



RSL

Stanthorpe Sub Branch

SERVE - REMEMBER - INSPIRE

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Branch Contacts

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Treasurer: Tom Page, 0434 212 485
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Admin Assistant: Connie Maggiolo
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Women's Auxiliary

President: Veronica Ryan
ryankavm@bigpond.com

Secretary: Helen Corbett
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Office Hours

Tuesday 10am - 12noon

Friday 10am - 12noon

Drop-in Centre

Friday 10am - 12noon

BBQ First 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

MAY 2022

CP NEWS

PRESIDENT RAMBLINGS

Well, here we are and it's May already! We have had another great start to the year so far. I would like to thank our board of directors, including all our members as without you we would not be here doing what we do.

RSL State office is calling on all members to go online and read the new proposed constitution (there is a comparison between last year and this year constitutions highlighting the changes). This will be voted on again at the June RSL State AGM. As usual I will vote the way our members direct me to vote. Therefore, I ask all members to read the amended constitution and advise the Sub Branch no later than Wednesday 8th June 2022 if your response is Yes or No.

I have attached the resumes of the persons who have nominated for the position of State Vice President. This too will be voted on at the State AGM. Could you please advise the Sub Branch of your preference no later than Wednesday 8th June 2022.

<https://rslqld.org/-/media/rslqld/documents/state-congress-important-documentation/state-congress-2022/notice-of-nominations-for-state-vice-president-vice-chair-2022.pdf>

In March we held our Sub Branch AGM. Paul Petter and Glen Gibson were re-elected to the board. I congratulate Greg Williams being nominated and elected to the board. I ask all members to consider attending our yearly AGM. We do not call for nominations from the floor as we normally call for nominations about 6 weeks prior (mid February). The AGM is held to inform all members of our audited financials, hear reports from the president, advocate, ceremonial (Poppy Services, ANZAC Day etc), Women's Auxiliary and projects we are conducting. It is also an opportunity for members to ask questions and make suggestions. Please remember this is your Sub Branch.

Our ANZAC Day was a great success with approximately 300-350 attending the Dawn Service and then proceeding over to the RSL Services Club for our Gun Fire breakfast. After the standing out in the wind our Rum and Milk drink was well received. I would like to thank the RSL Services Club manager Glen Boston and his staff for the work setting up the area. Thank-you to our Women's Auxiliary for volunteering to serve and assist with the clean up afterwards. The Parade was a great opportunity for our community to thank those who served. We thank Squadron Leader Nicholas Hese, Mr James Lister and Mr Vic Pennisi taking the salute on the dais. I like to thank Connie for volunteering to drive our Kia Carnival, which gave some of our veterans who couldn't march an opportunity to enjoy the occasion.



Left - TS Kookaburra flag bearers brave the chilly breeze at the Anzac Day Dawn Service. Photo courtesy of Glenda Riley.

*Cheers,
Martin Corbett*



Above - Our Sub Branch Kia Carnival.

Below - Attendance was plentiful for the Civil Service and Wreath Laying .



Above - James Lister MP, Squadron Leader Nicholas Hese and SDRC Mayor Vic Pennisi on the dais. Photo courtesy of Glenda Riley.



MAY 2022

NEWSLETTER

* CORRECTION * SUB BRANCH AGM

It was moved that the next Stanthorpe RSL Sub Branch AGM is to be held on Sunday 27th March 2023.

Unfortunately that date is incorrect and our upcoming AGM will be held on **Sunday 26th March 2023**.

Our apologies for any confusion this has caused.

BOARD MEETING

During the course of the year, your Sub Branch management committee meet for 11 board meetings. These are held on the second Tuesday of each month except in January when the Sub Branch is closed.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday 14th June, 2022.

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!

Since our last newsletter we have changed our raffles prizes. You now have the opportunity to win one of the following -

- \$30 RSL Services Club food and beverage voucher,
- \$25 Woolworths Fuel Gift Card,
- \$25 Meat Voucher from Stanthorpe Quality Meats or
- Cash Prize of \$25.00.

As this newsletter goes to print... Our Joker prize is currently at \$460!

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

Look forward to seeing you soon!

ADVOCATE NEWS

Wellbeing (Welfare)

To clear up some confusion on what is the difference between a Wellbeing Advocate and a Wellbeing Support Officer.

Wellbeing Advocates are required to pass training annually to allow them to give advice.

Wellbeing Support Officers (WSOs) provide a wide range of valuable support services to veterans and their families, but this does not include providing any form of advice about compensation claims or wellbeing support. Any advice to veterans or veteran's families **MUST** come from trained and accredited Compensation or Wellbeing Advocate who has been authorised by their ESO to provide these services on their behalf. The types of services provided by Wellbeing Support Officers (WSOs) does include, among other things: visits to home, hospital, and aged care facilities; providing simple services such as driving, shopping trips etc. organising and conducting social, family and sporting activities; and provide support to a veteran's family during time of grief, loss, and bereavement (serious illness or death of a veteran or war widow/er). Our Wellbeing Advocate and Wellbeing Support Officers are appointed annually at the AGM, this year the following Wellbeing Advocate is Martin Corbett.

