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#### Committee

Graham Bird Brian Buckby Peter Higgins Noel V Parker Wayne Oldmeadow Samantha Morgan

# Beaudesert **RSL** sub-branch





### NEWSLETTER – Issue 2 May 2021

# **Calendar of Coming events - 2021**

#### **BEAUDESERT SUB BRANCH**

\*\* COVID-19 Social Distancing Restrictions \*\*

	<del>-</del>
17 June 2021	Members General Meeting – 2.00pm
	Beaudesert RSL Club – Function room
31 July 2021	Members Reunion (President Luncheon)
18 August 2021	Vietnam Veterans Day 11.00am – Palm Gardens
14 September 2021	Peace Keepers Day 11.00am – Palm Gardens
11 November 2021	Remembrance Day 10.40am - Cenotaph

# Members General Meeting (Wife/Husband/Partners most welcome to attend)

- Next Meeting 17 June 2021 @ 2.00pm Held at Beaudesert RSL Services Club (Function room)
  - ♦ We hope you can attend for your input and support to the Sub Branch ♦



# LEST WE FORGET

We remember the following Sub-Branch Members who have sadly passed away this year 2021.

♦ Betty Johnston (29.04.21) ♦

#### President's Message

Anzac Day, due to Covid was like last year, held a little differently, however, your Sub-Branch Commemorated the Dawn Service with due reverence and protocol. The gathering at Dawn of our Sub-Branch Members, Volunteers and the General Community re-enforced the

high esteem that Veterans have within our Beaudesert Community. We were extremely fortunate to have RAN Capt. Michael Beard included in all our

Commemorations during the week, visiting Schools and Nursing Homes. The reverence shown throughout these visits by the student's and the emotions of Nursing Homes Residents and staff, give hope that the Service done by past and present ADF personal will never be forgotten. We are hopeful that by 2022 the 11a.m Service will again be held.

We welcome another Advocate in training to our team Mr. Kerry Carney who join's Jay, Sam, Peter and Steve in assisting Veterans with their DVA Claims. Our Sub-Branch is gaining an incredibly positive reputation for achieving the Objectives of the League in providing Wellbeing to our members and Veterans in our Community and beyond.

We have welcomed Sam Morgan onto your Board, as a younger Veteran her relevance with the needs of our current and serving Veterans brings a wealth of contemporary knowledge and hopefully succession for your Board.

As discussed at the Members Meeting in October last year the Sale of the old house in Brayford Street is currently in the hands of Queensland State RSL, adhering to our Constitutional requirements:

#### **5 POWERS**

**5.2** The Association may only exercise the following power with the prior written consent of State Branch. (a) purchase, sell, lease, mortgage, charge, exchange or otherwise acquire, dispose of or encumber any real property.

The removal of this house will give your Sub-Branch Members and Board the opportunity to erect the Lysaght Shed purchased a few years ago and make it your accessible Sub-Branch for all Members, Veterans and Family Members that may have a disability or a frailty that prevents them from accessing your Sub Branch now. We have applied for a grant to assist in this aspiration.

Our Volunteers Lunch on Saturday 29th was very successful and gratitude for the very many hours and commitment to your Sub-Branch cannot be underestimated. The dedication given in the many days offered can only be paid by saying a very sincere Thankyou. This than also goes to your valuable staff that give over and above their paid hours. Kevin (cleans the Transport vehicles) and Museum

Kevin (cleans the Transport vehicles) and Museum Guru, is in hospital at the moment and we wish him and any other Veterans or Family members that are not well good wishes and a quick recovery.

If any of our members reading this Newsletter would be willing to spend a couple of hours once a fortnight assisting in keeping our vehicles in ship shape condition, while Kevin is on leave, please contact your Sub Branch Ph: 5541 2370.

As Members of the Beaudesert RSL Sub-Branch you are also automatically a member of the RSL Services Club. I am sure you have noticed the completion of the works being carried out at this building. Other that new air conditioning, lights in Kitchen and replacement roof over the Bistro all the other work carried out was covered by Insurance from Hail damage. This has enhanced the premises that is owned by you as Members of your Sub-Branch and is a very valuable asset. Our wonderful Ladies held a successful Mother's Day Cent Auction in May, the monies raised are being put towards a bus replacement fund for patient transport and for Veterans activities. Although the monthly Hov mornings are no longer being held, our Dedicated group continue their association with your Sub -Branch in their fund-raising activities and friendships.

