanthorpe RSL Sub Branch Martin Corbett, Reviewing Officer Squadron Leader Nicholas Hese, SDRC Cr Cameron Gow and President of the Stanthorpe RSL Women's Auxiliary Veronica Ryan.

In all it was a wonderful day and allowed everyone to reflect in their own way the meaning of ANZAC and remember those men and women who have paid the supreme sacrifice of our freedom and to support those who are still serving in so many countries over the world and here in Australia.

Lest We Forget



Pictured - School and Community Groups march proudly on Anzac Day.



JUNE 2021

NEWSLETTER

TS KOOKABURRA

TS Kookaburra Navy cadets have been very busy practicing for Anzac Day services, Promotion courses.

3 cadets attended HMAS Moreton to complete their last day of their 5 week promotion course that they did via Zoom. They did drill practice and drill with a cutlass. They were also lucky to see HMAS Armidale which was docked at HMAS Moreton. Unfortunately they couldn't do a tour however they were happy to get photos taken with the ship.

I am very proud of my cadets who did an amazing job at the Anzac Day dawn service and the march. The cadets were very surprised to see the Chief of Navy attend dawn service. The cadets were very happy to get a photo with the Vice Admiral.

TS Kookaburra Navy cadets would like to thank Stanthorpe RSL Sub Branch for their support.

CPO ANC Katrina Nemeth



Pictured - TS Kookaburra Catalafque with Vice Admiral Michael Noonan AO

LAST POST

We remember our Sub Branch Members who have passed away.

Lest we Forget

Mr Lester Ross
Mr Robert Smail

DATE CLAIMER

Vietnam Veterans' Day -
Wednesday 18 August 2021.
Planning is underway for this event.

State AGM - December 2021
As members you will be asked to vote on the new constitution. Your comments are welcome.

<https://www.rslqld.org/About-Us/Governance/Constitution-2020>

AGM

For those members who were unavailable to attend our AGM on the 28 March 2021, just a quick update:

Martin Corbett was re-elected as President; Kevin Ross was re-elected as a Board Member; Robert Swaine was elected as a Board Member, and Terence Nichols was absent due to family reasons and was therefore elected as a casual vacancy to our board at our April Board meeting.

Congratulations to the members, whom I'm sure you agree, will do an excellent job for our Sub Branch.

Our official guest was the Western District President Mr Dennis Pollard. We also had the pleasure to hear from Robyn and Emily from Qld State about the Members Valued Program. We thanked them for their time and information.

I would like to remind all our members that the AGM is held for your benefit. You hear the reports to gain the knowledge of what your committee are doing on your behalf, and you have the opportunity to review our audited finance reports and of course ask questions. This is your Sub Branch and we need your help and input to survive the next 100 years.

To Ron Lange, a retiring director, we thank you for your time and effort for the past three years and wish you and your family all the best for the future and look forward to seeing you soon.

Martin Corbett (President)

ADVOCATE REPORT

Considering the number of Sub Branch members who attended our AGM I thought I would give you the information I passed on to the meeting as part of my yearly report.

Compensation and Wellbeing Activities for 2020

In the past 12 months I have submitted;

- 39 Compensation Claims (VEA, DRCA and MRCA) All Accepted
- 45 DVA FOI Requests
- 45 Defence Archive Requests
- 1 S31 Appeal (VRB) to change accepted claim from DRCA to VEA- Accepted
- 106 meetings with veterans to collate and ensure documentation and submissions are completed.

I have visited 27 veterans on numerous occasions at their homes to help with NDIS Plans, Retirement or Respite requirements and I have visited 40 veterans whilst they have been in hospital here in Stanthorpe or in Toowoomba or Brisbane. I also visit our members in Churches of Christ Care Carramar every month.

I will be absent from the Sub Branch from the 10 May to the end of August but will always be contactable on my mobile.

Martin Corbett (Advocate)
0412 697 586

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY REPORT

Members of the Women's Auxiliary attended the Anzac Day dawn service and helped out serving the breakfast for the large crowd. We also participated in the wreath laying at the memorial. Anzac Day is a special time for veterans and the community. As a community we show our appreciation of those who offered their lives for our freedom.

