



President's Message

Covid restrictions have certainly impacted on Sub-Branches throughout Queensland this year and has affected your Sub-Branch by altering most of our Commemorative activities. A small group of Sub-Branch members attended the Beaundesert Cenotaph at Dawn on Anzac Morning. Feedback from Sub-Branch members and the public, many community members were made aware there are Veterans that lived in their streets by the "Driveway Service" Commemorations. We were fortunate to have Kim Williams paint some poles around or at some premises where Veterans resided in town, you were not forgotten. Vietnam Veterans Day, Peace Keeping and Remembrance Day commemorations were well attended as was the Veterans Health Week Social Luncheon Day, where Guest Nathan Parker gave a very inspiring talk about his journey from a severe injury (losing his left hand) while at the ADF Academy, to his obtaining a Pilot's license.

We were incredibly sad to disband our Ladies Auxiliary this year, however those stalwart ladies have become very valuable Social Members and continue their great work with fund raising, which was restricted this year due to Covid. Christmas Cards were given to all the schools in the Scenic Rim and beyond for the children to add good wishes to our overseas deployed, these cards have been posted, with many thanks to those special Ladies that undertake this activity. Veterans overseas have not been forgotten by your Sub-Branch. Once again, our Christmas seat near the Sub Branch has been covered and our involvement once again for the Christmas lights on display for the Community. You may have noticed an incredibly significant seat of Remembrance has been added to our Volunteers Memorial on the Crn of Anna and Williams street. Please when downtown read the plaques of Remembrance that are attached to the sandstone plinths. This Memorial is a proud achievement of your Sub- Branch and has gone worldwide through social media. Our Museum has now reopened with the dedicated Volunteers welcoming visitors. Your Sub-Branch was fortunate to stay open and our Advocates continued their work assisting Veterans with their DVA Claims throughout the Covid restrictions.

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Committee

Graham Bird

Brian Buckby

Peter Higgins

Brett McCreadie

Noel V Parker



We cannot give our Advocates enough praise as they move through their training and obtaining their Levels of Certifications.

The Veteran family that had been renting the house in Brayford street has found more suitable accommodation due to the difficulty in accessing the high home. As this house requires major repairs to be rented again, decisions must be made by your Board, as to what is the better option for the use of the land this house sits on, keeping in mind our Lysaght Shed will require a home soon.

Once again, the Jimboomba Cadets have given their time to be present at most of our allowed Commemorations this year and we thank them and their Leaders and families for their continued support to the Beaudesert Sub-Branch. We have continued with our association with the Community group U3A and received a kind donation for their use of our rooms.

Our Patient transport has continued to take community members to their appointments throughout the year although many of the elective surgeries were cancelled. Many thanks go to those volunteers that went above and beyond without hesitation to continue this service through this difficult time. All our procedures for COVID-19 safety plans and protocols were in place to keep our Volunteers safe and Covid free throughout this year.

Thank you to our Volunteer that cares for our buses and cars, making sure they are kept pristine and safe during the Covid crisis.

You may have noticed that the welfare trailer has gone from behind the RSL Services Club, the trailer has been transferred to S.E.D so that more Sub-Branches are able to make use of its facilities. It remains and always will be the property of the Beaudesert Sub-Branch.

We have sadly lost some of our Members this year and they will not be forgotten, however we have gained some new members and some transferees from other places which help to keep our numbers viable. Please do not forget to renew your membership for 2021. If not a Life member, renew either at your Sub-Branch in the Neilsen Building, online through Internet banking (please call the Sub Branch for bank account details) or at the Services Club, making sure you tell them you are renewing Sub Branch membership. Your membership with us also covers your membership at the Club.

I am appealing to all Members of our Sub-Branch to please consider Volunteering in some capacity next year. If no Members step up to take on any of the Volunteering roles your Sub-Branch will cease to exist, so please consider volunteering for Board member, Museum, Fund Raising or Driver for patient transport.

On behalf of the executive and the Board of the Beaudesert RSL Sub-Branch I would like to wish all our Members and their Families and our Volunteers a Very Happy Christmas and All the Very Best for a Healthy and Safe New Year.

Carol Castles
President

Museum – Harry's Haunt

Thank you to our Volunteer's John, Victoria, Rodney, Phil, Merv and Coordinator Kevin who come in each week to open Harry's Haunt for visitors. Open Days at present between 10.00am-2.00pm, Tues to Friday and every 2nd Saturday. If this is something you may be interested in with Volunteering and helping, please contact the office or visit Harry's Haunt and have a chat to one of the Volunteers.

Secretary, Joanne Crocker

PAWS/Wellbeing

Congratulations to our Welfare Officer Jay who has been awarded the Course in Military Advocacy (10620NAT) Welfare Level 2 Unit of Competency. Thanks to Steve Monteath and Peter Higgins who have been his mentors.

We also have Samantha another Welfare Officer who is currently training in Level 1 Military Advocacy Welfare. The training courses can be quite extensive and consumes a lot of training time, but luckily for us Jay and Samantha have persisted to help our members and Veterans' who require help with DVA Claims.