The Beaudesert Bulletin had a feature article relating to Mr. Don Percy one of our older members whose Service in the Air Force continued through from Feb.1952 to Feb 75, Don like most Veterans is an unassuming Gent with a remarkably interesting Service History and recognition within the Community around Anzac Day brings to mind the sacrifice you all as Veterans give to your Country.

Members, Please update your Next of Kin details as many of you that are Life Subscribers do not change your details, there is an entitlement from your Sub Branch on passing away, a small remittance to assist with funeral costs, if your details are not current your Sub Branch cannot give this benefit to family members at the time.

If you able, please attend the next Monthly Members meeting at the RSL Services Club. Notice of this meeting is included in this Newsletter.

Carol Castles
President

#### **PAWS/Wellbeing**

Advocates available on Wednesday's. Jay Collins and Samantha Morgan.

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@beaudesertrslsubbranch.com

#### <u>Veterans and Veterans Families Counselling Service</u> (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 (<a href="www.vvcs.gov.au">www.vvcs.gov.au</a>) or phone 1800 011 046.

If you know of a Veteran who requires assistance, doing it tough or unwell please let us know. We have welfare bags available for those in need.

PAWS TEAM

#### Museum – Harry's Haunt

Open Days at present between 10.00am-2.00pm, Tues to Friday and every 2<sup>nd</sup> 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. Thank you to all the volunteers that come in each week to keep the museum open, your dedication is very much appreciated.

Museum Coordinator

#### **Members – Up to date Next of Kin**

We have attached a form of Next of Kin to complete and send back to the Sub Branch if possible to keep all records up to date.

Please send to: PO Box 60, Beaudesert Q 4285 or Email: admin@beaudesertrslsubbranch.com.au or drop into the Sub Branch Mon – Fri (9.00am – 1.00pm)

#### **Birthday Acknowledgements**

We wish to acknowledge the following members who had/will have their Birthdays in March, April and May, 2021



#### March 2021

Grahame Beulah ◆ Errol Binstead ◆ Barry Cooke ◆
Russel Hartley ◆ Leslie Love ◆ Donald Percy ◆
Ross Reid ◆ Robert Smith ◆ Jeanette Richardson ◆
Errol Steinhardt ◆ Matthew Wilkie



#### **April 2021**

Roy Andrews ♦ Paul Baird ♦ Kevin Bullock ♦
Jerry Guevorts ♦ Peter Higgins ♦Larry Hurst ♦
Michael Iverson ♦ Maurice McCauley ♦ Allan Mackie
♦ Stephen Roberts ♦ Ian Sinclair ♦ Alwyn Todd ♦
Peter Watson ♦ Bevan Whyatt ♦ David Williams



#### May 2021

Herbert Brook ♦ Walter Buckby ♦ Jay Collins ♦
John Doyle ♦ Anthony Halpin
David Haynes ♦ William Holland ♦ Richard Mackay ♦
Bruno Maestri ♦ Ian McDougall ♦ Andrew McKenna ♦
Patrick O'Rourke ♦ Dale Quigley ♦ Roger Rumbel ♦
Tim Sibley ♦ Ronald Smallwood ♦ Scott Stratford



#### **June 2021**

Robert Andreas ♦ Raymond Babarovich ♦ Ray Clark
Paul Deeran ♦ Peter Devine ♦ David Gregg ♦
Phillip Johns ♦ Leslie Jurd ♦ Vivien Hart
Terrance Kassulke ♦ James Launder ♦ Leslie Maslem
John Middendorp ♦ Peter Rewko ♦ Ian Salomen
Robert Topping ♦ Keith Yarde

# 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 General Meeting 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2021

It was disappointing to see not many members attended the last members meeting. We had invited 2 guest speakers to attend the meeting. First guest was the Scenic Rim Wildlife Rescue and brought in 2 Joeys and 1 wallaby to hold. Very informative on what they do and how they care for the injured wildlife from home. They asked if anyone is interested in assisting, all training provided – please give them a call.





# Scenic Rim Wildlife Rescue And Rehabilitation and Body Retrieval 0458 55 66 24

Second Guest Bradley Grant, he spoke about a group called Warrior Racing, 5 veterans raising awareness of the homeless veteran issue in Australia and raising funds to support veterans in need by Murray River Challenge called The Long Paddle – Veterans on the Murray.

