

Beaudesert RSL Sub Branch Inc.
Nielsen Building
61-85 Brisbane Street
BEAUDESERT QLD 4285

Phone: 5541 3720
Fax: 5541 3336

E-mail:
admin@beaudesertslsubbranch.com.au

website:
beaudesertslsubbranch.com.au

President
Carol Castles
president@beaudesertslsubbranch.com.au

Snr Vice President
Brett McCreadie

Secretary
Joanne Crocker
admin@beaudesertslsubbranch.com.au

Treasurer
Jon Forbe-Smith
Wayne Oldmeadow (*Assistant*)
secretary@beaudesertslsubbranch.com.au

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



Beaudesert RSL
sub-branch



NEWSLETTER – Issue 4 December 2021

Calendar of Coming events - 2021

BEAUDESERT SUB BRANCH

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

12 th February 2022	Sub Branch – AGM Held at The Club function room
25 th April 2022	ANZAC Day
31 st May, 2022	End of Boer War
30 th July, 2022	Presidents/Members Reunion Luncheon
15 th August, 2022	Victory in Pacific
18 th August, 2022	Vietnam Veterans Days
1 st September, 2022	Battle for Australia
14 September 2022	Peace Keeping Day
11 th November 2022	Remembrance Day



Members General Meeting (Wife/Husband/Partners most welcome)

- Next Meeting TBA 2022
- ◆ 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) ◆ Gary Boulter (12.10.21)

President's Message

Although Covid restrictions were still mostly in place this year your Sub- Branch has been able to commemorate our Memorial Days without too many restrictions. The Dawn Service was very well attended by Veterans and the Public and although the 11am Service was not held we are hoping that in 2022 this will be back on track as usual. Vietnam Vets Day was well attended and the camaraderie that went on afterwards was a great way to appreciate that the Vietnam Vets as the rear guard of our Services now, will never be forgotten.

This year we have been involved in much consultation with State RSL and the new 2021 version of our State Constitution, and the changes that have been put forwarded for consideration of Sub-Branches. We were very pleased to have one of our Advocates with the support of your Sub-Branch Board very convincingly reverse the disbandment of the Ladies Auxiliary, this organisation has now been reinstated as an integral part of the RSL. These Ladies Auxiliaries throughout Queensland has been instrumental in most of the fund raising through local Sub-Branches over many, many years and the funds raised has supported Veterans and their Family Members. Some of the other considerations in the Constitution have not been received with much enthusiasm, and it will be interesting to see the outcome of votes at the AGM this week. News Update: Draft 2021 Constitution was not successful at AGM and Mr. Stephen Day has been voted in as New President of RSL State.

Our Ladies Auxiliary as well as holding successful fundraising Cent Auctions this year, have been liaising with the schools from Flagstone through to Darlington and most schools in between. The students have written little messages on the Christmas Cards that had been donated from some of the local businesses and community members. This year due to most Defence Personal not being deployed overseas, the consensus was, that due to Covid, many Residents and Veterans of local Nursing homes have been lonely and forgotten, socially isolated in their rooms with very little contact with Family or Relatives, so a Christmas Card from a child with a little note would be received by the Residents, with pleasure, knowing that they too have not been forgotten by their communities. A big thankyou to the dedication of these Ladies, you are an integral part of

our Sub-Branch.

The seat outside our Sub-Branch has once again been decked with a Christmas cover and we have included the 3 Services and some poppies as a suitable recognition of Veterans within our Community. The tree near the "The Club Beaudesert" also has been decorated with tinsel and our plaque as recognition of the importance the Sub-Branch is within the Beaudesert Community. If you are downtown take time to have a look and enjoy all the other Christmas Yarnbombing throughout the Town. You may have noticed that our museum has been closed for some time. We had unfortunately been broken into and robbed during the year and some of the Memorabilia that was taken cannot be replaced. We have been waiting for the Insurance payout and have installed a very secure security system now, and hopefully in the New Year we will be opening again for the Public once the repairs have been completed.

The house in Brayford street has been removed and found a new site at Moorooka. When the land is cleared your Sub-Branch is endeavoring to build a new accessible to all Sub-Branch and welfare hub. This is a future project, and all Members will be kept updated about the progress, exciting times ahead.

Our Trailer has been well utilized over the past year with other Sub-Branches making use of its facilities, it has and will always remain an asset of your Sub- Branch but good to know it is being used for Veterans throughout the South East District and beyond.

This year the contribution of the many Volunteers that assist your Sub-Branch to continue to operate are numerous and it is difficult to thank one above the other. The Advocates that are assisting our Veterans continue to do great work in accessing DVA entitlements although sometimes frustrating, is starting to gain many Veterans services that they are entitled too. We have also been watching the Royal Commission into suicides with great interest and hope some improvements in timely recognition of Service will be a positive outcome for all Defence Personal.

The Jimboomba Cadets continued with their dedication of Leaders and Students to, with dignity and respect, appropriately present the Catafalque Party at all our Commemorative functions and assist with equipment from the Sub- Branch.

Our Patient transport has continued to grow and this year we have been required to implement protocols to upgrade our administration to continue with our Contract

with the QAS. Our volunteer drivers have taken on board the new requests and we thank them for this. Our Membership has remained fairly static this year with some sadly departed and some new Members, a couple of which are younger Veterans and that is great to see.

Please do not forget to renew your membership for 2022. If not a Life member, renew either at your Sub-Branch in the Neilsen Building, online through Internet or through "The Club Beaudesert", making sure you tell them you are a Sub-Branch member. Your membership to us covers your membership at the Club. Information is further in this newsletter.

I am appealing to all Members of our Sub-Branch that can, 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 your Board, Museum, Fund Raiser or Driver for patient transport. This will be my last President's Newsletter as my 3 year tenure as President will end at your AGM in February, thank you for your support during these interesting years. We have put your Sub-Branch back into its rightful focus of "The Charitable Objects of The RSL" caring for Veterans and their families and assisting other Veterans that have required support. All Veterans are welcome at the Beaudesert RSL Sub-Branch. I have nominated for a role within the Board at the next AGM and if elected will continue to do my best for Veterans and Family Members.

On behalf of the Executive and the Board of the Beaudesert RSL Sub-Branch I would like to wish all our Members, our Ladies Auxiliary and their Families, our Drivers, admin Volunteers, and our two very valuable office staff without them we would be lost. Happy Reunions for some of you and a Very Happy Christmas and All the Very Best for a Healthy and Safe New Year.

Carol Castles

President

PAWS/Wellbeing

As the year draws to a close and no thanks at all to the Covid19 the PAWS of the Sub Branch has had four Veterans this past month seek out assistance with a variety of DVA claims. The number of Veterans and family requesting advice for the year to date is '40' and is a good indication that regardless of the closures, house bounds, vaccinated, non-vaccinated, masks, mask less, we have Veterans still seeking our assistance and guidance with the DVA and other departments of government. In preparing this report for the newsletter, we look back at our collective achievements and thank all those who assist PAWS in the day-to-day programming of appointments and administration that goes with each client presenting. In saying 'our collective achievements', it must be noted that PAWS is a TEAM, and this TEAM consists of Advocates, administration assistance from Joanne, Peter and Dianne the frontline of this Sub Branch, all of whom are there for Veterans and family.

PAWS now is back to two Advocates and their efforts are appreciated and respected. To our two Veteran Advocates who assisted this year and through circumstances beyond their control having left the PAWS, we thank them whole heartedly for their input, dedication, and empowerment of our Veteran community. The processes employed in training Advocates is becoming harder as the demands of the DVA to put forward claims grow exponentially, with standards, regulations, documentation et al, reinforcing the need for experienced and dedicated persons required to fill in what may appear to some, a simple claim form for presentation to the DVA. Sorry to burst your bubble, it is not so. When a client presents to PAWS, they are requested to outline their service, medical history, other requirements of identification, Service across the Nation, and other parts. Client's present believing they have a single claim or injury to put forward, when it by conversation, interview, documentation is shown that what appeared to be one claim can be many. On average, PAWS Advocates spend up to 75 hours in interviews, claims recognition, administration, preparing documentation, filling, checking claims authenticity, submission, receipt of DVA requirements and further advice long before the client receives that letter from the DVA that says, 'yea or nay' to the claim and all this for ONE client. So! Would YOU be willing to put your hand up for your fellow Veterans? Would YOU be prepared to undertake the ATDP/DVA training route? If YOU are, then drop in and have a conversation with Jay, Peter and Steve. Can't hurt and you will get to meet such an amenable and humorous group.