If you require any assistance with DVA claims or unsure what you are entitled to please call the Sub Branch office and make an appointment to see one of our Advocates who are ready to help.

PAWS office is open for clients on Wednesday by appointment only.

Please call and make an appointment on Ph: 5541 3720 or email: welfare@beadesertrslsubbranch.com

PLEASE NOTE: The PAWS office will be closed over Christmas from 14th December to end of January, 2021

Veterans and Veterans Families Counselling Service (VVCS)

A free and confidential counselling service for Australian veterans, peacekeepers and their families.

For more information on VVCS services and eligibility, please visit the VVCS website (www.vvcs.gov.au) or phone 1800 011 046.

PAWS TEAM

Women's Auxiliary

The Ladies are still running Hoy every 1st Wednesday of the month at the Beaudesert RSL Services Club. I am sure they are looking forward to seeing you all attend and support them. On Friday October 30 the Beaudesert RSL Women's Auxiliary ran their Cent Auction at the function room of the Beaudesert RSL Club. This function had up till then been the only cent auction to be held this year due to COVID restrictions and regulations. The ladies were impressed with the roll up of people in attendance to the point that some were turned away at the door due to COVID restrictions on the number of people allowed into the venue. Those that attended the function were impressed with the prizes on offer and overall enjoyed themselves immensely with the Christmas theme that was going as well.



On Wednesday, November 4 the Auxiliary ladies had their final meeting as an Auxiliary, due to no official committee office bearers it was decided that the women will become social members of the Sub Branch but still be able to continue fundraising for the welfare of our local veterans and their families. It is sad to see this come about after nearly 20 years of successful fundraising and committee running.

We would like to thank all the ladies, past and present, for their dedication and extremely hard work over the years in whatever capacity they were able to assist. As all organisations know it is hard to recruit members for any committee these days, let alone with COVID to contend with as well, but these ladies in some cases have gone above and beyond in their duties.

On behalf of the Women's Auxiliary members



LEST WE FORGET

We remember the following Sub-Branch Members who have sadly passed away this year 2020.

♦ Barney McCabe ♦ Desmond Biss ♦ Robert Campbell ♦ Albert Spies ♦ Errol Guilfoyle
♦ Byron Payne

Calendar of Coming events - 2020

BEAUDESERT SUB BRANCH

** COVID-19 Social Distancing Restrictions **

11 th November 2020	Remembrance Day
12 December, 2020	Volunteers Christmas Luncheon
1 st January, 2021	Yearly Sub Branch Membership Renewal Due
13 th February, 2021	AGM (10.00am) – Beaudesert RSL Services Club

Members General Meeting

(Wife/Husband/Partners most welcome to attend)

➤ Next Meeting TBA

♦ We hope you can attend for your input and support to the Sub Branch ♦

Birthday Acknowledgements

We wish to acknowledge the following members who had/will have their Birthdays in November and December, 2020



November 2020

Leslie A ♦ James B ♦ Kenneth F ♦ William H ♦ David K ♦ Wayne O ♦ Darren S ♦ Kenneth W

December 2020

Graham B ♦ Graham B ♦ Raymond D ♦ John D ♦ Barry D ♦ Raymond E ♦ Deborah G ♦ Michael G ♦ Michael G ♦
Lawrence I ♦ Daphne J ♦ Errol S



WE WELCOME YOUR FEEDBACK

- How can we encourage members to attend General meetings?
- How can we support our members more?

WE NEED YOUR FEEDBACK - What can we do better, your opinion is valuable.

SUB BRANCH NEWS

Sub Branch Library Open

The Sub Branch has a large collection of books and DVD's that has been donated to the Sub Branch. The Library is open to all members and their families use. Please come in and see what collection of books and DVD's we have.

BEAUDESERT SOCIAL GOLF CLUB

There is no requirement to be a member of the Beaudesert Social Golf Club, however, they would love to see more ex-Military and Veterans in their ranks. It is a great day with 18 holes of Golf, Morning Tea, BBQ lunch and prizes in excess of \$100. They have players of all skill levels, but the main aim of the day is to have fun, enjoy yourself and meet some likeminded people. They have our own Handicap System so everyone regardless of ability has a fair chance to win Prizes. Why not come along and have a game?? For more information contact the Beaudesert Golf Club.

Members Meeting held on 15th October, 2020

Thank you to the members that attended the Sub Branch members general meeting, it was a great turn out and lovely to see wife's and partners also attending. Hope in future we will see more members turn up.



Veterans Health Week – Social Connection Luncheon held 21st October 2020

It was great to see many members attend and enjoy the social connection with each other. Hope to see many more at next year's Veteran Health Week.



Remembrance Day Service

We held a small Commemorative Service, it was lovely to see many Veterans and the Community come to pay their respect for the fallen and current serving ADF members. Everyone did well keeping in mind the COVID restrictions and be respectful in distancing from each other.

Thank you all who attended.



