



RSL

Stanthorpe Sub Branch

SERVE - REMEMBER - INSPIRE

38 Marsh Street

PO Box 887

Stanthorpe Qld 4380

admin@stanthorperssubbranch.org

Phone: 07 4681 0047



Branch Contacts

President: Martin Corbett, 0412 697 586
president@stanthorperssubbranch.org

Advocate: Martin Corbett, 0412 697 586
stanpension@gmail.com

Secretary: Paul Petter, 0402 128 552
secretary@stanthorperssubbranch.org

Treasurer: Tom Page, 0434 212 485
treasurer@stanthorperssubbranch.org

Ceremonial Officer: Greg Williams
ceremonial@stanthorperssubbranch.org

Admin Assistant: Connie Maggiolo
admin@stanthorperssubbranch.org

Women's Auxiliary

President: Veronica Ryan
ryankavm@bigpond.com

Secretary: Helen Corbett
stanthorpewomensauxiliary@gmail.com

Office Hours

Tuesday 10am - 12noon

Friday 10am - 12noon

Drop-in Centre

Friday 10am - 12noon

Useful Links

Stanthorpe Sub Branch - Website
www.stanthorperssubbranch.org

stanthorperssubbranch.org

Page 1

MAY 2023

CP NEWS

PRESIDENT RAMBLINGS

Well, here we are and it's May already! I can report that we've had another good start to the year so far.

In March we held our Sub Branch AGM. Tom Page (Treasurer) and Peter Beacroft were re-elected to the board. I congratulate Graeme Caesar and Bridget Cutler being nominated and elected to the board. Both have hit the ground running becoming involved in our projects.

Every year I ask all members to consider attending the yearly AGM. We give six weeks notice to all members so you can submit your nomination to join the board or to submit a motion. The AGM is held to inform all members of our audited financials, hear reports from the President, Advocate, Ceremonial Officer (Poppy Services, ANZAC Day, etc), Women's Auxiliary and other projects we are conducting. We have 175 members to which only 20 members attended this year meeting which consisted of 8 Board Members and 1 Staff. That's approximately 7% of non-board members attending. I make this point because during the year we are continuously asked "What the Sub Branch is doing for our veterans?" or "How are we spending the money we raise?". The AGM gives you, our members, the opportunity to hear our reports for the work conducted over the past twelve months and ask questions and/or make suggestions.

ANZAC Day was tremendous with very large crowds attending. Greg Williams, our Ceremonial Officer has provided a report and photos on Page 4. I thank everyone who attended.

*Cheers,
Martin Corbett*

2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Prior to our AGM in March, we call for the nomination of 3 new board directors. Each director is elected for a 3 year term with elections staggered so that approximately one third of the board is due for election each year.

In line with the Incorporations Act and our constitution, the Sub Branch is managed by an elected board of up to 10 directors. This number may vary however the executives will not.

Meet your current board of directors from of all forces - Army, Navy and Airforce:



Martin Corbett
President



Paul Petter
Secretary



Tom Page
Treasurer



Glen Gibson
Vice President



Robert Swaine
Memorabilia



Nick Hese



Greg Williams
Ceremonial



Peter Beacroft



Graeme Caesar

Absent

Bridget Cutler

Did you know:

Martin: Has a love for his Paramatta Eels.

Paul and Tom: Both are on leave this month while they tour our country in their caravan.

Glen: Our youngest director on the board.

Robert: A man who has see the monarchy change 3 times!

Nick: A proud Dutchman who loves trains.

Greg: Loves to head off fishing at any given chance.

Peter and Graeme: Refreshing to see two Ex-Navy members on our board.

Bridget: Our first female Director and will hopefully keep these wild men calmed.

MAY 2023

NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY NIGHT RAFFLES

Have you had dinner at the RSL Services Club on a Friday night? Are you aware that we organise the weekly raffles? If you haven't, we have some exciting news!

Last year the committee decided that a prize change was needed to encourage more patronage to the raffles scene.

Currently the prizes on offer are:

- 1 x \$50 Why Leave Town voucher
- 1 x \$50 IGA voucher
- 2 x \$50 RSL Services Club food and beverage voucher,
- 3 x \$50 Cash Prize and
- Joker - which increases by \$20 each week.

On Friday 28 April, the Joker was won with the lucky winner, Michael Day (pictured below with Sub Branch Vice President, Glen Gibson) taking home \$940! Congratulations!