PAWS is Pensions, is Advocacy, is Wellbeing and is above all Support and we need this from YOU, the members. As this is the last input from PAWS for the year, we the three amigos wish you every blessing, good will, humor, camaraderie, respite from Covid19, anxiety off load and look forward to YOU dropping in for a chat and a cuppa.

Advocates available on Wednesday's. Jay Collins and Steve Monteath.

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@beautesertsrsubbranch.com

Peter Higgins Mentor, Jay L2 DVA Advocate, Steve L2 DVA Advocate.

All these services below are available right now - 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

- **Open Arms — Veterans & Families Counselling** service is available 24/7 on **1800 011 046**
- **Safe Zone Support** on **1800 142 072** is a free and **anonymous** counselling line for current serving ADF personnel, veterans and their families available 24/7
- **Defence Family Helpline** is available for ADF members and their families, available 24/7 — dial **1800 624 608**



Lifeline is available 24/7 on 13 11 14

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.

We are concerned about any instances of homelessness in the Veteran community. If you or someone you know is in this situation, please contact 1800 VETERAN (1800 838 372).

Veterans and their families who are at risk of or experiencing homelessness can access a wide range of support, including short term emergency accommodation in times of crisis.

Visit: <https://www.dva.gov.au/financial-support/income-support/help-buy-property-or-find-accommodation/homelessness-support>

Museum – Harry's Haunt

Due to the break-in at the museum will not be open until repairs can be done.

We apologise and hope to re-open very soon.

Secretary

Women's Auxiliary

The Ladies have had a very busy year this year with Cent Auctions held and some great raffle prizes. Unfortunately, the ladies are getting fewer and unable to carry a lot of the heavy stuff, thanks to Joanne H and Carol for their assistance in most of the heavy lifting, packing and moving from Sub Branch to Function room and setting up on the Cent Auction days. With most of our Troops are back home this year. Christmas cards have been delivered and distributed throughout the schools in the area to write a Christmas message for Residents at Nursing Homes in the Scenic Rim and Surrounding areas. The children have been busy with writing their messages. The cards have been collected and delivered to the Aged Car Homes and Nursing Homes by the ladies in time for Christmas.

Thank you to all the Ladies for your volunteering dedication and hard work for our veterans in the Community.

Secretary

RSL QAS Patient Transport

We are sincerely grateful to our dedicated group of volunteer drivers who provide transport to local residents and surrounding areas to hospital and specialist appointments. This invaluable service is provided by these generous volunteers on behalf of the Sub Branch for Queensland Ambulance Service.

On average, 3-4 vehicles are in use each weekday to take patients to many areas which include Brisbane, Logan, Ipswich, Springfield and the Gold Coast.

2021 up to November the following statistics for Patient Transport

- ☐ **Customers Transported:** 1,110
- ☐ **Hours donated:** 3,396
- ☐ **Kilometres travelled:** 105,108.5
- ☐ **New Volunteer drivers** 0
- ☐ **Drivers retired** 2

We have had a very challenging year with limited volunteer drivers and COVID but with teamwork and dedication from our volunteer drivers who tirelessly put in extra driving days so we can continue to provide the service we are proud of to the Community. We are so grateful and cannot thank our volunteers enough for the work they do.

The feedback from the customers who we provide transport for have been overwhelmingly thankful and truly grateful for the service our volunteer drivers provide. Their friendly, caring and selfless deed towards our community is admired.

We would like to thank our Volunteer Transport Coordinators Cheryl and Laurel for organising drivers runs for patient transport and coordinating with the Qld Ambulance Service. It can be quite tricky some days but once again with teamwork we get the job done. If not for all the Volunteers who are dedicated and give their time towards Beaudesert RSL Patient Transport, we would not be able to provide this service for the local and wider Community areas.

The Board and Staff with to THANK YOU for all that you do.

Secretary

Birthday Acknowledgements

We wish to acknowledge the following members who had/will have their Birthdays in **October, November and December, 2021**



October, 2021

J Diamond ♦ R. Ducat ♦ G. Dunn ♦ D Haynes ♦
D Higgins ♦ G. Knickey ♦ L. Love ♦ J. McConnell ♦
S. Morgan ♦ T. Much ♦ M. O'Shea ♦ N. Parker ♦
P. Purtle ♦ A. Salisbury ♦ I. V. Smith ♦ G. Snow ♦
P. Ward



November 2021

J. Brack ♦ B. Fisher ♦ K. Fox ♦ W. Hillman ♦ D. Kirkby
♦ W. Lampard ♦ W. Oldmeadow ♦ D. Stone ♦ K. West



December 2021t

J. Barr ♦ G. Bird ♦ R. Dargavel ♦ J. Davies ♦ B. Dimmik
♦ R. Evans ♦ D. Gregg ♦ M. Grieve ♦ M. Gurn ♦
L. Ingram ♦ D. Jensen ♦ B. Milne-Ward ♦ S. Monteath
♦ E. Steinhardt

SUB BRANCH NEWS

Welcome New Members – 2021

G. O'Toole ★ B. Fisher ★ W. Lampard ★ K. Evans
★ J. Ford ★ B. Russo ★ S. Monteath ★ S. Kable

2022 Board Nomination Forms

NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICE BEARERS

Nominations are called for office bearers for
2022 for the following positions;

**PRESIDENT • SNR VICE PRESIDENT ♦
VICE PRESIDENT • TREASURER**

• **COMMITTEE PERSONS**

Nomination forms are available from the Sub
Branch reception from 6th December, 2021 and
must be signed by the Nominee, Proposer,
Seconder and be in the hands of the Secretary by:

21st January, 2022 12.00 noon.

**Nominee, Proposer and Secunder must
be a Financial Member of the
Beaudesert RSL Sub Branch Inc.**

2022 MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS NEARLY DUE

**Reminder - All annual memberships are due and
payable by end January each year.**

Membership renewals can be paid at the Beaudesert
RSL Sub Branch Reception during office hours
9.00am – 1.00pm (cash/cheque only). Or payment can
be made at the The Club Beaudesert (RSL Services
Club)

**Please complete the attached and submit the Sub Branch
membership renewal form when paying.**

Cost is \$20.00 per year which includes membership to
The Club Beaudesert (Beaudesert RSL Services Club).
Please use attached form to make payment. If paying at
The Club Beaudesert, **PLEASE STATE PAYMENT IS
FOR SUB BRANCH MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL** and

present form with payment, this helps with any
confusion with The Club Reception.

Alternatively you can pay EFT

Account Name: RSLA Beaudesert Branch

BSB: 034-630

Account No: 800737

Ref: Name

ANZAC DAY – 2022 Parade

Please notify the Sub Branch if you require a ride in golf
buggy for the Parade march. We have limited seats and
designated drivers, due to insurance public liability
restrictions on drivers – unfortunately we cannot have
relatives driving buggies. The Sub Branch have
appointed designated drivers that are under the Sub
Branch liability insurances.

Pending 4 x Buggies available for 4 members who
wish to be in parade and cannot march if we are
able to arrange and the generosity through
Beaudesert Golf Club.

**MEDALS – RESTORATION,
REPLACEMENT, MOUNTING, CLEANING**
Kooralbyn RSL Sub Branch are seeking expressions of
interest, who would like to have a consultation with J.P.
Medals at their Club room in January 2022. J.P. Medals
assist's many RSL's in Brisbane and Districts in the
restoration, cleaning, mounting or replacement of
service medals. If you are interested please contact the
President Brian McInnis for more information on
Ph: 0438 329 153 or email: bmccinnis1@bigpond.com

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 Beauesert 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 Beauesert Golf Club.