Sub Branch Volunteers Memorial Garden – Remembrance Seat

I was informed our Remembrance Seat at the Volunteers Memorial Garden we have completed at Cnr Anna & William St has gone Viral on Social Media. This has been posted on the Australian Military History Facebook page - so far over 4K Shares to other Pages and over 4k Likes. I have been contacted by various organisations, Sub Branch's and Councils around Australia requesting where they can purchase the same.

The Volunteers Memorial Garden has taken 2 years to create from the start of the Project in the making. The Australian Volunteers Memorial Garden idea originated from a former Sub Branch and Board member Dr Robert Maher and the first part of the Australian Map monument was Unveiled with Guest Major General John Pearn on October 2018. (I have attached the Newspaper article with regards to this). During the time after then the Beaudesert RSL Sub Branch has been working on completing the memorial with the installation of sandstone plinths, plaques and a Totem that has 4 sides representing pictures of the Defence, Nurse & family. After the completing the memorial garden in May this year, we had received an email from a company that was offering the Remembrance seats and thought they were a beautiful tribute to our veterans past and present and for our Community.

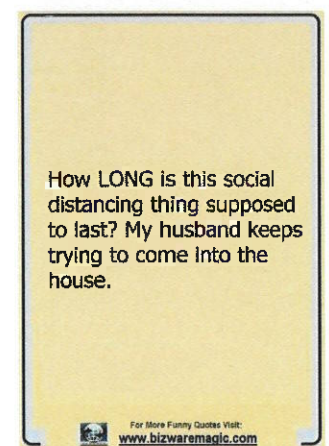
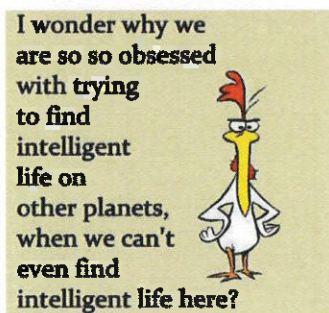
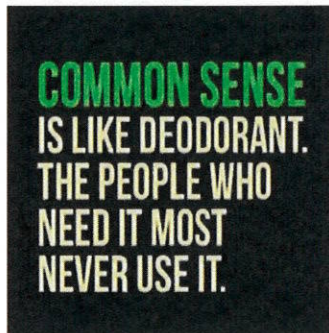
The comments on Social media with regards to the seat are so overwhelming and appreciative of our gesture and quite proud in a way that the small gesture has meant so much to the wider population.

It is an honour to go to work every day and work alongside the Veterans of the Beaudesert RSL Sub Branch Inc. they have fought for our Country and continue to still volunteer their time each day to the Sub Branch and its members to keep the memory alive for our fallen, veterans and members and for the welfare of our veterans in our community, plus visiting the schools each year educating the younger generation so they also can continue in keeping the history, commemorative days and to remember who sacrificed their life's for us, so we can be here today and to have a better future

As Secretary of the Beaudesert RSL Sub Branch, what I do for the members of the Beaudesert RSL Sub Branch is not just a job. Each day I go to work, is to honour and give back for what you have sacrificed for us, and I hope we can continue doing this well into the future.



SENT IN BY MEMBERS



A 1 RAR soldiers modern perspective

After hearing of another young man take his life yesterday, for some unknown reason, and having a very meaningful conversation with a long time mate, I have to tell you all this. I want you all to listen. Please just listen.

For those of you who leave the military, particularly after many years' service, who struggle to find your place, to feel complete, and for those of you who are worried about leaving, because it's 'who you are', I give you this thought. The military is, by its very nature, designed to replace you in a heartbeat. You will leave today, and tomorrow, it will be like you were never there. You will be replaced. They will get the job done without you. That's the nature of the job. While you no doubt make a difference, and your service is vitally important to this nation, you will soon be forgotten and no longer needed. You can and will be replaced.

But do you know who cannot replace you? Your family. Your wife. Your sons and daughters. Your brothers and sisters. Your mother and father. Your FAMILY. To them, you cannot be replaced. There is no substitute for you as a father, a mother, a brother or sister. A daughter or son. If you are struggling after leaving the military, or struggling with the decision to leave, think about what really matters. Your family, and how much you mean to them. And how much they mean to you.

And for those who think or feel they lose their identity when they leave the military, I can tell you now you're wrong. You will always be a soldier, a sailor or an airman/woman. No one can take that away from you. But that's not who you really are. Who you are is an essential part of a family; that is loved, and cherished, and cannot be replaced, by anyone, EVER. That is far more important than your military service.

So if you're struggling and need help, please reach out. Please talk to someone. Talk to your family and tell them how you feel. Please ask for help. I don't want to see another family lose someone they cannot replace. Please feel free to share far and wide.

Spike

Dongs with Gongs.

The ABC have reported a story
On the aftermath of a war but without all the glory,
A damning report on exploits of our finest
But ask the troopers was the top brass behind us.

The top brass are they now running for cover
Covering their backs looking out for each other
The Brereton report talks of murder and deceit
But the buck stops squarely at Angus Campbell's feet.