We had a successful Mothers Day raffle. Many of our members assisted with selling the tickets. We have made a donation to The Stanthorpe Cancer Support Group from the proceeds of our raffle. Congratulations to the following winners -
First Prize—Sue Boyce, Mother's Day Gift Pack from Gracious Giving (value \$250),
Second Prize—Lyn Little, Mother's Day Gift Pack from Gracious Giving (value \$150),
Third Prize—Helen Reeves, Luxury Home Living Gift Voucher (value \$100)
Thank-you to all who supported our raffle.

The Women's Auxiliary meet monthly and we also have a social function monthly.

If anyone would like information regarding the Women's Auxiliary please contact Veronica Ryan president on 46837135 or 0407626301.

JUNE 2021

NEWSLETTER

TREATMENT OF MILITARY SUPERANNUATION

Important notice re:

A Full Federal Court decision in Commissioner of Taxation v Douglas [2020] FCAFC 220 has changed the tax and super treatment of specific invalidity benefit payments (Class A or Class B MilSuper). For more detailed information see the website below for information. <https://www.ato.gov.au/Individuals/Super>

Broadly, the court decision affects the treatment of invalidity benefits for pensions provided under the Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits (DFRDB) Scheme and the Military Superannuation and Benefits (MSB) Scheme and which started on or after 20 September 2007.

If you received an invalidity pension provided under DFRDB or MSBS starting on or after 20 September 2007, you may be affected by the recent court decisions; before 20 September 2007, you are not affected.

Due to the Full Federal Court decision the ATO is commencing a remediation program.

If you think this applies to you: start the amendment process you will need to email;

VeteranCommonwealthSuperannuation@ato.gov.au

with the following information:

- full name
- phone and email contact details.

You will be contacted and asked to provide the following -

- your date of discharge
- your invalidity benefit commencement date
- if your classification has changed between Class A, Class B or Class C, the date or dates from which you were reclassified.

NOTE -

Please be aware that DVA is turning off some of their legacy services including "My Account" will cease operating. If you use this service, please note that all functions of "My Account" can be accessed through "My Service".

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

Comrades, as I have been in the secretary's chair (Thomas left a big chair to fill) for a little over three years I thought I would let you know some of the behind the scenes happenings in that time.

As you may know, the Sub Branch is an incorporated association and a registered charity by virtue of a Charter of Membership of the League bestowed on us by RSL Qld in 1918. As such, operate under and comply with Constitutions (Rules) duly in force for RSL Qld, District and our own Sub Branch. In 1990, we became an incorporated association, and as a result operate under and comply with the Qld Incorporations Act (Qld Office of Fair Trading OFT). As a charity, we operate under and comply with the Australian Charity and Not-for-Profits Commission (ACNC) Act (since 2012).

These Rules and Acts describe and give guidance on what we can and cannot do; how and in what manner we can do these things; and how we must self-report our compliance with these Acts and Rules. In the past RSL State, under a Deed of Arrangement, facilitated this reporting. This Deed has now lapsed and each incorporated association (us) is now responsible for managing its own reporting with both OFT, ACNC and RSL Qld. I mention this simply to show that over time we have moved from being community club (if I can use this term) to a modern not-for-profit business with company directors as board members. (Of note, being a not-for-profit entity means we are held to a higher standard of probity and integrity than many ordinary businesses.)

OFT and ACNC are moving away from soft compliance and education, to a targeted compliance and enforcement program, (several state RSL entities have been audited and received compliance direction notices). The stated intention of both ACNC and OFT is to focus on compliance by charities including RSL Sub Branches and this has caused us to lift our standards and make some changes.

As a result, you may have noticed changes within the Sub Branch. The building (Lena White House) is now fit for purpose with the building classification now being community use and not residential, competing a process started many years ago. This required bringing the building "up to code" meaning an internal renovation, upgrade of facilities and as very little had been with the building for some considerable time, a well-deserved face-lift. If you have not dropped in please do.

The physical change to Lena White house is only a small part with many of the changes occurring in our business, budget and governance systems and processes needed to demonstrate compliance as an association and a charity.

In considering what we do, to maintain our charity status, we look to the League Objects, and see they fall into three main groups; Serve; Remember; and Inspire.