HELP!!!

The RSL Sub-Branch of Beauesert is looking for community minded people to assist with their volunteer patient transport service.

Volunteer drivers are urgently needed.

- Do you have an open drivers' licence?
- Do you have a few hours free during the week?
- Would you like to give back to your community?
- Full training and ongoing support will be provided.
- Vehicles Provided

If you would like more information, please come in for a chat or call Dianne.

reality is that not everyone experiences the season like this.

ADF families often go for prolonged periods of time without physically seeing each other. This can be especially tough on children, so it is important to talk to them about the reasons behind the separation.

Lastly, take advantage of what you can do. Go for a walk-in nature if possible, head to the beach or mountains, and enjoy the freedoms that living in Australia provides. Use the time to relax and not stress about the small issues in life. Whilst you can't change what isn't under your control, you can choose to appreciate what you have and make the best of your circumstances.

The good news is that we can all take steps to maintain and strengthen our ties to family and friends, expand our social circles and become more involved in the community around us. Here are some tips to help: Reach out to your existing network. Spend time catching up over coffee, walking around a marketplace or watching a movie.

Make time each day to call a friend or visit someone. Start conversations with neighbours or organise a Christmas street get together.

Use social media to stay in touch with long-distance friends or write a letter.

Ask people to join you for physical activities, go for a long walk, join a group fitness class, or try a new sport. Learn a new skill or focus on what you are interested in. The holiday period can be a great time to revisit an old hobby you've set aside and connect with others who share your interests.

Volunteer to deepen your sense of purpose and help others.

If you're struggling with loneliness, make a pledge to connect this holiday season. Strengthen those all-important bonds — because when we connect, we thrive.

For 24-hour support over the Christmas break, reach out to Open Arms on 1800 011 046 or Lifeline on 13 11 14.

RSL QLD NEWS



NEW WAYS TO CONNECT AT CHRISTMAS
GEORGIA ASH - 07 December 2021

If you're struggling with loneliness this festive season, our sister organisation Mates 4 Mates has some tips to help you connect.

The Christmas season means different things to people depending on their social, family, economic, religious and health circumstances. Whilst it is often depicted in the media as a joyous, exciting, and rewarding time, the

DVA NEWS



MyAccount will be turned off on 10 December 2021

We're making changes that will give you and all veterans a better, more accessible experience online. MyAccount will be turned off on 10 December 2021 and MyService will be the one-stop access point to all your DVA online services.

As part of the transition to MyService, DVA reviewed which MyAccount features to transition to the newer platform. Some features will not be available in MyService and the Factsheet for Veterans provide more information.

Why is MyAccount closing?

MyService has been designed to improve access to DVA online services for all DVA clients. It has been designed, developed and tested with veterans for use on multiple devices and browsers, including mobile phones and tablets, which MyAccount was not. This means you can access DVA online services on your preferred device wherever you have an internet connection.

When MyAccount closes, you'll be able to access our online services faster with fewer clicks and go straight to MyService.

Do I need to do anything before MyAccount closes?

If you have correspondence in your MyAccount inbox that you'd like to keep, you'll need to save it. We've posted these instructions on the DVA website (search the page for 'MyAccount inbox').

If you haven't logged into MyService for a while, take some time to login and look around. MyService is available through myGov.

Where will my letters be sent when MyAccount is closed?

We're working on making changes so you can receive DVA correspondence in your myGov inbox in the near future.

When MyAccount is turned off, your MyAccount inbox will no longer be accessible. Until they're available in your myGov inbox, the letters you currently receive in your MyAccount inbox will be sent to you via Australia Post.

We're here to help

If you have questions about this change, contact us on 1800 VETERAN (1800 838 372) for help and advice.

Simplifying and improving the Disability Pension

6 December 2021

Changes are being made to the Disability Pension to simplify payments and improve access to rent assistance for Disability Pension recipients and their families. There are three main changes that you will see from 1 January 2022.

Firstly, the Disability Pension will be renamed the Disability Compensation Payment. This better reflects the purpose of the payment and will help to prevent confusion with the Disability Support Pension paid by Services Australia. There will be no change to veterans' entitlements or payments as a result of the re-naming. Secondly, the renamed Disability Compensation Payment, which comes under the Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986, and Permanent Impairment Payments and Special Rate Disability Pension under the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004, will become exempt from the Social Security Act income test. This will simplify payments to Disability Compensation Payment recipients and their families who also receive an income support payment under the Social Security Act, removing the need for the top-up Defence Force Income Support Allowance payment. It will simplify the way income support payments are calculated and administered by DVA and Services Australia.

Veterans and their partners who receive payments under the Social Security Act will receive at least the same amount of income support as before – just from one agency (Services Australia or DVA) rather than two (Services Australia plus DVA).

Thirdly, the Disability Income Rent Test is being removed. That's because the Rent Test results in severely disabled veterans and their families receiving less rent assistance than those with lesser disabilities, because of the amount of compensation the veteran receives.

As a result, some veterans and their families paying private rent may receive an increased rate of Commonwealth Rent Assistance; or become eligible for Rent Assistance if they also receive Service Pension, Income Support Supplement or Veteran Payment; or have a net increase in their Social Security payment.

If you think you might benefit from the changes to eligibility for rent assistance, please update your rental details online using MyService via myGov. If this is not possible, please contact DVA via phone 1800 VETERAN (1800 838 372) or email GeneralEnquiries@dva.gov.au. You will need to provide evidence of the rent you are paying.

Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide

6 December 2021

The Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide has seen a surge in submissions from veterans and their families during the first public hearing in Brisbane.

The hearing began on Monday, 29 November. Since then:

Written submissions increased from 630 to 802

Requests for private sessions to speak with a commissioner more than doubled, rising from 60 to more than 150.

Almost half the requests for a private session came from Queensland residents.

Commission Chair Nick Kaldas thanked the participants who shared their experiences and encouraged others to do the same.

"The more people we hear from, right across Australia, the better equipped we'll be to identify the risks and improve outcomes for veterans and their families,

"Commissioner Kaldas said.

"We are indebted to those who have already come forward. Their courage will help others."

Anyone wishing to make a submission should visit the Royal Commission website- external site.

Help is also available for people who require legal support or counselling.

Applications for private sessions- external site are open for people to speak to a Commissioner in a confidential, private setting.

The hearing at the Brisbane Convention Center is open to the public and runs until Friday, 10 December. It can also be viewed via a livestream on the Royal Commission homepage.

Contact:

Email: DVSRC.media@royalcommission.gov.au

I'M A VETERAN

To understand a Military Veteran, you must know:

We left home as teenagers or in our early twenties for an unknown adventure.

We loved our country enough to defend it and protect it with our own lives.

We said goodbye to friends and family and everything we knew.

We learned the basics and then we scattered in the wind to the far corners of the Earth.

We found new friends and new family.

We became brothers and sisters regardless of color, race or creed.

We had plenty of good times, and plenty of bad times.

We didn't get enough sleep.

We smoked and drank too much.

We picked up both good and bad habits.

We worked hard and played harder.

We didn't earn a great wage.

We experienced the happiness of mail call and the sadness of missing important events.

We didn't know when, or even if, we were ever going to see home again.

We grew up fast, and yet somehow, we never grew up at all. We fought for our freedom, as well as the freedom of others.

Some of us saw actual combat, and some of us didn't.

Some of us saw the world, and some of us didn't.

Some of us dealt with physical warfare, most of us dealt with psychological warfare.

We have seen and experienced and dealt with things that we can't fully describe or explain, as not all of our sacrifices were physical.

We participated in time honored ceremonies and rituals with each other, strengthening our bonds and camaraderie.

We counted on each other to get our job done and sometimes to survive it at all.

We have dealt with victory and tragedy.

We have celebrated and mourned.

We lost a few along the way.

When our adventure was over, some of us went back home, some of us started somewhere new and some of us never came home at all.

We have told amazing and hilarious stories of our exploits and adventures. We share an unspoken bond with each other, that most people don't experience, and few will understand.

We speak highly of our own branch of service, and poke fun at the other branches.