We are always looking for volunteers to assist our team so if you are free and able to assist, please contact the Sub Branch on 4681 0047.

FRIDAY BINGO

Bingo is going strong and is bigger and better than ever. The regular market day grocery prizes are still on offer however there are now cash prizes to win!

Every week we welcome our regular participants as well as the Tenterfield Ladies. It is great to see our player numbers increase every week. This is a great event which allows you to meet up with friends in a relaxed atmosphere.

Our committee would like to see more of our Sub Branch members participate, volunteer and assist. Bingo commences at 10.30am however setup starts earlier so if you are keen to play and assist with the prep and pack-up, please contact the Sub Branch on 4681 0047. *Page 2*

UNMARKED GRAVES - HEADSTONE PROJECT

The Stanthorpe RSL Sub Branch is proud to be involved with rededicating and marking of unmarked WWI Veteran Gravesites in the Stanthorpe Parish as part of our Headstone Project.

The Headstone Project has been underway since 2018 with a number of unmarked sites that relate to veterans that participated in operational service or served within Australia over the period of WWI (1914-1918) having been marked and dedicated.

In continuing with this project, five headstones were dedicated on 27 February 2023 at the Stanthorpe Cemetery.

These were:

1. John GRAHAM, Regimental No. 2311, Unit. Australian Remount Unit 2, Squadron 8,
2. Charles James LARKINS, Regimental No. 2106. Unit. 41st Battalion, 3rd Reinforcement,
3. Bernard MAGUIRE, Regimental No. 3851. Unit. 30th Battalion, 9th Reinforcement,
4. Harold Bernard MANN, Regimental No. 1878. Unit. 33rd Battalion, 2nd Reinforcement, and
5. William WILLIAMS, Regimental No. 2705. Unit. 13th Battalion, 8th Reinforcement.

The dedication was well attended with approximately 30 members of the community attending, including direct relatives of PTE Harold Mann - Rae Gleeson, Margaret Smith and Mark Winkler (pictured below). Reverend John Pattison conducted the service, Mrs Lisa Vichie played the bagpipes and Mr Darren Uhlmann played the bugle. Overall, a highly successful event.

If anyone would like to assist in this project, please email Mr Glen Gibson, Sub Branch Vice President - glen.gibson@stanthorpersubbranch.org or call into the Sub Branch on Tuesday and Friday between 10am and 12noon. (Photo credit - Samantha Wantling)



POSTCARDS OF HONOUR

This year, RSL Queensland introduced an initiative to all Queensland schools - Postcards of Honour as a way for our Sub Branch to engage with primary school students in commemorating ANZAC Day. As we know sometimes the quickest and easiest way to communicate with loved ones, is to pen a short note on a postcard.

This creative learning activity was distributed to all our district schools with some choosing to retain their cards for a school display and others allowing us to display their students work in the front foyer of the RSL Services Club (Pictured below). The artwork was depictive of WWI soldier images while others chose beautiful sunset colours and poppys.

Messages on the flip side of the postcard read -

Maddison, 10yrs - *"I appreciate everything that you have done for us. All of you are so brave for fighting in those wars. We are all honoured to have such great soldiers."*

Bonnie, 6yrs - *"Thank you for your courage and service."*

Kira, 6yrs - *"Thank you for all you did to protect Australia."*

Darcy, 11yrs - *"Thank you for your involvement in the war. We will always honour the people who went to war. Your bravery and courage was so great. Mateship was very strong. I will always respect ANZAC Day."*

Thank you to all students and schools who participated.



MAY 2023

NEWSLETTER

VALES

David Haynes MM

Charles "Roger" Wilson, age 100 yrs
Margaret Halford (Women's Auxiliary member)

A NOTE FROM OUR WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

The RSL Sub Branch Women's Auxiliary recently (April) attended the funeral of one of our Members – Margaret Halford. Margaret was very well regarded by the community including her involvement in many organisations. She will be missed by many.

Our thanks is extended to Sub Branch members and to all those who supported the Anzac Day Breakfast. It was very well attended this year and thanks to the community for a great turn out. We thank the RSL Services Club for their continued support in donating the raised funds from the breakfast, to the Women's Auxiliary. Donations have been distributed to a number of organisations, such as, Stanthorpe Men's Shed, LifeFlight, Royal Flying Doctors and our local Rural Fire Service.