Here is a man the Australian Defence Force Chief
But look at his chest are they the ribbons of a thief
I ask has he ever seen a day on the front line
Or has he barked out orders from the safety of behind.

Does he sit in an office blowing nice cool air,
While his troops are being shot at from who knows where.
The heat and the dust not knowing friend from foe
The troops when in action must think as they go.

Take a walk along the Afghanistan Avenue at Yunguburra
Not too may top brass names who have fallen do they
honour.
It is always the generals who send us off to war
For the sacrifices of the fallen the medals they adorn.

You will see them on Remembrance as well as Anzac Day
Wearing their finest medals, proudly on display.
In front of the cameras, on the stage, in all of their glory for
all to see,
While the real heroes look on ashamedly, contemptuously,
anonymously.

The SASR are the best of the best,
During these hideous times they are put to the test,
Stand behind them Australia show them support
They wear the sandy beret without second thought

Remember the sacrifices forgive all their sins
Honour their fallen "Who Dares Wins".

NEWS FROM RSL QLD

STATEMENT REGARDING IGADF AFGHANISTAN INQUIRY REPORT

The impact of the Inspector-General of the Australian Defence Force's (IGADF) Afghanistan Inquiry report has been felt across Australia's Defence and veteran communities.

RSL Queensland stands shoulder to shoulder with Queensland's Defence family to ensure a bright future and enduring legacy for all veterans and their families and will continue to support all Defence personnel during this time.

While the IGADF report detailed serious allegations, RSL Queensland State President Tony Ferris denounced the damaging speculation that has pre-empted the legal process.

"As Australians, we owe our Defence personnel the right to due legal process, including the presumption of innocence that lies at the heart of our legal system," Mr Ferris said.

"If illegal or unethical activities are found to have occurred, then those individuals responsible must be held accountable.

"But we are very concerned about the effect ongoing speculation may have on the mental health of all veterans, not just those who are the subject of these allegations."

He said public and media speculation about the alleged criminal behaviour of a small number of Special Air Service Regiment soldiers in Afghanistan – before the claims are investigated by the Australian Federal Police – was detrimental to the vast number of professional and dedicated current and former service men and women.

Mr Ferris warned such speculation would unjustly taint the reputations of the majority of Australia's Defence personnel who served and continue to serve their country with integrity and distinction.

"Australia's Defence family is driven by a deep sense of purpose, they serve with pride and regularly put their lives on the line in service to our nation," he said.

"Many suffer traumatic experiences while serving and every day, RSL Queensland is called on to support veterans who are dealing with the aftermath of their operational service.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT: CONGRATULATIONS WENDY AND THANKS JOHN

On behalf of everyone at RSL Queensland, I want to congratulate our new **State Deputy President Wendy Taylor**, who was voted in at our Annual General Meeting on Tuesday. I would also like to extend my appreciation to **John Strachan OAM**, who worked tirelessly in the role from 2011-2020.

Many of you will know **Wendy**, as she previously held the role of South Eastern District President. She also has a Bachelor of Nursing, Graduate Certificate of Health Resource Management and Certificate in Governance for Not-for-Profits.

To give you a bit more background, Wendy trained as a Registered Nurse, working in several clinical nursing roles before joining the Royal Australian Army Nursing Corps as a Nursing Officer. She served nine years in the Army Reserve and then 16 years in the regular Army, including senior nursing and command roles in both the Gulf War and East Timor.

She also chairs the Brisbane ANZAC Day Parade Committee and has volunteered in many executive roles within her Sub Branch, District and RSL Queensland since 2005. Welcome to your new role Wendy! I look forward to working more closely with you.

As we farewell **John**, I want to acknowledge the many years he dedicated to our RSL - he joined in 1984, and has served in District and Board executive roles since 2004. During his three terms, John has been a member of multiple RSL committees - the Lotteries Committee (including as Chairman since December 2019), the Remuneration Committee (Chairman from 2012-2019) and as a member of the Audit and Compliance Committee. He has been a member of Stephens RSL Sub Branch since 1984 and was awarded Life Membership in 2009 and a Meritorious Service Medal in 2014. John also served on the ANZAC Day Committee and was awarded the Order of Australia in 1989.

It has been a great honour to serve on the Board alongside John and the entire veteran community should be grateful for his significant contributions.



Tony Ferris
RSL Queensland State President

DVA Information for members

UNMARKED FIRST WORLD WAR GRAVES NOW IDENTIFIED

THE graves of around 150 First World War veterans have been identified and appropriately marked through the Government's Unmarked First World War Graves program. Minister for Veterans' Affairs Darren Chester said the two-year pilot program was attracting interest from associations and individuals throughout Australia and recently received its 200th application.

"One of the successes of the Anzac Centenary is that many Australians discovered unknown family connections that they had to the First World War, as well as members of the general community becoming more interested in our military history," Mr Chester said.

"This has led to organisations and individuals across the country discovering First World War veterans from their local communities who might lie in an unmarked grave.

"After the First World War many veterans came back to Australia seeking a quiet life in the country or they took up a Soldier Settler farm, leading many to live in regional areas and often separated from family.