Their expedition plans to commence in the vicinity of Bigara, Vic. Near the Kosciusko National Park. The total distance will be approx. 2400 km. Albury (Hume Weir) to Goolwa SA. All members of the team have participated in expedition paddles in the past, combined with their prior ADF experience makes a very well talented team.



# ANZAC ACTIVITIES 2021

DAWN SERVICE





Torch of Remembrance - Macarthur Family











Beaudesert ANZAC Day Races Presentation Diggers Cup



Two-Up guys



Community Small wreath laying at Palm Gardens



Presentation at Bowls Club



Glenapp Boys





Sub Branch Badge Display at Mitre 10

#### **RATHDOWNEY**

## **ANZAC Day SERVICE**











#### **Darlington School - ANZAC Book Donation**



#### **Members Out and About**



## Wacol Heritage Village $-5^{th}$ May 2021

National Servicemen's Association – Beaudesert had kindly invited Sub Branch members to attend their day out to Wacol Heritage Village, a bit of a wet day but everyone still enjoyed their visit







#### Brisbane River Cruise – 19th May 2021

National Servicemen's Association – Beaudesert had kindly invited Sub Branch members to attend their day out on a Boat cruise on the Brisbane River. Members who paid and attended thoroughly enjoyed the day.







# Open Arms – SafeTalk Training (6 & 7 May, 2021)

In collaboration with Open Arms/DVA, a SafeTalk training program was run at our Sub Branch and a few members from Beaudesert and Greenbank Sub Branch attended





#### **Greenslopes Wellbeing Centre**

The Greenslopes welfare and wellbeing Hub has completed its instillation phase and is about to become fully operational.

It is the objective of the SED Board for the Hub to function 5 days a week for six hours per day. In order to achieve this the assistance of volunteers from subbranches to maintain a presence.

Volunteers will be given an extensive induction as to their responsibilities. In essence volunteers, at least at the introduction stage will be asked to undertake the following duties:

- a) Answer incoming phone calls.
- b) Greet visitors.
- c) Undertake hospital and nursing home visitations.
- d) Contact listed hospitals and nursing homes in order to ascertain if they have any Veterans and/or family members who require a visit or support.
- e) The hours of attendance will be the subject of mutual agreement.

In the case of visitors to direct them to the relevant officer e.g., Advocate, Wellbeing Officer or social Worker.

It is to be understood that the volunteer will not be required to offer any Advocacy advice.

As the operational nature of the Hub will continually evolve the involvement of volunteers may undergo gradual change.

It is envisioned that trained Advocates will maintain a presence at the Hub.

If anyone is interested in providing support to the Wellbeing Centre at Greenslopes or to be part of the Welfare Task Force sub-branches are requested to have their nominations submitted to SED District Secretary as soon as possible.

If anyone has any questions, please contact Bob Maher (RSL SED) at maher@archaelogist.com



# BEAUDESERT RSL SUB BRANCH

#### **Member Information**

Personal Information				
Full Name:				
	Last	First	M.I.	
Address:				
	Street Address		Apartment/Unit #	
	t			
	Suburb	State	Post Code	
Home Phone:	Alternate Phone:			
Email				
Member No::				
Birth Date:				
Next of Kin				
Full Name:				
	Last	First	M.I.	
Address:				
	Street Address		Apartment/Unit #	
	Suburb	State	Post Code	
Home Phone:	Mobile Phone:			
	NOBILE I HOHE.			
Relationship:				

#### The Final Inspection



The Soldier stood and faced his God, Which must always come to pass. He hoped his shoes were shining,

Just as brightly as his brass. "Step forward now, you Soldier, How shall I deal with you? Have you always turned the other cheek? To My Church have you been true?" The Soldier squared his shoulders and said, "No, my Lord, I ain't. Because those of us who carry guns, Can't always be a saint. I've had to work most Sundays, And at times my talk was tough. And sometimes I've been violent. Because the world is awfully rough. But, I never took a dollar, That wasn't mine to keep... Though I worked a lot of overtime, When the bills got just too steep. And I never passed a cry for help, Though at times I shook with fear. And sometimes, God, forgive me, I've wept unmanly tears. I know I don't deserve a place, Among the people here. They never wanted me around, Except to calm their fears. If you've a place for me here, Lord, It needn't be so grand. I never expected or had too much, But if you don't, I'll understand. There was a silence all around the throne. Where the saints had often trod. As the Soldier waited quietly, For the judgment of his God. "Step forward now, you Soldier, You've borne your burdens well.

Walk peacefully on Heaven's streets, You've done your time in Hell."