Compensation Activity

In the past 12 months I have submitted;

- 37 Compensation Claims (VEA, DRCA and MRCA) - All Accepted
- 36 DVA FOI Requests
- 36 Defence Archive Requests
- 1 VRB Appeal - Successful
- 95 meetings with veterans to collate and ensure documentation and submissions are completed

I have visited 32 veterans at their homes to help with NDIS Plans, Retirement or Respite requirements. I have visited 25 veterans and widows whilst they have been in hospital here in Stanthorpe, Toowoomba and Brisbane. I also visit our members in our Stanthorpe Aged Care Service formerly Villa Carramar.

2022 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:

Front Row: (L - R) Tom Page (Treasurer), Martin Corbett (President), Norm Steele (Deputy President) and Paul Petter (Secretary)

Back Row: (L - R) Directors Nick Hese, Kevin Ross, Robert Swaine and Greg Williams. Absent: Glen Gibson.



A NOTE FROM OUR WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

The RSL Sub Branch Women's Auxiliary are meeting now every third Monday of the month at the Drop In Centre at 11.30am with lunch to follow at 12.30pm at the RSL Services Club. We are seeking new members to come along and share their new ideas with us. Our next meeting will be held on Monday 16th May.

We support the Sub Branch on Commemorative Days, assist veterans and widows as required and enjoy the social aspects of membership.

Our fundraising for this year kicked off with the Anzac Day breakfast. We extend our thanks to everyone who supported us on the day. We plan to hold a Lamington Drive in June and an end of year raffle.

MAY 2022

NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY BINGO

Bingo is going strong now that restrictions have eased. We welcome back many of 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. We find that afterwards, many participants remain and enjoy the social aspect of attending bingo.

Our committee would like to see more of our Sub Branch members volunteer and assist our team.

Bingo commences at 10.30am however setup starts earlier so if you are able to assist, please contact the Sub Branch on 4681 0047.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST AMBERLEY AIR TATTOO

It's on again!!!

RAAF Base Amberley, will open its gates to the public for the first time since 2008 over the weekend of 29th - 30th October, 2022.

The Air Force will conduct flypasts over RAAF Base Amberley during the two day event. Aircraft, on the ground, will also be on static display. A range of military equipment can also be viewed.

We are asking for your expressions of interest and if you would like to attend, we will be organizing a bus from Stanthorpe. As yet the cost of tickets has not been released. We will advise you in due course.

Our preferred date will be Sunday 30th October.

Please advise us if you wish to attend no later than Thursday 30th June, 2022.

Contact Connie at the Sub Branch by calling 4681 0047 or via email admin@stanthorpersubbranch.org

SUB BRANCH UPDATE

Commemorative Services

During the week leading up to and including ANZAC Day, we received many invitations to attend Anzac services within our community. Glen Gibson attended the services at the Applethorpe Memorial Park, Ballandean State School, The Ballandean Pyramid and Stanthorpe Aged Care Service. Whilst Martin Corbett and Robert Swaine visited the Stanthorpe State Primary School, Stanthorpe State High School and Amiens State School. Greg Williams was greeted by the lovely students at Dalveen State School as too was Nick Hese when he spoke at Severnlea State School. Ernie Jones was present for the service at Broadwater State School. Les Fletcher attended the lovely tribute and service at Glen Aplin State School. The respect and courtesy displayed was truly humbling. All students, staff and members of the community attended in large numbers.

Unmarked Graves Project

Since articles regarding the unmarked graves project appeared in the local papers, unfortunately there has been no contact from the relatives of the five WW1 veteran's. We have again listed the names of these veteran's hoping that one of our Sub Branch may be a relative or has knowledge of their family.

1. John GRAHAM, Date of Birth, circa 1873, Belfast Ireland. Date of Death, 26/02/1938 aged 65. Unit. Australian Remount Unit 2, Squadron 8.
2. Charles James LARKINS, Date of Birth, circa 1876, New England NSW. Date of Death 08/04/1932 aged 56. Unit. 41st Battalion, 3rd Reinforcement.
3. Bernard MAGUIRE, Date of Birth circa 1895, Wyalong NSW. Date of Death 25/06/1965 aged 70. Unit. 30th Battalion, 9th Reinforcement.
4. Harold Bernard MANN, Date of Birth, 18/11/1892, Stanthorpe QLD. Unit. 33rd Battalion, 2nd Reinforcement.
5. William WILLIAMS, Date of Birth circa 1891, Stanthorpe QLD. Date of Death 16/03/1942 aged 51. Unit. 13th Battalion, 8th Reinforcement.

For this part of the project, we are seeking to have contact with any surviving family in order to gain approval and support in the marking and rededicating these gravesites.