"Many of these veterans when they died may have been buried without a funeral or a permanent headstone and were not provided an official commemoration.

"This program makes funding available to individuals or associations to assist in marking unmarked graves and I am pleased to be extending this program for a further six months.

"Australia can never repay the debt owed to those who served and gave their lives, but we demonstrate our gratitude and respect in our cemeteries in Australia and overseas."

The 200th application was received from Forgotten Diggers in New South Wales to recognise Private Thomas William Shiner who is buried at Glen Innes Cemetery in NSW.

Five applications were recently received from Port Pirie, South Australia, to provide grave markers for men such as Private Leslie Simpson who was awarded the Military Medal for 'great gallantry' at Bullecourt in 1917; Private Albert Sjoström who became the president of the Port Pirie RSL; and Private Clifford Price, a fireman who served with the South Australia Fire Brigade.

The program offers up to \$450 to assist with the cost of a grave marker or as a contribution towards a larger cost and has been extended until 30 June 2021. For more information on the eligibility requirements, visit the DVA website or email War.Graves@dva.gov.au

OTHER NEWS

A group of 22 Australian Victoria Cross recipients from the Boer War and First World War, Sydney, Anzac Day, 1938.



NATIONAL NETWORK OF MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AIDERS – Forwarded as belt & braces.

AUSTRALIANS who support veterans and their families are being trained as 'Mental Health First Aiders' through free training offered by Open Arms – Veterans & Families Counselling and ex-service organisations around the country. Minister for Veterans' Affairs Darren Chester said Mental Health First Aid and suicide prevention training offers veterans, and the people who support them, an opportunity to 'square away' their own mental health so they can take care of themselves and those around them.

Whether it's packing your kit or sorting yourself and gear in other ways, 'squared away' is a military concept where once you have yourself sorted, you are then able to help those around you.

"It's not too dissimilar with mental health and I am encouraged that more than 1400 members of the veteran community have participated in mental health and suicide prevention training in the last 12 months," Mr Chester said. "Family members, friends and colleagues are often the first to notice subtle changes in someone's behaviour and training in Mental Health First Aid or suicide intervention equips them with the skills and confidence to identify signs, start a conversation and encourage them to seek professional help.

"This training, initiated by the Returned and Services League (RSL), is now being delivered in partnership with ex-services organisations across Australia, highlighting the great outcomes we can achieve by working together.

"I would encourage anyone in the ex-service community to become a Mental Health First Aider and join our national network by contacting Open Arms and participating in the training.

"The recent Budget provided an additional \$101.7 million to further increase mental health support services for our veterans and their families, further demonstrating our commitment to supporting the health and wellbeing of our veteran community."

In addition to Mental Health First Aid, Open Arms provides suicide prevention training including the Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST), Suicide alertness for everyone (safeTALK), and Suicide Prevention Start, a 60-90 minute self-paced online workshop.

Former Warrant Officer of the Air Force, and now a National Director in Open Arms, Rob Swanwick, said Open Arms is proud to provide training that can save lives.

"In the same way we are trained in physical first aid, we want to upskill people in mental health first aid. There's a great sense of camaraderie and mutual support in the veteran community that comes from shared experiences, and being able to strengthen the ethos of covering each other's back is incredibly important and rewarding," Mr Swanwick said.

"It reminds me that as a Loadmaster, I gave the brief hundreds of times, and we all know it well; in an emergency, get your own oxygen on and look after yourself first so you can better assist others around you."

In addition to providing free and confidential support for current and ex-serving ADF personnel and their families, Open Arms offers a variety of free training opportunities to those seeking to help family, friends, co-workers or others in the veteran community: [Suicide intervention and mental health literacy workshops](#). To find out more call 1800 011 046 or visit openarms.gov.au

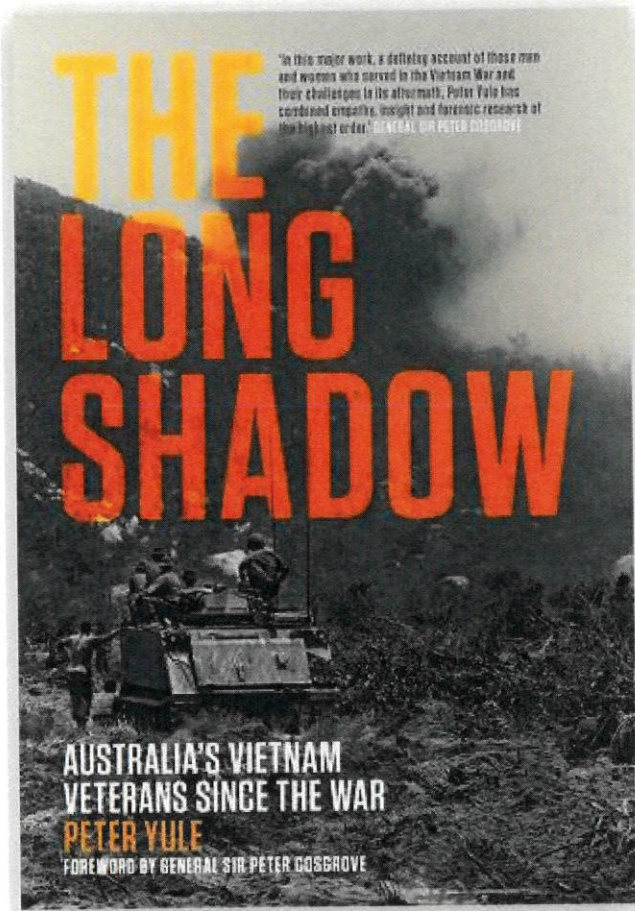
Ray Payne OAM
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www.veteranweb.asn.au