We know however, that, if needed, we will be there for our brothers and sisters and stand together as one, in a heartbeat.

Being a Veteran is something that had to be earned, and it can never be taken away.

It has no monetary value, but at the same time it is a priceless gift.

People see a Veteran and they thank them for their service.

When we see each other, we give that little upwards head nod, or a slight smile, knowing that we have shared and experienced things that most people have not.

So, from myself to the rest of the veterans out there, I commend and thank you for all that you have done and sacrificed for your country.

Try to remember the good times and make peace with the bad times.

Share your stories.

But most importantly, stand tall and proud, for you have earned the right to be called a Veteran.

I'm a VETERAN!

Unknown author



Sent in by members

An undercover cop called at my farm in the sticks yesterday evening...

"I need to inspect your farm for illegally grown drugs", he said.

"By all means officer, just don't go in that field over there", I replied.

The cop exploded, saying "Do you know who I am?! I have the authority of the government with me!", he shouted before pulling a badge out of his back pocket, "Do you see this badge?! This badge means I can do what I want and I'll go wherever I want, have I made myself clear?!"

I nodded politely, apologised, and went about my work. A short while later, I hear loud screams, looked up and saw the cop running for his life being chased by my angry bull.

With each step, the bull was gaining ground and he seemed sure to be gored before he reached safety. The officer looked terrified and continued to run for his life. I threw down my tools, immediately ran to the edge of the fence and shouted at the top of my lungs, "Your badge, show him your badge!"

John V. Diamond Esquire,
"An inner urban Sophisticate!"

4 RULES OF LIFE; Drink, Steal, Swear and Lie

I met this guy while I was in New Zealand and he has a motto he lives by every day. He said listen carefully and live by these 4 rules. I was shaking my head 'no', but he then told me he would explain his four rules. So here they are:

1. **Drink** from the everlasting cup every day.
 2. **Steal** a moment to help someone that is in worse shape than you are.
 3. **Swear** that you will be a better person today than yesterday.
 4. When you **Lie** down at night, thank God you live in the country that you live in and have freedom.
I am not as good as I should be, I am not as good as I could be. Thank God I am better than I used to be. I hope!
-

T'was the night before christmas, He lived all alone, in a one-bedroom house, Made of plaster and stone.
I had come down the chimney, with presents to give, and to see just who, in this home, did live.
I looked all about, a strange sight I did see,
No tinsel, no presents, not even a tree.

No stocking by mantle, just boots filled with sand, on the wall hung pictures,
Of far distant lands. With medals and badges,
Awards of all kinds, a sober thought, came through my mind.

For this house was different, it was dark and dreary, i found the home of a soldier, Once I could see clearly.
The soldier lay sleeping, silent, alone, curled up on the floor, In this one-bedroom home.

The face was so gentle, the room in disorder,
Not how i pictured, a true modern soldier.
Was this the hero, of whom I'd just read?

Curled up on a poncho, the floor for a bed?

I realised the families, that i saw this night,
Owed their lives to these soldiers, who were willing to fight.

Soon round the world, the children would play, and grownups would celebrate, A bright Christmas day.
They all enjoyed freedom, each month of the year, because of the soldiers, like the one lying here.

I couldn't help wonder, how many lay alone,

On a cold Christmas eve, in a land far from home.

The very thought brought, a tear to my eye, i dropped to my knees, and started to cry.

The soldier awakened, and I heard a rough voice,
"Santa don't cry, this life is my choice; I fight for freedom, I don't ask for more,

My life is my god, my country, my corps.."

The soldier rolled over, and drifted to sleep,
I couldn't control it, I continued to weep.

I kept watch for hours, so silent and still,

And we both shivered, from the cold night's chill.

I did not want to leave, on that cold, dark, night, this guardian of honor, so willing to fight.

Then the soldier rolled over, with a voice soft and pure, whispered, "carry on santa, it's Christmas day, all is secure."

One look at my watch, and i knew he was right.

"merry Christmas my friend, and to all a good night."

This poem was written by a peacekeeping soldier stationed overseas.

Christmas will be coming soon and some credit is due to all of the Service men and women for our being able to celebrate these festivities. Let's try in this small way to pay a tiny bit of what we owe. Make people stop and think of our heroes, living and dead, who sacrificed themselves for us.

Please, do your small part to plant this small seed.

Posted from north east of scotland

VETERAN WEB NETWORK

SEPTEMBER 29, 2021 BY RAY PAYNE

ANNUAL AIHW REPORT HIGHLIGHTS NEED FOR VETERAN SUPPORT

The Australian Government has today received a report by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) into the rate of suicide among serving and former-serving members of the Australian Defence Force (ADF).

The Report outlines that of the almost 373,500 men and women who have served over the past 36 years, tragically 1,273 have taken their own lives in the last two decades.

This report builds on previous editions by expanding the cohort analysed from those with at least one day of ADF service since 2001 to those with at least one day of service since 1985.

Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Defence Personnel Andrew Gee said the report highlights the long term nature of the issue of veteran suicide and re-affirms the need for Australia to give our veterans and their families the best support possible.

"My priority is putting veterans and their families first, and making sure they are getting the services they need, when and where they need it," Minister Gee said.

"While there has been important national progress in addressing the issue of veteran suicide such as free mental health treatment for life, there is clearly much more to be done and we can't wait for the conclusion of the Royal Commission to get cracking on it.

Overhauling the claims process

"I have directed the Department of Veterans' Affairs to make the speeding up of claims processing as well as reducing the backlog a matter of utmost urgency so that we can make sure our veterans receive the necessary financial support and wrap-around services.

"To this end I have also directed that the Department overhaul the veteran claims processing system and accelerate the appointment of independent consultants to deliver a plan, and yield results within three months of their work being provided to the Australian Government.

"This work will include three-monthly milestones, and deliverables that are veteran centric and draw upon international best practice for implementation.

"It will include an examination and assessment of the claim forms and processes used to brief and engage external medical advisers and specialists.

"This will expedite the claims process and identify inhibitors so our veterans and their families can receive timely payments.

"It will also make sure that the \$98 million allocated to addressing the claims backlog in the May budget is used as effectively as possible.

Joint Transition Authority

"The transition from military to civilian life is one of the keys to addressing this issue which means the work of the Joint Transition Authority (JTA) is of critical importance and I am keen to see it fast-tracked.

"I've directed the Department of Defence to provide me with detailed options and a proposed timeline to speed-up the JTA Implementation Plan to ensure that we provide better support to our ADF members and their families as they transition from military to civilian life.

Harmonising legislation

"Veterans' legislation has long been cumbersome and confusing for veterans to understand.

"I am focused on the issue of structural and legislative reform and have also instructed the Department of Veterans' Affairs to create a roadmap to harmonise the three Acts dealing with veterans' compensation and rehabilitation.

"This report once again highlights the unacceptably high rate of suicide in the Defence and veteran communities, and the importance of the work of the Royal Commission.

"Suicide doesn't just affect the individual, it is deeply traumatic for loved ones, families and whole communities. Our nation needs to do everything it can to prevent it."

This is the fourth annual monitoring report of its kind, and expands on earlier work by including historical records of members with at least one day of ADF service since 1985. Previous research dated back to 2001.

The AIHW report is available at www.aihw.gov.au.

Australian Defence Force Retirees Association Inc. – DFRDB UPDATE

Australian Defence Force Retirees Association
Inc.

No. A0108026R

We represent the interests of Defence Force
Retirees regarding their Superannuation

www:

<https://www.adfra.org>/Email: admin@adfra.org

DFRDB UPDATE – SEPTEMBER 2021

The Senate FADT Committee's Inquiry

We had hoped for a Government response to the
Senate FADT Committee's report before this
Update, but to date there has been none.

The Effect of the DFRDB Commutation
Campaign

Over the past two years, the DFRDB
Commutation Campaign has focused on
Commutation and the Department of Defence's
misleading of members over its effect.

But that is not our main concern.

