



War Veterans Village [Narrabeen] RSL Sub-Branch

Through an active membership we keep the ANZAC spirit alive and growing

AUGUST 2016

Editor Doug Smyth – email rsesubbranch@rslifecare.org.au or mail to PO Box 56, Narrabeen, NSW
Sub-Branch Office Hours. Monday and Thursday 9am – noon. Phone: 8978 4266

“TAKE TIME TO DELIBERATE; BUT WHEN THE TIME COMES FOR ACTION, STOP THINKING AND GO”

The President's Message

District Council Meeting

The Executive Committee attended this month's District Council meeting held at the Pittwater RSL Club. The district council meeting is attended by the Presidents and Secretaries of the Northern Beaches Sub-branches. The guest speaker from the Veterans Centre briefed the meeting on the proposed changes to the training of our Sub-branch Welfare and Pensions officers. In the future all Welfare and Pension officers will be required to attend formal training to gain Certificate 3 and higher qualifications to assist our members. The training will be run by Registered Training Organisations such as TAFE.

Current Pension and Welfare officers who wish to continue assisting our members will need to be tested to ensure that they meet the need standards required. More information to follow.

Our District president, Bill Hardman will be nominating for the vacant position of NSW State President of the RSL. We wish Bill all the best and offer our full support for his nomination.

Last ANZAC Day



A few old and bold veterans reliving old times. Flying in helicopters and relating stories of earlier times. We all served in Vietnam in 1969 either in the Navy or the Army however we did not know each other at the time and it was not until this helicopter flight that we realized that we all served at the same time in Vietnam.

Looking forward to catching up with you.

George Main
President

Chaplain's Corner

“Are You Hungry?”

In one form or another, bread is found all over the world. Its existence goes back to the roots of humanity, for when God described the results of 'the fall', he told Adam, *“By the sweat of your brow, you will produce food (bread) to eat.”* (Gen. 3:19) Bread is basic to life and comfort. Bread has long been a symbol of hospitality and friendship, and 'breaking bread' conveys a welcome to someone's table.

We all know that for our physical bodies to survive we need to eat - we need the bread! But what about our spiritual body which lies within? What do we feed our inner being and from where do we get it?

For Christians the answer is easy and comes from the book of John 6:35, when Jesus said to his followers: *“I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to Me will never hunger, and whoever believes in Me will never thirst.”*

Philip Ryken (*When You Pray (Phillipsburg, NJ; P&R 2006 Pg 115)*) paraphrases this verse this way:

“Jesus was saying; ‘You have to understand, there is more to life than daily bread. What you really need is life itself, not just now, but forever, and I am the only one who can give it to you.’ However real daily bread seems to us, it is still not the reality; it is only the picture. Jesus Christ is the reality.”

I firmly believe the sign on our buses which says *“Adding life to years, and years to life”*. We see this in the people who 'walk our streets'. Life in our village is good where we can have the right diet of activities & recreation, comfort & support. We embrace village life and say *“It is good!”*

For me this saying is also true for our spiritual lives when we receive the saving grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. When we do, we can then say of our spiritual lives, *“It is very good!”*

Please feel free to either call or drop in for a chat at any time.

In His Service
Bob Durbin
Chaplain

Will this Student be a success???

Q In which battle did Napoleon die?

***His last battle**

Q What is the main reason for divorce?

***marriage**

Q What can you never eat for breakfast?

***Lunch and dinner**

70th Anniversary WAR WIDOWS GUILD NSW

On Tuesday 28th June 2016, His Excellency Gen. the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC(Ret'd) as Patron of the War Widows Guild NSW and Mrs Linda Hurley, invited the NSW War Widows Guild Presidents and Co-ordinators from metropolitan and regional areas, to Government House for afternoon tea, to celebrate the 70th Anniversary of the War Widows Guild NSW.

In the ballroom, His Excellency welcomed 130 war widows with a very moving speech. We were all touched by his generous comments and good wishes as he covered the history of the War Widows Guild since the founder Mrs Jessie Vasey, in 1946, knocked on many parliamentarian members doors, bringing the plight of the war widows' to the attention of the Commonwealth Government. Due to this advocacy work, the Government finally awarded the war widow's pension to the widow if their husbands died from a war related injury.

This eventually resulted in the War Widows Guild becoming a service organization under the Dept. of Veterans Affairs (DVA) and due too the advocacy work of the Guild, war widows were finally awarded the gold card.

During His Excellency's talk, he recited the Guild Motto which is an extract from King George V1 Christmas message in 1941.

"We all belong to each other,
We all need each other,
It is in serving each other and
Sacrificing for our common good
That we are finding our true life."

His Excellency's speech was followed by a sing-a-long, more than ably led by Mrs Hurley. We then moved out to the verandah overlooking the water, where a lovely afternoon tea was served. The Governor and Mrs Hurley spoke and shook hands with every war widow, thanking us for carrying on the help, support and advocacy work started by Mrs Jessie Vasey.

The next day, 29th June, His Excellency and Mrs Hurley attended the 70th Anniversary Luncheon held at the Menzies hotel. They were welcomed by the National President Meg Green, State President Rhondda Vanzella OAM and Patricia Campbell CEO and invited to unveil a gold plaque to commemorate the 70th Anniversary of the NSW War Widows Guild. This was followed by a delicious lunch for 150 war widows and invited guests.

The emblem of the war widow is a kookaburra alighting onto a branch of gum leaves. This industrious and cheerful kookaburra is an ideal symbol for war widows. They are excellent parents and courageous survivors.

>>>continued next column>>>

The bird has a unique call, not a song but a laugh, a chortle of rollicking mirth, bringing the war widow back to laugh again.

Shirley McLaren Co-ordinator,
Northern Beaches War Widows Guild Club.

2017 RSL Diary

To enable our diary order to be made in early September we wish to establish the total number required.

A diary is available to Sub-Branch Members (1 diary per member) at no cost.

To place your order:

Please advise at the reception table when arriving at the Thursday 11th August General Meeting, OR Drop into the Sub-Branch Office during office hours - Monday 9 -12 or Thursday 9 -12, OR Leave a message on the Sub-Branch answer service on 02 8978 4266.

The cut off date for placing your order is Thursday 1st September 12 noon.

Dates to Remember

Committee Meeting Monday 8th August 11.00am
(Stephen Stack Room)

General Meeting Thursday 11th August 9.30am
(Montgomery Centre)

NOTE: Changed dates for September

Committee Meeting **Monday 12th September**
(previously Monday 5th September)11.00am
(Stephen Stack Room)

General Meeting Thursday 15th September
(previously Thursday 8th September 9.30am
(Montgomery Centre)

Committee Meeting Monday 10th October 11.00am
(Stephen Stack Room)

General Meeting Thursday 13th October 9.30am
(Montgomery Centre)

NOTE: Changed dates for November

Committee Meeting **Monday 31st October**
(previously Monday 7th November)11.00am
(Stephen Stack Room)

General Meeting Thursday 3rd November
(previously Thursday 10th November 9.30am
(Montgomery Centre)

Committee Meeting Monday 5th December 11.00am
(Stephen Stack Room)

General Meeting Thursday 8th December 9.30am
(Montgomery Centre)

Christmas Luncheon Wednesday 14th December
12 noon (Lone Pine)

Membership

Our strength at 26th July 2016 =131