We **serve** our veteran family and wider community by providing direct and indirect support to individuals and groups, exemplified by; **serve** the individual with immediate assistance to those in need; support and assist in completing papers with DVA. **Serve** veterans by bringing them together, in a social setting or specific program, to develop friendships and assist each other. **Serve** the community by providing targeted assistance through donations; participation in joint projects;

We **remember** the individual; with commemorative services such as the "poppy service"; the marking of unmarked graves; by preserving and displaying donated memorabilia and artefacts in such a way as to tell the veteran's story. We **remember** the collective service of veterans by promoting and participating in ceremonial events like ANZAC Day.

We **inspire** individuals and community members to display and live the traits, of the veterans that have gone before us, of; patriotism, loyalty; integrity, selflessness and community spirit. We **inspire** the individual starting at school with our primary school book prize program where the school identifies those who epitomise these traits, to high school where year nine students must research someone on a local honour board and submit a research paper. We **inspire** the community by telling the story of veteran endeavour, when and where we can.

Now we know the what, we look to how we do it, in order to maintain association status. The Rules and Acts tell us that among other things we must have a duly elected board of responsible persons, have meetings and make supportable decisions, keep proper and appropriate records and have policies and procedures that promote good governance. Like the Objects we can think in terms of Serve; Remember and Inspire.

We **serve** our members, by being mindful of what we do as a Sub Branch is for them, both now and in the future, by preserving the efforts of those past and providing a platform for those coming in next. All within the confines of the constitution. We **serve** the registrar of OFT by insuring the association is run and managed within the boundaries of the Incorporations Act. We **serve** the Commissioner of ACNC....well you get the picture.

We **remember** that what we do now and more importantly how we did it will be judged in the future by others and may need to be justified.

We **inspire** each other to be the best we can be, to be mindful of our responsibilities, and whatever is done, is done from a position of considered thought.

If I were to crystal ball the next 3 years I do not see the level of compliance and reporting diminishing however there maybe a slight flattening out of time required as we become more comfortable with the processes. However, the underlying load of administration and the continual review of procedures and processes will remain, and with the added risk of possible audits probably increase.

As with all volunteer groups, we need to grow our membership, further we are ever reliant on members sticking their collective hands up to run the Sub Branch and assist in service delivery, as always, many hands make light work. The committee roles are usually for a period of three years, allowing time to learn and grow and be productive. We also have other positions away from the committee that allow others to share the load; from serving as wellbeing support persons; assist in telling the veteran story; involvement in ceremonial and commemorative occasions; Attending ceremonies and presenting awards.

Volunteering can be very rewarding, leading to making new mates, develop new skills and be part of something bigger than self. So, if you feel inspired, bored or want to do something else drop by and have a chat even to just to have a brew. I will show where the kitchen is – just kidding.

Paul Petter
Secretary

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Let's work together for our members!

Your Membership to the Sub Branch here in Stanthorpe is highly respected and appreciated. Part of the role of your Sub Branch is to ensure we continue to be here to support Veterans and their families where possible. In making this commitment we need to ensure our database is kept up to date and reflects each member's current details.

This is a key to each of us being there for each other. There have been recent occasions when personal events have occurred and timely assistance to our members was not possible due to information on hand not being up to date. To help alleviate this reoccurring in the future please take the time to fill in the following information so that your Sub Branch can be there for you and your family should a need occur due to foreseen or unforeseen circumstances arising.

The information will remain confidential and once completed, the below may be returned to the Sub Branch -
 In Person By Mail Via Email - admin@stanthorpersubbranch.org
 We advise you to scan this document as a "phone camera capture" can often give an unreadable result.

If another member you are aware of has had a significant change in circumstances and may need to be contacted, please advise the Sub Branch as soon as possible.

Title Mr / Mrs / Ms	Surname	First Name	Middle Name
Gender M / F	Maiden Name	Date of Birth / /	Membership Number
Contact Number H)	M)	Email	
Home Address		State	Postcode
Postal Address (if different to above)		State	Postcode
Next of Kin Or Alternative Contact	Name	Relationship	
Contact Number H)	M)	Email	
How would you like us to contact you? Please circle your preferences		Mail - YES / NO	Email - YES / NO