To recap:

In 1972, then Prime Minister Whitlam and
Defence Minister Barnard overruled the
objections of Treasury and the Department of
Defence and committed to implementing the Jess
Committee recommendations, which included the
transfer of control and budget responsibility for
Defence Force Superannuation from Treasury to
Defence. From that point on, Defence initiated an
insidious and sustained reduction of the defined
benefits set down in the Jess Committee
recommendations.

The wording of the Commutation provision in the
DFRDB Act and the reference to outdated Life
Expectancy Factors, which transformed the
Commutation recommendation from a
proportionate to a disproportionate exchange, was
only the beginning.

In 1974 and 1976, two-sevenths (29%) of all
DFRDB benefits was excluded from the interim
cost-of-living adjustments.

In 1977, the automatic cost-of-living adjustments
introduced were linked directly to the
unrepresentative Consumer Price Index (CPI), and
between 10% and 32% of retirement pay, Class C
invalidity pay, and spouse's and children's

pensions was excluded from those adjustments.
Defence could have continued with the 1974/1976
partial indexation formula to reduce the defined
benefits. But, while it was not apparent to those
serving at the time, it would soon have become
evident. So, the cost-of-living adjustments were
related to the Commutation entitlement, where the
outdated Life Expectancy Factors determine the
part excluded from adjustment.

It didn't matter if we commuted or not. The effect
was the same.

In 1984, the part of the defined benefits excluded
from the cost-of-living adjustments was
progressively increased to between 11% and 40%.
That was done under the guise of increasing the
amount which could be commuted to compensate
for the method of taxing lump sum payments.
That increase affects only those who commuted
their maximum entitlement from 1 July 1983
onwards.

Before the effect of Commutation is considered,
the cumulative impact of CPI linked and partial
cost-of-living adjustments is a reduction of up to
more than 40% of our benefits, over our average
lifespan, discriminating by age, gender, and date
of separation from the Defence Force. In 1991, the
amendment that closed the DFRDB scheme to
new members also substantially penalized
members who re-enlisted after commuting and
served at least one more year if they did not
transfer to the MSBS scheme. This amendment to
the Act was not publicized, so the members who
re-enlisted and remained in the DFRDB scheme
have suffered an additional lifetime penalty.

While not solely responsible, the DFRDB
Commutation Campaign, which seeks a
"reconsideration of the DFRDB Commutation
issue", has been the catalyst for the superficial
inquiries by the Commonwealth Ombudsman in
2019 and the recent Senate FADT Committee, the
findings of which are now cited by Defence in
response to all DFRDB issues raised. Those
inquiries established that we were misled over the
effect of Commutation. However, the focus in
their Terms of Reference, on what we were told
about Commutation, ensured that the extent of the
deception and the far more detrimental effect of
CPI-linked and
partial cost-of-living adjustments would not see
the light of day.

If all the expected outcomes of the DFRDB
Commutation Campaign are met, the benefit to

members will vary. Older members of more senior rank, who served for more extended periods and retired during the later years of the DFRDB scheme, will benefit to the greatest extent. However, the many lower ranks who retired earlier, at a younger age and with minimal qualifying service, and, who have suffered the most from the CPI-linked cost-of-living adjustments, will benefit the least. The DFRDB Commutation Campaign has succeeded in giving prominence to the Commutation issue. But, given the outcome of the Ombudsman and Senate inquiries, it has been counter-productive to reversing the insidious and ongoing reduction of our benefits.

ADFRA's objectives have always included the outcomes sought by the DFRDB Commutation Campaign, but ADFRA aims to restore all DFRDB benefits to the level members were told they would be entitled to if they served for 20 or more years.

The Interpretation of the Commutation Provision

The interpretation of the Commutation provision in the DFRDB Act has long been a point of contention and was tested in Reynolds and Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits Authority [2001] AATA 599 (28 June 2001).

The AAT found against Reynolds, but we believe that decision was flawed. Accordingly, we have been working with one of our members, Clinton

McKenzie, a retired lawyer, who has taken the matter to the Federal Court. A summary of proceedings can be viewed in Federal Court Application Progress.

The Approach to the Prime Minister

From his failure to reply to ADFRA's correspondence, it is doubtful that the new Minister, the Hon Andrew Gee MP, intends to address the DFRDB issues, which has prompted this Email to the Prime Minister, copied to the Deputy Prime Minister, Defence Minister and Minister for Defence Personnel.

The Need for more Pressure on Politicians

An Act of Parliament is required to stop the ongoing reduction of our DFRDB benefits. Hence, we must keep up the pressure on our local Members of Parliament and State Senators and impress on them that we will do our utmost to ensure there will not be a majority Government after the next Federal Election. Senators and Members of Parliament individually decide their preferred contact method. To contact your local Member and State Senators, first find their home page in List of Senators or List of Members, containing their contact details and best method of contacting them.

Jim Hislop OA

President

medicare

INFORMATION FOR CUSTOMERS

Get free proof of your COVID-19 vaccinations



There are 3 ways you can show proof of your COVID-19 vaccinations:

- 1 a COVID-19 digital certificate
- 2 your immunisation history statement
- 3 an International COVID-19 Vaccination Certificate for overseas travel.

The easiest way to get proof is online using either:

- your Medicare online account through myGov
- the Express Plus Medicare mobile app.

USING MYGOV

1. Go to my.gov.au and sign in.
2. Select the Proof of COVID-19 vaccination quick link.
3. Select the type of proof you want and follow the steps.



If you can't get your proof online or need help, call 1800 653 809*.

USING THE EXPRESS PLUS MEDICARE APP

1. Log on to the app.
2. Select Proof of vaccinations from Services.
3. Select the type of proof you want and follow the steps.



Services
Australia

GET FREE PROOF OF YOUR COVID-19 VACCINATIONS

STORING YOUR PROOF

When you get proof online, you can download and print your own copy.

Once you've had all required COVID-19 vaccinations, you can add your COVID-19 digital certificate to your Apple Wallet™ or Google Pay™. You may also be able to add it to a state check in app.

If you're using the Express Plus Medicare mobile app, you can save your proof to your offline items for easy access on your device.

IF YOU DON'T HAVE A MEDICARE ONLINE ACCOUNT

You need to link Medicare to your myGov account to set up your Medicare online account. Sign in to, or create your myGov account at my.gov.au

You can then link Medicare using either:

- your Medicare card number and information from your Medicare history
- a linking code issued by Medicare.

For help linking Medicare to myGov, go to servicesaustralia.gov.au/medicareguides

You can also get your vaccination proof through My Health Record. Just link My Health Record to your myGov account.

KEEP YOUR CONTACT DETAILS UP TO DATE WITH MEDICARE

You can view and update your details using your Medicare online account or the Express Plus Medicare mobile app.

IF YOU'RE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR MEDICARE OR DVA

You can get your COVID-19 digital certificate or immunisation history statement using the Individual Healthcare Identifiers service through myGov.

If you need an international certificate, you can call 1800 653 809* or visit a service centre to get your proof.

MORE INFORMATION

For information about getting proof of your COVID-19 vaccinations, go to servicesaustralia.gov.au/covidvaccineproof

For the latest COVID-19 updates and advice, go to australia.gov.au



* Call charges apply from mobile and pay phones only

130102130

Australian Defence Force Retirees Association Inc.

No. A0108026R

We represent the interests of Defence Force Retirees regarding their Superannuation

www: <https://www.adfra.org/> Email: admin@adfra.org

DFRDB UPDATE – NOVEMBER 2021

The Senate FADT Committee's Inquiry

The Government has not yet responded to the Senate FADT Committee's report.

The Interpretation of the Commutation Provision

Regarding the application to the Federal Court by Clinton McKenzie, the Court has set 31

January 2022 as the date of the hearing. Details of how members of the public can view the

hearing online will be provided by the Court on the afternoon before the hearing.

The Approach to the Prime Minister

It appears that our Email to the Prime Minister prompted this Reply from the Minister, the

Hon Andrew Gee MP.

We have responded with this Follow-up Letter to the Minister. That letter also responds to

this Letter from the First Assistant Secretary People Policy & Culture, which is similar, if not

identical, to letters received by a number of ADFRA members.