~Author Unknown~



It's the Soldier, not the reporter, who has given us the freedom of the press.

It's the Soldier, not the poet, who has given us the freedom of speech.

It's the Soldier, not the politicians, that ensures our right to Life, Freedom and the Pursuit of Happiness. It's the Soldier who salutes the flag, who serves beneath the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag.

If you care to offer the smallest token of recognition and appreciation for our Armed Services Men & Women, please pass this on and pray for our men and women who have served and are currently serving our country and pray for those who have given the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom.



#### THESE COLORS DON'T RUN

If you can read this � then thank a Primary School Teacher!

If you are reading this in English then thank the Australian Defence Forces!!

# **RSL QLD NEWS**

# CONSULTATION OPEN FOR ROYAL COMMISSION

VETERANS and their families, ex-service organisations, states and territories, peak bodies and other interested stakeholders are being encouraged to provide their input for the Terms of Reference for the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide announced yesterday.

Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Minister for Defence Personnel Darren Chester said it was vital that all those involved in the Defence and veteran support system had their say through the Royal Commission.

"Over the coming weeks I will be undertaking a public consultation process to ensure the Royal Commission is focused and based on the experiences and perspectives of those who have been impacted by Defence and veteran suicide," Mr Chester said.

"Any member of the community or any organisation can provide their input regarding the broad themes released on Monday 19 April and I would encourage them to provide their feedback.

"As part of this process, it is important that all state and territories are involved and I have written to my counterparts in each jurisdiction to seek their assistance in consulting with the community.

"We must all work together to ensure that this Royal Commission can start promptly and put us on the path to a better understanding of suicide in the serving and exserving community, and importantly, how we can continue to improve the supports available to servicemen and women, and their families."

Following consultation, all feedback will be provided to the Attorney-General's Department which will lead to the drafting of the Terms of Reference. Interested individuals, groups, peak bodies, ex-service organisations and community members can review the broad themes for consultation on the DVA website and can contribute to the consultation process by emailing royalcommission@dva.gov.au.

Mr Chester said the Government was committed to ensuring ADF members, veterans and their families had access to the support they need, when and where they need it, especially those who are vulnerable or at risk. "Importantly, I want to assure the Defence and veteran community that the Government will continue to prioritise the health and wellbeing of serving and exserving personnel and their families," Mr Chester said. "For anyone who may find this process difficult, help is available and can make a difference. Current serving members can access support through their local Garrison Health Centre or by contacting the All Hours Support Line available 24/7 on 1800 628 036.

"Open Arms — Veterans & Families Counselling provides support and counselling to current ADF members, veterans and their families and can be contacted 24/7 on

1800 011 046.

"Those who wish to remain anonymous can also contact Safe Zone Support on 1800 142 072. This is a free and anonymous counselling line established for veterans and their families who may have concerns about anonymity."

# **DVA News**

I am pleased to advise that support and services for veterans and their families are returning to normal, with the reopening of the face-to-face Veteran Access Network (VAN) shopfronts and offices around the country from today. Veterans and their families can access these face-to-face services without the need for a booked appointment.

As the offices and shopfronts reopen, the veteran community is asked to be mindful of current health and social distancing recommendations when attending. DVA will continue to uphold the recommended measures to ensure the health and safety of all. Veterans and their families are still strongly encouraged to use telephone and online services where by possible by logging into their MyService account, by lodging an online enquiry at www.dva.gov.au, or by calling us on 1800 VETERAN (1800 838 372).

If you have any further questions please don't hesitate to contact the Veterans Access Network on 1800 VETERAN (1800 838 372).

Anti-Malarial Medications Health Assessment Program DVA and Bupa have worked in partnership to commence service delivery of the health assessments. They have recruited and trained five Program GPs to deliver health assessments located in Brisbane (2 GPs), Adelaide, Ipswich and Townsville and are continuing to work on expanding the network of GPs to other states and territories in the near future. Telehealth assessments are available nationally if preferred.

If you would like further information on the Anti-Malarial Medications Health Assessment Program, including to schedule an appointment, please contact the Bupa Anti-Malarial Program via return email, AntiMalarialProgram@bupa.com.au or via the Bupa phone line: 1800 612 798. You may also be interested in visiting the DVA website for further information on the program.

#### Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide Last updated: 27 May 2021

On 19 April 2021, the Prime Minister, the Hon Scott Morrison MP, announced the establishment of a Royal Commission into Defence and veteran suicide.