Planning Ahead "Commemoration Planning"

The following information has been provided by Paul Nothard, AM, CSC, CSM (Director, Office Of War Graves) that may be of interest. It is in all members best interest to have clear instructions left with NOK. DVA can provide a Planning Ahead booklet to assist in this regard. Please also ensure your NOK information is recorded correctly at State Office. Below is information received from the Office of War Graves.

- **Eligibility for Official Commemoration:** A veteran must have "qualifying service" to be eligible for an official commemoration. It's important to note that OAWG / CWGC only commemorate war service. We are not able to recognise all types of service through official commemoration.
- **Qualifying service** includes "war" service or "non-warlike" service (ie/ peacekeeping, truce monitoring etc). Information on our web page identifies that the following service is not viewed as qualifying service:
 - Peacetime Defence Service (MRCA and Part VI VEA)
 - Defence Hazardous Service (Part IV VEA)
 - British Nuclear Test Defence Service (Part IV VEA)
 - Peacekeeping service by a person other than a member of the ADF (Part IV VEA)
 - Service with other nations' forces other than as a member of the ADF (regardless of any eligibility for Australian Repatriation Benefits)
- For those that meet the eligibility criteria (for example a TPI recipient who has the requisite qualifying service), then regardless of the cause or date of death, they will be eligible for an official commemoration.
- **Use of Service Badges.** Defence have only provided OAWG with authority to provide permission to use the three service badges on private commemorations. Use of all others must be applied for through the respective Brand Manager (for Army, RAN or RAAF) or to the ADF Brand Manager for those seeking permission to use the ADF logo.
- **Planning Ahead.** Speaking to our families and leaving behind clear instructions on the veteran's wishes regarding burial and official commemoration wording
 - Unfortunately, the system that we work within requires the process for acceptance of an official commemoration to be triggered by the DVA Bereavement Team following the passing of the veteran.
 - Sending out blank forms has caused problems in the past, where veterans who are not eligible for official commemoration have filled them out and provided them to their families, who are then subsequently devastated to find out that the veterans wishes can't be met.
 - While we can't send out an incomplete form, Veterans can go on line into MyAccount and select "Commemoration Planning" from menu and mark their preferences there. As a side note, DVA is looking to shift this function across to "MyService" in the future.

The Qld TPI website has the "Planning Ahead" document on its website (<https://www.dva.gov.au/sites/default/files/publications/health/Planning Ahead/kitp00063.pdf> If you open to a blue screen scroll down to the document) and a navigation guide for the "Commemoration Planning" page can be found at <https://connect.dva.gov.au/resources/prototype/mydetails/commemoration-preference.html> . Note that you will need to log in to mark your preferences.



To Vietnam veterans and their families:

The new Agent Orange/PTSD Official History is out. This is the story of our troubled homecoming told accurately, compassionately, and eloquently by historian Peter Yule.

Some of the story is told through the eyes of over 100 veterans Peter Yule and his team interviewed. Some of the story is a rollicking yarn about veterans' conflict with the bureaucracy and government. And some of the story is the technical review of studies, written so we all can understand, on the health of veterans and their families.

Peter Yule delves deeply into the tragedy of the traumatic effects of the war on so many of those who fought it and on their families.

He delves deeply too into the controversy over whether veterans were harmed by their exposure to a variety of herbicides and insecticides.

On this exposure issue, there are two parts.

One is the purely scientific question of how toxic were these chemical agents including the most recognised, Agent Orange.

The second part is that which was pursued by the Vietnam veteran movement and, indeed, was the reason for their activism. It stemmed from the veterans' belief that the Department of Veterans Affairs was unfairly rejecting compensation claims based on chemical exposure. The unfairness resulted, the veterans' argued, from the Department not giving veterans the 'benefit of the doubt' prescribed under Repatriation law. It tells the whole story and is recommended for those who would like to know and understand the whole picture.

Cheers,
Graham Walker

FOR SALE



Member is selling Back Stretcher, similar to this. If you are interested, please contact the Sub Branch Office for more info.

Ph: 5541 3720

Member is selling - 6 Seating Wooden Dining Suite for Sale. please contact the Sub Branch Office for more info.