Support from RSL National

This week, we received advice that the RSL National Board has decided to support the ADFRA position on the DFRDB scheme through DVA's ESO Round Table (ESORT) forum.

According to the ESO Round Table (ESORT) website, the membership of the ESORT forum

includes:

- Air Force Association **

- Australian Peacekeeper and Peacemaker Veterans' Association
- Australian Special Air Service Association **
- Defence Families Australia
- Defence Force Welfare Association **
- Defence Reserves Association **
- Legacy Australia Inc.
- Naval Association of Australia **
- Partners of Veterans Association of Australia Inc. **
- Royal Australian Regiment Corporation **
- Returned and Services League of Australia
- TPI Federation Australia **
- Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia
- Vietnam Veterans' Federation of Australia
- Australian War Widows Inc. **

** These Organizations are also members of the Alliance of Defence Service Organizations (ADSO), which also lists additional ESO members.

2

ADSO's Policy Objectives on Military Superannuation include:

Fair Indexation for All DFRDB Recipients
Objective: To extend the provisions of the Defence Force Retirements Benefits Fair Indexation Act to include all DFRDB superannuants under 55, especially to those in receipt of DFRDB invalidity superannuation pensions.

DFRDB Commutation

Objective: To immediately apply the up-to-date life tables for calculating commutation and fortnightly payments for current and new DFRDB superannuants: and the rectification of the financial injustices caused by the application of out-dated life tables to superannuants.

Like that of its former *Fair Indexation* campaign, ADSO's current policy objectives indicate no understanding of the DFRDB legislation which has:

- Reduced by one-third the defined benefit entitlements of many DFRDB members

through exclusion of the commutation component from indexation (regardless of your decision to commute) and failure to correct the compounding deficit induced through the application of the discredited CPI indexation factor for 38 years from 1976 to 2014; and

- Resulted in the further substantial reduction of those defined benefit entitlements of many members who exercised their right to commutation.

ESORT is not the appropriate Forum to advocate DFRDB Issues

According to the ESO Round Table (ESORT) website, ESORT serves as the main body for consultation under the *Legislative Instruments Act 2003* on the development of legislative

instruments impacting members of the ex-service and Defence communities under the:

- *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*;

- *Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004*;

- *Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation (Defence Related Claims) Act 1988*;

- *Defence Service Homes Act 1918*; and

- *War Graves Act 1980*.

Which **does not** include any of the Acts which govern Military Superannuation Schemes.

As there is no established forum to advocate the DFRDB issue, ADFRA will address them directly to the Minister and seeks the support of all ESORT and ADSO members.

If you are a member of or an office bearer in any of the above or other ESO's, then please question what your ESO is doing for you in relation to DFRDB, and urge your Organization to support ADFRA's position, as RSL National has done.

Jim Hislop OAM

President



The Naval Association of Australia
Stanthorpe & District Sub-Section Inc
ONCE NAVY – ALWAYS NAVY

*On the 80th Anniversary of the Battle of the Coral Sea,
the President and members invite you to a*

Dinner Dance



*continuing the friendships forged between
United States and Australian Armed Forces.*

6pm for 6.30pm Saturday 14 May, 2022

Dance band til late!

Stanthorpe Civic Centre

Marsh Street opposite Weeroona Park

Cost: \$70.00 per person

Including 3 courses, 1 drink of choice from bar

Cash bar

Please notify dietary requirements

RSVP: 3 May 2022 with payment:

Direct Deposit to: BSB: 633 000 A/c: 154228894

Ref: Dinner 'Surname'

Dress: Jacket, tie, miniatures Ladies: evening

5pm Saturday: Commemorative wreath-laying Ceremony

Naval Remembrance Wall, Weeroona Park

Meet n Greet Gathering

4pm til 6pm Friday 13 May, 2022

Stanthorpe Civic Centre

All welcome

Cost: \$20.00 per person

Finger Food Cash bar

Dress: Smart casual

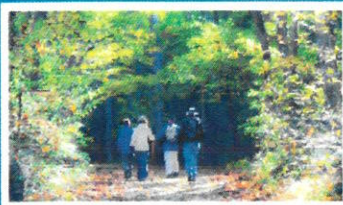
RSVP: 3 May 2022 with payment:

Direct Deposit to: BSB: 633 000 A/c: 154228894

Ref: M&G 'Surname'

Accommodation: google 'Stanthorpe' or 'Granite Belt' Accommodation

More information? Phone Norm: 0435 619 626 or storphe170@gmail.com



WHAT IS U3A - THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE?

U3A Associations across Australia embody the principles of lifelong learning and lifestyle activities that enrich the lives of seniors who are no longer working full-time.

Each U3A provides informal educational classes and a range of lifestyle activities in what is called the "Third Age" of one's life.

U3As provide venues and tutors to enable members to choose a range of classes and activities that suit their interests, health and mobility levels.

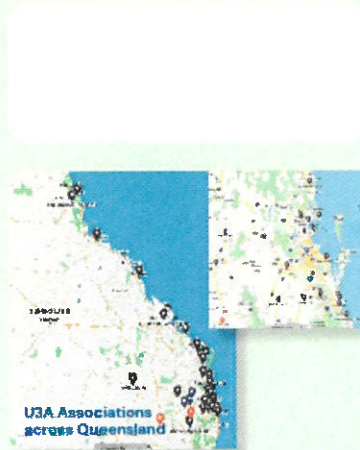
The term 'University' is used in the original sense of an association of teachers and scholars, while the 'Third age' refers to the period of active retirement that follows childhood and the second age of working life.

Brochure produced by

U3A Network Queensland
UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE
Connecting Seniors to Lifelong Learning

HOW TO JOIN YOUR LOCAL U3A

More information and how to join a U3A in your area is on the U3A Network Queensland's website at u3aqlld.org.au or contact your local U3A.



U3A

LEARN.. LAUGH.. LIVE!

If you love life and want to learn new things, why not follow your passion and do what you love with people like you.

FIND OUT MORE AT U3AQLD.ORG.AU



LIVE LIFE

YOU RETIRE FROM WORK BUT NOT FROM LIFE

When you retire you can enjoy what could be the best time of your life

As a member of a U3A, a whole new world opens up. Here are some of the things you can do

- Discover the great outdoors and lead a healthier life.
- Engage with others in social and physical activities.
- Enjoy discussions on topics of interest to you.
- Learn Yoga, Tai Chi or pursue creative interests.
- Join a group bike ride or an aquafit class with others.



LEARN

CONNECTING SENIORS TO LIFELONG LEARNING

U3A members may attend lectures regularly, to exercise the mind and learn new things.

Informal learning stimulates the mind, helps with mental health and enables new friendships.

You could contribute your experience and skills by becoming a tutor or a U3A volunteer.

Find what interests you in the multitude of classes offered.



LAUGH

HAVE THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE WITH NEW FRIENDS

Here are a few of the fun things you can do as a member of a U3A:

- Dine out, meet new friends and enjoy their company.
- Learn to play a musical instrument.
- Engage with others in friendly discussion groups.
- Take a light hearted, active view of life with like-minded people.
- Play a sport that suits your abilities and outlook on life.