Welfare Lunch

A welfare lunch was held at the RSL on 26th April for Stanthorpe Aged Care Veteran's and Veteran's families. The lunch was well received with 16 people in attendance (as pictured). Another lunch is being planned for mid-June 2022, if any Veterans' or Veteran's families within the community would be interested in attending please contact Connie at the Sub Branch on 4681 0047 or email Glen Gibson on glen.gibson@stanthorpesubbranch.org.



Memorial Garden

On Wednesday 24th February, we recognised the National Day for War Animals in Australia. Pictured are members of our Sub Branch and Women's Auxiliary who gathered to remember the deeds and sacrifices of animals in war. Our garden plaque proudly shows purple poppies in remembrance of those animals who played an important part in all wars in which Australians have been involved in. Feel free to come by and visit.



Memorabilia

Sub Branch members Robert Swaine and Thomas Cavanagh has been busy updating the entry space at the RSL Services Club. The current display shows two mannequins in Australian field uniforms of AIF and Light Horse.

The next displays that is being considered is a display from the RAAF and one related to the RAN. Should any members wish to loan us any items, it will be greatly appreciated. Drop in and see Robert or Thomas at the Sub Branch or you can call them on 4681 0047.

MAY 2022

NEWSLETTER

SCHOOL BASED PROGRAM FUNDED BY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS

The Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) is proud to host the Anzac Day Schools' Awards. This national competition recognises the work of students, teachers and schools to engage with veterans and honour Australia's wartime history.

The theme this year - Engaging with Veterans: Stories of Peacekeeping which aligns with the 75th anniversary of Australian peacekeeping operations on 14 September 2022.

Each year, we choose a different theme to reflect a significant anniversary or aspect of Australia's wartime history. Your entry must focus on Australian veterans and their involvement in peacekeeping. Your submission can be from a class, a year level or the whole school. Entries close 30 June 2022.

This theme enables students to discover personal stories and take part in commemorative activities to honour the service and sacrifice of peacekeepers.

<https://anzacportal.dva.gov.au/research-education/competitions/anzac-day-schools-awards>



Above - Members from the National Servicemen's Assoc. proudly marching in the Anzac Day Parade. Photo courtesy of Sandra McEwan.

TS KOOKABURRA NEWS

TS Kookaburra Navy Cadets have had a busy start to the year. TS Kookaburra invited TS Toowoomba cadets and staff to march with us in the Apple & Grape Festival. But to our surprise a special guest also decided to march with us in the grand parade and that was Vice Admiral Michael Noonan AO.

Before the march Vice Admiral Michael Noonan arrived with his wife Mrs Noonan and talked to the cadets and staff. He also presented all staff and cadets with his coins both the Deputy Chief of Navy and his Chief of Navy coin. Everyone was speechless to this amazing gift that they had just received. After the march we took lots of photos but the best photos is all cadets, staff, the Navy band with the Chief of Navy (pictured right).



In the last weekend of March, TS Kookaburra together with TS Toowoomba and TS Walrus Cadets and staff had a camp at Sommerville Tourist Park. We went sailing and canoeing on Storm King Dam with everyone having a great time. It was wonderful to see our canoes and Envy's get on the water for the first time in 7 years! Hard to believe they had sat in our boat shed for that long. There are many more camps to be had in the future. It was a great weekend and was just wonderful to see the cadets out on the water.



Pictured Above - Cadets from TS Kookaburra and TS Walrus enjoying activities at Storm King Dam.



Pictured Above - Our cadets marching proudly on Anzac Day.

Once again TS Kookaburra Navy Cadets took part in Stanthorpe Anzac Day Dawn service. It was a very cold and windy morning but the service was very moving. Our cadets did a wonderful job, and I am super proud of all of them. They are looking forward to Remembrance Day Service which will be a bit warmer.

Thank you to the Stanthorpe RSL Sub Branch for your support to TS Kookaburra Navy cadets.

LEUT ANC Katrina Nemeth
Commanding Officer
TS Kookaburra Navy Cadets

NASHO NEWS (NATIONAL SERVICEMEN'S ASSOCIATION)

Many thanks to the Stanthorpe RSL Sub Branch for inviting the National Servicemen's Stanthorpe Branch to update their members on our association.

At present we have 20 Active Members, 1 Associate Member and 12 Supporters. Whilst the branch itself is small but the camaraderie is wonderful. During the year 20 members were presented with Certificates of Appreciation. Unfortunately, we had the passing of two members Shirley Allum and Dawn McCosker who were both great supporters of the Nasho Branch. Their company will be missed.

For continuous support to the Association, by the President, two luncheons were held.

Our AGM was held on the 20th March at the Stanthorpe RSL Sub Branch Drop In Centre with great attendance. Election of the executives are -
President - Mack Rees (Mobile 0419 668 108)
Secretary - Des Fossey (Mobile 0488 796 627)
Treasurer - Cec Mitchell (Mobile 0408 718 388)

Any membership enquiries can be given to Des Fossey by calling 0488 796 627.