Ph: 5541 3720



RSL SOUTH EASTERN DISTRICT
GREENSLOPES
WELLBEING CENTRE

Providing detailed close coordination of support services across Governments, Departments and Agencies

FREE SERVICES
 for veterans & families:


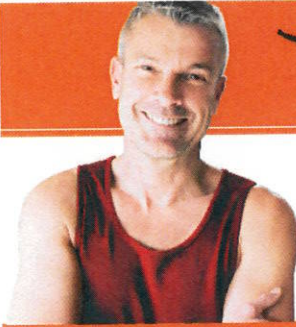
- Wellbeing support, visits & bereavement assistance
- Medical & allied health referrals
- PTSD & mental health support
- Advocacy & research for compensation & welfare
- Career transition assistance
- Financial literacy & crisis support
- Peer mentoring

VISIT
 Located at Greenslopes Private Hospital
 Tuesday–Thursday | 10am–2pm or by appointment

GET IN TOUCH
 ✉ wellbeing@rslsouthqueensland.org
 ☎ (07) 3394 7235
 🌐 www.rslsouthqueensland.org



Matthew Rowe
 Manager
 RSL SED Wellbeing Centre

Health & Fitness

The Heart Health program aims to increase your physical health, fitness and wellbeing by providing practical exercise resources, nutritional and lifestyle coaching for 12 months.

The Heart Health Program is free and open to all veterans and peacekeepers who have had operational service and who have not participated in the program before.

Physical health is vital to your mental health and your overall quality of life. There are a number of benefits for those taking part in the program.

Participants will:

- Increase energy levels
- Maintain a healthy weight
- Improve strength, flexibility and coordination
- Learn healthy eating practices
- Prevent chronic disease
- Increase mobility
- Manage Stress and Improve sleep
- Create and maintain social connections

Fully Funded.

**Exercise
 Resource
 Assistance
 Provided**

For more information and to check your eligibility contact CHM at hearthealth@chm.com.au
 1300 246 262 | www.veteranshearhealth.com.au

www.veteranshearhealth.com.au

CHM

Community Health Management
 By Veterans for Veterans

“NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING”

The Annual General Meeting of the Beaudesert RSL Sub Branch Inc. will be held on:

Date: 13th February, 2021
Time: 10:00am
Where: Beaudesert RSL Services Club Inc
Address: 23-25 William Street, Beaudesert

The Executive and Staff would like to take this opportunity to wish all Members, partners and families a Merry Christmas and for a great New Year.



*May your Christmas sparkle with moments of love, laughter and goodwill.
And may the year ahead be full of joy and prosperity.*

**The Beaudesert RSL Sub Branch will be closed from
Thursday 24th December, 2020
Re-open on Monday 4th January, 2021**

We wish acknowledge and to express our gratitude to the following for their support and assistance throughout the year;

- ❖ Hon Scott Buchholz MP Federal Member for Wright
- ❖ Jon Krause MP Member for Scenic Rim
- ❖ Cr Michael Enright
- ❖ Jimboomba & Districts Cadets
- ❖ Women's Auxiliary
- ❖ Volunteers

NEWS



The new Veteran Card

New look.
Same benefits and entitlements.

NEW VETERAN CARDS ON THE WAY

DVA Gold, White and Orange health cards have been replaced with a new-look Veteran Card.

Your existing health benefits and entitlements will remain unchanged with the new card. You should destroy your old DVA health card when the new Veteran Card arrives.

The Veteran Card provides a way for the Australian community to recognise and connect with veterans and acknowledge service to the nation.

As well as continuing to enable you to get access to health services, the new cards also provide additional benefits from businesses, organisations and community groups who support the Australian Defence Veterans' Covenant.

For more information on Veteran Card benefits visit the Veteran Card page of the DVA website (dva.gov.au and search for 'Veteran Card').

If you haven't received your new Veteran Card by the end of October 2020, please call us on 1800 VETERAN (1800 838 372) or you can order a new card through your MyService account.

Using your Veteran Card

Some veterans have had questions about how they use their new Veteran's Cards.

Veterans seeking appointments with any medical or allied health provider should always call their provider prior to their appointments to ensure that the provider will accept their DVA Gold/White card for the full cost of treatment.

If a provider does not accept their card, ask your general practitioner (GP) for help in finding another provider.

PRIOR APPROVAL

Sometimes, DVA may need to provide prior financial approval to fund particular treatments that are not listed on the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS). Prior approval must be obtained before the treatment is provided to ensure DVA will fund the full cost of treatment.

Clients should ask their provider to request prior approval by contacting DVA on 1800 550 457 (option 3).

For White Card only holders, treatment must relate to accepted conditions. If the client or provider is not sure whether treatment directly relates to a client's accepted condition(s), they should call DVA on the number above to determine eligibility before treatment starts.

Should your treating provider have any questions about this process, they can contact DVA's Provider Line on 1800 550 457 (Option 1) or email health.approval@dva.gov.au.

VETERAN GOLD CARD

Show your card whenever you visit your health care provider. DVA usually covers medical treatment if you see a provider who accepts your Gold Card. DVA may need to approve some services before you receive them. Go to www.dva.gov.au/gold-card for more information.