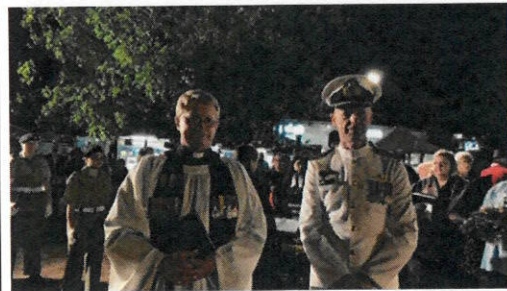
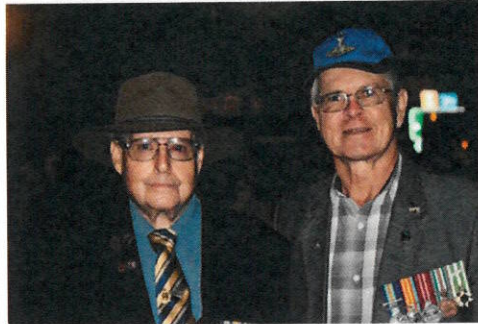
Year in Review for 2021

ANZAC ACTIVITIES 2021

DAWN SERVICE



Torch of Remembrance - Macarthur Family



ANZAC Day Races 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

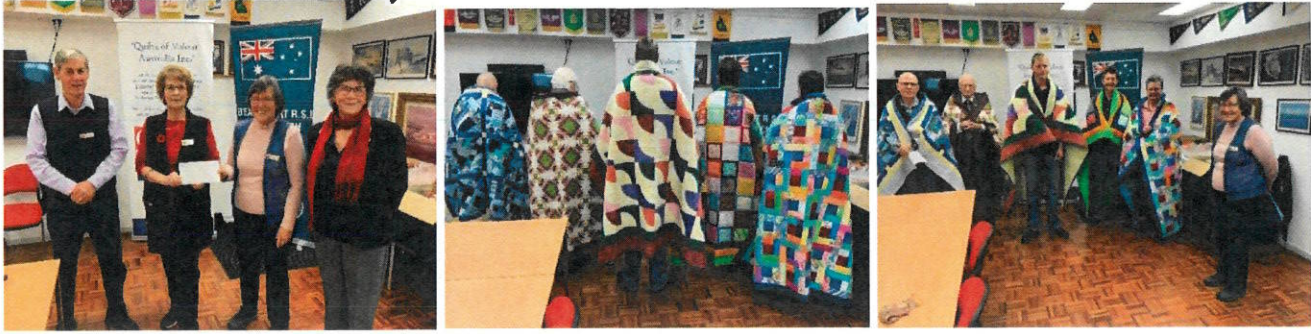


Darlington School – ANZAC Book Donation

Open Arms – SafeTalk Training



Quilts of Valor Presentation on 21st July, 2021

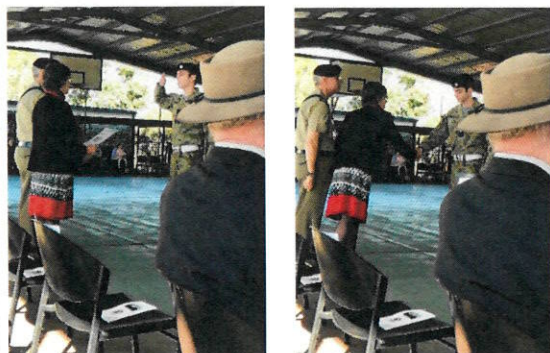


Some of our members were presented with a quilt.

Vietnam Veteran's Day Memorial Service – 18th August, 2021

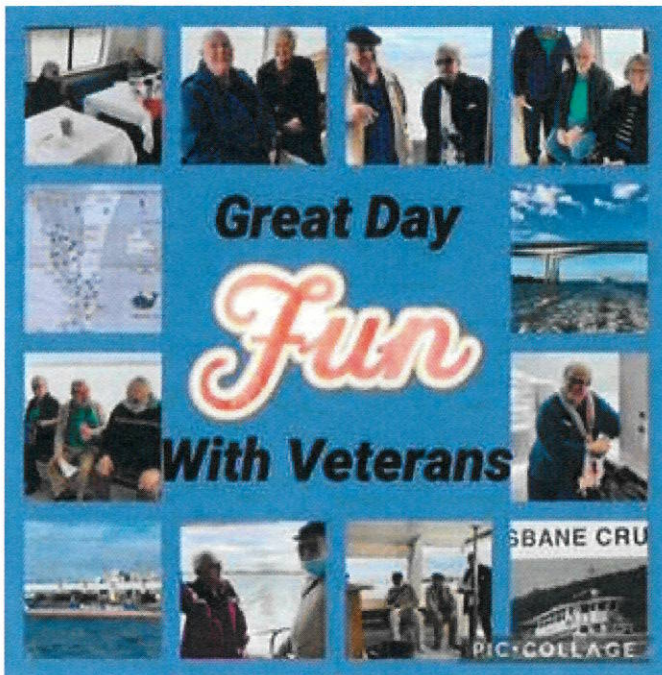


Presentation to Jimboomba and District Cadets



Members Out and About

National Servicemen's Association Beaudesert Branch and members attended a Boat trip.



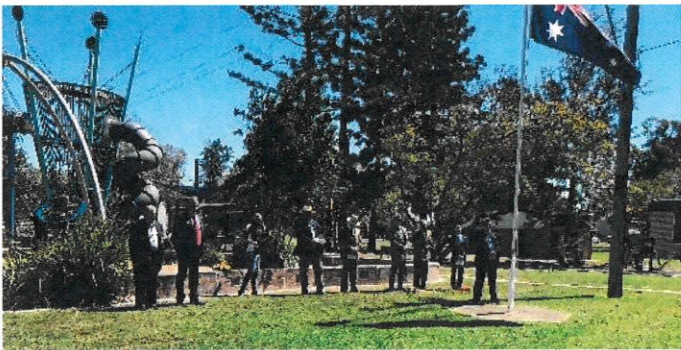
100 Year Air Force Centenary / Presidents Luncheon 31st July 2021



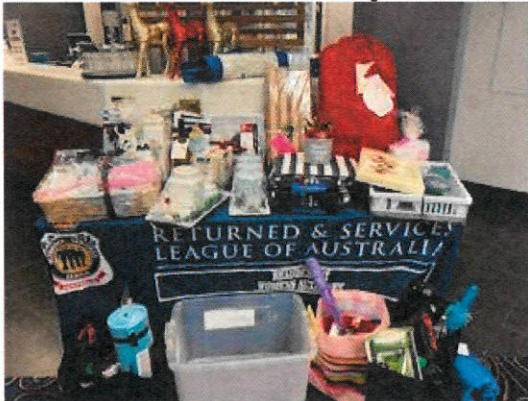
Presentation to McAuley College McArthur Family for Torch of Remembrance



Peace Keeping Day 14th September 2021



Women's Auxiliary Xmas Cent Auction



Volunteers Christmas Lunch – held at Beaudesert Golf Club



“NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING”

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

Date: 12th February, 2022

Time: 10:00am

Where: The Club Beaudesert (RSL Services Club)

Address: 23-25 William Street, Beaudesert

Business to be transacted is as follows:

- President's Opening Remarks
- Ode and Pledge of Allegiance
- Apologies
- Minutes of Previous Meeting
- President's Report
- Receipts of Financial Statement and Auditors Report
- Reports
- Election of Office Bearers
- Appointment of Solicitor, Auditor, SED Delegate and Bank Signatories
- Date of next AGM

By Order

Beaudesert RSL Sub Branch Inc.

Secretary

Date: 13 December 2021



*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
Friday 24th December, 2021
Re-open on Monday 10th January, 2022**

The Board and Secretary would like to thank you for your continued support and wish all our members and their families a very Merry Christmas surrounded by family, and many blessings for the coming year.

Warmest thoughts and best wishes for a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year.
May peace, love, and prosperity follow you always.

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

- ❖ Members
- ❖ Sub Branch volunteers (Advocates, Welfare, Patient transport, museum)
- ❖ Women's Auxiliary
- ❖ Hon Scott Buchholz MP Federal Member for Wright
- ❖ Jon Krause MP Member for Scenic Rim
- ❖ Scenic Rim Council
- ❖ Cr Michael Enright
- ❖ Jimboomba & Districts Cadets
- ❖ Franklin Constructions
- ❖ Mitre 10 Beaudesert
- ❖ Australia Post – Grant
- ❖ DVA – Grants for Veteran's Health Week & Building Excellence in Support and Training for Advocacy
- ❖ Nu-Pure Beverages (Robert Brand) – bottled water for Remembrance commemorative day

Message from the Secretary

I wish to personally thank all volunteers who have dedicated their time and effort to the Sub Branch for all our members. Without volunteers, the Sub Branch would not exist.

The Sub Branch has made many changes over the last three years with the new Board members and focusing on our core objective and getting back to basics being Welfare for our veterans, we have had some challenging times with Sub Branch business and hoping next year most of the business end will be completed. Ensuring to keep with the Sub Branch core objectives for Welfare of our members and veterans in the community is a priority and to abide by ACNC Charitable regulations.