As part of maintaining social connection with our members, we meet up for a morning tea or lunch each month. In March we attended Hanasuka Restaurant, April had Anzac Day and Easter, a morning tea in May at Aloomba Lavender Farm and a lunch at the Country Club Hotel. Many of our members are unable to drive at night time, so the focus of outings is booking either a morning teas or lunch time gathering.

New members are always welcome and we meet on the second Monday of each month at 11.30am at the Sub Branch Drop-in-Centre, followed by lunch at 12.30pm at the RSL Services Club.

Pictured below - Our attendance at the War Animal Day service held on 24 February.



WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE SUB BRANCH

War Animal Day - 24 February 2023

The purple poppy was created in 2006 by UK charity Animal Aid as a way to commemorate animals which served during conflicts as they had been the forgotten victims of war. In 2013 the Australian War Animal Memorial Organisation introduced the purple poppy to Australia. This poppy is sometimes referred to as the Animal Poppy. They are worn alongside the traditional red poppy as a reminder of their bravery and that both humans and animals served together. Animals have been put to many uses in war, serving as transport, beasts of burden, messengers, protectors, mascots, and pets. They have played an important part in all wars in which Australians have been involved.

The plaque in our Memorial Garden reads:

Robbie Robertson Memorial Garden - "This garden honours those who served and are still serving, those that supported them and those who waited for them." And on either side of this plaque, there is a small bouquet of red and purple poppies. We remember the service of the many animals that have been beside us in many of those far away and dangerous places.



Pictured - (Left) Reverend Kaye Ronalds dedicating our garden and members of the Sub Branch coming together to remember our War Animals.

Photo Credit - Sandra McEwan Photography



National Volunteer Week - 15-21 May 2023

On Friday 19 May, volunteers were recognised for their dedication and support for the Sub Branch. We are very thankful for every volunteer who generously invests their time, experience and effort. Without volunteers, our day to day running of the Sub Branch, weekly Bingo, ceremonial events plus many more events (too many to list) that are organised throughout the year, would not happen.

THANK YOU Everyone!



(Left) Bingo Men - Ernie, Norm, Graeme and Peter

(Right) Memorabilia Men and Library Ladies - Thomas, Shirley, Kay and Robert



TS KOOKABURRA NEWS

On Sunday, 21st May 2023, CDTPO David Nemeth was promoted to CDTCPO which made history at our unit. David is the first cadet to become a Chief Petty Officer in the history of the unit since opening in 2015. CDTCPO David Nemeth has worked very hard to get this promotion. He is a great asset to our unit and now he is teaching his knowledge to all our cadets in our unit before he ages out in January 2023.

I would also like to thank all our cadets for an outstanding job they all did on Anzac Day - Dawn Service, Street Parade and a Flag Ceremony which we did at Mingoola with Vice Admiral Michael Noonan AO (retired). It was a very long day as we didn't finish the day until 6.30pm. A great effort from all cadets and staff of TS Kookaburra.



LEUT ANC Katrina Nemeth
Commanding Officer
TS Kookaburra Navy Cadets



ANZAC DAY ROUND UP

Anzac Day has passed and was a huge success. The day started out with a few clouds but the sun shone through when we needed it. The attendance at Dawn Service was estimated at approximately 500 veterans, visitors and community attendees. It was overwhelming to see the community attend in such large numbers. TS Kookaburra supported the service by supplying the guard and flag party with all cadets doing a fantastic job.

The gunfire breakfast was again well done by our Women's Auxiliary doing an outstanding job ensuring all were fed. It is estimated that over 350 breakfasts were served. Thank you again to our Women's Auxiliary who assisted with serving a great breakfast and to the Stanthorpe RSL Services Club for supplying and cooking breakfast.



The street parade was very well attended by veterans, district schools and local community groups. Lt Col Searle attended as our guest speaker and reviewing officer. The march included two WWII jeeps to carry veterans and we hope to see them again next year. (Pictured left - In Denis New's WWII Jeep is Darryl Kirkpatrick and Cyril Charlwood)

Pictured below are the four secondary high school leaders, that we invited to be our flag bearers, having them dressed in Army, Airforce and Navy DPCU's and a WWI Nurse's Uniform. These students looked the part and were well received by spectators. The march was well attended by the community and certainly notable on last years numbers.



Above - Veterans proudly marching through Stanthorpe.



Left - Brendon Steele, cannoneer for Dawn Service and the Street Parade.
Below - Wreath Laying service in Weeroona Park.
Photo credit - Sandra McEwan Photography