VETERAN WHITE CARD

Show your card whenever you visit a healthcare provider for the conditions it covers. DVA usually covers medical treatment by a provider who accepts your White Card. However, DVA may need to approve some services before you receive them. Go to www.dva.gov.au/white-card for more information.

VETERAN ORANGE CARD

When you visit your doctor for a prescription, show your Orange Card so they can prescribe your items through the Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (RPBS).

VISITING THE PHARMACY

You also need to show your Veteran Card when you take your prescription to the pharmacy. If you do not, you may be charged more and the purchase may not count towards your RPBS Safety Net Threshold.



A volunteer service provided by
Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch RSL Inc.
PO Box 20366, Chermiside Centre, 4032

OUR COSTS

Installation	\$ 75.00
Monthly Rental	\$ 38.00
Key Safe	\$ 60.00
Power Board/Extension Lead	\$ 5.00
Extra Pendant	\$ 95.00
3G/4G External Antenna	\$ 25.00
Fall Detector	\$ 160.00
Go Pendant GPS	Price on Request

Preferred payment method is by Direct Debit from a bank account. Cash payments can be arranged. All costs are inclusive of GST. Prices listed will be held firm until June 2022. However, we reserve the right to renegotiate costs if circumstances change beyond our control.

The key safe remains the property of the customer.

When the medical alarm is no longer required, the alarm accessories must be returned to the Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch RSL Inc.

Our Emergency Alarms provide you and your loved one's peace of mind and security. They can be used to call Ambulance, Police, or Fire Brigade. These machines are totally independent of telephones and the NBN. They operate over the 3G and 4G Mobile networks.

The machine is activated by pressing the button on the pendant on a neck cord or wrist band. A Fall Detector can be programmed into the emergency medical alarm. The pendants and fall detectors are water proof and we recommend they be worn in the shower.

The call center is located at Eagle Farm in Brisbane and duplicated in New Zealand and you receive the same prompt efficient service from either center. The call center operates 24/7 every day of the year and the operators are all qualified Aid Responders.

The Emergency Medical Alarm staff at Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch RSL Inc. are all volunteers and can help you with all of your enquiries and arrange a suitable time for our qualified installers to provide your new alarm. Installation is within a few days.

Group demonstrations can be arranged for group organisations.



Helping to provide independent
living & peace of mind



ema@kwrsl.org.au

1300 73 24 23

07 3359 0460 0423 131 082

Office hours Mon to Fri 9.00 am to 2.00pm.
A message can be left outside these hours.

OUR COMMITMENT

- No fixed terms
- Life time guarantee and free maintenance
- Prompt and efficient installation and maintenance
- Operated by Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch RSL Inc., a trusted community and welfare organization of many years
- Trained Aid Responders man the call center 24/7 by our partner Tunstall Health Care to answer your calls well within the Australian standard time frame
- Strong ethical values, community and welfare focus
- Easy press adapters for arthritic sufferers available and other devices are available on request for those with limited mobility and epilepsy
- Fall Detectors can be provided with the medical alarm
- Emergency Medical Alarm operates over the 3G and 4G mobile Networks
- GPS Pendants are available on request. They will operate anywhere in Australia and New Zealand where mobile telephone coverage is available
- More than one pendant can be attached to an emergency medical alarm
- Emergency Medical Alarm has a high range microphone built in and will pick up your voice in most rooms of your home
- A battery backup of 40 hours in the event of a power outage
- Pendant range of 80 meters from the emergency medical alarm

OUR PRODUCTS

Fall Detector Pendant

A small, lightweight device which can automatically detect if the wearer has fallen, the alarm will activate and call for help.

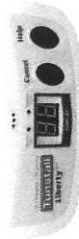


Tunstall Smart Hub

Wide range of connectivity options. The Smart Hub is the most flexible medical alarm in our collection.



NO WARRANTY IS GIVEN
UNLESS MADE IN WRITING
BY THE MANUFACTURER
TUNSTALL 1500 74 24 23



Liberty 300

Home base unit with an intergrated 3G module and POTS connection, enabling it to be used both on a mobile phone network and traditional landline.

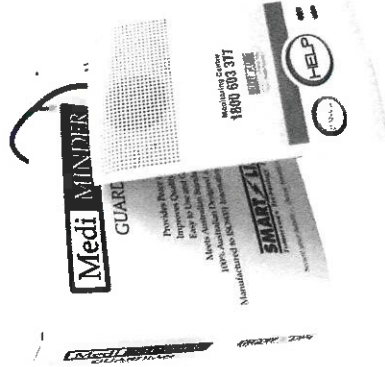
Tunstall Go Pendant

This device includes a help button, handsfree speakerphone system, GPS location, and optional fall detection.



SmartLink Guardian 4G

The modern slim line design allows it to be installed unobtrusively anywhere.



Find-Me Watch

A cellular personal emergency response system, panic alert, GPS tracker and fall detector all in one.



Fall detectors can be programmed to all medical alarms listed in the product range.