Our main focus next year will be preparations for a new accessible Sub Branch office and Welfare Hub for our members and families now and into the future. A drop in communal area accessible for veterans to come in and have coffee and tea, utilise the library and chat to our volunteers, a welfare hub for advocacy, BBQ area to invite veterans and families for social BBQ days and a chance to socialise with other veterans.

The Sub Branch Advocates have been very busy assisting veterans with their claims. Thank you for your dedication and the hours also working from home.

The Patient Transport drivers, thank you for your kindness, caring and patience. The days can be long and tiring, but you continually each week make yourself available to transport our community to their specialist appointments. You all truly are appreciated by one and all.

Kevin Bullock, thank you for volunteering your time and the effort of cleaning and keeping the transport vehicles looking presentable each week.

Museum Volunteers, Phil, Rodney, John and Victoria thank you for opening Harry's Haunt each week allowing people to visit and enjoy the displays of memorabilia. The feedback in the sign in book is one of gratitude and marvel of the display whilst visiting Harry's Haunt. We will be re-opening I hope soon after the repairs have been completed. We always require more volunteers to assist with the museum, before re-opening we will require assistance in cleaning and dusting. If you are able to assist, please contact me.

The Women's Auxiliary have continued to support the veterans with their fund raising in their Cent Auctions this year, running around purchasing raffle prizes, assorting and wrapping and then lugging them from Sub Branch to Cent Auction events, not an easy task. Joanne H thank you for all the running around and organisation that you do with the assistance of Janice H. A lot of time and effort and commitment that has not gone unnoticed and very much appreciated to all.

The Board members of the Sub branch, I truly am grateful for your commitment, expertise and guidance. Each Board meeting is held with respect, consideration for the members and for the continuance of the Sub Branch. It has not been an easy couple years and times of frustrations, but we are seeing the light at the end of the tunnel. I hope next year more members would like to put in nominations for being on the Board, we have a great team who also look forward to more joining. More the merrier as they say 😊

The Treasurer(s) thank you for paying the bills and making sure the Sub Branch is financially viable each month. Keeping accounts in order.

Members, thank you for your support, emails, feedback over the years I have been here and hope for many more years to come.

I have become to know a lot of your faces, names and listened. On many occasions on Commemorative Days or functions, your gratitude for my work and efforts are appreciated thank you. But I wish to thank you, what I do for you is not a job but a privilege and to give a little back is nothing compared to for what you have done for us. I enjoy every day I come to work at the Sub Branch and am in awe of the Volunteers who dedicate their time and effort each day to ensure the Sub Branch can continue opening the doors each day. I have learnt a great deal working for the Sub Branch members, I have met so many amazing people I call friends and mentors.

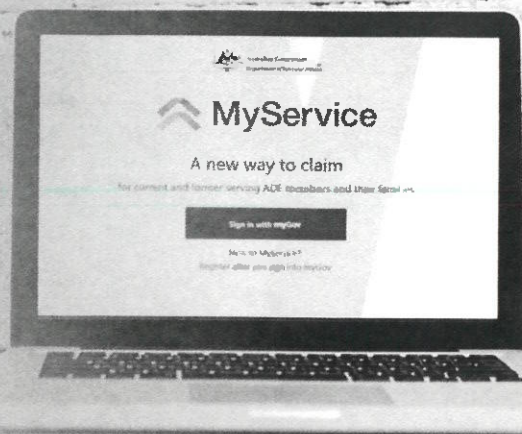
Thank you one and all.

Sincerely,

Joanne Crocker



MyAccount is closing on 10 December 2021



FACTSHEET

DVA is continuing to improve MyService.

The need for simpler, better, and more accessible online services has never been more important and is a priority for DVA.

To achieve this, we have been moving MyAccount services to MyService over the past year so that you have a single online platform to interact with.

Some services won't be moving to MyService

As part of the transition to MyService, DVA reviewed which features to transition or not to transition to MyService.

The following features will not be available in MyService:

- Apply for Gold Card
- Honours and Awards
- Claims and Advocacy Support Essentials
- Single Online Claim Form
- MyAccount Inbox.

Apply for Gold Card. Veterans who become eligible for a Veteran Gold Card do not need to apply for the card as it's issued automatically through a number of avenues.

A Veteran Gold Card may be issued as a result of a claim, or having Qualifying Service and turning 70.

If you're not sure if you're eligible, check the [DVA website](#) for information or call 1800 VETERAN (1800 838 372) for advice.

Australian Honours and Military Awards. DVA respects the Australian Honours and Military Awards earned by veterans in recognition of the outstanding service they have provided to Australia.

Honours and Awards that you've entered in MyAccount are not in your official DVA record and won't be available in MyService. We know Honours and Awards information is important, but this change won't affect your entitlements or the services you can access, including veteran commemorations.

If you wish to have an official title or post-nominal added to your client record, please contact DVA on 1800 VETERAN

(1800 838 372). Once we add it to your record, it will display in MyService and in most of our correspondence with you.

Claims and Advocacy Support Essentials (CASE).

CASE allows Advocates and Claim Representatives to act on your behalf to lodge claims or request reviews and appeals using MyAccount.

In January 2020, the Nominated Representative framework was released into MyService. The framework allows a MyService user to act on behalf of another MyService user and provides a robust, secure way to manage access to your records and assure the privacy of your personal information.

Your advocate can continue to provide support either by using MyService or through the ESO portal.

Single Online Claim Form. The big change with MyService was to move away from the single claim form approach available on MyAccount toward an intuitive automated claim process to simplify the claiming process.

MyAccount Inbox. We're making changes so you can receive DVA correspondence in your myGov inbox.

When MyAccount is turned off, your MyAccount inbox will no longer be accessible. Until they're available in your myGov inbox, the letters you currently receive in your MyAccount inbox will be sent to you via Australia Post.

If you have correspondence in your MyAccount inbox that you'd like to keep, you'll need to save it. We've posted these instructions on the [DVA website](#).

Where to go for help

If you're having problems with myGov, call the myGov support line on 13 23 07.

If you have questions about this factsheet or you're having problems with MyService, call us on 1800 VETERAN (1800 838 372) for help.



RETURNED & SERVICES
LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA
QUEENSLAND BRANCH

Beaudesert Sub-Branch Inc.
ABN: 20 436 120 234

BEAUDESERT RSL SUB BRANCH 2022 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Members who pay Yearly

☐ Yearly \$ 20.00

Become a LIFE MEMBER

☐ Up to 39 years \$300.00
☐ 40 – 44 years \$260.00
☐ 45 – 49 years \$220.00
☐ 50 – 54 years \$180.00
☐ 55 – 59 years \$140.00
☐ 60 – 64 years \$120.00
☐ 65 years Plus \$100.00

Name:

.....

Address:

.....

Suburb:

State:

Postcode:

.....

.....

.....

Phone:

.....

Date Paid: / /

Received by:

Receipt No:.....

EFT: Bank Account Name: RSLA Beaudesert Branch

BSB: 034-630

Acc No: 800737

Ref: Name

NOMINATION FORM

RSL of Australian (QLD Branch) Beaudesert Sub Branch Inc.

APPLICANTS PARTICULARS

SURNAME

FIRST NAMES

Nominate the position of:

1
2

3
4

To be read in conjunction with The Beaudesert RSL Sub Branch Inc. By-Law 1

LEAGUE DETAILS

Period of Membership

Date from	Date to	Sub Branch

SUB BRANCH SERVICE

Date from	Date to	Appointment

DISTRICT SERVICE

Date from	Date to	Appointment

RSL SERVICE & COMMUNITY RELATED ACTIVITIES

Fundraising

Repatriation

Community

BRIEF MILITARY HISTORY

	Served from	Served to

Nominees Agreement

I, _____ Date / /
accept the nominations listed on page 1 (one) of this submission.

Nominee's Signature: _____

Proposer
Name _____

Signature _____

Seconder
Name _____

Signature _____

NB* To be read in conjunction with By Law 1