The Royal Commission will be set up after listening to community calls for a national inquiry focusing on the systemic issues faced by Australian Defence Force members and veterans that too often results in their loss of life to suicide.

The consultation process to inform the Terms of Reference (19 April – 21 May 2021) for the Royal Commission has now closed.

Widespread feedback has been received by DVA. All feedback provided to DVA has now been forwarded to the Attorney General's Department for consideration. The Attorney General's Department will now progress the Terms of Reference and an announcement will be made once finalised.

The Royal Commission has not yet been formally established at this time and, as such, the Department is not in a position to provide correspondence to the Royal Commission. Engagement with the Royal Commission, including the opportunity to make a formal submission, will be determined by the Royal Commission once established, and will be widely advertised.

The Royal Commission will be independent of government, DVA and Defence.

The Office of the National Commissioner continues to hear stories from families, serving and ex-serving members who have been affected by defence member and veteran deaths by suicide. Please visit the Office of the National Commissioner for Defence and Veteran Suicide Prevention website for more information.

Information about the Royal Commission, including the Terms of Reference, will continue to be updated on this DVA website.

#### Feedback received to inform the Terms of Reference for the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide Last updated: 30 May 2021

The consultation process to inform the Terms of Reference (19 April – 21 May 2021) for the Royal Commission has now closed.

Please note that feedback will be progressively published on this page.

Publication of feedback was optional. Options were provided to publish anonymously, with name or using a pseudonym. You can read DVA's privacy statement in regard to this consultation process here.

Whether or not you chose to have your feedback published, all relevant feedback will be provided to the Attorney-General's Department to inform the Terms of Reference for the Royal Commission.

You can opt-out at any stage by emailing royalcommission@dva.gov.au If you provide your name at the time of providing your feedback and you agree to the publication of your feedback along with your name, but later choose to opt-out, your feedback will be taken down and no longer made public.

Please also note that we will not publish your feedback if we consider (for any reason) that it should not be made public. We may also redact parts of your feedback before publication, as appropriate. This may occur in circumstances where your feedback is not relevant to the Terms of Reference of the Royal Commission, contains personal or sensitive information, could potentially defame others, is offensive in nature or contains operationally sensitive material.

Once the Royal Commission has been formally established published feedback will be removed from the DVA website.

Feedback was also able to be provided to the Attorney-General's Department. Feedback received can be viewed on the AGD website.

# Some Humour / Jokes



A guy walks into a bar and sits down.

He starts dialing numbers...Like a telephone... On his hand and talking into his hand.

The bartender walks over and tells him this is a very tough neighborhood and he doesn't need any trouble here.

The guy says, "You don't understand. I'm very hi-tech. I had a phone installed in my hand because I was tired of carrying the cellular."

The bartender says "Prove it."

The guy dials up a number and hands his hand to the bartender.

The bartender talks into the hand and carries on a conversation.

"That's incredible," says the bartender.

"I would never have believed it!"

"Yeah," said the guy,

"I can keep in touch with my broker, my wife, you name it. By the way, where is the men's room?"

The bartender directs him to the men's room.

The guy goes in and 5, 10, 20 minutes go by and he doesn't return.

Fearing the worst given the neighborhood, the bartender goes into the men's room.

There is the guy spread-eagle on the wall.

His pants are pulled down and he has a roll of toilet paper up his butt.

"Oh my god!" said the bartender.

"Did they rob you? Are you hurt?"

The guy turns and says:

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

"No, I'm ok. I'm just waiting for a fax."



#### Sent in by a member

Three Aussies blokes working up on an outback mobile phone tower:

Mongrel, Coot and Bluey.

As they start their descent, Coot slips, falls off the tower and is killed instantly.

As the ambulance takes the body away,

Bluey says, 'Well, bugger me, someone's gotta go and tell Coot's wife.

Mongrel says, 'OK, I'm pretty good at that sensitive stuff, I'll do it.'

Two hours later, he comes back carrying a case of Beer. Bluey says, 'Where'd you get the grog, Mongrel?'

'Coot's wife gave it to me,' Mongrel replies.

'That's unbelievable, you told the Missus her husband was dead and she gave you a case of beer?'

'Well, not exactly', Mongrel says.

'When she answered the door, I said to her, "you must be Coot's widow."

She said, 'You must be mistaken. I'm not a widow.'
Then I said, 'I'll betcha a case of beer you are.'

Aussies are good at that sensitive stuff.